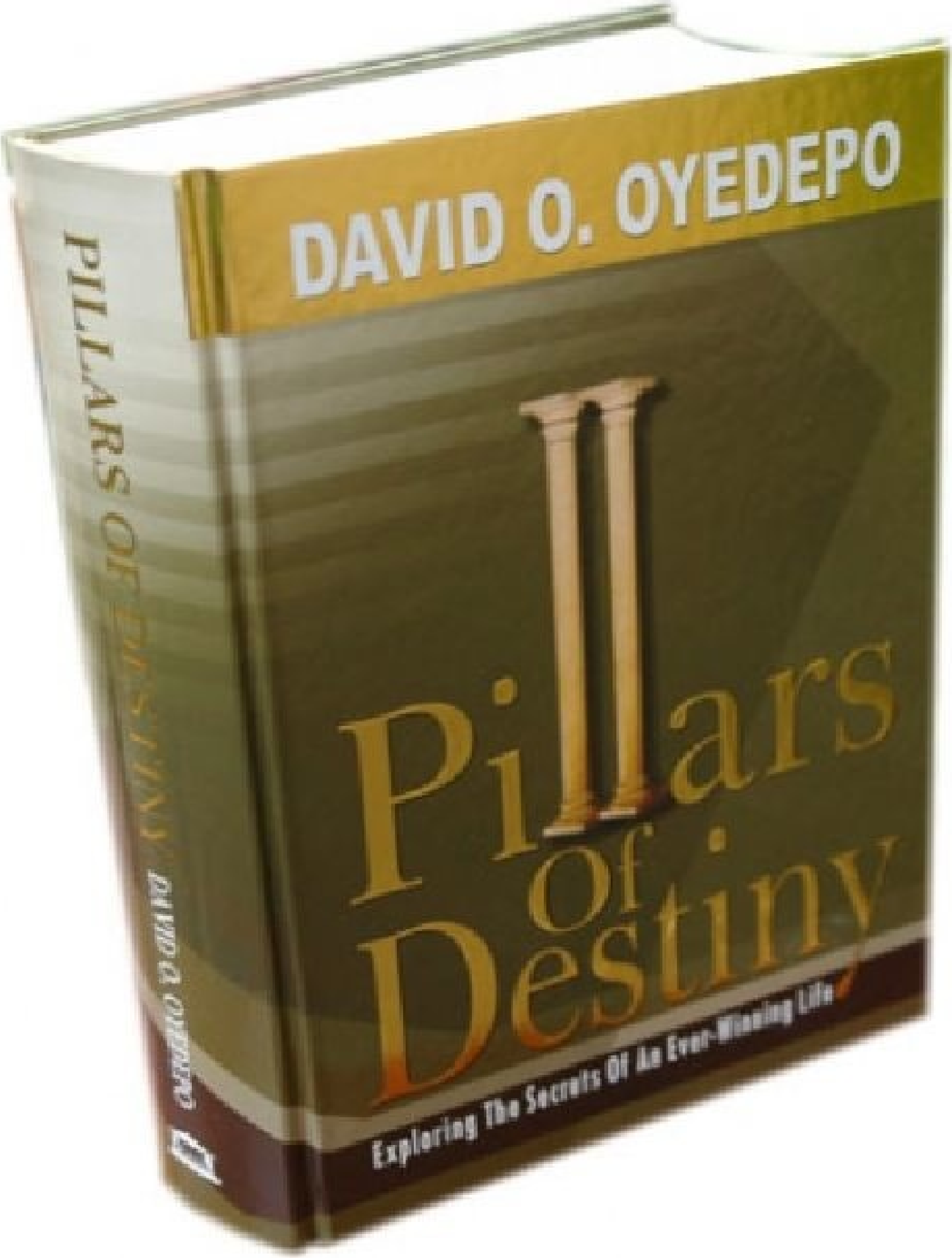

DAVID O. OYEDEPO
Pillars of Destiny
Exploring The Secrets Of An Ever-Winning Life
PILLARS OF DESTINY
DAVID O. OYEDEPO

PILLARS OF DESTINY

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David O. Oyedepo

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All Scriptures quotations are from the King James Version of the Bible, except otherwise stated.

Introduction

I came across a Word in the scriptures back in 1977 that struck a cord inside me and has greatly influenced my life and destiny. That Word is:

For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

- Jeremiah 29:11 (RSV)

God has a plan for me! And in His plan lies my future - a goodly one, because He says His plan for me is a plan of welfare. I was so stunned by this truth that I bought about 400 postcards on which I wrote this verse

of scripture and sent them out to all my Christian friends. God has a plan for me – even me! What a great destiny I have!

The Chambers dictionary defines destiny as the purpose or end to which any person or thing is appointed. God has a good plan and destiny for you. Knowing this truth, the question then is: “What must I do to secure this future that God has mapped out for me?” This is the reason for this book - to help people discover God’s glorious plan for their lives and show them how to actualise it.

God called me into ministry in 1981, with a liberation mandate, and I stepped out in the pursuit of destiny

full-time in 1983. The liberation mandate is built upon a three-fold platform – the Word of faith, prosperity and signs and wonders.

The Word of Faith Mandate

By a definite and divine encounter on May 1, 1981, I stepped into God's plan for my life after an historic 18-hour encounter, where I saw an army of suffering humanity, battered, beaten, tattered, shattered, deformed, defaced, down and out, sobbing, weeping, wailing, and agonizing for rescue. It was a gruesome sight. I began sobbing uncontrollably, because the cry of the afflicted was so intense. I could not help but sob and weep with great sighs.

I then began to ask the Lord, "But

why, Lord?" And He responded, "But from the beginning, it was not so." I was not satisfied with this answer, so I asked again, "But why, Lord?" Then came the mandate: ***"But from the beginning it was not so. And now the hour has come to liberate the world from all oppressions of the devil, through the preaching of the Word of faith; and I am sending you to undertake this task."***

This mandate is what gave birth to our global ministry. God's plan was divinely unveiled.

The Prosperity Mandate

In the summer of 1987, I was away in the United States of America on a series of speaking engagements when I

had a unique encounter with God in my hotel room. The encounter culminated in the delivery of another mandate – the prosperity mandate.

Specifically in the early hours of August 26, 1987, while getting out of bed to begin my morning devotion, the Spirit of the Lord spoke clearly to me, saying: ***"Arise, get back home and make My people rich."*** I looked at myself and wondered, "Who am I to make others rich, and what do I have?" The words sounded strange to me. However, by the help of the Holy Spirit, I discovered what Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian Church: "…*As poor, yet making many rich…*" (2 Cor. 6:10).

It was then I breathed a sigh of relief. I saw home as not just Nigeria, but as Africa; where most people live below the poverty line. I immediately arose, and like Paul the Apostle said, “I conferred not with flesh and blood.” I abandoned all my speaking engagements and rushed back home in obedience to this mandate. Today, to the glory of God, multitudes have been made rich through the anointed teachings and diverse ministrations. This is the root of the prosperity emphasis of our ministry, and undeniable proofs abound everywhere.

The Signs and Wonders Mandate

Again, in the early morning of June 29, 1992, as I was in my bedroom

worshipping in God's presence, the Spirit of God came calling, and yet another mandate was delivered. God said to me on that day:

"It's time for change! Prepare yourself for the imminent change of phase I have talked about over the years. It is the era of signs and wonders! It's a new dimension of a higher order!

Begin to declare total war against the kingdom of darkness: proclaim liberty, emphasize power, and step into the realm of anointing. Usher in this new era with me!

It's time for the restitution (replacement/restoration) of all things which the mouth of the Lord has

spoken (Acts 3:20-21). It is time to administer the forces of the Spirit, that will enable the saints take up their inheritance in Christ.

I am launching you into the apostolic phase of your ministry for pace setting. Therefore, walk before me, and be thou perfect, and I will perform every word of mine in your direction. I open up the gates of nations to you today!"

Our ministry took a quantum leap into higher realms of supernatural manifestations from that time on. This happened not just during our church services, but also through the hands of members of the congregation everywhere. The dead have been raised

back to life in their numbers, lepers are cleansed, the blind receive their sight and the lame leap, walk and jump for joy. We have also seen supernatural restoration of broken homes, breakthroughs in businesses and careers and many more signs.

The liberation mandate has been vigorously pursued and fulfilled ever since it was delivered; and the effect has been great. This is because it takes a message from the Lord to impact the world. Every “sent” Word enjoys the supernatural backing of the Sender and culminates in divine confirmation. This has been the pattern all through Bible history as exemplified by the following people:

Moses – The Deliverer

Looking at the unique ministry of Moses in the book of Exodus, we discover that every word he spoke was as commanded by God. No wonder he could not be arrested, assaulted or even killed; because he was bearing the message of the King of the universe. As he bore the message of the Judge of all the earth, he had the full backing of the Sender. Moses' message was raw, unappealing, undiplomatic, and yet irresistible! Since he was operating and speaking as commanded, he remained supernaturally in command (Ex. 4:22-23; 7:16; 8:1, 20; 9:1, 13).

Ezekiel – The Prophet

We can also understand the power

of the sent Word from the ministry of Ezekiel. In the episode that happened in the valley of dry bones in Ezekiel 37, the prophet said, "*And I prophesied as I was commanded,*" and things began to happen on their own accord, until there arose a mighty host unto God from a valley that was earlier filled with dry bones! There is power in the "sent Word"; there is power in the "commanded Word" (Ezek. 37:1-14).

Jonah – The Preacher

Another graphic illustration of the efficacy of a heaven-sent message is found in the ministry of Jonah. He was sent to the city of Nineveh with this command:

Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great

city, and preach unto it, the preaching that I bid thee.

- Jonah 3:2

Again, the message was delivered completely raw: "*He cried and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown*" (vs. 4). The effect of this raw message was supernaturally dramatic – the whole city turned unto God: man, beast, herd, flock, every living thing in the land was impacted by this seemingly meaningless message (vs. 7-8). The result of this spiritual awakening was that "*God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not*" (vs. 10).

Jesus Christ – The Messiah

When Jesus sent out the twelve in Luke chapter 9, He also clearly defined their message: "*And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick*" (Lk. 9:2). Again, the effect was awesome – "*they went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing everywhere*" (Lk. 9:6).

The seventy that were sent out in Luke 10 also went with the same message of the kingdom: "*And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you*" (vs. 9). What was the result? "*And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name*" (Lk. 10:17).

Every sent Word commands the backing of the Sender, just as the pursuit of every discovered destiny. You have a glorious destiny in God!

In following God's plan for my life and destiny, I have discovered what I call Pillars of Destiny. Pillars, like foundations, are very vital to any building. They are what hold or prop up the building; other weights of the building rest upon them. That is why the Bible says:

Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars:

- Proverbs 9:1

These pillars of destiny, to my mind, are what, if diligently adhered unto, will definitely cause us to achieve

God's great and glorious plan and purpose for our lives. They are the things upon which our Christian faith is built and will help us become good Christians and sustain us in the Christian journey.

I have identified twelve fundamentals pillars of destiny, which I have also categorised under the three main mandates of our commission. They are twelve in line with Revelation 22:1-3. It is my prayer that each pillar will deliver its fruit to you. They are:

The Word Of Faith

The Word

Faith

Prayer

Consecration

The Word Of Prosperity

Vision

Wisdom

Success

Prosperity

The Word Of Signs And Wonders

The Holy Ghost

The Supernatural

Healing

Praise

The above 3-fold emphases constitute spiritual bedrocks upon which any great destiny can be built.

The principal pillar of destiny is the Word of God. All other pillars take their source from it; for without it we can do nothing. The Word of God is

packaged in the Bible, which I believe is the safest guide of destiny. The Word is the platform upon which great destinies are built, and it is the womb that gives birth to faith.

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- Romans 10:17

The next pillar is faith, which is very vital to our walk as Christians. Faith is an expression of our confidence in God and His Word. Nothing works in the kingdom of God without it. In fact, you cannot please God without it, and exploits in life and the Kingdom is impossible without f a i t h . Christianity is absolutely worthless without it. Many have

erroneously thought, however, that faith works on its own. This is not so, as there are other forces that work to help faith produce and determine what it delivers. The remaining ten pillars are the other forces that work with faith.

This book is very dear to my heart. In it I have tried to share with you what I believe will help you actualise destiny. It is a collection of some of my sample teachings on the various topics that make up the twelve pillars of destiny. Under each pillar I have included seven teachings on each subject. It is my prayer that they will bless and strengthen you, so you too can fulfill God's glorious plan and

arrive at His destiny for your life.

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The Word Of Faith
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Pillar 1

The Word Foundation

Introduction

The Word of God is the master key of life. It is able to open or lock any door. There is nothing life demands that is not obtainable from it. No wonder God said to Joshua in Joshua 1:8:

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

The Word is where it all begins; it is the foundation of our faith. The Word of God is packaged in the Bible, which I believe is the safest guide of destiny. It is the Book of books, and I love it so much; it is my food. Follow me, as I introduce this Book, the Bible, to you in this poem:

"The Bible is the most valuable volume in the whole world. It is the oldest, yet the most current; the most ancient, yet the best seller of all times. It is the most widely quoted of all texts on the earth, and its principles still rule most of the civilized world today. Its laws make up most of the contents of all legal systems worldwide; and its contents touch on all aspects of

human existence – spiritual, intellectual, physical, moral, social, etc. I believe the Bible is the most dependable and reliable text on leadership.

Its light penetrates the invisible with its invincible force and delivers its mission with precision. Its "meat" strengthens the soul and revitalizes the body. Its "light" shatters all darkness and shows the way to go. Its "balm" heals the sick body and sets the afflicted free. Its "sword" destroys all satanic holds and wins all invisible wars. Its "refiner's fire" sanctifies all rotten lives, and its "principles" edify and make wise.

Yea, the written Word is in

absolute command of all the happenings in the world. The written Word rules both the natural and spiritual worlds. Holding to the written Word by faith puts you in command of the happenings in this world. Surely, the entire world will continue to grope in darkness without the written Word of God.

Without the Bible, the human race would have been doomed. I am yet to come across a man that ever regrets his commitment to the practice of this book; but many regret ignoring the values contained therein. You are always in command of the happenings by holding fast to what is written. To toss the Bible aside is to stir up

storms, which is bound to be devastating.

Commitment to "The Book" guarantees peace; addiction to "The Book" stimulates joy unspeakable, full of glory. Truly, this great Book holds the answer to every question, and the key to every door.

Every other text is made up of letters, but the Bible is made up of wonders. The effect of every other book is limited to the natural sphere, but the effect of the Book of books transcends the natural to the spiritual, and even to eternity. Its effect is supernaturally unlimited, its authority irresistible, and its force unstoppable.

The written Word is a divine

license for a successful and impact-full living. It is a divine visa to a life of exploits. It is the way out of every trouble, the truth about all issues, and the gateway to a life of fulfillment.

Yea, it is designed for profitable living. The more committed one is to its principles, the more profitable life becomes. The Word is water, milk, meat, and strong meat; and is able to meet all our physical fitness needs. It is the wisdom of God in print, and is able to make wise the simple. The Word is a spiritual hammer that breaks the rocks in pieces. It is the eternal truth about God, man, the world, and the world that is to come."

The Word of God is certainly the

principle pillar of destiny. Without it we can do nothing, as all other pillars are built upon it. The quality and quantity of the Word of God you have is what determines your destiny and how much of the benefit of the other pillars you enjoy. Note that it is not enough to “know” and preach the Word; you must practice and “live” the Word in order for it to profit you. Until you allow “This Book” to enter your heart, darkness will continue to reign. Do you want to shine, then you must have a Word encounter in whichever area of life you desire to shine.

So, come along with me, as we go through some sample teachings on the subject of the Word.

Below is a list of some books I have written on this subject. I believe they will bless you:

The Force Of Freedom

The Miracle Seed

Word Encounters

Chapter 1

What Is In The Word?

What is in the Word? What is it that makes it unique? Every other book informs, but this book (the Bible) transforms. Whereas every other book is made up of letters, this book, on the other hand, is pregnant with wonders. No wonder the Psalmist said, "*Open thou my eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law*" (Ps. 119:18).

The Word of God is what determines our ultimate worth in life. The revelation of the Word of God is what will reposition the Church in her

rightful place here on earth as the light of the world, the salt of the earth, and as a city set on a hill that cannot be hidden. This is because by God's great design, the last days is packaged for unusual revelations (Isa. 2:1-3; Mic. 4:1-2). The depths of insight and revelation will make the Church become the envy of the world. As a result, all nations shall flow to her, asking to be taught by her. The destiny of the Church - your destiny and mine - anchors on the Word of God, which is the custodian of our glorious destinies. How much of it we are able to connect with is what defines the limit of our destinies.

What is in the Word of God that

makes it so unique?

It Carries God's Power

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

- John 6:63

Jesus said, "The words that I've spoken to you are spirit and life, and are designed for your supernatural quickening; they bring back to life everything that is dying or is already dead."

The Spirit of God connotes the power of God. The Bible says, "*And you shall receive power after the Holy Ghost is come upon you.*" Jesus also told the disciples to tarry in Jerusalem

until they are endued with power from on high (Acts 1:8; Lk. 24:49). Also, when Peter was speaking in the house of Cornelius, the Bible says the Holy Ghost fell on all them that heard the word (Acts 10:44). All these references show that God's Word is the carrier of His power, just as mosquitoes carry malarial parasites. So, whenever the Word "stings" you or gets into you, power is released into your life.

The Bible says, "*As many as received Him, to them gave He power…*" In verse one of John chapter one, we are told: "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*" We know that Jesus is the Word. That means, as

many as receive the Word are given power. No wonder Paul said, *"I'm not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation"* (Rom. 1:16). God's Word communicates God's power, which in turn guarantees salvation. Salvation means a change of position for the better. So, God's Word communicates God's power, which guarantees our salvation, rescue, escape and transformation.

God's Word is God's power in print, and is gathered by His Spirit (Isa. 34:16; 2 Tim. 3:16). Therefore, when you imbibe the Word you imbibe His Spirit, and by extension, His power.

It Carries God's Life

God’s Word carries God’s life and nature.

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature…

- 2 Peter 1:4

Every scripture is pregnant with divine nature. The more scriptures you imbibe, therefore, the more of His divine nature you possess. The Word of God inoculates us with the nature of God, His abilities, capabilities, and capacities; connecting us to His divinity. That is what makes the difference between the Bible and your history, chemistry or psychology books. Whereas these are all made up

of mere letters and are designed to only inform you, the Bible is made of wonders, and is packaged to transform you and to change your level and position.

Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?

If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken;

- John 10:34-35

The coming in of the Word of God into your life begins the process of transforming your humanity into divinity by upgrading and translating you. The Bible says we have been translated from the kingdom of

darkness into that of His own dear Son (Col. 1:13). God's Word is what enhances the reality of that transaction. Something changes when God's Word comes or enters into you. That is why Jesus said, "The words I have spoken to you, they are Spirit - they communicate My power, and they are life - they communicate My nature."

The Bible describes the Word of God as a glass (Jms. 1:23-25). It also says in 2 Corinthians 3:18:

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

That means, as we imbibe God's

Word we are transformed or changed from glory to glory, into the same image, and unto the fullness of the status of Christ. Therefore, the more of His Word you imbibe, the more of His nature you manifest. This is what makes you a sign and a wonder to your world. So, every truth of the Word you discover and engage enhances the life of God in you.

It Carries God's Wisdom

The Word of God also carries God's wisdom.

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

- 2 Timothy 3:15

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

- Psalm 19:7

God’s Word makes wise; it communicates the wisdom from above, which positions you above all your peers, teachers and the ancient (Ps. 119:97-100). Luke 11:49 defines God’s Word as the wisdom of God. The Word of God is God’s wisdom in print. So, the more of His Word you imbibe, the more of His wisdom you are able to manifest in your daily life.

Divine Health

God’s Word communicates divine health also.

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

- Proverbs 4:20-22

The Bible says, "*He sent His word and the word healed them and delivered them from all their destructions*" (Ps. 107:20). Jesus was teaching in Luke 5:17, and the Bible says the power of God was present to heal the people. Every healing, according to scriptures, is God showing His power over the oppressions of the devil. God's Word does not only keep

you healthy, it also sets you free from all satanic harassments. No wonder we are told that Jesus went about doing good, and healing all them that were oppressed of the devil (Acts 10:38).

Peace

The more of the knowledge of the truth of God's Word you possess, the more peace you enjoy.

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord.

- 2 Peter 1:2

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

- Isaiah 26:3

God's Word communicates in-

explainable peace, divine peace, peace that cannot be measured scientifically, peace like a river. Great peace have they whose mind is stayed on Him, whose mind is saturated with Him, whose hearts are filled with His knowledge; and nothing shall upset them.

Joy Unspeakable

God's Word also communicates divine joy - joy that cannot be interpreted; joy that just oozes forth like a fountain.

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

- Jeremiah 15:16

Joy unspeakable and full of glory comes through believing God and His Word (1 Pet. 1:8).

Nutritional Contents Of The Word

The Word of God not only delivers all that have been listed above, but also nourishes the body. Let’s now look at the nutritional content of the Word of God.

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your

labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

- Isaiah 55:1-3

God’s Word is loaded with great nutritional values, designed for the strengthening of your inner man against the days of battle.

Water

God’s Word is a fountain of water. Water is for our refreshing, it keeps us going. Jesus said in John 4:14:

But whosoever drinketh of the

water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

The Bible also says in Ephesians 5:26, "*That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.*" God's Word offers us water to refresh our inner man.

Milk

The Word of God is also milk.

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

- 1 Peter 2:2

Milk is for growth. That means your growth is guaranteed by the milk of the Word of God. If you want

strength, then you need the milk of the Word of God, which enhances spiritual growth and development.

Meat

God's Word is meat.

But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Hebrews 5:14

Every doctrine of the gospel is meat for the soul. The strength you get from water is not comparable with the one that comes from milk, and the one from milk is not comparable with the one from meat. So, we must outgrow the water level, move unto the milk level, and then unto the meat and the

strong meat levels of the Word of God.

Honey

The honey level of the Word of God is for exploits.

My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste:

So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off

- Proverbs 24:13-14

What this means is that you are in command when you gain access to the honey of God's Word; that is, the working knowledge of the truth, which puts you supernaturally in command of the affairs of life. If you want real

strength, then reach out for the honey of the Word of God. Talking about the eagle in Deuteronomy 32:9-14, reference is made to the honey, which is the eagle's food. It is a source of strength for the eagle, which has so much strength that it can carry a weight that is three times its size.

Wine

God's Word is also loaded with wine. This is when you come under the intoxicating effect of the Word of God; you live under its influence, and start doing as occasion serves you.

And in this mountain shall the LORD of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of

wines on the lees well refined.

And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations.

He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.

- Isaiah 25:6-8

The wine of the Word brings you under the supernatural influence of the Word in your daily life. You live under the influence of the Word and are intoxicated with the truth. In this realm, you are not moved by what you

see or hear; you are only moved by the Word of God, with which you approach every issue of life. It is at this stage that every death around you is swallowed up, because of the intoxicating influence of the Word of God. You can't live under the influence of Word and not be in command.

Speaking about the great tribe of Judah to which you and I belong in Genesis 49:11-12, the Bible says:

Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes:

His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

Wine and milk is lion's food; and

you know that the lion is the strongest among beasts, and turns not away from any (Prov. 30:30). Also, when Jesus came, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Bible said about Him in prophecy:

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.

- Isaiah 7:14-15

When you have the butter, milk and honey of the Word of God, you'll decide the happenings in your life, just as Jesus did.

Weapons In The Word

Hammer

Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

- Jeremiah 23:29

Every truth you discover in the Word of God is a spiritual hammer. So, when you say, “It is written”, you are throwing a spiritual sledge hammer at the obstacle on your way, which will break it into pieces.

Fire

The Word of God is also fire that devours every stubble. The Word is not just fire, but a consuming fire. We see this in the story of the three Hebrew boys when they were thrown into the fiery furnace in Daniel chapter three.

The fiery furnace could not consume them, because the fire that consumes fire stepped in! Likewise, when you lay hold on the fire of the Word of God, it will devour every stubble that is responsible for the troubles of your life. No fire of the enemy can have effect on your life when you lay hold on the Word. No wonder God said in Isaiah 43:2:

…When thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Why? *"For our God is a consuming fire"* (Heb. 12:29). When the Word enters you, the fire of God enters you and burns off every chaff on your inside. A woman was reading one of

my books, '*The Healing Balm,*' and a live spider came out of her ears! The fire of the Word chased it out!

Rock

God's Word is also a rock of offence. When you come against it, you are broken into pieces, and when He comes against you, you are grounded into powder. When you lay hold on the stone of the Word, you'll become an impossible case for the devil. When they come against you there is trouble, and when you come against them, they are devastated.

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that

believeth shall not make haste.

- Isaiah 28:16

Who is that stone? Jesus. And Who is Jesus? The Word of God. So, when you lay hold on the stone of the Word, every witch, wizard and occultic power will give way to you, because you can no longer be molested.

Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?

And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

- Matthew 21:42,44

What is in the Word? Divine strength is in the Word. The Word of God is a spiritual hammer, a consuming fire and a rock of offence. The combination of these three makes you one to be feared and respected.

There is so much loaded into the Word of God, no wonder it’s the foundation of our faith destiny.

Chapter 2

The Master Key Of Knowledge

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

– Matthew 16:19

When I was a little boy, I fell asleep in my grandmother's little room, and she unknowingly locked her room door and left for the market. When I woke up and found that I was locked in, I began knocking and banging on the door. But since that day

was the general market day when everybody went to the market, there was nobody around to hear my yelling and banging. I kept banging till my toes and fingers began to bleed. Tired from all my unsuccessful efforts at opening the door, I laid down beside the door till my grandmother returned from the market in the evening. If I had the key to the door, it would have been a different story.

In the same manner, many are hedged in and locked up by the circumstances of life because they have not located the keys that operate the issues they are confronted with. But the knowledge of kingdom mysteries is the heritage of every redeemed child of

God. Jesus said in Mark 4:11:

…Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables:

The keys of the kingdom is the knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven. It is your staff of office as a redeemed child of God, designed to establish your status of dominion and validate your authority over the enemy. The knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom, which is the same as the knowledge of the Word of God is what puts you in command and gives you mastery over the issues of life. But as small as a little padlock might be, it takes using the right key to

open it. The use of any other thing will end in futility. Your grammar or academic qualifications are of no use; neither will struggling with it or the use of the force of anointing work.

You need knowledge to reign on earth! This is because at the root of every man's problem is ignorance; whereas the secret of triumph is knowledge. Don't let any devil deceive you; there is no substitute for knowledge! I have seen many prayer warriors who are worn out. They shake their heads and hands, but that doesn't open the door. Your only guarantee for liberty is knowledge.

Information For Transformation

Not every key can open a door.

Many Christians have succeeded in taking delivery of only one key, and they want to open 50 other doors with this single key. They are saved, no doubt; but the key that will grant them access into health, abundance and success they don't have.

Every exploit in life is a product of information. You cannot be informed and not be transformed. It is information that breeds transformation, which in turn leads to inspiration, and then culminates in aspiration. When aspiration is pursued, it brings forth transformation. Nothing happens by accident on the earth. The biggest enterprises on the earth all took off from the bits and pieces of information

gathered. One of the world's richest men, Richard Branson, attained his height of success from reading a little book titled, ***"Small is Beautiful"***. His entire business empire took off with the information he gleaned from that little book. We must, therefore, place value on information, if we don't want to suffer frustrations in life.

It takes information to be free from stagnation and deformation. If you are informed, you will be formed; and if you are well informed, you will be well-formed. The amount of information you have on any issue of life will determine your accomplishment in it.

And it shall come to pass, if thou

shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

- Deuteronomy 28:1

All that the above scripture means is information. If you will crave after information from the Lord, and let it bring enough inspiration to ginger aspiration, you will come out on top. You can’t enjoy prosperity more than how informed you are about it. Information is the baseline for your tomorrow; whatever you will become tomorrow will be determined by how well informed you are today. Once you

have it, you will just smile at every opposition, because you know better.

Lack of information brings about deformation. So settle down and crave adequate information, which is relevant to your goals in life or which addresses the challenge before you, because you need your own personal knowledge to be free from any kind of destruction the enemy is organizing around you. The reason the disciples called Jesus “Master” was because He had an answer to every question and knew what to do in every situation. He was in control of everything, including the winds and the waves of the sea. Isaiah 11:9 says:

They shall not hurt nor destroy in

all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

When you are filled with the knowledge of the Word of God, you cannot be hurt, resisted or molested. With knowledge, you can have things the way you want them at all times, as long as they are covered in the covenant. The Bible says in 2 Peter 1:4:

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

That means, as you imbibe the precious promises in the Word of God,

the divine nature of God is mysteriously infused into you; so that wherever you appear, it is as if God Himself has appeared in that situation. So, the deeper your launch into the Word, the higher your control over the affairs of life.

Enter The Control Room

The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

– Psalm 119:130

God has no way of ending your toiling other than through His Word. You can’t be in command until the Word is at hand. When the Word gains entrance into your life, it results in putting you in command and in charge

of the affairs of life. Many have ideas that are inadequate to handle the challenges they are confronted with. When knowledge and information in a certain area becomes adequate, every door in that particular area will open on its own accord. No matter how many devils seem to be challenging you, light is enough to deal with them, as the entrance of God's Word gives light and understanding to our simple minds. Knowledge will open any door to which it is directed.

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These things saith he that hath the key of David, he that openenth and no man shutteth: and shutteth, and no man openeth.

- Revelation 3:7

Jesus is the One that has the key mentioned above, and who is Jesus? He is the Word of God. The Word of God delivers to you the key of David, and when He opens, no man shuts, and when He shuts no man can open. The devil does not have the final say about the doors of your life. We must all come to the Word of life to take delivery of our keys. The Bible is a book of keys; and the covenant keys it contains are what we refer to as revelation knowledge, divine insights and illumination.

You need to ask the Lord to help you locate from His Word the appropriate keys that deal with the

issues of life. The struggles we encounter is because we don't have the appropriate keys. How much prayer do you need to pray before you enter into your car when you have your car keys in your hand? In like manner, every door can be opened; all that is needed is the use of the appropriate covenant key. The use of the right key in your home will drive away every tension there. Just one little insight will do the job; so get informed! Life is designed to be buoyant, fulfilling and exciting. Sit down, pick up the Bible and relevant books, and begin to read them for information, not just for pleasure.

For the Word to gain access into you, you must first pay attention to it.

If you don't pay attention to the Word of God, you may never take delivery of the keys that operate the issues of life. I have always said that our triumph and success in life is not a matter of luck, but of light. But we need to pay the price to get it! Stay in the control room of the Word of God to get what it takes to actually be in control. Remember, every extra light you get puts more of God in you, because God is light and in Him is no darkness at all (1 Jn. 1:5).

The Word of God is the only infallible, invincible instrument of control (Heb. 1:3). It not only puts you in control, it also makes you a master of circumstances and situations.

We Have Equal Access

In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

- John 7:37

A good thing about locating the appropriate keys we need is that we all have equal access by the blood of the Lamb to the things behind the veil. But how much we utilise that access determines what becomes of us ultimately. God is not to be blamed if you fail, neither is the devil your problem; because he is against everybody, including those who work for him. But as much as the devil is equally against all the saints, he is not able to pull them all down. This is

because even though God has given us all equal victory, each one enters into his victory at his own level or by reason of the insight he possesses.

We are not all enjoying the same level of victories and triumphs today. This is not because some are more qualified than others, but because some are walking in more light than others. You don’t fail an exam just because it is difficult; you fail because you don’t have the facts that make for success. That is why I believe that you are not sick because there is sickness in town; you are sick because there is not enough light in your veins to dispel the sickness. God has no favorites, and there are no special or lucky Christians.

In fact, the Bible says in Acts 10:34, "*God is no respecter of persons*," and in Romans 10:12, "…*For the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.*"

Even though salvation is free for all and secures the soul, knowledge, which preserves and ensures your well being on earth, is a personal responsibility. Jesus said, "*YOU shall know the truth, and the truth YOU know shall make YOU free*" (Jn. 8:32). So, go for light, and lay hold on the master key of knowledge!

Chapter 3

You Need Revelation

And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.

And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

- Revelation 5:4-5

Revelation is the cure for all tears; it is the bedrock upon which every revolution is built. Until “the Book” (the Bible) is opened, weeping and frustration continue. Thank God that

the Lion of the tribe of Judah has prevailed and has opened the Book, bringing an end to all man's tears. When Jesus gave up the ghost, the veil in the temple was torn in twain, providing a supernatural access for everyone into the things behind the veil.

The opening of the scriptures to us through revelation decorates our future, terminates our sorrows and tears and dignifies our destinies. It provokes supernatural turn-around also.

The Virtues Of Revelation

Revelation infuses **divine nature**.

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of

the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

- 2 Peter 1:4

When the great and precious promises of scriptures enter into a man (by supernatural understanding), they impart on the person the nature of God. Divine nature can only be infused into a man when he grasps the mysteries of the Word (Jn. 10:35). The Bible tells us that God is a Spirit (Jn. 4:24) and the Word of God is also Spirit (Jn. 6:63). Therefore, when God's Word enters you, the Spirit of the Lord enters you, imparting you with His nature.

Revelation also **terminates tears** (Rev. 5:4-5; Isa. 60:20). It ensures

protection too, because nothing shall hurt or destroy upon God's holy mountain (Isa. 11:9). Revelation provokes **sanctification** as well (Jn. 17:17; 15:3; Eph. 5:26; Ps. 119:9-11). Whatever is born of God does not sin, because the seed of God (the Word of God) is in him. When you have His Word, then you are free from sin.

Another virtue of revelation is **dignity** (Ps. 45:3-5). Revelation also provokes **faith**. No one doubts what he can see. Even Thomas believed after he saw. What revelation does is to make you go beyond hearing, causing you to see. When you see, doubt dies (Ps. 119:18; Jn.4:48; 20:29). Every man of revelation is a man of faith, and every

man of faith is more than a conqueror, because he can quench all the fiery darts of the enemy.

Another thing revelation does is to **boost destiny**. In Genesis 13:14-15, God told Abraham to look, and all that he saw, God gave to him. Destiny is a function of revelation, because you can only go as far as you can see. You can only take delivery of the inheritance you can see (Acts 20:32).

Revelation also enhances **divine health**.

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

- Proverbs 4:20-22

It also guarantees **supernatural wealth** (Ps. 112:1-3; Job 22:21-25). Every true wealth is a product of the revelation of the covenant of abundance.

To provoke a supernatural turn-around, go for revelation; because divine revelation is the bedrock for a revolution in whichever area you desire a change. Just in case someone is still asking, “Why do I need revelation?” Here is why:

To Provoke Signs

Every supernatural manifestation is provoked by revelation. Mark 16:20

says:

And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.

God was working with the disciples, confirming the words they spoke with signs following – signs of supernatural success, of supernatural provisions and of supernatural health.

In God's great formula for success, He said in Joshua 1:8:

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and

then thou shalt have good success.

Signs do not mean just getting healed and delivered from satanic holds. It also means being an amazement and a marvel to your world, in spite of the woes around. When Jesus came to earth, He came as a sign; He was a living wonder in fulfillment of the scripture that says, "*The Lord Himself shall give you a sign*" (Isa. 7:14).

Every supernatural manifestation is provoked by revelation, because the revelation of the truth is what makes you a miracle worker. Until you possess a working knowledge of the truth you can't work miracles, as a working knowledge of the truth is

required for the working of miracles. There is something unique about revelation; there are things you hear, things you see and things you handle. John said in 1 John 1:1:

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

That's why God said to Moses, *"Thou shall take this rod in thine hand, wherewith thou shall do signs"* (Ex. 4:17). With the rod in Moses' hand, the magicians were utterly helpless. Pharaoh became dumb, and Moses took over; the whole Egypt was under Moses' command! So, with a rod in

your hand, every brutal Pharaoh will have no choice but to bow to your authority. That's why you and I need revelation.

Revelation - The Key To Dignity

Revelation is also the key to kingdom dignity. Your dignity is determined by your depth of insight.

Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty.

And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.

- Psalm 45:3-4

Unusual insight is what makes you

ride prosperously and in majesty. Your kingdom dignity is enhanced by revelation, and thy right arm shall unfold to you deep things. That's why the Word admonishes us to study to show ourselves approved unto God (2 Tim. 2:15). In other words, get down into the Word, find it, apply it correctly, and you will never know the meaning of shame again.

Revelation is the cure for shame and reproach. That's why the Bible says in Isaiah 60:1-3:

Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.

For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the

people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

He also said for your shame you shall have double. Therefore, by reason of the revelation you have, for every shame of your life, you shall have double restoration of honour.

Revelation Guarantees Dominion

Revelation also guarantees your dominion on earth. The Word says:

And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

- John 1:5

No matter how dark it may be,

when light comes darkness can't stop light from shining! And Psalm 119:130 says, "*The entrance of thy words giveth light.*" That means when the truth is unfolded, light is infused, and when light is infused, your dominion over darkness is established.

Satan and his cohorts could not stop Jesus, the Living Word and Living Light. Everywhere He appeared, they cried out in fear and desperation, because they couldn't withstand Him. Jesus didn't go about looking for witches, but all the witches were giving way to Him, because darkness can't resist the authority of light.

When you become a committed Word-hunter, you are heading to

becoming one of the kingdom high fliers, because try hard as they may, nobody can stop you.

Your Inheritance Is Released

We have a very enviable inheritance in Christ; but it can only be delivered to you via the revelation of the Word of God. Apostle Paul reveals this to us in Acts 20:32:

And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

You are entitled to take delivery of only that which you can see. Whatever you cannot see, you are not entitled to, for as far as your eyes can see, shall be

given unto you (Gen. 13:14-15).

The degree to which we enjoy our inheritance in God is limited by the depth of our revelation. God said, until you see it, you can't get it. He is, therefore, urging us to pray to see it, because when we see it, He is committed to giving it to us. So, pray that you see. Pray, search and seek according to the rules of the game. When you see it, you will get it. Your most enviable heritage in Christ cannot be delivered without divine insight.

That's why you need revelation.

Chapter 4

Dominion By Light

Light is your guarantee for dominion in the world of darkness, as light will never lose in any conflict with darkness. When you are in possession of light, you are in command of all the forces of darkness:

And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

- John 1:5, 9

Ephesians 6:12 clearly states that we wrestle not against flesh and blood,

but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, and against spiritual wickedness in high places. Therefore, we need light to dominate in this world of darkness.

Light gives you dominion in all sphere of life and makes you master over your enemies. It launches you into the realm of exploits, where you are continually the head and not the tail. This was what happened to Daniel. He was a man distinguished by light. Daniel 5:11 records that:

There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom like the

wisdom of gods was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans and soothsayers.

God gave Daniel light, wisdom and understanding that placed him far above the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans and soothsayers in the land. The king said thus to Daniel in verse 14:

I have even heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee.

That is Light! Light announces you to the world, and gives you a place of greatness.

The entrance of the Word gives light and understanding to the simple (Psalm 119:130). When the Word of God gains entrance into your heart, understanding comes, and when you understand, you are enlightened for dominion. Everyone can be lighted; and how enlightened you are determines the degree of dominion you will command.

The possession of light is very crucial to us as believers in this world of darkness. We need it to disarm the forces of wickedness and establish our dominion. Let us examine three essential channels through which we could access light:

Through Revelation

The knowledge of what is available is information; but when you know what to do with what is available, that is revelation! Psalm 119:105 says:

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Light in this passage implies knowing what to do with the Word of God, as that is what gives dominion. Acts 2:37-38 tell us:

Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Then Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission

of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

This suggests that until revelation comes, people wallow in darkness. Three thousand people stepped out of hell into heaven in one day, simply by knowing what to do. It is revelation that births revolution. When what to do is revealed, a great turnaround is the end result.

John 6:5-7 says:

When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?

And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do.

Philip answered him, Two hundred

pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little.

Here was a great company of people that needed to be fed. Feeding them looked like an impossible task. But the Bible says that Jesus said this to prove them, for He Himself knew what He would do. Jesus caught a revelation for multiplication, and just by giving thanks, 5,000 people were fed with just five loaves of bread and two small fishes. What's more, after feeding the large crowd, they still had 12 baskets left over! In like manner, no matter what challenges you might be faced with, when you catch a genuine revelation and apply it, you will

overcome. The revelation of the truth embraced produces undeniable proofs; it lightens you for dominion and liberty.

The revelation of the truth is the master key to a world of dominion. Jesus said to Peter, after he had confessed Him as Lord and Saviour in Matthew 16:18-19:

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth

shall be loosed in heaven.

The kingdom we live in operates on keys, not on chances or luck. Keys here means the insight you catch from God's Word to tackle a particular situation. The key you hold is what determines the door you can or cannot open. Without the right key, crying, rolling on the floor and screaming won't open the door for you. Kicking the door won't open it; neither would the intensity of your prayers. Until you know what to do and do it, you can't open the door. When you get hold of the right key by knowledge and rightly apply it, then God is committed, and when He is committed, the mountains will crumble.

So what opens to you is determined by what key you have taken delivery of. “I will give unto you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you open with those keys on earth, they shall be opened in heaven, and whatever you shut with those keys on earth, they shall be shut in heaven.” You can’t hold the right key and not be in command.

Revelation of the truth connotes insight. When you see what the Word of God is saying, you automatically know what to do. Insight gears you up to take action, because you understand what you have seen. What you see you believe, what you believe you behave, and what you behave you become.

When you believe, you commit God to perform, thereby commanding dominion.

There are wonderful things in the Word of God, but you need revelation to get them. The Psalmist said: "*Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law*" (Ps. 119:18). When your eyes are opened, wondrous things follow.

Dominion is a product of insight. When you know what to do and actually do it, God is committed to perform it. If God be for you, nothing can stand against you. Jesus said the people will not believe except they see (Jn. 4:48). This is because you can't doubt what you see. Insight terminates

struggles, doubt and unbelief. It causes you to triumph without sweat. With the understanding of the Word, you have Word-insight, which is light unto your path.

I caught a light from God's Word on prosperity in 1981. I saw that prosperity is not a promise, but a covenant that operates on terms. When you fulfill the terms, the covenant is sealed and must deliver.

Having insight into the Word of God sets you high above, but is not enough to establish your dominion. It is Word-insight with Word-practice that guarantees the dominion that cannot be confronted. Even Jesus adhered to this. The Bible says about

Him: *"…All that Jesus begun both to do and teach"* (Acts 1:1). The Bible admonishes us also in James 1:22 that we should not be hearers of the Word only, but doers also. So, until insight is applied, dominion is not in view.

When you gain insight you are in possession of true knowledge. *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge"* (Hos. 4:6). This means that appropriate insight guarantees fulfillment of destiny and freedom. *"You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free"* (Jn. 8:32).

Through Understanding

Light comes through understanding; that is, being able to see the truth in God's Word. You can't see

it and not be lighted! When you see the truth, doubt is automatically destroyed. Proverbs 4:7 says: "*Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting, get understanding.*" This means that there is no substitute for spiritual understanding.

Lack of understanding puts you on the same level with the unbeliever, who suffers the consequences of sins and abides in the congregation of the dead. "*The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead*" (Prov. 21:16). The unbeliever doesn't know Jesus, so he has no life in him. There is no light without understanding.

Many people go to church with different versions of the Bible. They are full of religion, but lack understanding. As a result, they find themselves in the same struggles with sinners, and suffer the same things sinners suffer. Until understanding comes, light is not in view.

One way to enhance your understanding is meditation, which activates your understanding. When Jesus was faced with a trap set for Him, He escaped through the channel of meditation.

This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he

heard them not.

- John 8:6

By stooping down and acting as though He was writing on the floor, Jesus was through meditation activating His mind for an appropriate answer. You must take out time to meditate on the truth till light comes. Meditation involves a separation to ponder on the truth of what you have heard or read.

Through Joyfulness And Stillness

Light could also be accessed through joyfulness and stillness. Light is the heritage of the joyful. The happier you are, the more enlightened you become, and more insight you gain. The Bible says:

Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

- Isaiah 12:3

Only the still can still the storm. God said, "*Be still and know that I am God*" (Ps. 46:10). Anxiety is an evidence of doubt, and would not allow you receive anything from God.

But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

- James 1:6

Philippians 4:6 also says:

Be anxious for nothing; but in every thing, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

So, if you want God to take over your situation, then stay calm and be still. Then:

The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

- Exodus 14:14

You can’t access the required light and not have dominion. So, go ahead and dominate! I see amazing light that will establish your dominion forever coming your way today.

Chapter 5

Covenant Access To Light

I have talked so much about light, insight and revelation, emphasizing the need for them in order to triumph and enjoy dominion here on earth. But what is the covenant access to light? How do we access light?

Come Up Hither…

After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

- Revelation 4:1

To be able to access revelations from the Word of God, there is a platform you must first get unto. That is why the angel told John, “Come up hither.” He means to say, “You can’t see what I’m about to show you from the floor where you are right now.” To access or see the great truths God wants to show you from His Word, you must first take some steps from the floor to a correct platform.

Many hear what God is saying, only very few see it. If you want to see what God is saying, then you must climb up to where you can hear Him. Like a radio station, God is constantly speaking, but only the very few that are connected to His frequency, can hear

Him.

So, on what platform must you stand to access the truths of scripture?

Be Born Again

The first step to accessing the truths of scriptures is being born again.

And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables.

- Mark 4:11

Unto the redeemed alone is given to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of God. Jesus, speaking to Nicodemus in John 3:3, said:

…Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot

see the kingdom of God.

Except a man is born again, he cannot see. He can only hear, but cannot see; and the Bible tells us that as far as your eyes can see, it shall be given to you (Gen. 13:14-15). Our destinies is limited to what we see, as what we can see is what defines the limits of our destiny; and except a man is born again, he cannot see.

The number one step to a world of supernatural revelation is salvation. You must be truly saved to gain access to light from heaven. By salvation I mean accepting Jesus as your Lord and Saviour; not just being a church member or being very active in church.

The Fear Of God

The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will show them his covenant.

– Psalm 25:14

When you live in the fear of the Lord, you enjoy express access to God's secrets. Fear here does not mean to have a phobia; rather, it means having a genuine reverence for God and His ways. Daniel's life is a good example of what I mean. He and his three friends embraced the fear of God and purposed not to defile themselves. For this reason, God gave them such knowledge and wisdom that they were ten times better than the most learned people in the land (Dan. 1:8-20).

When King Nebuchadnezzar

threatened to kill his wise men who couldn't interpret his dream, Daniel was very sure that his right standing with God would grant him access to light, and show him all hidden things (Dan. 2:5, 16-23). The light of God in Daniel was so strong that it was likened to that of the gods. When the top scientists and chief philosophers could not decode the mysterious hand writing on the wall, Daniel again made it known easily (Dan. 5:9-28).

God is the custodian of all secrets (Deut. 29:29), so when you operate on the platform of the fear of God, you have access to all He knows. Job was another man that enjoyed divine illumination. God Himself testified

that he "*feareth God*" (Job 1:8). During his trials, Job maintained his reverence for God and did not yield to his wife's taunting counsel to curse God and die (Job 2:9). He also excelled financially and enjoyed business explosions because of divine illumination that came as a result of the fear of the Lord (Job 29:4-25).

Joseph feared the Lord. He said, "*How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?*" (Gen. 39:9). Also in Genesis 42:18, he said, "*For I fear God.*" As a result of His fear for God, this is what Pharaoh had to say about Him:

And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man

in whom the Spirit of God is?

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art:

- Genesis 41:38-39

The fear of God connected Joseph to unusual insight. The fear of God helps to clear your access to the secrets of God. Not every born again child of God walks in the fear of God. Those that don't are the ones referred to as carnal; and they have no access to God's light (1 Cor. 2:12-14). Therefore, you need the fear of God in your life, to access the deep things of God. Receiving divine illumination demands sanctification and

consecration, which are proofs of the fear of God.

Meekness

Step number three up the platform of unlimited revelations is meekness.

The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.

- Psalm 25:9

It takes meekness to access revelation in the Word of God, as God is only committed to teaching and showing only the meek His way. So, the quality of your meekness will determine the depth of secrets you enjoy from Him.

But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the

proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

– James 4:6

According to Apostle Peter in 2 Peter 1:2, grace and knowledge mean the same thing. "*Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord.*" That is, the more grace you have, the more knowledge you have. If God gives more grace to the humble, it means they also have more access to knowledge, which sparks off light.

Moses' life epitomizes this fact. Not only did God speak in Moses' ears, He also appeared to him face-to-face (Ex. 33:11). I consider this to be the highest form of illumination. God

Almighty Himself declared His readiness to reveal things to Moses (Num. 12:8). No wonder he could write about the story of creation. No one was there when God created the earth, but He revealed it to Moses, who in turn wrote the first five books of the Bible. The foundation for Moses' outstanding access to light lies in his meekness. He was the meekest man on the earth (Num. 12:3).

With humility at work in you, God will lead you in the right way. However, if you arrogantly think you already know all there is to know, and begin to justify yourself against God, you simply hinder the entrance of the light you need to get to a higher level

in life.

The Love Of God

Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends: for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

– John 15:15

You gain access to realms of unlimited revelation when you become God’s friend by loving Him. When you are in love with any individual, he has access to confidential matters relating to you. The stronger your love for that person, the greater your access to confidential issues from him. So, when you become His friend, you gain

unlimited access to His secrets. Jesus said, “I call you no more servants, but friends; because a servant does not know what his master does.” Friendship is by a bound of love.

Abraham was referred to as the friend of God. He was so close that there was nothing God could hide from him (Gen. 18:17). Paul was another man who loved God to the point of addiction (Rom. 8:35-39; Phil. 1:21), and so he enjoyed abundant revelation (2 Cor. 12:7). David was also a man after God’s own heart. He became a prophet through his love for God; so God unfolded to him unusual things about the coming Messiah and about the way He would be crucified. But

what will a king be doing with that kind revelation? David was a king who had deeper insights than some prophets in town, because of his heart for God.

When you have a heart for God, He bears His heart to you. That's why He said, *"My son, give me your heart"* (Prov. 23:26). According to Paul, only those who love God can gain access to the deep things of God, that is light, insight and revelation (1 Cor. 2:9-10).

Joy

The next step up the ladder to the platform of revelation is joy.

Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

- Isaiah 12:3

Your effort to get water from the

wells of revelation is likened to a bucket. The rope you need to let the bucket down into the well is joy. No matter how much water is in the well, if you don't have a rope with which to draw, of what benefit is a bucket? So, you need joy.

Many Christians are rope-less; they don't have joy, and so are constantly depressed. Every little thing breaks their heart. But Apostle Paul says, "Rejoice evermore!" Paul was a man of great depths of revelation; he was also a joyful man (Acts 16:25-26; Phil. 4:4; 1 Thess. 5:16). The devil knows you can't access revelation without joy, so he works hard at keeping you depressed perpetually.

Ye shall have a song, as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one goeth with a pipe to come into the mountain of the LORD, to the mighty One of Israel.

And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.

For through the voice of the LORD shall the Assyrian be beaten down, which smote with a rod.

- Isaiah 30:29-31

Access to revelation demands jubilation. God’s voice is a joyful

voice; therefore, only joyful hearts can connect with it. It takes joy to connect with water from the wells of salvation. No wonder the Psalmist said:

Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

- Psalm 16:11

It takes joy to connect with the path of life.

Peace

Be still and you shall know that I am God…

- Psalm 46:10

Why? Because the voice of the Lord is a still small voice (1 Kgs. 19:12), and will only come to those

who are still. Therefore, the more peaceful you are, the more insightful you become. Why? *"And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it…"* (Isa. 30:21). The voice is coming behind; so it takes very cool and calm, peaceful and serene people to hear it.

Come With A Thirst

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

- Isaiah 55:1

God's Word is likened to water - *"That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word"*

(Eph. 5:26). That is why the Bible said, *"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters."* That means, "Come ye to the waters (of the Word), and this water will unfold to you the ways of God, which will in turn convert all your shame into glory."

You need a thirst to access light. Without a thirst you can't have access into the deep things of God. Why? God's Word says in Isaiah 44:3:

For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring.

Floods of revelation is the preserve of the genuinely thirsty. When you are

thirsty, He pours upon you floods of His water, which provoke His blessings in your life. As a result of the flood, verse 4 tells us what will happen next: *"And they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses."* A springing up takes place when this water is poured upon you.

The Bible also says in Isaiah 41:17-18:

When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a

pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

It takes a thirst to access the refreshing, fulfilling, and wonder-producing waters of the Word of God.

What is it that provokes a thirst (for the Word of God) in you? The knowledge or awareness that if you can't find an answer in the Word, then you can't get it anywhere else is what produces a thirst. Every other source is mere guess-work, for His Word is settled in heaven forever. Heaven and earth may pass away, but not a jot of His Word will go unfulfilled. This knowledge generates a thirst in you, as you seek for answers to bugging questions of life.

When the Lord called me into ministry, ministry work was not as glamorous as it is today. So, I knew that I either had to know the One who sent me and know how to access His provisions or die in frustration. I wrote a book, ***Towards Excellence in Life and Ministry*** from the things I discovered about ministry before I came into ministry. I began asking God, “Now You have called me, who will pay me?” To get an answer to these bugging questions, I had to sit down with Him and His Word. God showed me from His Word how when He sent His disciples out they lacked nothing (Lk. 22:35).

He said to me, “I am responsible

for your going, you are not to prepare for it at all. I will not need your savings to make the going great; your savings can't handle it. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine to execute My agenda on the earth." I again asked Him, "Okay, what must I do for You to pay me?" He said to me, "As you minister spiritual things to the people, I will be committed to paying your wages. So, get down on the field; don't walk carelessly to the pulpit, but get fully armed and beautifully prepared. Listen to Me, hear from Me, and they will hear you."

These questions on my mind then were what moved me to take those journeys in the Word. By the time I

found answers to my questions, I knew I'd found it. I've never called any mortal man on the telephone till date, seeking financial help, as He has always supplied all our needs in ministry! From inception till now, we have never paid our staff one day later. In those early days, when we're to pay staff salaries, in spite of obvious lack of resources, I still said, "Get ready to pay the people this afternoon." On one occasion, at 2 P.M. someone walked into our office, saying, "I was just passing through town and just felt I should say hello to you all in the office here." When he was leaving, he dropped a seed, which was the exact amount we needed to pay everybody!

Desperation will always provoke revelation. When there's a genuine thirst to know, God promises that He would pour water upon the thirsty ground. Until there is a thirst, you don't have an access, because God does not waste His water; He pours it out upon only the thirsty.

With the above listed seven steps, you are now on the platform where you can see what God is saying. Before now, you could only hear what He was saying, but couldn't see it. But it takes seeing to possess. Now that you can see, you need next to connect with the help of the Holy Spirit in order to enjoy unlimited access into revelation.

The Holy Spirit

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

– 1 Corinthians 2:10, 14

The Holy Spirit is the One who unfolds the mysteries of the kingdom; He is our principal Helper in our search for light. Apostle Paul, a legal luminary in his days, well-read and learned in the Holy Scriptures, confessed that the things of God can only be spiritually discovered.

Jesus, when announcing the coming

of the Holy Spirit, declared His ministry thus:

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

– John 14:26

That is, the Spirit will show man how to handle the affairs of life from the pages of the scripture. He will translate the *logos* of the Word to *rhema*, turning the letters into spirit and life (2 Cor. 3:6).

We see a manifestation of this ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the apostles after Pentecost. For

instance, timid Peter stood up in public and preached an explosive sermon. Not only did he openly confess Jesus, he fearlessly condemned His enemies (Acts 2:14-40). Also, he had a unique insight into the power in the name of Jesus, and used it to raise the lame man at the Beautiful Gate (Acts 3:6-8). Stephen, on his part, in a single chapter, accurately summarized the whole history of Israel on the spur of the moment (Acts 7:1-53).

All these occurred by the help of the Holy Spirit. You must, therefore, take heed not to grieve Him or quench His fire at work in you.

Seek From Your Heart

Another thing that guarantees you

access to light is when you seek for it from your heart. Too many people are looking for God with their heads rather than with their hearts. You can't find God with your head, because God is too big for your head. He said in Jeremiah 29:11-13:

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.

And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

God's glorious plan requires all

your heart to locate it. The reason for this is made clear in Luke 15:8:

Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?

You light a candle to find what is missing in darkness. The heart of man is the candle of the Lord with which you search out whatever is missing (Prov. 20:27). That is why only heart-seekers become great finders.

You Engage In A Search

To access light, you must engage in a search. You must accept the responsibility of engaging your heart in a search for revelation and insight. A

thirst, a heart and a search are covenant combinations that provide you access into the light that will put you in command.

You need to labour in the Word before you can access the nuggets from heaven.

Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

- Proverbs 23:23

"*Buy the truth.*" That means there is a cost to it, but it's your responsibility. Even though the Holy Ghost wants to help you, you also have a part to play in accessing insights and revelation.

For he that is entered into his rest,

he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.

Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest…

- Hebrews 4:10-11

Without going into a labour room, you are not entitled to having a baby. Likewise, every revelation is a spiritual baby; you must, therefore, first go into the labour room of the Word to take deliveries of revelations, which will put you on top always. That is why the Bible says:

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- 2 Timothy 2:15

It takes a studious life to enjoy a glorious destiny. Paul paid the price of studying, he was a man of books; no wonder he enjoyed great depths of insight (2 Tim. 4:13).

Chapter 6

The Power Of Learning

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

- Matthew 11:28-30

The Holy Ghost spoke some very powerful words to me sometime ago. He said, “Learning is richer than praying; learning has greater value than

fasting. Learning is the master key to living!" No wonder Jesus said, "*Come and learn of me!* My yoke is not comparable to the yoke you are carrying about. What it takes to learn is far cheaper than what you are suffering now. Come and learn of me, and you shall find rest for your souls."

I don't know what others did, but prayer alone is not what led to the growth of the church I am pastoring. I discovered in Acts 6:7:

And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

As a result of the above, I took time

to learn what it takes to do what I am sent to do.

I define knowledge as discovery, and wisdom as the application of knowledge. That is, wisdom is discovery applied, which equals recovery. When there is a discovery and it is correctly applied, it brings instant reward – that is, automatic recovery (Prov. 24:14). So we can boldly say that nothing sets people free like knowledge!

Learning Is Your Responsibility

The acquisition of knowledge is a personal responsibility, which no one can do on your behalf. Just as no one can be saved on your behalf, and no one can prosper or succeed for you,

learning is a non-transferable responsibility!

Nothing happens on it is own; every object assumes a state of rest, until a relevant force is applied to it. It is time to do something to get somewhere. A man who had been stooling blood since 1997 sat down in the school of wisdom (in our church), light came, and darkness left! Now you may ask, “What if light didn’t come?” Then he would have remained like that, possibly till death.

God is no respecter of persons; what He says to one, He says to all. And what is He saying? John 8:32:

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

A learner is a winning, overcoming, successful and triumphant Christian any day! You are not an overcomer until God's Word gets into you; you won't gain control over the affairs of life until the Word becomes real to you. But the traditions of men seem to have usurped the authority of God's Word in the lives of many today. The Word of God is powerful! It will stir up the flow of divine nature in you and enable you to excel in all areas of life.

We all have a common but rich heritage in Christ; but our different depths of knowledge is what determines how much of our heritage we enjoy. Labour is the pathway to delivery; it is labouring in the Word

that guarantees discoveries. Any woman you see carrying a child knows the meaning of labour. The labour begins from when she first conceives the baby in her womb. Later, she can no longer do the exercises she could perform before, like running, jumping, pounding, and so on; she requires the help of others. However, no one can help her to labour for the birth of her child. It is personal labour at delivery time. Until Zion travailed, she didn't bring forth her children (Isa. 66:8).

Likewise, you cannot bring forth results by wishing; you bring forth by labouring. Can a woman suddenly put to bed and say, "I didn't even know I was pregnant?" No! There is a

gestation period of nine months, during which she is aware that she was carrying a weight. Why then do you expect to produce results unconsciously? Why do you think that by merely sitting down and confessing the Word you will get results? Labour, friend! There is no triumph without travail; there is no delivery without labour.

Labour in the Word

John 6:27 charges us:

Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

The word of faith cannot be in you

and you don’t know it. I ate up the word of faith, and I knew it. When I found the mystery of long life and victory over death, I knew. So I knew that there is no occultist or armed bandit that can cut short my life. It is not prayers, but discovery. Mind you, there can be no delivery of good reports without first labouring or making discoveries. So you need to get to work now.

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.

- Deuteronomy 28:1

This is talking about exploits that have their roots in the Word. That means, if you will settle down to labour in the Word, you cannot escape living a life of exploits. Hebrews 4:11-12 tells us of a rest that comes via labouring in the Word:

Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

We are to labour in the quick and powerful Word of God, so that we can encounter faith that guarantees rest.

There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his

- Hebrews 4:9-10

I have never prayed for peace in my family. Why? I already gave birth to peace before I got married. I remember that before I got married I preached on a sweat-less and hitch-free married life from the discoveries I made from scriptures. I wasn’t married then, yet I taught very great mysteries on marriage. Not one of the outstanding

discoveries I made on marriage then has failed. Also, I am blessed financially; yet I cannot remember when I ever asked God to give me money. I simply took time to learn what it takes to be free from poverty. Learning is the secret. The apostles said, *"But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word"* (Acts 6:4). Our ministry has simply been run on discoveries. Everything you see today came by the Word. Effective labour in the Word will always result in outstanding deliveries in the world.

The man of God, Kenneth Hagin, was living in abject poverty until the light of the Word on prosperity came

into his heart, and then there was a delivery. This was in 1953; but he had been in ministry since 1934. His financial struggles ended only when he encountered insight from the Word of God. God is no respecter of persons or age; only a discovery will bring forth a delivery. How I wish all prayer warriors would also become Word warriors. Then we would have had greater victories.

Where you stand in the Word today determines your place tomorrow. Everything on earth answers to the Word, because everything on earth was created by it.

Study to be effective

Study to shew thyself approved

unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- 2 Timothy 2:15

You must study to be effective. If you don’t want to be ashamed, sit down and study hard, because the examinations of life have no timetable! They come at random – day or night. If we divert half of the energy we expend in trying to succeed into building ourselves up in the quickening Word of God, we will have ten times greater success than we are experiencing now.

Study! If you don’t seek, you won’t find. I know that you are probably a very busy person, and you probably come home at 9 p.m. But what is a man

doing sleeping from 9 p.m to 6 a.m. the following morning? If only we will stay with the Word as drunkards stay with their drinks, we will be intoxicated with blessings.

There is always a way out of every challenge. As soon as you do what He has commanded to be done, the struggles come to an end! In Hosea 4:6 God said:

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

When you know what to do and do it, your release is automatic! Jesus

said, "*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest…learn of me.*" When you come, you discover secrets that guarantee rest. So the key to rest is learning. Every discovery brings your way an added recovery and guarantees that you live a struggle-free life. Come and learn the way to rest, otherwise you'll remain restless all life long.

Chapter 7

Getting To The “Topmost” Top…

The Word of God is God’s channel for man’s lifting. Your readiness to operate the Word of God is your access to the topmost top. This is because there is no other way of rising until light comes your way via the Word of God. How much you have heard and how much you operate what you have heard is what will determine how high you go. The Bible says:

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I

command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

- Deuteronomy 28:1

You are a king and a priest, and have a great future. But you need to take great steps in order to arrive at that future. God's Word is what provides you access to the steps you need to take.

We can only shine by light. The intensity of light at work in you is what determines the degree of shining you will experience. The entrance of God's Word is what gives light and understanding to the simple (Ps. 119:130). There is no short cut to the top: obedience to the revelation you

receive from God's Word is your access to the top. Responsibility is the price for greatness. No irresponsible person will ever become great; as it takes discipline to be distinguished. And one thing that is able to turn dreams into reality, and impossibilities into possibilities, is unequalled dedication. Be dedicated to learning and a search for revelation.

Knowledge commands exploits. Exploits in the Kingdom have their roots in the knowledge of God and His Word.

And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do

exploits.

- Daniel 11:32

Your knowledge of God is what determines your exploits in life, not the happenings around. The environment is not your problem; your lack of adequate light is the problem. This is because even in the same place where many are having the best of times, many others are having their worst time. I often tell people that the weight of the opposition is not the reason for their stagnation, but their inadequate light; as the opposition is only taking advantage of their ignorance to oppress them.

Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most mighty, with thy glory and thy

majesty.

And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.

- Psalm 45:3-4

Your might is determined by the Word, which is the sword of the spirit. To gird thy sword upon your thigh means to walk in the Word. As you walk in the Word, you will walk in might; and as you do so you are walking in exploits – *"And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth…"* Truth is power! No devil can withstand it! The knowledge of the truth is the power behind the

enthronement of the saints, as nothing can stop the truth.

Before I got married, the devil whispered in my ear: “Now that you have gone about setting others free, show me how you will have your own children.” I immediately said to him, “Devil, you’ll be surprised I won’t even pray about it!” When he later threatened with a miscarriage, and my wife told me, I insulted him further by saying to my wife, “It cannot happen! Can I have my food please?” That was the end of it, as the pregnancy was supernaturally sustained, and a healthy baby boy was born. I never prayed; I simply resisted the devil by faith built upon knowledge. Friend, there is no

mountain anywhere; everyman's ignorance is his mountain! With fullness of knowledge, the devil that has been tormenting you will be fully arrested.

Be A High Flier

We fly by light, not by luck. When light comes, you are set for a flight, which will affect every area of your life. "*Who are these that fly as a cloud and as a dove to their windows?*" (Isa. 60:8). They are the ones with light! Light makes you a master over your enemies; it puts you in command. Daniel chapter five reveals how light dominates darkness. Daniel was master over all the wicked forces in Babylon because of the light he carried. When

you possess adequate light, you too will be in command!

Light is sweet when you embrace it. It consumes darkness and it makes you shine.

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

- Isaiah 60:1-3

It is your birthright to dominate

this wicked world of darkness through the revelation of the truth; but you must be willing to pay the price to get the prize. When any light comes your way, you must exercise yourself in it in order to enjoy the profit it carries. Things won't work until you exercise yourself in the revelation you have received. Champions are made through exercise. You won't become a champion by mere promises or wishes; you will only become one by exercising yourself in your field of sport. Likewise, you must take great covenant steps in order to get to the top that God has planned for you. The way to the top is not an issue of chance, but of covenant exercises. So, discover

what God wants done and set yourself to doing them.

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Pillar 2

Faith – The Master Key

Introduction

Faith is very vital to our walk as Christians. Faith is an expression of our confidence in God and His Word. The Bible says:

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

- Hebrews 11:1-3, 6

Faith is an act motivated by the Word of God. I define it as a living force, drawn from the living Word, for a living proof. Faith is an act and always produces proofs or evidences. It has a great recompense of reward (Heb. 10:35). It is the principal determining factor of every man’s status, as exploits in the kingdom is impossible without faith.

Nothing works without faith. Salvation is impossible without it (Eph.

2:8), just as healing is impossible without faith (Matt. 9:22). You cannot walk in victory without faith either:

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

- 1 John 5:4

Christianity is absolutely worthless without faith, as it is the principal instrument for doing exploits in the kingdom (Heb. 11:32-34). Faith is what gives colour to Christianity, and enables you to stand in the midst of opposition and yet be in control. Faith is the beauty of Christianity! It is the producer of good reports. Faith is an ever-winning and never failing force!

As you go through some sample teachings on the subject of faith and study the books listed below that I have written on the subject, I believe you will emerge a high flier.

The Exploits of Faith

The Winning Faith

The Law of Faith

Chapter 1

The Mystery Of Faith

Not everyone living on the earth is terrestrial. Those who understand and operate the mystery of faith live in a celestial realm on earth. They live in a state that is free of sickness, failure, shame and all forms of harassment. In other words, they are living a heavenly life in earthly places. This class of people has brought heaven to earth by the operation of their faith (Rom. 10:6-8). Everyone who desires this kind of life also has a free access to it through faith.

Once you know the value of a thing,

it becomes easy to want to spend and be spent for it. It is important, therefore, to know how valuable faith is to Christianity.

What Is Faith Worth?

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

- Hebrews 11:1-3

The greatest event of life – creation came out of faith; it gave birth to the most outstanding exploit in existence.

Therefore, every outstanding event in a man's life in the kingdom will also be as a result of his faith. The worlds were made by the Word of God through faith. That means the only way to get to where God has ordained for you, which is the top, is through faith.

Going by Jesus' words, faith is the answer to all impossibilities. No impossibility can survive where faith is at work (Matt. 17:20; Mk. 9:23). In actual fact, every situation that seems impossible to you is only an evidence of the absence of faith, because faith is a mover of mountains (Mk. 11:23). By faith, all mountains, no matter how great, are cheaply leveled.

Faith is very valuable to Christian

existence, because it is the guarantee for victory in the battles of life (1 Jn. 5:4). Every challenge of life can be overcome by faith. It is God's answer to the problems of living on earth. It is only through faith that the devil's activities around you can be stopped (1 Pet. 5:9; Eph. 6:16). You cannot resist the devil by noisy declarations or bold face; only by steadfast faith. Satan does not hear your exclamations of, "*I cannot be sick!*" if there is no faith backing it up.

Faith is the master key to a triumphant and proof-filled life. It is the beauty and essence of Christianity. In fact, the totality of the Christian adventure is summarized as *The Faith*

(Acts 6:7), and I will show you why.

The Significance Of Faith

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

- Mark 11:22

Jesus said if you have faith as little as the grain of a mustard seed, you shall move mountains, and nothing shall be impossible unto you (Matt. 17:20). Nothing is possible without faith in Christianity, as faith has an answer for everything. No wonder Jesus said in Mark 9:23:

… If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

Faith enables us to operate in the class of God, where nothing shall be impossible to us. Faith is very

important to the Christian, because he can scarcely do anything without it. For example:

We are saved or born again by faith. Salvation is absolutely impossible without faith; for by grace are we saved through faith (Eph. 2:8).

We live by faith (Hab. 2:4; Rom. 1:17; Gal. 3:11; Heb. 10:38). If the just shall live by faith, it means the unjust shall die without faith. The just cannot exist without faith.

We can only stand by faith (2 Cor. 1:24).

We also walk by faith (2 Cor. 5:7).

We are kept by faith (1 Pet. 1:5). We are shielded from the arrows of the wicked and preserved for dignity and

honour by faith. Without it, we would be doomed and damned, as we would be vulnerable to the wickedness of hell!

Healing comes by faith (Matt. 9:27-29). Faith is our guarantee for divine health and healing, as Jesus would so often say to the sick that came to Him, *"Be it to you according to thy faith."*

We also overcome by faith (1 Jn. 5:4). Faith is not merely a biblical doctrine, but a winning weapon in the battles of life. It is what silences the devil (Eph. 6:16).

This seven-point significance of faith summarizes the Christian walk. We are absolutely nothing without faith. If faith is so powerful and holds

such grace and glory, what exactly is it?

What Is Faith?

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

- Hebrews 11:1

Faith is defined as a spiritual substance, which connects man with God for divine intervention. According to Hebrews 11:6, you cannot connect with God except through faith; for we can’t please Him except through faith. Faith is not a feeling; it is a concrete, tangible force by which people obtain good reports (Heb. 11:2-39). It is a spiritual force that connects the natural with the supernatural.

This is well illustrated in the miracle of the woman with the issue of blood (Lk. 8:43-48). Despite the crowd pressing Jesus, He insisted that someone had touched Him, because the touch, unlike all the others, drew virtue from Him. When the woman confessed, trembling, Jesus assured her that her faith had made her whole. The point here is, multitudes were touching Jesus, but only one person connected with Him. Faith is that vital spiritual force that makes the difference between the human and the divine. Therefore, faith is a must for every true Christian.

Also, faith has evidence; it produces proofs. You cannot have faith

and not show it. That is why there is a drastic transformation of your lifestyle at new birth. Long-standing bad habits suddenly become distasteful and are easily abandoned, just because a spiritual connection with faith had been made.

The Source Of Faith

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- Romans 10:17

The Word of God is the only authentic source of faith. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God coming from the mouth of one sent by God (Rom. 10:14-17). The Bible is the bank of faith, where every wise man draws from. It is also a treasure of faith. Once

Jesus opens it up to you, your life will always carry proofs.

When the enemy is trying to harass you or anything connected with you, go to the Word, and take the shield for quenching all the fiery darts of the devil (Eph. 6:16). With faith your victory is sure.

The mystery of faith makes the difference in every Christian's life. Its operation in your life will prove the reality of heaven.

The Root Of Faith

Faith has a three-dimensional root, which makes it work optimally. Any tree that has no root cannot produce fruits. Likewise, the rooted faith is the winning faith.

The Love Of God

The winning faith must be rooted in the love of God. The depth of your love for God determines the level of results your faith will ever produce. Jesus, in answering the question on the greatest commandment in the law, said:

... Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

- Matthew 22:37-40

The love of God is the platform

upon which every scripture functions. Without it, you do not have a foundation for a result-oriented Christian life. Without a true heart for God, you will never make a mark in the school of faith. Apostle Paul, a man of great exploits, and who also operated the winning faith, demonstrated an unconditional love for God (Rom. 8:35). At a point he declared that to die for Christ was gain (Phil. 1:21). No wonder he could boldly say that he could do all things (Phil. 4:13). His love for God put him on the winning faith line all his life.

You need to get to the point where God becomes your reason for living, and then things will start happening in

your favour. Jesus asked Peter, *"Lovest thou me more than these?"* The love question must first be answered before you can become a high flyer in the school of faith. Do you really love God or are you just running after Him for bread and butter? You need to settle the love question today. When you stop serving Him for what He does, but start worshipping Him for Who He is, then your faith will begin to work like fire.

The love of God is not theoretical, it is practical and demonstrable. If you truly love God, you will let Him have your time, energy, resources and everything, as a proof of your love for Him. Also, if you have a sincere love for God, it will naturally overflow to

the people around you (1 Jn. 4:20).

The Word Of God

The winning faith is also rooted in the Word of God. Romans 4:18 reveals the root of Abraham's faith:

Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

His faith was rooted in that which was spoken, and so he did not stagger or lose hope. When your faith is rooted in that which is spoken (the Word of God), you will no longer consider the negative things around; rather, you are blind to all contrary situations. Paul's faith for deliverance and preservation from death in the shipwreck was rooted

in what was told him (Acts 27:25). The Bible says:

And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord.

- Luke 1:45

Of course, you can only believe what you have heard from God, not what you have not heard. So, the more committed you are to the Word of God, the more proof-producing faith you cultivate in your life. You can change any situation if only you will accept responsibility to sit down and get deep into the Word.

The Heart Of Man

The third dimension of the root of

the faith is the heart of man. It is with the heart that we believe (Rom. 10:10). Faith must first be of the heart before it can produce. That is where God looks at to determine the reward of your faith. The woman with the issue of blood had faith first in her heart, and then it produced healing for her (Matt. 9:21). The story of the man sick with the palsy, whose friends brought down to Jesus through the roof, also confirms the need for heart-rooted faith (Lk. 5:18-26). The men did not say anything, but the Bible records that Jesus saw their faith. That winning faith at work on their inside brought them the miracle they desired.

Knowing the Word alone is not

enough. Hebrews 4:2 says:

For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

That is why it is possible for people to hear the same words, but not get the same results. God does not look as man looks; man looks on the outside, but God looks into the heart. He responds only to the faith on your inside.

Chapter 2

How Faith Comes

Faith is the master-key to every man's destiny, because what you become is a function of what you believe. Jesus said, "*According to your faith be it unto you*" (Matt. 9:29). It is unto you according to your faith, not according to the circumstances around you. Everything about your life is therefore faith-determined, not devil-determined; and to some extent, not even God-determined, because until you believe, God cannot perform.

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God

must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

- Hebrews 11:6

It takes faith for anything to work. Faith is not optional in the Christian race, but a prerequisite for good reports (Heb. 11:2). In fact, the Bible says that whatsoever is done outside faith is sin (Rom. 14:23), and the wages of sin is death. So, when your actions are not faith-motivated, they lead to a dead-end.

As we work towards the distinction God has purposed for us in life, it is important to know that faith is what will make it a reality. It is, therefore, necessary to have a good understanding

of how faith comes.

By Hearing And Seeing

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- Romans 10:17

Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.

- Psalm 119:18

Faith is not just a conviction; it is a product of revelation in the Word of God. Until God opens your eyes to behold the wondrous things in the Word, you cannot experience wonders in life. But once you can see it, you naturally believe it, and whatever you believe, you ultimately become. This is because you cannot see a thing and still doubt it.

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

- 2 Corinthians 4:4

The devil is not so much interested in deafening people's ears, as he is in blinding the eyes of their understanding. This is so that they cannot "see" the wondrous things in the Word, which will build up their faith, which in turn will lead to their triumph in life. For this reason, Apostle Paul prayed for the Ephesians Church thus:

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and

revelation in the knowledge of him:

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

- Ephesians 1:17-19

I believe that when the Bible says faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God, the first hearing is with our ears, whereas the second hearing is with our minds. That means faith comes by hearing and seeing the wondrous things in the Word of God.

God expects us to not only hear, but to also see His plans and purpose for us in His Word. That is why He said to Abraham:

…Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:

For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

- Genesis 13:14-15

What you see is what God is committed to giving you. For instance, I knew I would never be a failure in life, because I saw in the Word of God that failure is not His plan for me. That is the secret of my confidence for

success. Revelation, not mere wishes, is what generates active and result-oriented faith.

Take time to hear the Word, but much more, strive to see what has been written concerning you in it, because until you see it, you cannot secure it. When you see it, you will not need any encouragement to do that which will qualify you to take delivery of what you have seen. The Word of God is a bank of mysteries. So, until you see, do not stop searching.

Understanding

Good understanding giveth favour…

- Proverbs 13:15

We have established the fact that

faith comes by hearing and seeing. But what does it mean to “see”? It means to understand the Word read or heard.

The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead.

- Proverbs 21:16

And the Bible says, “*The just shall live by faith*” (Heb. 10:38). It means that without faith, the just is dead. We see from the above scripture also that without understanding (the ability to “see”) he shall also end up in death. Faith is, therefore, equated with understanding.

In Acts 8, when Philip met the Ethiopian eunuch and heard him read from the book of Isaiah, he asked him,

"Understandeth thou what thou readest?" The eunuch replied, *"How can I, except some man should guide me?"* Philip then began to teach him. When his understanding opened, his faith came alive, and he was able to experience salvation.

There are different levels of faith, which imply various depths of understanding. Outstanding faith is a product of good understanding of scriptures. To develop your faith, therefore, you must grow in understanding, because when understanding comes, faith is automatic.

For instance, an understanding that He (Jesus) that is in me, is greater than

he that is in the world (1 Jn. 4:4) gave me the faith for divine protection. No bloodthirsty demon could dare Jesus, so none can dare me also.

Faith is not a make-believe thing; but a product of discoveries in the Word of God. What you see is what you believe; and if you believe, all things are possible unto you (Mk. 9:23). Therefore, when confronted with any form of impossibility, all you need do is to build up your faith by desperately seeking to understand the provisions of scriptures for a solution. When you find it, there shall be a reward.

Faith Is Cultivated

Faith is to be consciously

cultivated, not to be assumed. It is true that faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God; but only those who work at hearing the Word will ever succeed in building up their faith.

Note that faith is not rated by the quantity of scriptures you employ, but by the depth of conviction of the truth you acquire from those scriptures. The disciples said to Jesus, "*Lord, increase our faith,*" and He replied them:

… If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

- Luke 17:6

If you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you do not need chains of scriptures to deal with challenges; you only need depth of conviction. As a matter of fact, no challenge of your life will ever require more than two scriptures to be leveled (Matt. 18:16; Isa. 34:16). Only one scripture brought Kenneth E. Hagin out of his paralytic bed (Mk. 11:23). John G. Lake had an explosive healing ministry from Acts 10:38. I had my prosperity breakthrough from Deuteronomy 8:18, and my divine health package from Matthew 8:17.

Therefore, just one scripture coupled with deep conviction is adequate to provoke divine

intervention. God said one word and light came (Gen. 1:3). He didn't have to repeat the command. Stop running after volumes; rather, start chasing after depths! Your depth of conviction will provoke divine intervention any day, any time.

Faith is your greatest asset in the adventure of life. It defines your overall worth. More importantly, faith is the universal identity of Christianity (Acts 6:7). That means you are not a Christian without faith, as faith is what establishes your Christian status.

Chapter 3

Faith Is An Act

Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

- James 2:17

Faith is an act! This is a very important feature of faith. It is what releases the virtue that gets things done. Acting what you believe and confess is what turns on the virtue for performance (Lk. 1:45).

Turn On The Switch

I learnt in school that every electrical appliance has a switch. Though current is loaded in the system, it takes you first turning on the switch

for the appliance to offer its services. For example, if I want the fan turned on so it can cool the room, no matter how much confession I make, the words of my mouth cannot turn the switch on. To enjoy the cooling benefit of the fan, I must act by turning on the switch. Without that action of turning on the switch, though current is loaded in the fan, and everything is set, I can't enjoy the cooling effect of the fan.

Unfortunately, however, we have turned the issue of faith to a war of words in the Charismatic circle. We speak so much, and act not at all! We confess and confess, until we are confused! But it takes an act to release the current of faith. The woman with

the issue of blood took a step, and the healing current was released. Blind Bartimaeus was heard calling out to Jesus for help. He didn't just say, "I know someday Jesus would pass by this street." He took steps to reach Jesus, and the current for the restoration of his sight was released.

In Mark chapter 2, four men let down a man through the roof of the building, and Jesus saw their faith in their action, and healed their sick friend. Their action portrayed their faith, and the healing current was released. Jesus said to the sick man, *"Son, thy sins are forgiven thee…Arise, and take thy bed, and go thy way into thine house"* (Mk. 2:3-11).

A Definite Act…

Every release of divine virtue is traceable to a definite act. Without an act, there can be no release of virtue. Confession is cheap; it is profession that is tough. There is what the Bible calls the profession of our faith (Heb. 10:23). Professing your faith is what releases the virtue; that is, behaving it, living it and acting it. You can speak from now till tomorrow, but until you turn on the switch for the release of current, your fan will not work. But without saying a word, a mere act of turning the switch on will cause the fan to work.

Can you imagine the task of using your hand to turn your fan on? But

many in the Body of Christ need refreshing, and are engaging human and physical efforts to cool their lives. It takes an act of faith to enjoy divine refreshing.

Faith is an act; and it is that act that compels the release of virtue, which we later celebrate as testimonies. For example, one of the great pillars of our ministry is prosperity or supernatural wealth. But what does it take to enjoy covenant prosperity?

But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

- Deuteronomy 8:18

The power to get wealth is released on the platform of the covenant; that is, on the platform of you doing your part. Until your path is done, that power cannot be released. You cannot pray prosperity on, neither can you fast your way into it; you have to act out the covenant to enjoy it.

If you look at Abraham's life, you will see faith in action: "*So Abram departed…*" (Gen. 12:4). Every release of virtue is traceable to a definite act of faith. The profession of your faith will always lead to the demonstration of power in the spirit, as God will always respond to your profession. When you keep professing it, you will soon begin to manifest it. You cannot speak your

current on; simply turn on the switch.

God is moving the Church from the realms of confession of faith to the realms of profession of faith. As she lives and acts it, divine virtue will keep flowing, causing testimonies to keep abounding. Our profession commits God, but our act is what compels Him to perform.

Start Acting The Word

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

- James 2:26

Your act is the connection that your faith requires to perform. Faith without an act is like a body without life. Your fan has life in itself, but cannot

manifest that life until an act (of turning on the switch) is in place. So until you start acting on the Word, the life of God that causes divine performance cannot flow, as God is committed to your profession, not your confessions.

The knowledge that faith is an act will take you off the same spot, as you will act your way to the top. You can work hard to develop a faith identity in your pursuits, and the difference will be made clear. Stop celebrating big grammar and great oration; rather, start developing a sound profession of faith.

Agreed, you know it, you believe it, and are saying it; now is the time to act it! Knowing it and believing it alone

will not turn on the current; acting it is what does. I do not doubt that you know it, but if all you know is operational in your life, it will show. It gets to a point where knowledge is translated to faith, and faith is demonstrated by an act, and then a refreshing comes – your fan begins to blow and there is no sweat.

Now, receive grace to flow in this truth that has just been communicated to you, in Jesus' precious name.

Chapter 4

Releasing The Power Of Faith

Faith is an omnipotent force. Jesus said, "*If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth*" (Mk. 9:23). Unfortunately, though faith is an omnipotent force, many Christians still live impotent lives. "Why?" you might ask. "If faith is so powerful, why am I so powerless? Why do I lack results?" The answer lies in the fact that many do not know how to release the power in faith, they do not know how to provoke the power in faith to work for them.

Faith Is Action

The Word of faith always leaves you with what to do. Mary said to the men at Cana of Galilee, "*Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it*" (Jn. 2:5). The Word of faith is the Word of action. It always leaves you with a responsibility, with what to do to release the power it carries.

When they lacked wine at the wedding, the Word of faith said: "Fill the water pots with water," and the men obeyed. He further said to them: "Take from it to the governor of the feast." As they obeyed the instruction, behold, the power of faith was released by their action, and the water was turned into wine!

The power of faith is at the mercy

of your Word-provoked actions. Your Word-provoked action is what releases the omnipotent power of faith. "*Make the men sit down,*" Jesus said to His disciples when He wanted to feed the five thousand. He then took the five loaves of bread and two small fishes, lifted up His eyes to heaven and gave thanks. At the instance of Jesus' positive action, the power of heaven was set into motion, and the little food was more than enough to feed five thousand men (Jn. 6:5-13)!

Your corresponding action to the Word of faith you have heard is what sets the pace for supernatural intervention. The woman with the issue of blood had heard so much about

Jesus. Moved by faith, she said in her heart, *"If I may but touch the hem of his garment, I shall be made whole."* But she did not stop there. She went further by making her way through the press, to touch the hem of Jesus' garment, and the switch for the miraculous was turned loose! Virtue, the omnipotent power of faith, began to flow, and her shame ended instantly!

Faith does not leave you with only what to recite or confess, but also with what to do. Faith is not just cheap talk; faith is great acts! Faith is working the Word of God. This is where, I believe, many Charismatics miss it. We have reduced this great weapon to cheap talks. Now, everybody is saying it, but

almost nobody is seeing anything to prove what he or she is saying.

Do you know that you will never live a healthy life until you start acting healthy? It takes healthy acts to become a healthy saint. You cannot be looking like the “elder brother” of fever every time and expect to be a healthy star in the kingdom.

Your Actions Weigh

It is not only your words that matter to heaven, your action is equally important.

…For the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed

- 1 Samuel 2:3

You cannot keep looking like a

failure and expect to become a success. God is busy weighing your actions to determine His interventions in your life. If your actions are found wanting you may die in want, because you have blocked the access to His intervention. Hannah got her miracle because after she had prayed her heart out to God, she stood up and ate bread, and her countenance (which had been sad for the past 10 years) was no more sad (1 Sam. 1:18). So, if you claim to be free, act free, look free and take free steps! Many Christians are in the covenant of prosperity, but act poverty, leaving God with no way of blessing them. They act, look and talk poor. But see what James said:

Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works.

- James 2:17-18

The word “works” is translated as action in the newer translations. You need a corresponding action coupled with the Word of faith you claim to have received, to release the power it carries. You must live your faith out. God said to Abraham, *“Get thee out of here, I am going to make of you a great nation. I will bless you and thou shall be a blessing.”* Abraham believed God, so he departed.

Action is the only way to prove that you believe. If you do not act out what you claim to believe, then you don't believe it. Abraham was justified by his actions, and earned the singular title of being called "The friend of God." Your positive action is what enhances your colourful destiny with God. Faith in action is the God-ordained process for releasing the power of faith.

Chapter 5

Faith Is In Degrees

Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

- Matthew 15:28

Why is it that some people's faith produces and other people's do not? The reason is that Bible faith is in degrees. We all have varying degrees or levels of faith.

Faith Is A Growing Force

There are two very important things to note about faith: faith is in degrees

and is also a growing force.

We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly…

- 2 Thessalonians 1:3

Everyone is given a deposit of a measure of faith at salvation.

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

- Romans 12:3

In the parable of the ten virgins told in Matthew 25:1-12, we are told that all ten virgins had oil in their lamps. But

one group, the five wise ones, had more oil than the other group, the five foolish ones. The oil of the foolish ones ran out while they were waiting for the groom to arrive, but the wise ones had some oil reserve, which they poured into their lamps when the one there ran out. In like manner, as Christians grow in their walk with God, they all have varying levels of faith, though they all started out with equal deposits at new birth.

No Faith Level

And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

- Mark 4:40

What Jesus is saying here is, “Why

is it that you have no faith? Everybody has a measure of faith, so what happened to yours?"

Every living thing dies at one time or the other. If faith is a living force, it, therefore, means that faith can fail or die just as all living things. That is why Jesus said to Peter, "*I have prayed for you, that thy faith fail not"* (Lk. 22:32). Faith failure can be likened to heart failure, because faith is the heart of your spiritual life; if your faith fails, you are gone! Being at a no-faith state makes you an all-time victim; you become defenceless and totally helpless, for only the shield of faith can handle the wicked arrows of the enemy.

Little Faith Level

There is also the little faith measure.

And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

- Matthew 14:28-31

The dimension of faith required to

continue was not available in Peter, so he began to sink. When you do little with your measure of faith, it becomes little faith, for whatever a man sows that also shall he reap. Little faith cannot confront great challenges. That is why you have to accept the responsibility of building up your faith.

Little faith is vulnerable to doubt when confronted with great challenges. No one survives on the waters with doubt. With doubt, you are sure to drown, except you cry out for help. The Bible says in the last days perilous times will come (2 Tim. 3:1). That is, the world will be confronted by the worst challenges. That was why Jesus asked, "*When the son of man will*

come, shall he find faith on the earth?” (Lk. 18:8). That is, the challenges will be so enormous that only those who have given attention to developing their faith would be found standing. Everyone needs to build their faith to the point of violent reaction against every contrary situation.

It is not to you according to your cries and tears; rather, it is to you according to your faith. The Bible says the wicked will do more wickedly, because he knows he has but a short time. That is why you have to build up your faith, so you can violently react against anything contrary to your rights in Christ.

Great Faith Level

This is another level of faith.

Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

- Matthew 15:28

Great faith will always have it the way it wants and wills it; it will always put you in command. God is showing us the way to great faith. The measure of faith will give you a measure of results, little faith will give you little results, but great faith will bring home great results. Great faith will naturally put you in command, because you have built your faith to a level where you begin to operate by the spirit of faith (2

Cor. 4:13).

You cannot stay with your measure of faith, nor can you live with your little faith. You have a responsibility to keep building up your faith until you grow to the level of the Thessalonian Church, whose faith was described thus: "*That your faith groweth exceedingly.*"

Great faith puts you in command, while the spirit of faith establishes you.

Chapter 6

The Spirit Of Faith

There are two dimensions of faith in scriptures: the Word of faith and the Spirit of faith. The Bible says:

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak.

- 2 Corinthians 4:13

The Word Of Faith

But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:)

Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)

But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

- Romans 10:6-8

What this means is that we can live a supernaturally distinguished life here on earth just by the ministry of the Word of faith. The Word of faith (Logos) has its' source in the written Word of God.

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- Romans 10:17

The written Word that we read and

hear generates faith in our hearts: *"For with the heart man believeth…"* (Rom.10:10). But the Spirit of faith is different both in operation and in its' source. It is not generated like the Word of faith, but imparted. This is the ultimate in the school of faith, because the Spirit of faith is the Spirit of exploits. The Word of faith when believed has to be appropriated to get results, but the Spirit of faith brings you under a heavenly influence, that moves you beyond the natural realm into unlimited exploits.

The Source Of The Spirit Of Faith

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and

to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

- Deuteronomy 28:1

It is one thing to hear a man through his writing, but another thing to hear his voice in an audiotape. Whereas the Word of faith as earlier said comes via the written Word *(Logos)*, the Spirit of faith is imparted by hearing the voice of God, the spoken Word *(Rhema)*.

The Word of God generates faith, but the voice of God imparts the Spirit of faith. Hearing God's voice is what imparts the Spirit of faith and confirms you for exploits, because when you

hear the voice of God on any issue, it is settled. For instance, I had lots of discouragement when God called me into ministry. But the Spirit of faith that I encountered through the voice of God I heard gave me the wings to fly, and made it impossible for me to be discouraged.

The Bible says in Psalm 29:3, "*The voice of the Lord is upon the waters…*" We know from scriptures that the Word of God is referred to as water (Eph. 5:26). It means then that behind every verse of scripture is the voice of God. So, when what is written is voiced to you, you become immovable by any opposition. No wonder Prophet Ezekiel said:

And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me.

- Ezekiel 2:2

You cannot hear the voice of God and still be down!

The Operation Of The Spirit Of Faith

But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

- Numbers 14:24

This is an example of the operation of the Spirit of faith. When Caleb and Joshua, along with the ten other spies,

returned from spying out the land of Canaan, the ten gave the people an evil report, which made them afraid. But Caleb rose up and said to them:

Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the Lord is with us: fear them not.

- Numbers 14:9

What was responsible for his extraordinary confidence? He had another spirit, which we know from Hebrews 11 was the Spirit of faith. That Spirit was what helped him to follow God fully.

It means the Spirit of faith imparts grace to keep one moving with God’s

plan and purpose, so that even when others are giving up, that spirit keeps you moving on. It helps you follow God fully; and when you follow Him fully, you end up in His fullness.

The Spirit of faith has its root in the heart, so that when you hear from the Lord, the hardness of your heart in that area is dissolved and the purpose of God is then given pre-eminence. God's purpose in you becomes so rooted, that even when others give up, you continue to go higher, because there is something on your inside!

It is the Spirit of faith that personalizes your inheritance by an unusual unfolding of the Word of life. Also, the Spirit of faith makes

outstanding winners, because what is said to you becomes like fire shot up in your bones, and propels you to dare what others are afraid of.

Stand Upon Your Watch

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me ...

- Habakkuk 2:1

We have already established that the source of the Spirit of faith is the voice of God. But hearing the voice of God is a deliberate act. Until you set yourself to hear Him, you won't hear Him. You do not sit at one corner wishing for God to speak to you. You put yourself together by standing upon your watch (in meditation), setting

yourself and watching to see what He will say to you.

Even though what He says to one, He says to all, it is important that you hear your own, because when you hear His voice on a matter all doubts die. Just a Word from the Lord can change your entire life, so you must strive to encounter His voice. Do not fake it, otherwise you will be found to be a fake. Do not pose or make it up; just be yourself. When you know what it takes to wait on Him until He speaks, you will be free. Many of us talk too much in the presence of God, that we do not even give Him any chance to speak anything to us.

Note, however, that God's voice

does not come in the midst of noise and vibrations. You require a separation, concentration and determination, if you must encounter His voice. God's voice is your covenant heritage. That is why Jesus said, *"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me"* (Jn. 10:27). Therefore, the ability to hear Him is already in your recreated nature. You do not need a prophet to hear on your behalf; you can hear for yourself. It is your right, so seek His voice on every issue of your life.

If what you hear does not bring you solution, it is not the voice of God. Anything you hear that cannot be buttressed in scriptures is not the voice of God, because He cannot deny

Himself. What He says is never contrary to what He has written.

Chapter 7

The Stronghold Of Faith

Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee;

- Zechariah 9:12

Faith begins with the Word of God, but does not end with it. There is something extra that gives faith the backing to produce; I call it the stronghold of faith.

Abraham’s Example

Abraham is our pattern of faith in the Bible. Whenever you are confronted with an issue, it is always

good to look at those who have faced such challenges before and overcome them, so you can take a cue from what they did and overcome too. The Bible also enjoins us in Isaiah 51:2 to look unto Abraham our father. What was the stronghold of Abraham's faith?

Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee:

So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him…

- Genesis 12:1,4

After God told Abraham to leave his country, he didn't go about singing or praying; he simply departed.

Obedience! In Genesis 17, God enacted a covenant with Abraham, which demanded his circumcising himself and his entire household. The Bible records that:

And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him.

- Genesis 17:23

"*In the selfsame day*"! It was not just obedience, but delightsome and prompt obedience! Abraham was 99 years old then, but it didn't stop him from obeying God's voice.

Again in Genesis 21:9-14, Abraham had to send Hagar and Ishmael out of his house, because God had commanded it. The Bible records that Abraham rose up early in the morning to do as God had commanded. In Genesis 22 also, Abraham rose up early in the morning to go on a three-day journey to mount Moriah to sacrifice His long-awaited son, Isaac, in obedience to God's command.

Obedience was the stronghold of Abraham's faith. It was the instrument he engaged in committing God to his lifting, welfare and glorious destiny. Jesus said in John 8:39: "…*If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.*"

Merely chanting the blessings of Abraham is not what brings blessings your way, but doing his works. To enjoy what Abraham enjoyed, do what he did — obey. The challenges in the lives of many Christians today are rooted in their disobedience. They go about making great confessions, while at the same time disobeying the scriptures.

I consider obedience, therefore, as the hardest currency in the kingdom. It has the highest purchasing power, as anything good and great can come your way through obedience. Have you not heard, *"If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land"* (Isa. 1:19)?

The Worth Of Obedience

After studying this subject of obedience, I came up with this conclusion:

Obedience equals divine wisdom (Matt. 7:24-27), which is what distinguishes men on the earth, for, "*whatsoever is from above is above all*." Obedience equals signs and wonders. "*Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it*" (Jn. 2:5). All those head-breaking prayers won't deliver to you what obedience will. Obedience equals prosperity (Jos. 1:8). Just observe to do what He commands, and you will make your way prosperous and have good success.

Our ministry had some level of

success in Ilorin at the start of the ministry, but obedience to God's command to move took us to Kaduna, and led us into a higher level of success. But when He again commanded us to move to Lagos, we did, and the success in Lagos is greater than what we had in Kaduna.

Have you not heard, "*Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams* (1 Sam. 15:22)? There is no substitute for obedience. Prayer and fasting are a waste of energy, if you live in disobedience (Prov. 1:24-28). Obedience will always commit God, and make your life colourful, enviable and fulfilling. Abraham triumphed by

it, you too will triumph by it.

The End-Product Of Obedience

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

- 1 John 5:3

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

- John 14:21

The end-products of obedience are supernatural manifestations, divine interventions and the release of glory and beauty upon the life of the obedient man, woman or congregation. There is no substitute for obedience in the

school of faith. Whereas the Word of God is the author of faith, obedience is the finisher of faith. The Word you hear and believe is impotent until you do it. It is when you do it that it becomes fruitful and produce results.

Jesus is the Word of God and also the pillar of obedience. The Bible says:

And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

- Philippians 2:8-9

Jesus is the epitome of obedience. He (as the Word of God) is the author

of our faith and is also the finisher of our faith (in His obedience). Nothing warms God's heart as obedience. It is the cheapest way to woo Him in your favour.

May the grace to be obedient to God's voice and command be imparted upon you, in Jesus' name!

Pillar 3

PRAYER

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Pillar 3

Prayer

Introduction

Prayer is a spiritual channel for connecting with helps from above.

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

- Hebrews 4:16

We go boldly to God in prayers, to obtain help from Him. Daniel was a man of prayers, no wonder he was also a man of faith. He is the only one to have dared the lions' den and returned alive to tell the story. His prayer life

must have been a source of strength for his faith. Yes, faith brought him out of the lions' den alive; but prayer sustained his faith in the face of death.

To be prayer-less is to be helpless, because God is committed to sending you help from above when you call upon Him. His helps that come through prayer help to boost and sustain your faith, which helps you to actualise destiny.

Again, here is a selection of my teachings and books on the subject of prayer.

Keys to Answered Prayers

Winning Prayer

Born To Win

Chapter 1

Lord, Teach Us To Pray

Prayer to many is a medium of asking God for things. But that is not the whole story. Prayer is much more. Your heavenly Father knows what your needs are, so prayer should not be engaged only when we need to communicate our needs to God. Prayer is seeking divine intervention over any given situation on the basis of the Word of God. It is a medium for spiritual empowerment; when you are empowered to gain command over situations and things.

God knows what is in the dark,

because before Him all things lay bare. He saw the affliction of the children of Israel for 400 years, but until He heard them call on Him for intervention through prayers, He didn't come down (Ex. 3:7-8). Until God hears your call in prayer, He will not come down on your behalf. He does not respond to your afflictions; He only responds to your effectual communications:

O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

- Psalm 65:2

Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

- James 4:2

Certain things will never come your way until you engage the prayer line. The Bible gives us this assurance when we pray:

For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

- Matthew 7:8

Certain things will never be received until they are asked for; neither will they be found until they are sought for. Likewise, certain doors will never open unto you until you knock.

The question then is, “How do we pray?” Do we just pray by praying?

It Is Taught

Many have always thought that one doesn’t need to learn how to pray; that

you simply learn to pray by praying. This is a wrong assumption. Until you are taught or trained, you cannot triumph. That is why the military worldwide invests heavily in training its men for battle.

Can you imagine one becoming a motor mechanic simply by repairing cars? That is, one becoming a mechanic without first learning how to repair vehicles? Skill is a fundamental requirement in any field of human endeavour. Every assignment requires some form of training to make it happen, whether formal or informal. Jesus' disciples knew this, so they asked their Master: "*Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples*"

(Lk. 11:1). Knowing the importance of training also, the Master took time to teach them how to pray. He did not say their request was a useless one.

In like manner, we need to be taught how to pray in order for our prayers to be effectual. It is not the length of prayer that determines its effectiveness, but the quality of prayer; and you need knowledge to pray correctly. The Bible says "*Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss.*" That means there is a right way to ask. We need to know what it takes to ask aright, because it's not every call that answers in heaven. You have to press the right buttons for your prayers to be answered.

Gaining Access…

In response to His disciples' request, Jesus taught them a model prayer, which reveals all that must be in place for our prayers to be answered (Lk. 11:2-4). First, you must have a Father in heaven:

Our Father which art in heaven…

Until you have a Father in heaven, you are not welcome on the prayer line. Until you are hooked up to God through Jesus Christ by being born again, you do not have an access to the prayer line.

…Hallowed be thy name…

With God as your Father, you then approach Him in worship in order to gain access to His presence. You must

come before Him in worship, praise and thanksgiving to have His attention; not in murmuring or grumbling (Ps. 100:4).

…Thy will be done…

For an effective prayer life, you must know the will of God. What you do in prayer is to provoke divine intervention on the basis of God's Word, which is His will (1 Jn. 5:14-15). If you go to a court with a will, the court is under obligation to enforce that will, not minding whether the owner of the will made a mistake in writing it or not. Likewise, you will be justified when you approach the Throne of Grace on the basis of the will of God.

The Bible is God's will, ratified by

the blood of Jesus and handed down to whosoever. It rescues from destruction. So, when you approach the court-room of heaven with the will of God, you are justified (Isa. 43:26). Every oppression we suffer is from the accuser of the brethren, Satan. When we remind God of His will, declaring it with all boldness, He is committed to justify us. That means without the will of God, your prayer is a mere religious exercise that will not produce results.

It, therefore, means that for your prayers to be answered, you must first know what the will of God is on the issue at stake. Prayer is not just saying something; prayer is saying the right thing. It is not made effective by much

speaking, but by meaningful speaking. God will always ask, “Why must I step in?” “Am I committed?” “Is it in My plan for you?” “On what basis are you invoking My intervention?” That is why the Bible tells us in Isaiah 41:21:

Produce your cause, saith the Lord; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob.

That is why every Word-weak Christian is a prayer failure. It is the strength of the Word in you that determines the strength of heaven’s response on your behalf. When you approach Him on the basis of His Word, you have committed Him to act.

…Thy kingdom come…

Kingdom-oriented praying gives

you special attention with God, because you are making spiritual investments towards the expansion of God's kingdom through prayers. That is why Jesus admonished us to "*Seek ye first the kingdom of God...*" (Matt. 6:33). When you begin to pray to please God, He will give you access to His hotline.

Kingdom-oriented praying is when you pray God's power, dominion, expansion, etc. into His kingdom. You say: "Let Your kingdom become effectual in my life. Let my life please you. I want to be an asset to Your kingdom, not a liability", etc. If your primary desire is to please God, He will organise everything to your pleasure. "Thy kingdom come" is a

love factor prayer that God cannot shut His ears to.

In addition to these, there's what I call the Foundation for Effective Prayers. When this is in place in your prayer life, you will no longer need to sweat and struggle for God to answer your prayers.

The Foundation

The fundamental condition to be met for effectual prayer is found in John 15:7:

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

To every promise there is a condition; when the condition is met, the promise graduates into a covenant.

God is then bound to perform what He has promised.

All the elements required for an experiment must be in place and in the correct proportions for you to arrive at the right answer. ***"If ye abide in me"*** is the capital element that must be in place for your prayers to be answered. ***"My Words abide in you"*** is the second element. "Then you shall ask whatever you will and it shall be granted unto you." This equals answered prayer; that is, the product.

If these two vital elements are not there, you will be shaking and hitting your head in vain, because the product won't come. This is where the charismatics miss it; they are running

around with the Word, when the first capital “If” is not in place -”*If ye abide in me.”* As a result, the Word is rendered ineffective.

If all you have for an experiment is just one element out of four, and you start shaking and stirring your beaker, and add singing and praying to it, when would the product emerge? If you shake it for the next 30 years it won’t come, because the things required for your desired product to be delivered are not present.

“If ye abide in me…” is the capital element for your desired product – answered prayer. God is saying to us: “If ye abide in Me, and then remind Me of my Words concerning your desires,

you shall have it the way you want it. If you abide in Me, then My Word that you have applied commits My integrity to deliver." If a branch is broken off a tree, and is no longer abiding in the vine, but the branch needs something that only the vine can supply, how can it get it? No matter how much working knowledge you have about your right to the things the vine carries, as long as you are no longer connected to it, you can't enjoy it. As long as you are not abiding in Him, there is no way you can connect with the flow of answers to your prayers.

Real connectivity to God is the true foundation for an effectual prayer life. It is not so much about how hard you

cry, but how well connected you are to the Source - God. That is why He said, *"My son, give me your heart"* (Prov. 23:26). You need a connected heart to become a commander in the prayer warfront; that is the only guarantee for answered prayers. Without a heart for God, your cries will be mere noises in the realms of the spirit.

What does it mean to be connected? It means dedication to God, absolute love for your Lord and Saviour. Do not serve Him on contract; He should not be your God only when He answers your prayers or blesses you. He should be your God because you choose Him to be. The three Hebrew boys were so dedicated to God that they would rather

burn than bow to the king's golden image, and God showed up on their behalf.

…Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

- Daniel 3:17-18

There are too many prayer warriors, but few prayer champions. You have warred enough, now start winning. You can't be truly connected and still be frustrated. When the conditions of abiding in Him are met, answers to

prayers become a covenant that cannot be broken. God said, "*My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that has gone out of my lips"* (Ps. 89:34).

Your deep love for God is the anchor for the working of every scripture. Every promise hangs on your deep-rooted affection for God. You can't blame God for answering me. Affection is my secret. I once said to the pastors at a conference: "Until you know the quality of my oneness with God, you don't know my secret." When all hell broke loose in our home, and my wife's life was ebbing away, and Satan was celebrating her burial, I said to God: "That You heal her is not what makes You my God. Whether You heal

her or not, You are my God eternally." This kind of decision and dedication is what provokes divine intervention.

Dedication is not a gift, but a choice: "*My son, give me your heart.*" Be truly connected to God in your heart, and not with your mouth only. Develop a new dimension of relationship with God; it will not only boost your prayer life, but also boost every aspect of your life.

Chapter 2

Essentials Of A Winning Prayer

And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

- Luke 11:1

Prayer is our principal access to divine helps, and as we can see from the above, Jesus Christ, our perfect example, was a Man of prayer. He was absolutely dependent on God’s help for all He did (Jn. 5:30; 8:28). We must learn what matters and what it takes to pray and always have answers to our

prayers as Jesus did.

Be Confident

Going to God in prayer is not enough; how you approach Him determines what you get. This is how the Bible commands us to approach God in prayers:

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

- Hebrews 4:16

We are to go before God boldly. To be bold means to be confident. I do not mean one putting on a bold face. By being confident I mean inner strength, steadfastness and stability based on an assurance that God is going to help

y o u . Some scriptural examples of confidence in God are seen in the lives of Daniel and the three Hebrew boys (Dan. 3), Hezekiah (2 Kgs. 20:1-7) and Paul.

God does not expect you to come before Him like a miserable battered beggar. He is not a wicked Father. On the contrary, He is ever-willing and ready to bless you (Rom. 8:32). So when you approach Him with confidence, He rewards you for it (Heb. 10:35).

Your confidence in God can be built up in three ways. The first is **righteousness-consciousness,** as opposed to sin-consciousness (Prov. 28:1). If you are saved, the blood of

Jesus confers on you the grace of righteousness or right standing before God, resulting in an unlimited access to His help (2 Cor. 5:21). Christians who do not appropriate this provision are sin-conscious, and so are always wretched, broken and beaten. Their lack of boldness in God disconnects them from divine help.

Boldness can also be cultivated through **knowledge**. Knowledge strengthens the inner man (Prov. 24:5). The more of God you know, the more persuaded you are of His help, and the more you can confidently ask Him for it (Dan. 11:32; 1 Jn. 5:14; 2 Tim. 1:12). The **Holy Spirit** also helps build boldness in us. Peter was transformed

by the Holy Spirit from a weakling to a fearless rock in a matter of minutes on the day of Pentecost.

Be Kingdom-Minded

This is another cardinal factor for winning in prayers. When the things of God's kingdom matter very much to you, you commit God to your welfare even without asking Him for it. Jesus lets us into this secret:

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

- Matthew 6:33

When you favour God's kingdom, you turn His favour/help loose in your direction (Ps. 102:13-15). King Solomon (1 Kgs. 3) and Nehemiah

(Neh. 1) are examples of those who enjoyed God's marvellous helps, because of their great love for His kingdom. Their prayers were not self-centred, hence God gave them abundantly more than they asked for. When you win God's love through kingdom-minded prayers, you have automatic access to His best, and He will manifest Himself to you (Jn. 14:21).

Do you really love God and have a passion for the advancement of His kingdom? Then you won't need to sweat in prayers, because even before you ask, He will answer (Isa. 65:24).

Be Specific

You must also be specific in your

prayers for it to be answered. When in need of help, frantic crying to God alone will not deliver it to you. You must be able to tell God exactly what type of help you need. Blind Bartimeaus for instance cried to Jesus for help. But that was not enough to get an answer from Jesus. Even though Jesus could see that he was blind, He still requested that Bartimeaus specified what he needed from Him (Mk. 10:46-52).

In like manner, God always wants us to be specific in our prayers. Do not just pray for help, be specific about the kind of help you want. God is not an ambiguous God, neither can your needs be a challenge to Him. All things are in

His control, so you can afford to be specific.

Note, however, that as you present your specific needs to God, it is necessary to reinforce your requests with His will/Word that commits Him to grant your request (1 Jn. 5:14). That way, you will not be begging in prayer, but asking for what is yours as stated in His will.

Have Faith

Faith is a must in order to win in prayer. Any prayer not backed up with faith is not a true prayer. It is unwise to expect to receive anything from God without faith, for His Word says:

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God

must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

- Hebrews 11:6

When two blind men met Jesus and asked for His help in restoring their sight, Jesus told them His help was dependant on their faith (Matt. 9:28-29). Divine help does not come to you based on your tears, prayer posture, length or volume of prayer, but according to your faith. As long as you faith is in place when you pray, the arm of God will be stretched forth to help you.

The truth is that the greater your faith, the shorter your prayer would become, because response from heaven

hinges on your believing. There is no mountain on earth that faith cannot overturn (Mk. 11:23-24). Faith is a must, and it can grow and be built up; so build up your faith (2 Thess. 1:3; Jude 20). The Word of God is the major source of faith (Rom. 10:17). Therefore, the first thing to do before praying is to build up your faith on that issue from God's Word.

It is one thing for your prayer to be fervent and another for it to be faith-filled. Fervency is irrelevant without faith, because God's response is faith-determined. Faith is a tangible force. It is what gives substance to your prayer. It is not faith when you say, "God can do it." But your faith is in place when

you say, “Because God has said this, I know He will do it.” Therefore, let your faith be in place before you start communicating to God in prayers; as it is the only way to move Him. The level of your “faith tank” is what determines the level of response you get from God.

Divine help is not only available, but obtainable. Simply fulfill these conditions, and God will be fully committed to answering your prayers.

Elijah’s Example

Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

And he prayed again, and the

heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

- James 5:17-18

Elijah's prayer is given as an example of a prayer that avails much. At his request/prayer, there was drought in the land for three and a half years, and at his request again, the heavens gave its rain (1 Kgs. 17:1; 18:41-46). How did he do this? What did he do for his prayers to be answered?

First, he **repaired the Lord's broken down altar** (1 Kgs. 18:30). That means he repaired the broken communication. Repairing the broken down altar represents repentance (Isa. 59:1-2; Ps. 66:18; 1 Jn. 1:9). The

barrier between you and God must first be cleared before you can become a commander in the school of prayer. His ears are not heavy that He cannot hear you, but your iniquities are what have separated you from Him. But once sin is out of the way, God's hand will be stretched forth in your direction. That is righteousness-consciousness, which gives you the confidence to approach His throne of grace for help.

Then he **laid the wood in order** (1 Kgs. 18:33). Wood here symbolizes the Word of God.

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us.

- 1 John 5:14

Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified.

- Isaiah 43:26

By laying the wood in order, God is saying to you, “Remind Me of My commitment on this subject, remind Me of My will on this matter.” So, get God’s will on the matter and put them before Him in prayers. It is important to first lay hold on the Word/will of God on the issue at hand before you set out to pray. It is what secures heaven’s attention.

Understand that laying the wood in order does not mean just chanting scriptures. The Holy Spirit is your greatest Helper in the school of prayer

(Rom. 8:26-27). He will help you to locate the wood and arrange them in order, and at the same time teach and bring to your remembrance all things whatsoever you have learnt of Him. God says you should produce your cause and bring forth your strong reasons (Isa. 41:21).

When many years ago there was an attack on my last daughter's health, I did just that, and God couldn't turn His ears away from me. My daughter had been carried away from our home that morning lifeless. When I got to the office that morning, I shut the door and said to God, "There must be a way out here." While worshipping before Him, the Holy Spirit began to unfold the will

of God to me on the issue. He said, *"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death"* (Rev. 1:18). It became clear to me for the first time that Satan does not have the key of death in his hands anymore.

The Holy Spirit also brought me to Hebrews 2:14, where the Word of God said Jesus, through death, destroyed him that had the power of death (the devil), and delivered them who through the fear of death were subject to fear and bondage all their lifetime. Therefore, Satan couldn't have the final say in the matter on hand. The final scripture the Holy Spirit gave me was in Isaiah 49:24-26, where God

assured that He would deliver and save my children.

I immediately knew that the devil had lost and simply wrote down these three scriptures on a piece of paper and gave it to a pastor to go read over my daughter at the hospital; and that was all! The battle over her life was over as soon as the scriptures were read over her!

In order to win in prayers, you need to locate the appropriate Word/scriptures that guarantee God's commitment to answer you and approach Him boldly with them; He cannot deny Himself.

The next thing Elijah did was to **pour out barrels of water** on the burnt

sacrifices (vs. 33). This means you should be filled with thanksgiving, praise and worship for the anticipated answers and divine interventions.

Lazarus was cold dead and rotten when Jesus got to his graveside, but Jesus said, "*Father, I thank You.*" He was pouring out barrels of water. The barrels of water simply represent the fruit of your lips; that is, giving thanks unto God continually (Heb. 13:15). The Bible commands us to be anxious for nothing (Phil. 4:6). Rather, we are to give thanks in everything, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning us (1 Thess. 5:18). And until you do the will of God, you won't obtain the promise.

Giving of thanks is a principal requirement in the school of prayer. Until you thank Him, He cannot hear what you are saying. Remember that until the will of God is done, the promise is inaccessible.

Then **get on the firing line** (vs. 36-38)! With every other thing in place, then make your specific requests known unto God, and He is faithful and just to hear and answer you. We have this assurance from scriptures:

For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

- Matthew 7:8

You serve a God that answers prayer; that is enough to put you on the

firing line. If you say it and cannot see it, then pray more until you obtain an answer. Jesus prayed until the sweat coming from His body was as droplets of blood. I see you win in every prayer battle you engage in from henceforth, in Jesus' name!

Chapter 3

Winning Prayer Supplements

God always answers prayers; that is why all flesh always comes unto Him (Ps. 65:2). He does not store prayers. So if your prayers are not being answered, you need to examine yourself in the light of scriptures, to find out what might be wrong. There are some other things you must know and do when you pray, in addition to the factors discussed in the preceding chapter, that gives you easy access to God and guarantee answers to prayers. Once these conditions are met, positive response to the prayer made is

guaranteed from the throne of grace.

Be Relaxed

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

- Philippians 4:6-7

To be relaxed means to be calm, still and free from all anxieties and fears. Any prayer uttered in such a state connects with heaven and delivers answer. If you want an encounter with divine help, then you must be relaxed (Ex. 14:14; Ps. 46:10). This is because

the calmer you are in the face of challenges, the more effective your prayer is.

Anxiety is an evidence of doubt, which is a major hindrance to answered prayer. Doubt disqualifies you from receiving any help from the throne of grace (Jms. 1:6-7). The preparation of the heart is what determines the answer from the Lord (Prov. 16:1). But when your heart is shaky, your heaven is closed. Besides, it is a sign of immaturity to still carry burdens about after the Lord has said you should cast them upon Him, because He cares (1 Pet. 5:7). Anxiety is a destroyer; so relax! It cost King Saul his throne (1 Sam. 13:1-14).

The major cure for anxiety is the knowledge of God and His ability (Dan. 11:32). You can afford to be relaxed when you know better than your challenger and are trusting in God's faithfulness and integrity (Num. 23:19; Isa. 55:11; Phil. 1:28; Titus 1:2; Heb. 6:18). It is important to always be relaxed in prayer. Be calm and refuse to be moved by every wind that blows; for God has made a way of escape for you from every temptation that comes your way.

Be Thankful

Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing...

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with

praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

- Psalm 100:2, 4

Thanksgiving is a covenant access to the throne of God for help. When you knock on the door of heaven in worship, thanksgiving and gratitude, it opens to you instantly. That is why when Jesus taught His disciples how to pray, He told them the first thing to do was to hallow His name (Lk. 11:2). Hallowing His name involves blessing Him for who He is, from a heart of gratitude and appreciation. Do this before presenting your needs to Him, no matter how pressing they may be. By first being appreciative brought instant help and marvellous answer for

Nehemiah (Neh. 1-2) and the apostles (Acts 4:24-31).

When you come to God with thanksgiving, His gates cannot be shut against you. But murmuring turns Him against you and makes you a cheap victim of the devourer. Free yourself from the destructive attitude of ingratitude. Instead, be thankful to God and bless Him. Many Christians are confused and confounded today simply because they are always complaining (1 Cor. 10:10). Whenever things go wrong with them, they blame God. The devil has blinded their eyes, so they can’t see that God is their only helper out of every problem. Who will help you if you murmur against Him?

I came up with a philosophy early in life that God is always right. No matter the challenge, God is always right. Therefore, thank Him even in the midst of that trial, and you will automatically secure His attention.

Some have engaged in many days of fasting, which only ended them in more frustrations, because they do not know what it takes to open heaven. Praise and worship are the forces that open your heaven at will. The two prayers Jesus prayed and got instant answers to were those of thanksgiving. In John 6, when He was surrounded by a crowd of 5,000 men that needed to be fed, the Bible says He took five loaves of bread and two small fishes and gave

thanks. The heaven opened and multiplication was the result! They gathered twelve baskets of fragments from that miracle meal! Also in John 11, it was thanksgiving that brought Lazarus back to life, after he had been dead for four days.

There is always a point for thanksgiving in every issue of life. Locate it and give God thanks, for that is His will for you in Christ Jesus (1 Thess. 5:18). Take away the stones of ingratitude, discontentment, covetousness and offences from your life. Remember, prayer never goes through without thanksgiving. When you are committed to thanksgiving, you have an unlimited access to God.

Be Forgiving

Behold, the LORD’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

- Isaiah 59:1-2

I consider unforgiveness as a capital sin, because other sins thrive on it. It is a major road block to your access in prayer. When Jesus taught on how to pray, He said we can only expect God to forgive us to the level that we forgive others (Lk. 11:4; Mk. 11:25-26). God will only forgive your sins after you have forgiven others.

Jesus makes the teaching on forgiveness even clearer with His parable in Matthew 18:21-35, where the one who was earlier forgiven but refused to forgive someone else who had offended him was delivered to the tormentors. In the same way, many Christians are being tormented in their health, family, business, career, finance, etc. simply because they have refused to let go of those who have offended them.

No matter how grievous the offence or painful the abuse, it is in your own interest to forgive the offender. Since we are growing on to perfection, we will always need God's forgiveness, so the onus is on us to forgive others.

David knew this secret of forgiveness so well. In fact, it was a reason for his triumphs. Despite Saul's aggression and maltreatment, David continued to call him father and even refused to kill him when he had the opportunity to do so. It is not surprising then that although David committed very grievous errors, God still forgave and restored him.

To be forgiving is to love, and love covers all sins (Prov. 10:12). Forgiveness was the last thing Jesus demonstrated on the cross (Lk. 23:34). Let this also be your attitude, whether the offender is sober and apologetic or not.

Be Earnest

But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

- Deuteronomy 4:29

When you pray to God for His help, be hearty in the presentation of your desires and call upon Him with all your heart. Many call upon God with all their might; they make a lot of noise, but there is no answer to their prayer because the heart connection is faulty. God answers only heartfelt prayers, not the outward manifestations in prayer. Unfortunately, many do not know the meaning of effectual prayer (Isa. 29:13).

Hannah, for instance, was for many

years always religiously appearing at Shiloh, until the day she learnt better and poured out her soul to God (1 Sam. 1:9-15). It was this same type of earnest, heart-felt prayer that Elijah prayed and held back rain for three and a half years (Jms. 5:16-18). The amplified version of this scripture is more explicit. It renders it this way:

…The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in it working].

The length or the volume of words spoken in prayer is irrelevant to your getting answers (Matt. 6:7). What matters in receiving divine help is the quality of your heart, based on the

earnestness in your soul and the Word you are standing upon.

Delight

Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

- Psalm 37:4

Delighting yourself in the Lord is one of the greatest ways to an open heaven; it connects you to divine intervention. Delighting yourself in the Lord means getting carried away with God; getting addicted to Him so much that He becomes your excitement and everything about Him turns you on.

When you delight yourself in the Lord, He will not wait for you to ask Him for things; He simply commits

Himself to the desires of your heart (Isa. 65:24). Your heavenly Father knows you have needs, and He has devised a means of meeting them, your enemies notwithstanding (Matt. 6:31-33). But your kingdom connection is what determines the degree of intervention you will enjoy from Him. It determines the rate at which heaven will respond to your prayers.

An end has come to your struggles in prayers! From henceforth, you will always win in prayers, in Jesus' name!

Chapter 4

Prayer Boosters

Some years back, I noticed that I was getting things done so cheaply, so I asked God, “Won’t You even let me pray before You answer?” and He replied, “There is a company of people that before they call, I will answer; while they are yet speaking, I will perform.” That means there is a realm in God where you provoke divine intervention without having to pray (Isa. 65:24). It is a realm of answered prayers without tears, a realm where God contends with all that contend with you, without you having asked

Him to. It is a realm of reaching heaven and receiving from heaven without shouting, a realm where you provoke answers without asking!

Winning the prayer war is not a function of rigours of intercessions, supplications and prayers of agreement. There are other direct avenues to God that bring you victory without sweat. If these avenues are not in place, your many days of praying and fasting and cries will be wasted.

The Obedience Line

And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

- 2 Corinthians 10:6

Obedience is a very effectual

weapon in the prayer war, as what we do in prayer is mostly to seek redress from heaven. You can avenge all disobedience with the weaponry of obedience; you can bring down imaginations and cast down every devil as well (2 Cor. 10:3-5). This is because if you do whatever He tells you to do, no devil can undo you (1 Pet. 3:13). Walking in obedience to God's commands puts you in charge, so that you have things as you desire them.

Obedience is your gateway to the realms of answers without prayers. You can live a hurt-free life with obedience, as it endears you to divine favour and renders your enemies helpless. It commits God to act on your behalf and

in your favour. If you will carefully trace the events of your life, you will notice that when things happen in your life without you praying for them, you had earlier responded in obedience to a commandment of God. Obedience naturally disarms the devil without tears. "*Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it*" (Jn. 2:5) is the secret of a sweatless and effectual prayer life.

God said, "*Because I cried and they didn't hear, so they cried, and I would not hear*" (Zech. 7:13). If God must hear you when you call in prayers, then you must first hear and obey Him. Obedience keeps you at an advantage in all spiritual conflicts. No wonder Samuel told Saul:

…Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

- 1 Samuel 15:22

Obedience has no substitute. It is important that you check your obedience level in whichever area you seem to be facing some challenges, and ask yourself, “Am I living by God’s instructions here, or am I doing my own thing?” If you are doing it His way, then He is committed to hearing and answering you whenever you call upon Him.

Obedience infuses a man with confidence, because if you have done

what is required of you, then you can be bold to demand what is due to you or to make declarations that commands heaven's backing. Jesus was a great commander in prayer because of His obedience to the Father. If you also operate in absolute obedience to the voice of the Father, you will command the same kind of results He commanded in prayers.

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

- Deuteronomy 28:1

Obedience is so powerful, that it speaks. If you desire financial open heavens, for instance, you must obey the laws of abundance; otherwise no amount of prayer will ever bring financial blessings your way. When you are obedient to the demands of the law of abundance, you will no longer need prayer to enjoy it, as your obedience will speak for you. Even if the devil attempts to stop your harvest, one word of prayer is enough to cast him out, because he must bow to the weapon of your obedience.

The same thing goes if you desire peace in your home. You do not need one day of prayer and fasting. All that is needed is: husband, love your wife as

Christ loved the Church, and wife, submit unto your own husband as unto Christ (Eph. 5:22, 25). These acts of obedience are enough to cast out every devil from your home.

You never know how weak the enemy is, until you start walking in absolute obedience. At the marriage feast in Cana of Galilee, where Jesus turned water into wine, their need was met just by obeying Jesus' command to fill the water pots with water. They didn't need to pray one word of prayer! Your obedience moves heaven into action in your favour and your adversaries are dealt with on your behalf. Obey God with all your heart, both in secret and in the open, and your

struggles in prayer will come to an end. The Bible commands our obedience to be like this:

Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;

- Ephesians 6:6

The Bible tells us:

If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

- Isaiah 1:19

The good of the land is accessible to all, but available only to the obedient. Receive grace for practical obedience from henceforth.

The Imagination Line

If your imagination is always

negative, then your supplications will end in frustration. Most battles are lost in the mental realm, as your mind is the battleground in every conflict of life. Until you win in the mind, you cannot win in the world.

Your imagination, just as much as your asking, provokes divine intervention. The woman with the issue of blood first imagined her healing before she was healed (Mk. 5:25-34; Matt. 9:20-22). She drew virtue without utterance from within her heart. She must have heard the story in Luke chapter seven of how Jesus touched a coffin and how the dead son of a widow in it rose up and must have concluded within herself, “This person

who could touch a coffin and the dead rose, if only I can touch the helm of His garment, then I shall be made whole." That is forming scriptural equations in your mind to achieve your desired end.

What you ask and think weigh the same before God; He responds to your thoughts the same way He does your words. The scriptures cannot be broken, "*As he thinks in his heart, so is he…*" (Prov. 23:7). Your imagination is a pacesetter for your destiny, because God is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think (Eph. 3:20).

The Affection Line

Affection is another means of

reaching God without having to say a word. Somebody came to Jesus and asked, "*Master, which is the great commandment in the law?*" And Jesus answered, "*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy mind*" (Matt. 22:36-37).

The love line provides you a private, unhindered access to God, because when you draw near to Him, He draws near to you. When you are in love with Him, He is in love with you as well. He responds to love the same way He responds to what we ask for in prayers. Love does not require words; it is expressed by our actions. "*For God so loved the world, that He gave*

His only begotten Son…" (Jn. 3:16). When you win the love of God, you will cease from tears; because before you call, He will answer, and while you are yet speaking, He will perform.

When you are in love, you are in favour with God (1 Cor. 2:9) and He will manifest Himself to you (Jn. 14:21). That means He won't wait for you to cry for anything before He releases it to you. He will make His best available to you at all times. Just love God, and you will cease from all your struggles! You cannot give God the first place and be left at the last place!

The Action Line

…For the Lord is a God of

knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

- *1 Samuel 2:3*

Your dispositions and actions reach God, just like your words. Abraham never uttered one word of prayer on mount Moriah. He simply put Isaac on the altar, took a knife and was going to sacrifice him as instructed by God. When God saw that he was actually going to kill the boy, He stopped him and swore a blessing upon him, "…*In blessing I will bless thee…*" (Gen. 22:17).

When God said He was going to punish Ahab and bring evil upon his house for their sins, Ahab tore his garment and lay flat before God.

Though Ahab uttered no word, but God said, *"Seest how Ahab humbleth himself before me…I will not bring the evil in his days..."* (1 Kgs. 21:27-29).

You cannot look poor and expect to become rich, neither can you look sick and be healthy! You cannot look cheated and be favoured. Until you act success, you do not become successful. Revelation-inspired actions touch heaven and provoke supernatural manifestations. After Hannah prayed to God for a man-child, the Bible says, *"…The woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad"* (1 Sam. 1:18). This was even though she had not met her husband and was not yet physically pregnant.

That is a winning action!

God weighs actions, and it is the weight of your action that determines the response you get from heaven (Jms. 2:17-18). Where you are going to end is determined by what you are doing today; so act well, and you will live well!

The Testimony Line

Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart.

- Psalm 119:111

Testimonies are assets in prayers; they authenticate the reality of God, and by so doing destroy doubts. Hebrews 11:6 says:

But without faith it is impossible to

please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

You need faith to receive anything from God in prayers, and one of the ways to generate faith is by testimonies. Testimonies fortify your confidence in God, so that you are able to boldly approach the throne of grace. David overcame Goliath by the power of testimonies. He knew He could not have killed a lion and a bear by his physical strength at his age. Since it was God that gave him the victory then, he believed He could again give him the giant's head.

Most testimonies are reproductions

of other testimonies. They are pointers to your heritage, showing you what is available to you in God and how you can access the same by standing correctly in the covenant.

Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified.

- Isaiah 43:26

When you are face-to-face with oppositions, you can remind God of His previous acts in your life and in the lives of other people, to provoke Him to act again. And because He is the same yesterday, today and forever, whatever He has done before, He will do again. When you remind God of His previous acts, you invoke His

faithfulness and compel Him to reproduce the act.

Your prayer access is enhanced when you arm yourself with the acts of God in your life and in the lives of others. When Hezekiah was sick and Isaiah the prophet was sent to tell him that he would surely die, he simply turned to the wall and prayed, saying:

I beseech thee, O Lord, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight…

- 2 Kings 20:3

His testimony made God to change His mind and added fifteen more years to his life. Your personal testimony will bail you out in the day of trouble.

Note that you do not only testify before people; you can also testify before the Lord. Maintaining a testimony bank will enhance the effect of your prayer life. I don't think there is any challenge you are faced with today that somebody else has not testified of in time past. So lay hold of those testimonies, come boldly to the throne and use them in prayer against that problem, and you will be out of it.

Your prayer life will be much more fruitful and refreshing from henceforth, and you shall no longer be stranded, in Jesus' name!

Chapter 5

What To Pray For

If Jesus said men ought always to pray and not to faint (Lk. 18:1) and Paul commanded us to pray without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:17), then it is obvious that prayer covers a very wide range of issues that should keep you productively engaged in it without vain repetitions. Prayer should be exciting and fulfilling for the New Testament believer.

We have always thought that prayer is just telling God our needs, but it is much more than that. Our prayers should go beyond asking God for bread

and butter always. Let me show you some things you must pray for. They are drawn from the prayer Jesus taught His disciples and will guarantee continuous open heavens for every believer.

For Revelation

Give us day by day our daily bread.

- Luke 11:3

Bread in scriptures connotes two things — physical food, which supplies the energy needed to sustain the body, and the bread of the Word of God, which is the food of the spirit. When the devil tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread in Luke 4:3-4, His reply was, *"It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of*

God."

Both the bread of the Word of God and the physical food we eat are equally important, but the Bible says, *"The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?"* (Prov. 18:14). It means that when the spirit is well fed on the Word, it enhances the health of both the spirit and the physical body. The spirit is the most viable source of energy for both the body and the spirit.

A Word encounter is all you need to take charge over any issue of life, because God upholds all things by the Word of His power (Heb. 1:3). That was why David prayed in Psalm 119:18, saying, "*Open thou mine eyes*,

that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.”

Never expect your situation to treat itself. Rise up to the challenge by praying for revelation, so you can be in full command of the affairs of your life.

For Provisions

The other dimension of the daily bread we ask for in prayers is our material provisions. In Matthew 6:31-32, Jesus said:

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly

Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

God recognizes that you need material provisions like food, clothing and shelter. In Matthew 7:9-11, Jesus asked:

Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?

Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Prayer for provision is scriptural. God believes in giving good things to

His children, if only they would ask Him. When we ask Him, the Bible assures us that "*no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly*" (Ps. 84:11).

From scriptures, we understand that not all prayers are verbalized. Our prayer for provisions can also be through thoughts and actions. That is why Jesus gave this injunction in Matthew 6:33:

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto *you.*

Kingdom addiction is a non-verbal form of prayer that compels God to keep adding to you. Also, being an excited and committed tithe payer is

another way you compel your heavens to be open, and blessings are added to you, till you do not have enough room to contain them (Mal. 3:10).

However, if after doing all these you still cannot see the additions, then the devil must be blocking your blessings. So, come against him in the name of Jesus, reminding God of your covenant with Him, and command your heavens to open for your additions to come in. Remember God says, "*Ask, and it shall be given you*" (Matt. 7:7).

For Direction

…Lead us not into temptation...

- Luke 11:4

When the Lord is your shepherd, your heaven remains permanently

open, causing you to know no lack or want. The secret of every kingdom star is in divine guidance. David was a great man of war, who never lost any battle throughout his life; he was a man of enquiries. Because he was divinely guided, he naturally enjoyed God's presence, which ensured his victory (2 Sam. 5:17-25). Even Jesus was divinely led. He said, *"I can of mine own self do nothing…"* (Jn. 5:30).

God expects you to pray to Him, asking for His guidance. You end up toiling through life like a beast of burden if you do not (Ps. 32:6-9). But when you are on course with His leadings, He goes before you to make your way smooth.

When you say, "*Lead us not into temptation*", what you are saying is, "Lead us in the safe and right ways to the paths of distinction." So, get into God's presence and make enquiries on every crucial step of your life, for He is committed to leading you in the way of profiting (Isa. 30:21; 48:17).

The Cry Of Mercy

…Blind Bartimaeus...sat by the highway side begging.

And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me…

And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called…

- Mark 10:46-49

The cry of mercy will always command the attention of heaven. No wonder the Bible says:

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

- Hebrews 4:16

God has reserved mercy for us at the throne of grace, and we can access it by crying out for it. The mercy of God is a weapon of defence. If God were to mark our wrong doings we will never merit anything from Him (Ps. 130:3). But He bids us to come boldly to His throne of grace, not on the basis of our rights, but on the grounds of mercy. Then will He overlook our

errors and defend us with the shield of His mercy against our accuser.

Whenever anyone cried out for mercy in scriptures, Jesus never asked to know what wrong he did that got him into that predicament. Rather, He stood still and delivered the oppressed. So, take advantage of God's mercy to keep your heavens open and take delivery of your long-awaited miracles.

Chapter 6

Praying In The Holy Spirit

Praying in the Holy Spirit simply means praying in tongues. It is a missing act in the Church today.

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

- Ephesians 6:18

Praying in the Holy Spirit is a very effective form of prayer; it helps us pray target prayers. This is because it is the Holy Spirit praying through us. The Bible says:

For what man knoweth the things of

a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

- 1 Corinthians 2:11

This form of prayer is an advantage for the New Testament Church, because we have the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. Now imagine the kinds of victory we should expect in prayers if we engage the Holy Spirit in praying! We would surpass Elijah and Daniel in results!

Praying The Will Of God

Whenever you pray in tongues what you are doing is praying the will of God. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God and so knows God's will on every matter. So when you engage Him in

prayer, He helps you to pray the will of the Father on that issue. That is what I call, “Target Praying”, as you can’t miss. And when we pray according to His will, we are guaranteed speedy answers (1 Jn. 5:14-15).

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

- Romans 8:26-27

The Holy Spirit makes

intercessions on our behalf. But you must be truly in the spirit to be able to pray effectively in the spirit. You do this by engaging your spirit man in praying, not just your intellect. When this is done, you are communicating at heaven's frequency, and so are bound to get outstanding results. No wonder the devil wearies people and tries to stop them from praying in the spirit. Not only does he not understand what is being said and so can't hinder your prayers and answers, but he also doesn't like the fact that you get instant results in prayers. That's why you must violently break forth praying in the spirit on issues that have refused to go.

May be that issue has refused to go

because you do not yet have or know the will of God that will commit Him to respond. Well, that is taken care of when you pray in tongues, because the Holy Spirit that knows the will of God goes straight to tackle the matter, using the will of God! He knows what is in the mind of God, so He prays according to the Will of God on your behalf to set you free! No wonder Apostle Paul's prayers were always being answered. He was a man that prayed in the Spirit very often; he said he prayed in the spirit more than everyone else (1 Cor. 14:14-18).

Warfare Tool

Praying in the Holy Spirit is a warfare strategy and tool for winning

battles, especially invisible ones. Our contentions in prayers are often with invisible forces that won't let us take delivery of our heritage in Christ. But when we switch to praying in tongues, we engage the invincible God to come down on our behalf and take over the battle.

…When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

- Isaiah 59:19

By praying in the Holy Spirit, we engage Him in dealing with the barriers that had hitherto been resisting our breakthroughs. As you pray in the spirit, you just find scriptures opening up to you that help you pray the Will of

God on the subject matter. The battle is getting tougher, so get wilder, to break the invisible barriers holding you down.

When you seem crowded in your mind and you can't seem to locate what scripture to use in prayer; simply switch on to your prayer language and pray extensively in the spirit. If you are a Bible student, you'll find the scriptures coming back at you; that is, the correct scriptures with which to deal with the matter. The devil can't understand you, as he doesn't understand the heavenly mysteries you speak in tongues. So, pray in the spirit to lift up standards against him. I have shared with you already how I won the

battle for my daughter's life. I engaged this prayer weapon in battle.

Private Access

Praying in the Spirit is a private, direct line to heaven.

For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

- 1 Corinthians 14:2

Only God understands you when you pray in tongues. You are speaking mysteries to your heavenly Father, calling upon Him to intervene on your behalf.

You are also able to pray more effectively, because it is your spirit

praying.

He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself…

For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth…

- 1 Corinthians 14:4; 14

The Holy Spirit energizes your spirit man in praying. It is as though you have plugged your spirit into a charger, just as when you charge your phone. Not only are you able to pray more effectively, you are also able to give thanks well when you pray in the Spirit (1 Cor. 14:17) and your faith is also being built up.

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

- Jude 20

You also pour out spiritual waters when you pray in the Holy Spirit. This makes your environment unbearable for the devil that goes about looking for dry places to stay. No wonder Apostle Paul said, *"I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also."* It was his secret for victories in prayer. Paul engaged in praying earnestly by praying in the Holy Spirit; so, his prayers were always receiving answers, for the Spirit of God was praying according to the Will of God through him.

Your rights and privileges are defined in details in the scriptures; so lay hold on them, and go forth in

prayers as a warrior, and fight your way through to the victory. Learn to engage the Holy Spirit in prayers, and you are guaranteed triumphs unlimited! You shall no more lose the prayer battle!

Chapter 7

The Place Of Fasting

A great number of God's children find it difficult to fast. Just as Esau lost his birthright to a morsel of bread, many Christians have lost their glorious inheritances to their inability, unwillingness and lack of understanding of the place of fasting in their prayer lives.

Fasting is not a religious affliction, but a spiritual weapon designed to guarantee your victory in every battle of life. When faith is in place, coupled with prayer and fasting, there is no barrier that can stand on your way, as

every barrier to the actualisation of God's agenda for you will crash.

Fasting is a spiritual catalyst in prayer; it enhances the potency of our prayers (Isa. 58:9; Matt. 17:21). It is God's design and command. "*Is not this the fast that I have chosen?*" He asked the children of Israel in Isaiah 58:6. God prescribed fasting for His children to polish them, not to punish them. Every command of scripture is not grievous; they are designed to groom us (1 Jn. 5:3).

Jesus shows us that fasting and prayer is part and parcel of a believer's life. They go hand-in-hand. He also revealed that fasting is the covenant obligation of every believer. That is

why He said, "*When ye fast…*" not "If ye fast…" (Matt. 6:16-17). There is no gift of fasting; it is a command designed to put you in command of the affairs of life.

There are so many oppositions to a winning prayer life. But when we add fasting to our prayers, we cheaply overcome the oppositions. When His disciples were faced with a case they could not handle, He told them:

Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

- Matthew 17:21

There are some "kinds" that require a combined force of fasting and prayer to overcome. Jesus healed the lunatic boy because He was in command

through fasting and prayer. We also see help come down for Daniel through fasting and prayer in Daniel chapter ten. He had prayed and God had released the answer to his prayer from the very first day, but it did not reach him till after twenty-one days. The prince of Persia had withstood the answer-bearing angel on the way. But because Daniel was in a fast along with his prayer, angel Michael was dispatched from heaven to go help clear the way, and Daniel received his answer.

Fasting is God's great agenda for His people. It is one of those vital forces required for you to experience a genuine turnaround by the hand of God.

It is a spiritual exercise designed to loose the bands of wickedness off your life, family, destiny and business.

Benefits Of Fasting

Fasting and prayer is a spiritual device for **supernatural empowerment**.

And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.

- Luke 4:14

After His forty days of praying and fasting in the wilderness, we see Jesus return in the power of the Spirit into Galilee. He was supernaturally empowered for His messianic ministry of saving the world from their sins, and

His fame spread round about the region. The Psalmist could also only be empowered after fasting and prayer (Ps. 63:1-2).

You have easy access to **striking revelations** through fasting and prayers. *"Then shall thy light break forth as the morning"* (Isa. 58:8). Jeremiah 33:3 also says:

Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

Mysteries in God's Word are revealed to you as you engage the combined forces of prayer and fasting. You, like Daniel, have asked so many questions, but have not received answers, because there are oppositions

blocking them (2 Cor. 4:4). So, you need to wait on God in a fast, for the breaking forth of His light upon you.

You are also guaranteed **sound health**. *"…And thine health shall spring forth speedily…"* (Isa. 58:8). Fasting and prayers takes care of your health and that of your family. Many are ignorant of this truth, that's why they always give excuses for not being able to fast. You better voluntarily engage in spiritual fasts, before doctors place you on compulsory fasts at the hospitals when your health fails.

The hold of sin over your life is destroyed through fasting – *"…Thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy*

rearward" (Isa. 58:8). Fasting causes your righteousness to blossom and ensures that God's glory is revealed in your life. It also guarantees that every deadly habit challenging your destiny in Christ is removed (Zech. 3:1-5). You are empowered to "do" righteously and live right.

Speedy answers to prayer are also guaranteed when you engage in a God-ordained fast.

Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am…

- Isaiah 58:9

Fasting opens channels of communication and grants you direct access to God. What's more, it

guarantees **divine guidance**.

And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

- Isaiah 58:11

Fasting is meant to enhance clarity of divine direction. God’s guidance is what makes the journey great. So, no matter how gross the darkness, when the Lord is your Shepherd, you shall not want and will not miss your steps. Though you pass through the valley of the shadow of death, you shall fear no evil, because divine presence guarantees divine guidance. And if God

be for us who can be against us?

A spiritual **access into your contested heritage** in God is guaranteed you, as you become a repairer of the breach and a restorer of the paths to dwell in. Also, all your desired **breakthroughs are delivered** on this covenant platform (Isa. 58:12-14). Fasting gives you the spiritual **power to overcome and subdue every act of wickedness** against you and all that is yours (Isa. 58:6). No band of wickedness will remain in your life, because God has designed fasting to loose the bands of wickedness, undo the heavy burdens and let the oppressed go free. Everything weighing on your body, mind or spirit is taken off your

life as you fast.

When you start operating your life as commanded by God, He takes over your entire life affairs, putting you in command. It is only then that He will satisfy your soul in drought, make fat thy bones and you shall be like a watered garden and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. That talks of supernatural abundance. It is available when you hearken to His commandment to fast.

Note, however, that the fasting that guarantees all these benefits is the one conducted in love. You must operate in love in order to maximize the benefits of fasting. Let there be no bitterness or hatred in you, and your prayers will go

up to God easy. With love, He will transform everything around your life and you will be released as a reformer to your generation.

Fasting is a vital turning-point tool. God's turning-point agenda requires that we employ all spiritual forces contained in scriptures. Abundant benefits will be made manifest in your life now that you have coupled your faith with prayer and fasting. Your light will break forth out of obscurity, and whatever kind had hitherto resisted your demand must obey you now. You will have turnaround testimonies from henceforth as you engage in prayer and fasting, in Jesus' name!

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Pillar 4

Consecration

Introduction

“How does consecration help me fulfill destiny?” you may wonder. The Bible says:

Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.

- Proverbs 1:23

Our turning at God’s reproofs is what qualifies us for the outpouring of His Spirit, which in turn grants us access into the revelation of His Word. He promised, “*I will make known my words unto you.*” Paul, a man of great

depth in the revelation of the Word of God, said this about himself:

Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe.

- 1 Thessalonians 2:10

Paul lived a consecrated life. That was what gave him access to revelation, which in turn strengthened his faith and helped him fulfill destiny. The cleaner we live, the greater our access to revelations, which is the greatest foundation for faith. No wonder Paul was a man of great revelation and faith.

And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the

revelations…

- 2 Corinthians 12:7

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

- Philippians 4:13

He enjoyed so much revelation such that his faith was well built to the point where he could do all things. Consecration strengthens faith. Living a consecrated life is what grants us access to the mysteries of the kingdom of God and the great plans He has for us.

And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables.

- Mark 4:11

The mysteries of the kingdom are for insiders only, not outsiders. By outsiders I do not mean those who are not born again alone, but also believers who do not live consecrated lives. The Bible describes them as dogs who return to their vomit (2 Pet. 2:22).

For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

- Revelation 22:15

Living a consecrated life is a must, if a victorious Christian life is your goal. Join me in exploring some teachings on the subject of consecration. Also get these books for

additional insight:

- Dynamics of Holiness
- Walking in the Newness of Life
- Conquering Controlling Powers

Chapter 1

The Need For A Consecrated Life

Consecration opens the door to revelation, which is the fountain of strength for faith. God says in Proverbs 1:23:

Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.

Two blessings come out of turning at God’s reproofs: God says He will pour out His Spirit unto you as well as make known His Words unto you. That is, when you walk in the fear of the Lord, you gain access to power and unlimited revelation.

"I will pour out my spirit unto you," that is unction; and you know that exploits in life is impossible without unction. Training is not equal to exploits, neither can teaching on its own produce exploits. After teaching His disciples for three- and-a-half years, Jesus still told them, "Do not go anywhere, otherwise you will be messed up! Wait until you are endued with power from on high, and then you will begin to do exploits" (Acts 1:8 paraphrased).

Without unction, you have no position; and you can't have unction until you turn at His reproofs. You must choose to live a holy and righteous life, a life of consecration

unto the Lord, in order to have a place in God and in His move upon the earth. If you continue in sin and refuse to heed the Holy Ghost's commands to *"Shut up! Stop that! Stop lying! Stop anger! Stop immorality!"* then you block your access to revelation and unction.

Apostle Paul was a man of great exploits who also enjoyed great depths of revelation. He lived a holy life in the fear of the Lord to get there. Even he could testify of himself:

Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe:

- 1 Thessalonians 2:10

Receive us; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man.

- 2 Corinthians 7:2

How many can testify of themselves like this in today's world? Paul lived a life of purity, no wonder he enjoyed so much revelations and unction. He was too sure of his walk with God, that he commanded the Church to follow him even as he followed Christ (1 Cor. 11:1; 4:16). He went on to further command us thus:

Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

- 2 Corinthians 7:1

For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

- 1 Thessalonians 4:7

Turn Now!

God is saying to you: “Turn at My reproof, and I guarantee you unction that will establish your position; I guarantee you revelation that will put you in the centre of My programme for the hour.”

“*Turn!*” That simple word is all it takes to secure your destiny in the kingdom of God. If you refuse to turn, you have turned down the opportunity that God is giving you for an enviable place in His glorious move on earth. There are no short cuts; until you turn,

nothing turns. If your position must turn, then you must first turn at His reproof. Everything is waiting for you - your situation, your present position, the whole creation and the whole of heaven is waiting for you. So turn, before God turns away from you.

No man can impart revelation unto another. The Bible says, "*But God has revealed them to us by His Spirit.* (1 Cor. 2:10). The secret things belong unto God, but the things that are revealed by God to us are for us and our children (Deut. 29:29). God is the One in charge of how much you are able to see from His Word. No matter how many meetings you attend, it is how much God reveals to you that you

are going to get. And how much you turn determines how much He makes available. It is, therefore, time to turn, because the kingdom of God suffers violence, and only the violent takes it by force.

Revelation is not really a function of how much you study, but of how well you are positioned in God. So, turn! Reposition yourself, and He will make His Words known unto you, which will help boost your faith and lead to great exploits being performed by your hands.

We are in the last days, and the days of the greatest move of the Spirit in Christian history. But it will require the purest of men to take the lead. No

one has ever seen this kind of move before; and that is why the kind of men and women that will bear the ark must be men of integrity, probity and purity. That is why God is saying to you now: “Turn! I will pour out My Spirit unto you and will use that same anointing to unfold depths of life from my Word to you.”

Revelation is not in the kind of seminars you attend, but in the kind of life you live. It is not in how many books and tapes you have on your shelf. Those are all secondary items. The principal item is your life. How pure is it? Sin is going to be the greatest disqualifier of men in this great move of God. Many

unimaginable people will be dropped, while some young ones just coming in will be flying with wings like the eagle, because their heart is right and pure in the sight of God.

You Must Stay Clean

God has delivered to you a new product called “Holiness”; but it requires spiritual maintenance to keep it clean. The Psalmist gives us a clue on how this can be done:

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

Thy word have I hid in mine heart,

that I might not sin against thee.

- Psalm 119:9-11

Just as every vehicle requires continuous cleaning and maintenance for good performance and durability, so every vessel of God requires constant cleaning. It is your responsibility to possess your vessel in sanctification and honour (1 Thess. 4:4). Responsibility is the price you pay for greatness. Your destiny cannot be greater than how responsible you are.

One of the ways of staying clean is by staying connected to God's Word, just as the Psalmist revealed. To stay clean and alive, you need to stay connected to the Word. The Bible says:

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

- John 6:63

God's Word is His device for your quickening, as there is no physical means of staying alive in God. You, therefore, need to stay connected to His Word. Drawing an analogy from the mystery of marriage in Ephesians 5:26-27, Paul said concerning the Church:

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it

should be holy and without blemish.

The cheapest way of getting dust off your vehicle is by pouring water on it. A napkin alone, without the use of water, cannot get rid of all the dust. So God has made an arrangement for you to stay clean, and that arrangement is in His Word. In John 15:3, Jesus said, *"Now ye are clean through the words which I have spoken unto you."* God's Word has power to make and keep you clean. So, if you are not connected to the Word, there is no other way by which you can be kept clean.

It is, therefore, your responsible to make sure you are full of the Word at all times. No matter how careful you are as a driver, whether you move your

car or not, it will gather dust. Likewise, you cannot stay clean without a constant washing in the Word of God. A constant bath in the Word is what guarantees you continued and sustained holiness; and the pool is right there with you (the Bible). We have this further assurance from the Bible:

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

- 1 John 3:9

The seed of God referred to here is the Word of God (Lk. 8:11). When that seed abides in you, you have a strong defense against sin and you will also bear the fruit of God, because every

seed brings forth its' own fruit.

Every time you go into your bathroom to take a physical bath or shower, always ask yourself, "Have I taken a spiritual bath in the Word of God today?" Accepting the responsibility of staying clean is what guarantees a future for you in God. Your body is refreshed after every physical bath. A bath after a very busy working day refreshes you, such that you have a very enjoyable sleep, because all the things that earlier blocked your body pores have been washed off. So also will your spirit be refreshed from taking a spiritual bath in the Word of God.

Please, accept this responsibility;

as there is no shortcut. Nobody succeeds by accident, as no accident is a success. So, let us stop wishing for a holy life, and start working at it. That is why Paul admonished us to, "*work out your own salvation with fear and trembling*" (Phil 2:12). We saw him do just that:

And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

- Acts 24:16

Accept responsibility for this spiritual exercise, and you will be on the highway of life where the devil shall be fully disarmed, and your dominion totally established. You know why there is no sickness or crisis

in heaven? It is because there is no sin there. It is possible to send the devil far away from your environment. When you become God's friend, Satan will stay away from you. Holiness will make you a very great friend of God, because two cannot walk together except they be agreed (Amos 3:3). If God is thrice holy, then you have to be holy to be His friend; and when you are God's friend, you are master over the devil. So, take constant spiritual baths in the Word of God, and you will send the devil and his products far away from your tabernacle.

Chapter 2

Winning The War Against Sin

The fight against sin is a war; and I want you to know that you can win that war. In fact, the battle is decided in your favour already, as Jesus already won the war on your behalf at Calvary, if you are born again. The Bible tells us:

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

- Romans 6:14

Until you recognise a battle as one, you are likely to be a casualty in it. The battle against sin is a war, and you

must fight to win it. Don't expect to win a war you don't fight.

Many have accepted defeat and taken the battle over sin as one they can do nothing about. But there will be a revolution if we fight for our spiritual health as we would for our physical health. First John 3:7 says, "*He that 'doeth' righteousness is righteous.*" Righteousness is a thing we do, not a thing we merely confess.

What's more, what it takes to win the war against sin is in every born again child of God.

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

- 1 John 3:9

God’s seed that enables you overcome sin has been deposited into every child of His. And what is that seed? The Bible tells us in Luke 8:11 that the seed is the Word of God. The seed of the Word of God is what empowers us not to sin. The Psalmist attests to this truth:

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

- Psalm 119:9, 11

Why The Battle Against Sin

The devil strives to keep us in sin for three major reasons. **Firstly**, he

wants to keep you in the outer court perpetually, where you will have no access to revelation.

And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables:

- Mark 4:11

Being without because of sin (Isa. 59:1-2) makes you a victim of frustration. The devil hates for you to go beyond the second veil, where revelation for your shining is located (Heb. 9:2-4). He wants you to remain in sin, which he knows God hates, so you won't have access to God and revelation in His Word.

Secondly, you must fight to win the war against sin; otherwise, you will be robbed of divine presence. Nothing makes a difference like divine presence. Jesus could only do exploits here on earth because He carried divine presence.

…Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

- John 3:2

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

- Acts 10:38

And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.

- John 8:29

Even the apostles carried divine presence, so signs were a natural thing with them:

And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

- Mark 16:20

No one ever made a difference in life without divine presence; and the way to secure it is to do that thing that pleases Him – live a righteous life. The devil knows that God is angry with the sinner everyday (Ps. 7:11), so he

strives to keep people in sin, so they will incur the wrath of God.

You must strive to win the war against sin, so you can also carry divine presence always. Note that divine presence, not Moses' rod, was what parted the Red Sea. Joseph also prospered in slavery and prison because of divine presence (Gen. 39:2, 21).

A **third** reason you must strive to win the war against sin is that losing will disconnect you eternally from God. Below is what you stand to gain or lose from winning the war against sin:

He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he

shall be my son.

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

- Revelation 21:7-8

Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

- Revelation 22:14

Hell is not meant for men, but people unconsciously choose to go there (Matt. 25:41). But you must win the war against sin, so you can abide

with your Father God forever.

The Enemy's Strength

Deception is the devil's number one tool. Satan is a master deceiver, and has used this tool in trapping many in sin. He takes advantage of many through his wiles and tricks. But the Bible tells us that we are not ignorant of his devices (2 Cor, 2:11).

But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

- 2 Corinthians 11:3

Satan corrupts and beguiles through deception (Rev. 20:10; 12:9). Therefore, we must:

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

- Ephesians 6:11

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

- 1 Peter 5:8-9

Where you stand with God, not what you do for Him, is what matters to Him. So, strive to win the war against sin by all means. We lose great treasures here on earth and eternity

with God when we toy with sin.

Like I said earlier, the war against sin can be won. In fact, God has made all provisions available to enable you win, if you want to.

Our Hope of Victory

God has provided us with what I call the “Two Fires” for winning the war against sin. They are – the fire of the Holy Ghost and the fire of the Word of God. They both perform the same function – consume all the chaff of sin. You will be free from every chaff of the devil when you engage them.

If deception is the problem, then revelation from the Word of God is the answer.

Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

- Jeremiah 23:29

God’s Word is an instrument of sanctification.

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

- John 17:17

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free…

If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

- John 8:32, 36

It is impossible to be clean from sin without taking a bath in God’s Word, which is a cleansing instrument (Eph. 5:26; Jn. 15:3). You have the capacity

to live a clean life, and all that it takes to do so have also been provided for you. The Bible commands us to be perfect, even as God is perfect (Matt. 5:48). If it were impossible, Jesus would not have said so, because God's commandments are not grievous (1 Jn. 5:3).

Then the fire of the Holy Ghost comes in to teach us things. The Holy Spirit is our master access to the deep things of God (1 Cor. 2:10-12).

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear,

that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

- John 16:12-14

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

- John 14:26

Revelation is your ability to hear and see what God is saying to you from His Word. The Holy Spirit is the One that grants us access to revelation.

Your guarantee for victory over sin

is to keep both fires burning in your life. The fire will not only consume the chaff, but will also keep away every serpent that might want to come near you. Keep the fire burning in your life daily by casting in the wood of the Word of God, because the devil cannot stand the fire (Lev. 6:12-13). But if you allow it to go down or burn out, you will be the devil's victim.

Believe God for your spiritual health, just as you would believe Him for things in the physical, and He will grant your desires. The war against sin can be won, so do all it takes to win! You shall not be defeated, in Jesus' name!

Chapter 3

The Holy Spirit – Our Covenant Purifier

Upon the land of my people shall come up thorns and briers; yea, upon all the houses of joy in the joyous city:

Because the palaces shall be forsaken; the multitude of the city shall be left; the forts and towers shall be for dens for ever, a joy of wild asses, a pasture of flocks;

Until the spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest.

Then judgment shall dwell in the

wilderness, and righteousness remain in the fruitful field.

And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.

And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

- Isaiah 32:13-18

Righteousness was no longer on the streets, so the devil was on the loose, and everything was working against them. But the outpouring of God's Spirit will cause righteousness to flow like a river, and by the flow of righteousness, there shall be an unleashing of divine peace, which will

in turn be accompanied by quietness and assurance for ever. Then will God's people enter into their quiet dwelling places where nothing shall be able to scratch them anymore. But first, the Spirit of God must be poured out upon us.

Until you overcome temptations, you are not a candidate for supernatural manifestations. After Jesus overcame the temptations, the Bible says He returned in the power of the Spirit (Lk. 4:1-14). His destiny only opened up after He overcame. He came to earth on a mission which never took off until He had overcome temptations; and then He erupted into the realms of supernatural manifestations.

The Bible tells us that the world is waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God. But they can't manifest their sonship until they have been declared sons by God, and Jesus Christ was declared the Son of God by the spirit of holiness (Rom. 1:4). Therefore, we also need the spirit of holiness before we can be declared sons of God.

The destiny of every redeemed child of God is loaded. Among other things, Jesus assures us that we shall do greater works than the ones He did. But that destiny will not be revealed until you are first declared the son of God with power by the spirit of holiness, which will only happen after you have

overcome temptations.

Everybody must first be tested before they can be positioned. Even Abraham had to pass his test before he was positioned. It was only after then that the Bible records that God began to swear to him, saying, "*By Myself have I sworn that in blessing I will bless you...*" (Gen. 22:1-19). So, that test you are confronted with is a test to be passed, not one that will crush you.

Holiness is the foundation of Christianity (2 Tim. 2:19). This is where the Church has missed it. We have continued to wish for the building of towers without minding the foundations of holiness. This is what Jesus came to deal with, so we can

enter into the fullness of God's plans for our lives. It was sin that disconnected man from God; and only the cure for sin can reconnect man back with God.

Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

- Isaiah 59:1-2

Sin is what separates a man from God. Victory over sin is what authenticates your salvation, as salvation is fake as long as sin reigns in one's life. Salvation is fake when one

lives with sin, because you cannot make it to heaven. You will lack the proofs of redemption and your prayers through Jesus unto God will never be answered. If you don't have victory over sin, you can't carry God's presence, and everything that redemption offers will elude you.

Holiness is the foundation of Christianity. The Bible says:

Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the

master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.

- 2 Timothy 2:19, 21

“*Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.*” Victory over iniquity is the foundation for Christianity. The whole creation is groaning, waiting for the sons of God to be made manifest; but they cannot be manifested until sin has been conquered. The Bible says that if any man be in Christ, he’s a new creature. Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (2 Cor. 5:17). Until there’s first a passing away of old things, the new creature is not genuine.

I want you to know that your sanctification is for the salvation of a

generation. The whole earth is waiting for the ‘sons’ of God to manifest, not the ‘children’ of God. Whereas salvation makes you a child of God, sanctification and living a holy life is what confers sonship on you. Governments are placed only upon the shoulders of sons, not on children, lest they collapse under the weight. The world is waiting for you and me to take our positions and deliver them from the bondage of corruption, so they too can become children of God and then grow into sonship (Rom. 8:19-21).

Sanctification is the gateway to supernatural manifestations. When Jesus came down here, He asked, *“Which of you convinces me of sin?”*

(Jn. 8:46.) He also said, "*The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me*" (Jn. 14:30). In fact, the Bible records that He who knew no sin became sin for us, so we might be made the righteousness of God in Him (2 Cor. 5:21). No wonder He could command the supernatural at will! Jesus lived above sin, so you and I can and must live above sin also.

Your Covenant Helper

There is nothing God commands us to do that He doesn't first make provisions that will enable us do it. In the call for holy living, it is impossible to be free indeed from sin without the help of the Holy Spirit. The blood of Jesus cleanses us from all

unrighteousness (1 Jn. 1:7), true; but it is the Spirit of God that enables us to walk in righteousness. The Holy Spirit is the One that helps us mortify the deeds of the body, as no man can destroy the work of the flesh by himself. There is no technique you can use that guarantees you victory over sin without the help of the Holy Spirit.

For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

- Romans 8:13

That means you and I are utterly helpless without the help of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the fire that burns off every chaff of sin in our lives

with His unquenchable fire (Matt. 3:11-12). As precious as gold is, its' value will not come forth until it is first passed through the furnace of fire. In like manner, no matter how precious your destiny might be, it must first be subjected to the fire of the Holy Ghost before its value can show forth. The Holy Ghost is the furnace of heaven that brings out the treasures in you.

You need to call out to the Holy Spirit for His help against sin. You need to say to Him, **"Holy Spirit, I open up to you and to your unquenchable fire. Cleanse me from all unrighteousness, in Jesus' name."** I define the unquenchable fire as the furnace that consumes every

unpleasant thing that stands in its' way. It consumes whatever tampers with your purity in God. If you submit yourself to the cleansing fire of the Holy Ghost, it will burn off every chaff in your mind, body, eyes and ears.

People always go hunting for the power, but are not prepared to have the foundation that causes the flow of the power - sanctification.

Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to this temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

But who may abide the day of his

coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

And he shall sit as a refiner and purifer of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

- Malachi 3:1-3

The Holy Spirit is the messenger of the covenant; He is the Refiner's fire and fullers' soap that will purify us, so we can offer unto the Lord offerings in righteousness. It takes the help of the Holy Spirit to overcome the temptations of sin, for by strength shall no man prevail. It is not possible by power or might; only by the Spirit of

God. So, let the Holy Spirit take control of your life. Freedom from iniquity is the only sound foundation for your Christian faith.

If your Christianity does not land you in heaven, Paul said you are of all men most miserable. Heaven is the eternal reward for the battles that we fight while here on earth. Whatever you don't want must give way to you this time; not by you pushing it, but by calling on the Holy Ghost fire to burn it off for you.

Chapter 4

Conquering Controlling Powers

The last days' operation of iniquity is on the frequency of mysteries. There's a law of sin at work on the earth. Forces have been let loose from hell to hold the sons of God bound in sin. There are controlling forces in the air that remotely control people, making them do things they never intended to do. These forces remotely control, subject and bring men and women into captivity. Many are in the kind of dilemma Paul found himself in Romans chapter seven:

For that which I do I allow not: for

what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I…

For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

- Romans 7:15, 19

The law of sin is a force; it's a control! There are many things you never intended to do, but somehow there are forces that take advantage of your ignorance of the real battle. Or how do you explain this – a man got drunk with alcohol yesterday, and in his stupor slept in the gutter. He wakes up the following morning to find himself in the gutter. Should he go back to his drinking joint again? No! But on his way back from work that

same day, instead of going home, he goes back on a drinking spree! That's a man under the law of sin! He can't help himself. The Bible describes such a man like this:

For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope.

- Romans 8:20

The Bible says such a man is held, "*not willingly.*" But I have good news for you, if you are under such bondage: you can be set free from such controlling forces! Your victory over these forces of sin is by knowing from the onset that your battles are essentially spiritual, and, therefore,

will require a spiritual approach to win.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

- Ephesians 6:12

There are forces called “rulers of the darkness of this world.” They are behind all the works of darkness. They are spirits, and they are sent to destroy men’s destinies. There’s a spiritual dimension to those habits, controls and depressive moods that just refuse to leave you. They are organized from hell to disconnect you from your source. Let me identify some forms of spiritual controls, so you can

understand what I mean.

Controlling Spirits

There is what is known as **unclean spirits**. Every man you see reacting against the Word of righteousness is a captive of this spirit (Mk. 1:23). The mission of unclean spirits is to make men walk in all manner of uncleanliness.

There is also the **spirit of the world** (1 Cor. 2:12). First John 2:15-16 tells us how that spirit manifests:

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes,

and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

The spirit of the world commands the activities of the lust of the flesh. It monitors, supervises, co-ordinates and organises the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. When Jesus was telling His disciples about His coming death and resurrection in Matthew 16:21-23, Peter, influenced by one of these negative spirits, began to rebuke Him. Peter, who had just by revelation proclaimed Jesus as the Christ was manipulated by these wicked spirits in high places. He was under a strange influence from the pit of hell.

Anything that causes spiritual

arrogance and rebellion is the work of the spirit of the world. Jesus saw beyond the man Peter, and so turned and said:

Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offense unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

- Matthew 16:23

Judas was another victim of the spirit of the world.

Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve.

- Luke 22:3

Rebellion is a demonic activity perpetrated by evil influences. Satan entered Judas, and caused him to betray

the Master. These are not natural forces, but are essentially spiritual, demonic and satanic forces aimed at destroying men's destinies. The spirit of the world has destroyed many families. The lust of the eyes at work in a woman makes her want everything money can buy, until she wears the man out. The spirit of the world is what is tormenting your mind, and won't let you be contented or be grateful to God; but rather keeps your mind panting after things. Haven't you heard that godliness with contentment is great gain (1 Tim. 6:6)?

There is also a **lying spirit**. The amazing thing is that people may even look very anointed under its influence

(1 Kgs. 22)! Lying is a demonic influence over people's lives, to make them come under God's wrath. The Bible tells us that all liars won't go to heaven (Rev. 21:8, 27).

The **spirit of bondage** gets people tied down, locked up and chained (Rom. 8:15). This spirit is responsible for all manner of afflictions that people suffer, like the woman who was under the affliction of the spirit of infirmity for eighteen years until Jesus set her free (Lk. 13:11-16). It is a spirit of captivity and it captures people. For instance, how do you explain someone who is coughing and is yet smoking? Meanwhile, he has been told at the hospital that he has tuberculosis. He

doesn’t want to die, but can’t help himself. He is under the arrest of the spirit of bondage, the spirit that causes addiction to evil.

There is a bondage to corruption, and is as a result of the spirit of bondage. It gets people addicted to evil without any feelings. But when Jesus was here on earth ministering, He went about healing many who were oppressed of the devil (Acts 10:38). Everything binding you to what you don’t want is a spirit of bondage, and you can be free from it now.

There is a **spirit of whoredoms**, and what it does is to constantly crave filthiness, sexual immorality, making motions in the body, etc. (Hos. 5:4).

You have cried secretly for help and deliverance, you have fasted and prayed, yet you can't break away from it. It's a spirit at work—the spirit of whoredoms. That's the spirit of adultery and fornication.

There is also a **spirit of disobedience**, and its' ministry is to fulfill the desires of the flesh and the mind (Eph. 2:1-2). This spirit works disobedience in people, going through the flesh and mind, to take people away from God's presence, so they can be afflicted and tormented.

"Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Paul lamented (Rom. 7:24). Vows, determination and will power are able to handle habits;

but spiritual influences require much more. They can only be handled spiritually. But thank God there's a way out! The Bible says:

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4

Let me now show you the way out of sin and the controlling powers that are set to destroy you.

The Spirit of Life

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

- Romans 8:2

There is a law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus; it sets free from the law of sin and death. Through the law of the Spirit of life, the law of sin and death can be subdued and defeated. Just as Aaron's rod swallowed up all the magicians' rods in Egypt, the law of the Spirit will swallow up whatever form of controlling spirit or power is at work in you.

For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of

his coming:

- 2 Thessalonians 2:7-8

The law of the Spirit is God's provision for the destruction of the mystery of iniquity that is at work in people's lives. *"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness"* (1 Tim. 3:16). With the mystery of godliness at work in you, when the enemy shall come in like a flood to destroy you, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him (Isa. 59:19).

In Romans chapter six, Paul reveals that sin disconnects from God. In chapter seven, he shows us the helplessness of the mortal man in dealing with sin, but introduces us to

the help of the Spirit in handling sin in chapter eight. Without the help of the Spirit, you are helpless in your struggles against sin, as it is one law that delivers from another – the law of the Spirit from the law of sin. The superior law delivers from a lesser law.

The way to engage the law of the Spirit in the battle against sin is to walk in the Spirit. To walk in the Spirit means to engage the Holy Spirit by taking advantage of His ministry against the works of the flesh. The Bible says:

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulful the lust of the flesh.

- Galatians 5:16

The Holy Spirit living inside you is the cheapest way of destroying the controlling powers set to destroy you. You operate the law of the Spirit by engaging the help of the Holy Spirit in intercessions when those motions in your mind and body begin to torment you.

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

- Romans 8:26-27

The Holy Spirit helps you pray according to God's will, enabling you to secure help to mortify the deeds of the flesh (Rom. 8:13; Col. 3:5). The Spirit is contrary to the flesh. So you are able to subdue the flesh when you engage the Holy Spirit, and the reverse is what obtains when you do not engage the Spirit. The Bible says in Luke 11:21-22:

When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace:

But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils.

Greater is He that is in you (Holy

Spirit), than he that is in the world (1 Jn. 4:4). So when you engage Him in keeping your spiritual goods (your colourful destiny in God), your goods will be safe. The Holy Spirit is the force that guarantees your victory and security in the conflicts of life, so be filled with Him always (Eph. 5:18).

Engage the help of the Holy Spirit by getting into cloud-forming prayers in the spirit, like Elijah did. Every time you explode in tongues against the works of the flesh, you are confirming the judgment of the Holy Spirit against the devil. That is how to mortify the deeds of the flesh and destroy the destroyer sent to destroy you. That motion in your flesh can be consumed;

that lying, crave for adultery, drugs, beating your wife and yelling at your children can be stopped! The help of the Holy Spirit is available for you; engage Him.

Chapter 5

The Power Of A Good Conscience

I define the conscience as the invisible you that determines what becomes of the visible you. Your conscience is you, and only you can relate with it. It is your confidential companion, your God-ordained policeman. Its' mission is to polish your destiny, if you will let it.

Every mortal man has a conscience. You don't need to be a Christian to have one; but being a Christian helps your conscience stay more alive. As a matter of fact, the healthier your conscience, the higher you fly and the

greater you become in life. The conscience, your awesome and invisible confidant, can be the life-wire of every mortal destiny, as where you place him will determine where you will be placed at the end of your journey on earth.

Everybody has a conscience, though some have killed theirs. There are four levels or state of a man's conscience. Paul the apostle defined the first kind as the **weak conscience** (1 Cor 8:12). The weak conscience is susceptible to whatever goes on in a man's environment; it is vulnerable to environmental pressure. It is chameleon-like, as it adapts to any thing that is done in its' presence.

When you eat food offered to idols in their presence, they fall for it.

The second type of conscience is the **defiled conscience** (Tit. 1:15). It has been captured and corrupted. Then there is the **evil conscience**. This kind of conscience is tuned in to only evil things; it has shut out all forms of good.

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

- Hebrews 10:22

This kind of conscience is one that has taken on evil as a way of life. It is always skimming and falsifying things.

A man with this kind of conscience has lied so much that lies now become like truth to him. Then we have the **dead conscience**. At this point, destiny is dead. This is how the Bible describes a dead conscience:

Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

- 1 Timothy 4:2

When a conscience is seared, it means it is destroyed or dead. What happens when you place a hot iron on any piece of flesh? The cells are destroyed of course! A conscience seared with hot iron is a dead conscience, and all it produces from henceforth is dead works.

How much more shall the blood of

Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

- Hebrews 9:14

Like begets like; so all a dead conscience can produce is dead works.

Salvation is not a substitute for the conscience, neither is the Holy Spirit. The conscience has a special ministry to any being on earth. It is the scale of justice inside every man that tells him when he goes wrong. It is so important that Paul speaks of it this way:

Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

- 1 Timothy 1:19

That you are in the faith does not excuse you from the demands of keeping your conscience alive; otherwise, life and destiny will come to a stand still or be grounded. It is not enough to be in the faith; you must keep your conscience alive in order to secure your destiny in Christ.

I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost,

- Romans 9:1

The Holy Spirit cannot function in you when your conscience is dead. The fire of the Holy Ghost is designed to refine a man; but when your conscience is defiled, evil or dead, that fire will

consume you instead. So the anointing is not a substitute for possessing a good conscience.

Keeping your conscience alive is an important task every believer should take seriously. If not, your conscience will graduate downstream from a weak conscience to a defiled one, and then an evil one, until it finally dies. To keep an active conscience, you have to be willing to pay the price of confronting evil, instead of bowing to evil. That is why Peter wrote to the Church, saying:

For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.

- 1 Peter 2:19

It is thankworthy to suffer wrongly

rather than be guilty, because you are preserving your destiny. Peter is in other words saying that when a man jealously guards his conscience against evil corruption, and rather suffers wrongly, he will have reasons to thank God at the end of the day. Jesus left us an example, so we can follow in His steps and end where He ended – in glory. Every name under heaven is forced to bow at the mention of the name of Jesus today.

Our ministry has never been tempted to give any form of bribe to any body under heaven, whether military or civilian, politician and what have you. When the National Universities Commission came for the

verification of the Covenant University (CU), one of the men thought he was doing me a favour, and said to me, “Sir, everywhere we go, they promise to give the Chairman something as well as the other fellows on the team; otherwise, the report may never come out.” As soon as he said that, I yelled at him: “Stand up, you devil! Do you think I am faking it here? Walk out from here!”

You don’t have a future without a good conscience, so stop playing games with your life. If you do, you are unknowingly digging your own grave. Losing your job is not as important as losing your destiny. Anyone who had seen Joseph suffering in the prison

would have thought he had lost out. But he needed to go through the prison to arrive at his appointed place of destiny. There was no way Pharaoh would have heard about Joseph if he hadn't gone to prison.

Joseph spent ten years in prison. He was captured at the age of 17, and spent three years in Potiphar's house. Some people may wonder, "How can somebody be such a dummy? 'I fear God!' Fear God for what?" But he chose rather to preserve his conscience from corruption than to sleep with his master's wife and become an established second husband. Joseph would not sell his birthright for a morsel of meat.

Show me a man with a living conscience, and I will show you a man with a great future. If you don’t have a good conscience towards God, you don’t have a future. It’s all over to you. The reason you join others to do evil is because you are also enjoying it. But a good conscience is your only way to where you are going.

Train Up Yourself

And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.

- Acts 23:1

Can you boldly and sincerely say the above statement like Paul did? Paul’s salvation was a dramatic one on

his way to Damascus. He was so much in touch with power, that everything about him represented power. He was also a man of unusual insight and revelation. Half of the New Testament was written by him. How did these all come about? He said, *"I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day."* He also said:

And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

- Acts 24:16

"I exercise myself…" That is, "I trained myself; I exerted pressure on myself to maintain a conscience void of offence towards God and man." Having a good conscience is not a thing

that just happens; you exercise yourself to obtain it. You only excel in an area you exercise yourself in. To have a pure conscience in a corrupt world looks like an uphill task, but it can be attained.

Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.

- Hebrews 13:18

Honesty is a proof of a good conscience. Godly sincerity too.

For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-

ward.

- 2 Corinthians 1:12

The testimony of a good conscience is godly sincerity. With a good conscience you don't have to be supervised to do what is right. Your conscience is your God-ordained guide on the path of dignity. It helps to package you. It checks you when you are on the path; and when you stop minding the checks, it withdraws. I strongly believe that God destroyed Achan's entire household because they all saw him when he brought in the accursed things, but kept quiet. In fact, they probably helped in digging the hole it was buried in. The same judgment that comes upon the evil doer

also comes upon those who help to cover evil.

From Paul's testimony, we discover that greatness in the kingdom of God is rooted in possessing a good conscience. *"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable"* (1 Cor. 15:19). Therefore, *"My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not"* (Prov. 1:10). *"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God"* (Rom. 14:12). *"So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain"* (Prov. 1:19). Therefore, *"Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them"* (Eph. 5:11). Expose them; make them known, so you can free your

conscience. No matter how many people are joined together, the wicked shall not go unpunished. Judgment will come one day and land on the heads of evildoers. No agreement can avert the judgment of evil.

Nothing is a substitute for a conscience that is alive and well. So, embrace honesty and godly sincerity, as any evil you cover up will uncover your destiny. You will not be destroyed!

Chapter 6

The Rewards Of Consecration

Innumerable profit awaits you if you labour to live a consecrated life, as there is profit in every labour. The Bible says:

Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

- Proverbs 14:34

Whereas sin brings a curse, righteousness brings blessings. Psalm 112:1-3 tells us:

Praise ye the Lord. Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that

delighteth greatly in his commandments.Praise ye the Lord. Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

Righteousness is usually in place wherever you see God’s blessings. While the wages of sin is death, the wages of righteousness is life more abundant. There is a lot more rewards

and pleasure in righteousness than there is in sin, so sign up to live a holy life today. Let me show you some of the things you stand to gain when you live right before God:

Living a sanctified life is the **biblical proof of your redemption**. The Bible tells us that we shall be known by the kind of fruits we bear (Matt. 7:16-23). Also, if truly you are born again, living a holy and sanctified life is what is required of you, as the old is expected to have passed away, and the new come in its' place (2 Cor. 5:17).

Purity guarantees **divine presence**, which makes all the difference in life. Jesus said, "*He that sent me is with me:*

the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him" (Jn. 8:29). Jesus always enjoyed divine presence.

Joseph lived a holy life in the fear of the Lord. That was why God was always with him, whether as a slave in Potiphar's house or as a prisoner in the prison. He prospered and enjoyed favour everywhere he went, because he lived a righteous life. Living a life consecrated unto God guarantees His presence always with you.

You are guaranteed **answers to prayers** also. The Psalmist said, *"If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me"* (Ps. 66:18). God's hand is not short to save, nor His ears

too heavy to hear us when we call upon Him; but He can't hear or deliver us because of iniquity (Isa. 59:1-2). But when we live righteous lives, we are guaranteed speedy answers to prayers when we call upon Him.

Another virtue of sanctification is **access to the fresh anointing.** That is because God loves righteousness and hates wickedness.

Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

- Psalm 45:7

When you love righteousness and hate wickedness, you are open to the fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit. The

Bible says in Luke 5:38 that new wine must be put in a new wine bottle. Therefore, if you want the new anointing, then you need a renewal of your lifestyle.

Purity also guarantees **access to revelation and divine secrets**. Job was a man that feared God and eschewed evil. As a result, he had access to the secrets of God (Job 1:1-3; 29:1-4). The fear of God gives you access to divine secrets.

The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

- Psalm 25:14

Living a sanctified life guarantees **access to honour**.

But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.

- 2 Timothy 2:20-21

You live an honourable life when you live a righteous life. Remember that righteousness exalts; it doesn’t bring down.

Above all, purity guarantees **eternity with Christ in heaven**. Remember that it’s appointed unto man once to die, and after that judgment

(Heb. 9:27), and Revelation 21:8 and 27 lists out those that can never enter heaven. It takes sanctification to have a place with God in heaven. You shall not miss your place in heaven.

Without holiness, nothing works - no revelation, no answers to prayers, you lack divine presence, and so on. There are yet other rewards of righteousness.

Prosperity, Promotions and Beauty

But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.

Mine eye also shall see my desire

on mine enemies, and mine ears shall hear my desire of the wicked that rise up against me.Mine eye also shall see my desire on mine enemies, and mine ears shall hear my desire of the wicked that rise up against me.

The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and

flourishing.They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing.

- Psalm 92:10-14

No matter the drought in the land, the righteous shall flourish; his leaves will remain green. Just as Job flourished by righteousness, everyone that practices righteousness will flourish. This is how the Bible described Job:

There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and

eschewed evil.

And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters.And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters.

His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

- Job 1:1-3

Righteousness was the reason for

the height Job attained. He became the greatest man in the land, not through crookedness or perverseness, but through uprightness and godly perfection. He was scared of evil; he never touched it. He was so scared of evil that he even went to what you might call ‘extremes’ to ensure he was right with God at all times:

And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

- Job 1:5

That he avoided evil suggests that he was living in the days of evil, but never partook of it. Instead, he became the greatest man in the east!

Righteousness holds a guarantee for your prosperity. All those we read about in the Bible that lived righteous lives were honourable people as well. The king's rich food would have defiled Daniel and kept him as a mere civil servant for life, but righteousness exalted him. When they were instructed to pray only to the king, he wouldn't deny his God. No, not even in the face of death! He walked gallantly into the den of lions, and righteousness preserved him (Prov. 11:3)! Rather

than being eaten up by the lions, he ended up in the high places of the government of his time!

Honour has its root in righteousness. The Bible says:

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever.

- Daniel 12:3

Righteousness causes men to shine as stars. So, if you truly desire honour, then wisdom demands that you also desire righteousness with a greater intensity. Let your desire for righteousness be more than your desire for honour, for when righteousness is in place, honour is automatic. No

matter how many principles you put together, until righteousness takes its place, honour is not in view.

Holiness is the cheapest way to the top. You don't need to be crooked to become great. Job was a perfect man, yet he became the greatest in the entire east. You don't need financial perversion or immorality to gain access to the throne. Whatever throne unrighteousness places you on, it is so it can bring you to utter shame at the end. The eyes of the Lord run to and fro through all the earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of anyone whose heart is perfect towards Him. So, God's eyes can enter any prison and pick up a man from there.

Purity also gives birth to beauty. Psalm 149:4 says, "*He will beautify the meek with salvation.*" Your beauty and true covenant colour emerges only when you are saved from sin. That is when your authority and dominion can be established. When sin goes, beauty emerges. I see your beauty emerge in a most powerful way!

Righteous living is to your advantage, so choose to live right!

Chapter 7

The World Is Waiting For You!

On July 15, 1996, the Lord instructed me to train up people to walk in the realm of signs and wonders, because the whole creation is waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God. He said to me:

"Build Me a people to be envied, a people of attraction, a people of honour; and by them I will storm the world. Build with Me a people of depth, a revolutionary army by depth of revelation; and I will take the world by storm. I have given you the people; now build them with Me.

Give them purpose, impart vision into them. School them into exploits and release them into their destinies. Work with Me my son, as I raise a new generation of saints by your hands."

He didn't say, "Build Me a religious gathering." Rather, He said, "Build Me a revolutionary army by depths of revelation, and I will take the world by storm." We know that the depth of revelation we have access to is determined by how much we turn at His reproofs. So, the envy of this new generation of saints, their attraction, glory and honour will come from their sainthood.

…Christ also loved the church, and

gave himself for it…

That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

- Ephesians 5:25, 27

God is building an army of stainless saints, not an army of churchgoers. May you be seen worthy to be part of the army that will stop the groaning of the world (Rom. 8:19). Therefore:

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

- Ephesians 6:11

We learn from Psalm 110:1-3 that the day of His power will precede the

day of His coming. The effectiveness of any army is in the quality of its training. So we have to train up in the power of God in preparation for His coming. Every act of God has a foundation; and the foundation for power and the supernatural is holiness (2 Tim. 2:19). No wonder Jesus tells us:

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

- Matthew 6:33

The foundation of God for the manifestation of His power is righteousness. You must walk in it in order to be a partaker of the good things He has in store for His Church.

Stay Revived!

Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

- Hosea 6:1-3

Every revival commands a rise, and every revived soul enjoys a rise. When we return, we shall be revived; and after we are revived, we shall be raised

up. If we are not raised, then there is no proof that we have been revived. After the prophetic revival in the valley of dry bones in Ezekiel 37, the Bible says there arose unto God a mighty host. After every revival in your life, there should be all-round rise in your health, mentality, finances, and so on.

When you are revived, you enjoy the outpouring of both the latter and the former rain upon your life. When that rain begins to fall, its effects are as recorded in Joel 2:23-26:

Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain,

and the latter rain in the first month.

And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.

And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpiller, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.

And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.

The flushing out of shame from a man’s life is the practical effect of the coming of the former and latter rain into his life. When you return and are

revived, God is then committed to raising you. No matter how hard working you may be, until you are revived, you can never be raised.

If the cleaning that God is doing now does not matter to you, then your destiny will not matter to Him as well. You can't enjoy the latter and former rain until you are revived; and until this rain comes down for you, your struggles in life will continue. Our distance from God is the reason we are suffering the present humiliations. But the Bible admonishes us to:

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

- James 4:8

Until you return and are revived, the rain does not fall; and until the rain falls upon you, you can’t be restored. One of the great signs of revival is the restoration of dignity to the saints. That work in your hand will blossom and explode, and that tension in your business will disappear as though it never existed when you are restored. All you need do is to return to the Lord in truth and in deed; and when the rain begins to fall, every devil in town will know that God’s rain has started falling on you.

The scriptures cannot be broken. It is not enough to repent; you must stay revived as well. The revival fire must

be burning alive in your spirit, and your tie with God must be so strong that even the devil knows that you are walking with God. You must hate sin practically and not explain it away. You must leave it without having any feelings for it at all.

We are not created for afflictions. Rather, God has created us for the manifestation of His glory. Therefore, come, and let us return unto the Lord! The afflictions we suffer are by reason of our disobedience to Him. They will all come to an end if we return unto Him.

The rain of God's blessings is not for everybody; it is for the souls that have chosen to be revived, those who

have returned with all their hearts. The way out of shame is to retain the revival fire in your life. When that revival fire is burning, your life is bound to be refined, and you are bound to enjoy outstanding results. It may be slow, but it is eternally sure. Though it tarries, wait for it, as it will surely come, because righteousness exalts, while sin is a reproach to any people.

If you will only stay revived, the world will be compelled to listen to you, because your star will shine and the rain of God's blessings will never stop falling. Uzziah sought the Lord; and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper and he was marvelously helped by God (2 Chron.

26:1-15).

With consecration, your life is sure to enjoy distinction. I have never seen a consecrated soul that didn't have the proof of God's hand upon his life. I would like you to pray to God, asking Him to help you live a consecrated life:

"Help me to maintain a high level of consecration, oh God. I must not drop off this revival wave. I depend on Your help Lord, so that my heart will not be deceived by any being. I must not miss the outpouring of the rain of Your blessings, so help me to stay consecrated unto You."

Psalm 112:1-4 lists some benefits that accrue to any man that fears the Lord:

Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

Stay revived, and the world will soon locate where you are. Not too long from now, your story will be read in the great places of the earth. Walk with God, and you will have a great future.

No matter what you suffer for righteousness sake, its gains far outweigh the sufferings. No matter what pleasure sin may offer, it is only for a moment; whereas the blessedness of righteousness is forever. You may look ordinary today, but let your integrity never depart from you.

I curse the hand of sin from your life right now! You are entitled to God's rain, as long as you have returned and are revived, so call for that rain now. When that rain falls, your floors shall be full of wheat and He will restore to you the years that the locust and the cankerworm have eaten. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied and praise the name of the Lord, and

you shall never be ashamed!

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Pillar 5

Vision

Introduction

Vision is the unfolding of divine plan and purpose. When divine plan is unfolded, faith is naturally stirred up. Moses would not have dared to go back to Egypt from where he had fled for fear of being killed, if divine plan had not been unfolded to him. No wonder the Bible says in Proverbs 29:18:

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

Where there is no vision, the people just keep struggling. But where vision

is, faith comes alive. Vision is the covenant seed for success in life. Life will remain a struggle without a clear vision of God's purpose for your life. But when vision is present, faith for accomplishment comes alive. It was only after Apostle Paul discovered his purpose in life that he became a great man of faith (Gal. 1:15-16). Before then, he was merely going about like a rascal.

Vision is a faith catalyst as well as helps one to fulfil destiny. When you catch a vision of God's plan for your life or where you are going, like Moses, no Pharaoh will be strong enough to stop you from getting there. Your face will be set as a flint towards

your end.

I have included some selected teachings and a list of books I wrote on the subject of vision that will aid your understanding of this subject.

Understanding Vision

Understanding Divine Direction

Chapter 1

You Are A Child Of Destiny!

Every born again child of God is born to fulfill a particular purpose on earth. A discovery of that purpose is what is called a vision. Vision can, therefore, be defined as the unfolding of a divine plan as it relates to a nation, a group of people or an individual.

Every believer has a peculiar plan and function assigned to him before he was born. God told Prophet Jeremiah:

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the

nations.

- Jeremiah 1:5

The unfolding of God's plan for a man's life and the pursuit of it is the beginning of a great future. This is because you can never become a star until you operate within the scope of God's plan for your life.

Being members of one body, that is, the body of Christ, every believer has been ordained to carry out a particular function in the body of Christ. A body is made up of different parts or members, with each carrying out a particular function. As a member of the body of Christ, you are a steward of a particular function, which God expects you to carry out. That is your

ministry; and it is not limited to the pulpit alone. Ministry is occupying your God–assigned position.

Ministry is carrying out a divine assignment. Joseph had a divine task — he was sent to Egypt to preserve lives. Gideon was not called to preach, but to deliver the people of Israel from the hands of the Midianites. Abraham was called to be established as an institution through whom the families of the earth would be blessed. Therefore, callings and elections are not limited to preaching. You have a function or divine assignment to perform here on earth. A discovery of this function is what is called a vision.

Vision is a divine insight into

God's plan for you, and the pursuit of a discovered vision is what is called a ministry. It, therefore, means that no vision, no ministry.

You have a ministry and it is your duty to discover it. Just like Prophet Habakkuk, you need to stand upon your watch to see what God has for you. Become a visionary; as only visionaries become great in the kingdom. Locate your function and begin to manifest in it, for the future of every believer depends on the discovery of his function or purpose on earth.

You must know this though: that no calling is of a low status. Every calling or function is a high calling, as every

calling culminates in glory. Every part of a king's body is royal. You cannot say of the hand, "This is only the hand, it is not the king; so it has no honour." No! Every part of the king is the king and must be accorded the respect and honour due to it. So is it with every member of the body of Christ. Every function you are ordained to carry out leads to honour, dignity and stardom.

The Importance of Vision

A discovery of vision is very important in any man's life, as it puts an end to a life of struggles. One just keeps on struggling when God's plan for one's life is unknown. This is because God only enables you to perform in the area He has assigned

you to serve. This is where you make it seemingly effortlessly, smiling all the way.

Do you want to enter into your promised land? Do you want to possess your possessions? Then you need a genuine vision from God in your life. Vision is the gateway to greatness in the kingdom. Vision is what makes a man. Consider what happened to one of our covenant fathers —Jacob.

Jacob had been a trickster and usurper all his life, until he met with God at Bethel on his way to meet Laban. This was the turning point in his life, as his personal encounter with God turned him into another man. The usurper was gone, the trickster was

buried. He made a covenant with God and a new life began. Though he arrived Laban's place without a vision, he was determined to live right. This was, however, not enough. For fourteen years, he sweated and laboured for the woman he loved. He was cheated and relegated to slavery. After fourteen years of sweating, he only had two wives and a battalion of children to show. He had no substance and future (Gen. 28-30).

Then a need arose for Jacob, and with it came a vision. He remembered his covenant with God. He asked for and received a terrific insight into cattle rearing, which he promptly put to work. He pursued this vision and

prospered in it. The scripture says concerning Jacob in Genesis 30:43:

…The man increased exceedingly, and had much cattle, and maidservants, and menservants, and camels, and asses.

The potential for greatness was in him all the while, but until he saw the need for insight into the ways of God, he never received. Vision brings about positive covenant changes in one's life.

The discovery and pursuit of vision gives stability to one's life, as you know where you are heading. You have a goal and aim for it with strong purposeful strides, not as one beating the air. Vision changes your attitude and actions. While others might bow to

any wind of doctrine, you are not moved, because you know where you are going. Your vision prevents you from going just anywhere or following after what others are doing. Rather, it gives you a definite focus and a consciousness of one on a divine mission. Vision gives you a horse to ride on.

Only men of vision will be enlisted into God's end-time army, as they are men who know where they are heading. They are men who know their mission and go about it with the strength of a horse. Their faces will be set only towards accomplishing their mission. They shall not thrust each other. Each one shall follow his own path and

calling, working separately, yet together towards fulfilling one goal.

No man gives himself a vision. Every true vision comes from God. The difference between vision and ambition is that whereas vision is God-given, ambition is man-made. Vision is from above, while ambition has its origin here on earth. Ambition is born out of an earthly drive to do it better than others. It springs mostly from envy and a desire for power and self-recognition. Adolph Hitler was a man driven by an earthly ambition to rule the world. He wanted the German nation to rule the whole world and saw the Jews as standing on his way to achieving this goal. So he decided to exterminate the

Jewish race from off the face of the earth. Hitler had an ambition, and would stop at nothing in order to achieve it.

On the other hand, however, the great man of faith, George Muller, had a vision and heavenly dream. He wanted to put smiles on the faces of all the orphans left after the war. So, he gave up everything he had to start an orphanage, looking unto God alone for supplies. As a result, he never had to go stealing, killing, defrauding or begging for sustenance. He was an ordinary man who had an extraordinary vision. He believed God to carry out the extraordinary task and dared to step out in faith. This is a vision from God. God

gives the vision and enabled the visionary to bring it to fruition.

No man gives himself a vision; no one places himself in an office. God is the One who assigns offices to His children, and He has set every member in the body as it has pleased Him (1 Cor. 12:28).

Chapter 2

Locating Your Vision

There is a need for every believer to have a vision. Only a fool will despise the need for a vision, because the Word of God clearly spells out the consequence for the lack of it (Prov. 29:18). A lack of vision can bring ruin to a whole generation, and can lead to the destruction of the saints of God. But it is not God's wish that anyone should perish. Rather, He wants everyone to enter into His Canaan of rest and abundance; and only vision can take one there.

Vision gives direction to life. God's

path for you is in the vision He gives you. Without vision you cannot get your bearings in life right; so, get your vision, locate your place in God and let the light of God shine on your path.

But how does one secure a vision? Do visions fall from heaven like mangoes from a mango tree? No! Genuine visions come from God, even though man has a part to play in securing it. God called Abraham out of his father's house, to a place where He would show him at age 75 (Gen. 12:1-3).

Vision is revealed by God in response to man's heart desire. Desire leads to enquiry and enquiry to acquiring. A vision is sought for and

acquired by man. Everyone through separation seeks his own vision. No one can seek a vision for another person. That was why prophet Habakkuk said:

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me…

- Habakkuk 2:1

Vision is an individual, personal affair, not a collective affair. This is seen in the repeated use of the first person pronoun in the above text. A man who desires a vision must first separate himself from every distraction and make enquiries from God. This is because God will not give you something you don't need or seek after.

God Is Willing To Reveal His Plan

I have good news for you: God is always willing to reveal His plans. He didn't make His plans for Himself, but for you and me. He devised them so that we can arise as stars and bring about the re-establishment of His kingdom here on earth. I use the word "re-establishment" because Adam transferred his dominion of the earth to Satan at the fall. So God is eager to see the re-establishment of His power and authority on earth, hence His eagerness to reveal His plans to you knows no limit. He said:

…I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

- Isaiah 48:17

God has taken upon Himself the responsibility of leading you into your destiny; and He does this by revealing His plans to you. At your request, He shows you your own little role and portion in His great master plan.

Seek God In Prayer

Whereas God is eager to show us the plan He has for us, we must first ask Him to reveal it to us. One of the ways we ask Him is through prayers. Prayer draws the hand of God into a situation. It is what connects man to the throne room of God. If you want to know God’s mind in any situation, you must pray to Him to show you.

The man Daniel was a man of

visions and revelations. He was also a man of prayer. He received his visions and revelations through prayer. A time came when he discovered it was time for Israel's captivity to be over. He took it upon himself to seek the face of God in prayers concerning the restoration of Jerusalem. He prayed and God released His plans to Him in a vision (Dan. 9).

God only reveals His plans to those who ask Him. You must be ready to pray the prayer of enquiries in order to secure your heavenly vision, which will give you a place on the earth. If you will not ask, you will not receive it from Him. Speaking through Prophet Jeremiah, God said:

Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

- Jeremiah 33:3

Until you call, He will not show you; and you call through prayers. So, ask and receive, so your joy may be full.

Be Watchful

Visions are also received during watchful moments. After calling upon God in prayers to show you His plan for your life, you must make yourself available to receive His plan by being watchful (Hab. 2:1). Watching and praying are two different things. Whereas prayer is calling upon God to show you His plan, watching is

conditioning your spirit man to receiving the plan from God. It involves linking your spirit man with heaven in order to receive heaven's signals; that is, spiritual sensitivity. The two go hand-in-hand.

The prophet Habakkuk first prayed to God, and then set himself to watch to see what God would say to him. He had to quit praying in order to watch. Most people who talk about receiving God's plan did so in moments of watchfulness. God's plan can be revealed at any time – while going about your daily affairs, at the wheel of a car driving, etc.

For instance, the vision of our ministry was delivered when I went to

visit some friends. I had travelled to visit them, only to get there to meet a note on the door that said they had travelled out of town. As I turned to leave, the Holy Spirit said to me, “All things work to the advantage of them that love the Lord.” This was a flash in my spirit, which I would have missed if I wasn’t watchful. The Word was undoubtedly from the Lord, as I had never heard that translation before. I repeated the sentence and told myself that the situation was to my advantage. I became alert, on the lookout for further instructions, which came shortly after. The Holy Spirit said, “Seek a quiet place, I want to talk to you.” I went in search of a hotel, where

God delivered the eighteen-hour long vision of our ministry to me. As long as your spirit man is tuned to receiving from God, His glorious plan will drop into it.

The Help Of The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit also plays a part in your ability to locate God's vision for you. You must ask for His help in locating divine plan and be sensitive to His voice. After praying to God to show you His plan for your life and you wait on Him diligently to reveal the plan, you need also to be sensitive enough to hear and understand His voice when He speaks. The Bible says in John 10:27: "*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow*

me.”

If you are born of God, you are expected to hear God’s voice, and His voice is the voice of the Holy Ghost. Children don’t have to go to school to learn their parents’ language. Even the greatest dummy naturally understands his mother tongue. The ability to hear God’s voice does not belong to ministers alone, but to everyone born of God. A spiritual tuning takes place at salvation that enables every redeemed child of God to hear and understand Him.

Hearing God’s voice is not a gift, but a birthright. Men who have attained great heights in Christ today are known for their super-sensitivity to the Holy

Spirit. Even our Saviour, Jesus, had to be sensitive to the voice of the Spirit in order to succeed on earth. He said of Himself: *"I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge"* (Jn. 5:30). As He heard, He acted. He was in constant communion with the Father. When He was told about Lazarus' sickness, He didn't go running down there immediately. Rather, He waited to hear from the Father before moving (Jn. 11).

A time came when the great man of God, Elijah, was stranded. The situation was so bad that the great man of Mt. Carmel cried unto God to take his life. But he waited for God to answer Him, and God did. God spoke

to him, telling him what to do. This took him to another level in ministry. God's voice paved a way for Elijah when he was weak. The voice of God offered him direction and established his office (1 Kgs. 19:11-18).

You too can hear His voice. Your ears are created to be hearing ears, capable of hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit. Sensitivity to the voice of the Spirit helps you walk in divine plan, thereby bringing you to honour and dignity here on earth. Those who sweat in life and ministry today are those who are deaf to the voice of the Holy Spirit. They do what is right in their own sight, and not what God tells them to do. It is very crucial, therefore,

that you are sensitive enough to receive from God when He speaks. Below are some ways you can enhance your sensitivity to the voice of the Holy Ghost.

Be Quiet

There is a notable thing in Elijah's experience in the wilderness. There first came a strong wind, an earthquake and a fire, but God's voice was not heard in them. His voice finally came in form of a still, small voice. The word "still" is worthy of note here, because there is no way you can receive signals from heaven without the practice of quietness. The Word of God tells us that God's voice comes from behind.

And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it…

- Isaiah 30:21

If God's voice comes from behind, then you need to be very quiet to hear it. Except you are in the practice of quietness you cannot understand the mystery of receiving from God. Practice quietness on your inside and outside. The Holy Spirit is always there to instruct you, so learn to be quiet and receive instructions from Him daily.

Worship

Worship is adoration. It is bowing down at the feet of God, hallowing His name. You lay down your crown before Him when you worship Him. As a

result, you receive revelations from God when you come before Him in worship. You must learn to worship Him, if you want to increase your hearing ability.

Elisha knew this very well. When he needed to receive instructions from God, he said to the people:

But now bring me a minstrel. And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the LORD came upon him.

And he said, Thus saith the LORD, Make this valley full of ditches.

For thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and

your cattle, and your beasts.

- 2 Kings 3:15-17

As the minstrel played on the instrument and Elisha's heart rose up to God in worship, the Word of the Lord came unto him. A lot of ministers around the world do this today. They ask for a tune to be struck on the organ or keyboard while ministering to the afflicted. Normally, it is a soft tune that plays on and on, and it enhances their sensitivity to instruction from the Holy Ghost. Psalms and hymns are very good worship tools. I have noticed that I'm usually armed with super confidence anytime I enter into a deep realm of worship in psalms and hymns.

Meekness

Meekness enhances your ability to receive from God because you come before Him on the platform of nothingness. It means coming to God devoid of all your so-called knowledge, coming to Him empty and with the understanding that only He can fill you up. God's Word says:

The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.

- Psalm 25:9

God says, "Put away your ideas and receive My instruction with meekness." When you do, you will possess the earth, because only the meek will possess the earth.

Meekness leads to obedience, and

obedience to possession. Don’t be too wise for God to instruct. Don’t be like King Ahab who was too wise and too full of himself for God to instruct. Make yourself a Jehoshaphat instead. Respect God’s instructions and obey them promptly, as prompt obedience qualifies you for more instructions.

Chapter 3

Prove The Vision

One thing is crucial to success in life and ministry: ascertaining the genuineness of your vision before launching out in its pursuit. A major characteristic of a genuine vision is that it has its source in God. It is God's revealed plan and has to be traceable to Him. Any vision that does not have its source in God leads to destruction. It might flourish for a while, but certain destruction is inevitable.

A vision that is not proved is not a vision to be pursued. There is a path God has prepared for everyone born of

Him. He forbids anyone turning from this path, either to the right or to the left; because your success in life depends on how well you keep to this path. So, before you start running with the vision you have received, first subject it to an examination. Check its accuracy, sieve off the unwanted elements and hold on to the substance. Even the Word of God had to be tried seven times (Ps. 12:6). If God's Word could be subjected to testing, then every vision or revelation received must be properly scrutinized. This is because:

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

- Proverbs 14:12

Do you know that the devil himself can appear as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14)? Therefore, don't go running with just anything you receive. Prove it first. Even the Bible commands it:

Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:21

"All things" include visions. This implies that not all visions are true. We are told that there are two voices clamouring for man's attention: the voice of the Shepherd and that of the stranger (Jn. 10:4-5). Because there are many voices, there must be a way of knowing which one is genuine and which is the counterfeit. How do you

do this? How do you determine the accuracy of your vision?

The Word Tool

God's Word is the only authentic tool for proving a vision. After receiving a vision, illuminate your spirit in God's Word for a backing, before you step out in its pursuit. By so doing, you have the double assurance that it is from God, because God will only back up what He has said.

A young pastor was praying in his house one day when he heard a voice say to him: "You are the Elijah who is to come before the Saviour comes back." This seemed so good and real, and he was excited. Then the thought came that he should get a scriptural

backing for the revelation, and he went into God's Word. Then he read where Jesus told His disciples that Elijah had already come in the person of John the Baptist. He went to his pastor for more illumination and was told the same thing. Then he knew that the vision he had received was not from God.

The devil knows the scriptures and quotes them to confuse people. That is why you must first get into the Word of God for proofs before pursuing any revelation you may have received. Compare scripture with scripture and unravel the truth behind the vision.

Who Is Speaking?

In proving your vision, you must also determine who is speaking. There

are so many voices all around. Since visions involve some form of communication, it becomes necessary to ascertain the personality behind the voice you have heard, as not all voices are God's voice. There is the authentic voice of God, there is the voice of your spirit man and there is the voice of the devil. Only one of these voices is reliable and dependable, and that is the voice of God.

I once heard something that I thought was from God. The Lord later questioned me about it and I reminded Him that that was what He said. But He responded, "No, that was the voice of your spirit man; you heard yourself." The voice of your spirit man is not

absolutely reliable. It may be biased, because it might have some element of carnality in it. That is why you must watch how you rely on it for guidance. You might be able to detect the devil's voice easily, but your own voice is not that easily exposed, because man's ways always seem right in his own eyes. It is important that you identify the voice behind your vision, so you are not led into error.

Ascertain The Content Of Your Vision

The content of every vision has to be ascertained also. You must get a good understanding of the content of your vision before you start to run with i t . God has no pleasure in your

confusion; rather, He is excited at your having direction. So, get back to Him with your vision, asking for further illumination on the content. Learn to ask God for complete illumination of your vision, as His assurance and further revelation will give you the courage to run with the vision more effectively.

After being commissioned into ministry, a time came when we needed to set up the operations headquarters of the ministry. Ilorin town looked very attractive. As far as I was concerned, it was the ideal spot. But my wife and I committed the matter to God, ready to obey whatever He would say. And the Lord spoke, saying, “Arise, go to

Damascus." The Lord made it plain that Damascus stood for Kaduna – the city of persecution. Witnessing Islamic uprisings there was, therefore, no news to me. I was well acquainted with my role in it. No force on earth could stop me from playing my part, because this was what I was anointed for. God's voice helps you to operate under an extraordinary confidence.

Be inquisitive about your vision. Ask the Lord about everything He has said to you, including the minutest detail. Get Him to give you a good understanding of the content of the vision before you step out. Ask that you may receive direction; and the prayer of enquiry is the prayer that

offers direction. It is a major tool for determining direction in life.

Peace

Every God-given vision is accompanied by His peace. The Bible says:

I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints…

- Psalm 85:8

When God the good Shepherd leads, He always leads beside the still waters. Still waters connote peace and rest. If a vision is truly of God, it will be accompanied by peace in the heart. That is the authentic proof that the vision is from God (the author of peace and concord).

Whenever the peace of God eludes a believer in the pursuit of a "purported" vision, there is need to check it. This is because except God is actually involved, no vision can be accomplished (Zech. 4:6; Ps. 127:1). The Master Himself concludes it with a seal of finality: "…*Without me ye can do nothing"* (Jn. 15:5).

Every vision requires the direct involvement and intervention of God in order for it to be accomplished and fulfilled. No wonder the Bible says in 1 Thessalonians 5:24:

Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

In the final analysis, it is God Who works in the vessel to accomplish the

vision He gives. However, if God must work in man, man must first be at rest. We have this blessed assurance in the Word that we need not be otherwise, for the Lord will fight for you (while) you hold your peace (Ex. 14:14). If God must take over, then man must hold his peace. God will not take over our battles and pursuit until we hold our peace, because He will not share His glory with anyone (Isa. 42:8).

Until you are at rest, God cannot be at work on your behalf. If you must see God at work, then you have to be at rest. This is the secret behind the peace that attends all heaven-borne visions. With peace in your heart, triumph in your pursuit is guaranteed.

In proving your vision, there are, however, certain things you must guard against. I will discuss two of them.

Fleeces

One of them is trying to prove your vision by laying out fleeces. Remember how Gideon set out fleeces in order to ascertain whether God would save Israel by his hand (Judg. 6:37-40)? When you are operating by fleeces, you say something like this: “Father, if I go to see my pastor and the first thing he tells me is, ‘Jesus loves you’ then I know You have called me to work under him.” You cannot use this method to get clarification on your vision. The Word of God says that as many as are led by the Spirit of God,

they are the sons of God, not as many as are led by fleeces (Rom. 8:14).

You may argue that Gideon did this and it worked for him. Yes, but Gideon was under the old covenant, where they had no indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. You are of the new covenant and have the Spirit of God dwelling inside you. He is there to lead you, so ask Him for illumination.

People's Confirmation

Another thing you should guard against is seeking after people's confirmation. This is not wrong in itself, as God can use people to help you. But you need to guard against depending wholly on this form of confirmation because a lot of them

may end up leading you into confusion. When I received my vision to go into full-time ministry, I told a great man of God about it, and he told me that God had not called me. If I had not heard God clearly, this would have sent me off track. But I knew I heard God clearly, so I stuck to my calling.

Nehemiah could not have succeeded in his mission if he had revealed it to people for confirmation. He did the surveys by himself and only informed the people of what they were to do. If he had asked for their advice, he would have been led off his path.

Beloved, look up to God and hear His voice. It is He alone that is able to lead you in the path He has chosen for

you.

Chapter 4

The Pursuit Of Vision

After having received a vision from God, there is still something you must do in order to actualise it. A vision received must be pursued; otherwise, you will still end up a failure, no matter how grand the vision. A man's vision (no matter how fantastic) will follow him to the grave if he does nothing about it. Vision without pursuit is mere wishes; and a wise man said, "If wishes were horses, even beggars will ride."

There is a law that stipulates that, "All objects assume a state of rest until

a force is applied to it." The same law obtains in the spirit. Nothing will happen to a situation, desire or vision that you do nothing about. Action is the word here. No action, no accomplishment. Actors are winners, and winners are kings. Without great drives, great vision will lead to great frustration.

No reason should be strong enough to stop you from pursuing your vision, as those who do nothing towards their goal, groan at the end. The Bible says:

The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

- Proverbs 20:4

There is no challenge-free track on

earth. Whatever reason will not let you take steps in the direction of your vision will ultimately rob you of fulfillment in life.

There are always divine provisions with which to pursue every God-given vision received, as God will not reveal a plan to you without giving you the resources with which to actualize it. God will not send a man on an impossible mission. This is why He said, "*Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it*" (Hab. 2:2). In other words, "I have shown you what to do and you have received from Me what it takes to do it, so run! Move! Take steps; it is within your reach." Every genuine

vision leads to enthronement. You, therefore, owe yourself the responsibility of making it work through diligent pursuit.

Visions Are Specific

Genuine visions are plain —"*Make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.*" They clearly state what to do, when to do it, where to do it and how to go about it.

I have heard many preachers claim that they have received a vision from God. But when asked what that vision is, they say, "God has sent me to preach the Bible." This reply normally amuses me, because God can never send an individual to preach the whole Bible! You are too small to preach the

whole Bible, as the Bible is loaded with matter.

A genuine vision from God will point you to the specific substance you are to preach. For example, when the Lord called me into ministry, He made the vision plain before me: *"Go forth and liberate My people from all oppressions of the devil, through the preaching of the Word of faith."* The job was to liberate the people from all oppressions of the devil, and the tool for this liberation is the Word of faith.

A vision is a specific task assigned and revealed to an individual by God. That is why great men of God today are identified with specific and very clear callings. For one man of God, he is

assigned to preach the salvation message, while another is called to preach faith and healing, and yet another, prosperity. God is not an author of confusion. When He calls you, He makes your calling plain.

God Gets The Job Done

A man is worth nothing except by virtue of what he has received from above. God makes the man, because it is the gift of God in him that makes him.

A man’s gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

- Proverbs 18:16

The task you are called upon to undertake is spiritual. It cannot be accomplished by the strength or

smartness of man, but by the gift of God within a man. The gift within sets in motion spiritual forces which create a way for you. Therefore, as you pursue your God-given vision, trust not in yourself or ability for getting the job done. Whatever He has called you to do will be accomplished by His gift within, as God's callings are always accompanied by His gifts, which are never withdrawn (Rom. 11:29).

When God calls, He endows you with what it takes to stand in that office. Remember Gideon? He called himself the least of the least, but God said, "That is why I have chosen you; so you don't rely on your own strength." There is a strength needed to

accomplish a calling, and God is the One who supplies it. You cannot carry out your God-given assignment in your own strength. Rather, look unto Him and believe Him for His strength. That is when His gift within you will go into operation to produce the needed results. In the final analysis, God makes both the man and the ministry.

So then, it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

- Romans 9:16

What makes a man is the grace of God. The grace of God is a free gift; an unmerited favour from God. You don't qualify for it; He simply gives it to you. In the callings and elections of

God, your human qualifications are your greatest disqualifications, while your natural disqualifications are what qualify you, because God delights in choosing the base and weak things, those without reputation, to make them (1 Cor. 1:26-29).

I was the least qualified for a preaching assignment in my own eyes and in the eyes of the world, because I was very slow-tongued. But the situation has changed now, as people sometimes complain that I speak too fast. God's enablement has made the difference. Moses was also the least qualified for the work God called him to. God knew that no matter how qualified Moses was naturally, he

would fail in his assignment. So He said to Moses, “I am your qualification. Go in My name and might and get the job done.”

God is your qualification; without Him you can do nothing. Battles are won only by the grace of God. Feats are accomplished not by power nor by might, but by the Spirit of God. Each time Samson fought and won, it was always preceded with the phrase, “And the spirit of God came upon him.” Samson did not pay anything to get it. In fact, he did all he could to lose it through promiscuous living. The only time he failed and was captured, it was recorded that the Lord had departed from him (Judg. 16:20).

Your nakedness is revealed whenever God leaves you, because it is God that gets the job done. So then, like Apostle Paul, you too can say, “I am what I am by the grace of God.” God’s strength is made perfect in weakness, such that when you are weak in yourself, then you are strong in God.

Zeal

A God-given vision always imparts a divine drive in the beneficiary, which drives him to accomplishment. This divine drive is called zeal. Zeal is that inward excitement that pushes you forward to accomplishing your mission. When the zeal of God consumes you, every other factor becomes subsidiary. God cannot call

you to a task without giving you the zeal to perform it.

If your vision must be accomplished, you must be determined to run with it. You must pursue your God-given vision, as every calling of God culminates in glory. A pressing is required. In the course of pursuing his vision, Apostle Paul said:

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

- Philippians 3:14

Don’t go about minding other people’s business or ministries; mind yours. God has not called you to be a referee. Have you noticed that referees don’t win any prizes? Be least

concerned about how others are pursuing their visions. Rather, be concerned about your own mission, as great success can only be recorded through diligent pursuit. Be determined to do what it takes to get to where you are going. Pursue your vision and receive your crown. You can’t get the juice out of an orange without squeezing it. So press on and obtain your prize. A vision that will not be realised is one whose challenges you are not prepared to rise up to.

Chapter 5

The Time Factor

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

- Habakkuk 2:3

The word “yet” implies that the vision is not for now. A vision from God always has a time element. The prophet Habakkuk sought a vision and received one; but the Lord told him, “Don’t expect what I have told you to happen now. It will surely happen, but its time is yet to come.”

Correct timing is very important in God's programme. All visions have their appointed time for execution, which is determined by God alone. You don't just receive a vision and begin to run with it. Just as you prove the vision and ascertain the contents of the vision, you also need to confirm from God the appointed time for your given vision to take off. This is because God's time is the time of safety; it is the time of miraculous provisions and favours for accomplishment. God's time is the time when He goes before you to make the crooked places straight.

There is always a time for the showing forth of every calling of God. John the Baptist was on a divine

mission. It had been said of him even before he was born that he would prepare the way of the Lord. He knew this but didn't go about it immediately until the appointed time. He waited for God's right time to set out. The Bible says:

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

- Luke 1:80

Jesus also knew what His mission on earth was, but spent 30 years carrying out menial jobs in the carpenter's shed. The Son of God, the Saviour of the world, was carrying wood and mending broken tables and chairs for 30 years! He knew who He

was right from the beginning and voiced it out at age twelve (Lk. 2:49). But He waited for His appointed time. He heard John preach the gospel of repentance, but didn't rush out to start off His own ministry. He exercised caution and waited. He humbled Himself, and then the heavens opened! He finally launched out after having received John's baptism and the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

If John the Baptist and Jesus had both stepped out a day before their appointed time, they would have wrecked their missions. The time God calls you to ministry is not necessarily the time for you to step out in its pursuit. Always get God's appointed

time and walk in it.

Heaven's Timing

Timing is very important in the pursuit of any vision. If you miss the right timing, you will fall flat on your back. After the Lord called me into ministry, I didn't step out in its pursuit for months. But a time came much later when I began to sense it was time to step out. I went to God, hoping to hear His marching order. I separated myself to ask for His timing, calling upon Him in prayers. When I opened my eyes after many hours of praying, I saw a bright light fill the room. It was as if heaven's musical gadgets were tuned on to release heaven's music. The sound I heard which flooded the

room was, “Be in time, be in time.”

This brought tears to my eyes, and I found myself weeping. God had sounded it: the time was ripe to launch out. I left there with a commissioning programme set in my mind. I knew who was to do the sending forth. It was a pastor I had never met in my life. I got the name of his ministry and his address and wrote to him. He wrote back, begging to be excused because he had other engagements lined up in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, on the same day as my commissioning date.

Unperturbed, I wrote back, telling him that the Lord said that his Port Harcourt engagement was his own personal meeting, but that my

commissioning ceremony was the Lord's. I had just sent out my letter when I received another from him, saying that the Lord had instructed him to put off the Port Harcourt meeting in order to be at my commissioning! We met for the first time at the commissioning ceremony! *"For the vision is for an appointed time."*

In 1985, I thought the Lord wanted me to reach out with the Word to different cities in the country, and so I drew out a plan and pasted it on the board in my office. One day I looked at it, feeling quite pleased with myself. Then the Lord said, "Take off that plan from the board." When I asked why, He replied: "This is not My plan for you

for now. I want you to do further digging in this place where you are. It is time for you to set your root deeper into the land and bear more fruit. When it is time for you to reach out I will let you know." I removed the plan from the board and asked for another plan for the year, and He gave me a growth plan through the sound teaching of the Word. We had a 91% increase in 1986!

Every phase in ministry has its timing. If you miss out on the timing, you miss out on God; and when God is not with you, the result is sweat unlimited. That is when it will appear as though you were not called by God. Ministers of God should learn to fix their programmes in accordance with

God’s timing, and not go rushing off to just anywhere they are invited to.

Jesus Understood It

A call came for Jesus to go to Bethany to heal Lazarus who was sick. The call was from His loved ones, yet He stayed back and waited for divine instructions. An order to go to Bethany came only after Lazarus had died and was buried. Jesus went at God’s appointed time, and the glory of God was manifested (Jn. 11:1-45). The anointing follows God’s timing.

Joshua’s Example

Joshua was also sensitive to divine timing. He obeyed God’s marching orders and moved at God’s command, resulting in the fall of the great wall of

Jericho.

And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city…

So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the

people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

- Joshua 6:15-16, 20

If he had told the people that there was no point marching around the city seven times on the seventh day, and that they should do it only once, they would have faced the greatest defeat in history. Not being obedient to God's timing may put a seal upon your doom, so always seek to know His right time for what He has called you to do.

Saul Missed It

One should learn from what happened to King Saul. The set time for him to wait for Samuel to come and offer sacrifices to God was seven days.

Saul waited till the seventh day and lost his patience on the last day. He couldn’t wait till the end of the day to see if Samuel would come or not, and decided to offer the sacrifice. But as soon as he was done offering the sacrifice, Samuel arrived.

And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever.

- 1 Samuel 13:13

God is very particular about your working within His schedule. When God speaks, the anointing for breakthroughs follows. Working in

God’s timing reduces tension and produces instant results. It is the only way to guarantee success in life and ministry. There is a place to preach per time, and there is a word for each place. Don’t go rushing everywhere just because others are doing it and are successful. You must respond to the time nudging of the Holy Spirit.

If you are not sure of His timing, ask Him and He will tell you. You are a soldier in the army of God; don’t go marching at your own command. Wait for the Captain of the Hosts to give His orders and then follow. Listen for His marching orders before you move. Obeying God’s timing leads to sweatless triumphs. Saul’s impatience

put an end to his reign. Don’t be like Saul; avoid haste. Listen for God’s marching orders, adhere strictly to them and you will prosper.

Chapter 6

Vision Boosters

We are in a kingdom of cause and effect. Distinction does not just happen; you make it to happen. There are things you must do to make your vision produce undeniable results. You don’t only need to know how to prove a vision; you also need to know how to pursue it to a logical and tangible end.

Certain things help you stay focused and undistracted in the pursuit of vision. I call them Vision Boosters. These are forces that boost vision or provoke the realisation of vision. They help you fulfill your heaven-given

vision, so you end up in distinction.

Be Joyful

Joy boosts vision, because only excited people excel in the race of life. Jesus was ever joyful; no wonder He ran His race to a successful end. He couldn’t be distracted from His purpose for coming to the world – to die on the cross for the redemption of mankind from their sins.

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- Hebrews 12:2

Joy and enthusiasm is a force that

guarantees outstanding results. This is because until you are depressed and downcast, you can't see failure. Those who go about frowning don't know what will happen to them next. Only excited people excel in life. True greatness is channeled through enthusiastic individuals. True successes are smiling people. No wonder Apostle Paul commanded us, saying, "*Rejoice in the Lord always; and again, I say, Rejoice*" (Phil. 4:4).

Joy is a covenant yeast that cause dreams to blossom; so don't allow the enemy rob you of your joy. What's more, joy is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22). So if you are born again, you have what it takes to be ever joyful,

and so fulfill vision. Joy imparts strength and insight (Neh. 8:10; Isa. 12:3). What becomes of your vision is a function of the strength at work in you, and your strength is a function of your joy.

Testimonies

Testimonies are not mere stories, but evidences of the faithfulness and integrity of God, the infallibility of scriptures and the immutability of His counsel. They boost vision as they help you overcome your next obstacle. They are triggers for victory in spiritual conflicts, as they energize the inner man for exploits. That is why those who don’t mind testimonies keep struggling with trials.

When David confronted Goliath, testimony was what gave him the victory. He said to himself, "*God who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the bear will also deliver me from this uncircumcised Philistine,*" and the little boy ran towards Goliath and brought down his head (1 Sam. 17:37-51). He was empowered by testimony.

Testimonies are instruments of supernatural empowerment. They energize you to stretch beyond yourself. Note that they do not necessarily have to be personal testimonies. They are as potent even when it's what happened to someone else. This is because testimonies are the finger of God in action, so it

doesn’t matter who it happened to. As long as it happened on the basis of God’s Word, it is an instrument of triumph in your hand. They have the God-given power to reproduce themselves.

Testimonies are like what happens during exams at school. Without a good memory, you will never pass your exams, because all an exam does is to test your capacity to retain knowledge. Likewise, if you can’t retain the knowledge of God’s acts in time past, then you will end up a failure today. You say to yourself: “God did it yesterday, and because He is the same yesterday, today and forever, He will do it again today.” What is your dream

like? Many people have accomplished that before, so why not locate their testimonies and use it to fire yourself up.

Testimonies are faith boosters, and faith is the principal booster of vision. As a matter of fact, faith is the life of every vision. If faith is boosted by testimonies, then testimony is the substance of every vision. It helps you to keep going even when nothing looks like it. Testimonies show you what steps to take. The testimony of one has the power to deliver the other, because he is simply pointing you to the way God moved into his affairs. If you want Him to move into your affair also, then you must do the same thing he did, for

God is no respecter of persons.

Testimonies refresh the soul and energize the inner man; they keep you going when others are worn out. They are treasures in your adventures. Keeping records of previous acts of God in your life rejoices the soul. You can't easily be discouraged when you are conversant with the acts of God in your life and in the life of others. Whenever you are faced with any challenge, a strange courage wells up from within you, and you say to yourself: "No it's only for a while. Mr. So and So went through that thing and this is how he came out. I'm coming out also; this is not my end." You are then able to face tomorrow with greater

boldness and fortitude.

An understanding of His testimonies will guarantee victory in the place of defeat and success in the place of failure. It will give life to your vision and deliver you from all frustrations. It’s time to begin to count your blessings one by one, and you’ll see how much it will reinforce your faith for triumph in your adventures in life.

Decision

Decision is fundamental for the success of any vision. Indecision is a plague; its effect is frustration, depression and devastation. Somebody said indecision is the graveyard of good intentions. No matter how lofty

and promising a vision is, without a strong decision to pursue it, it will fail. No indecisive man can ever be distinguished. Reuben had to pay the price for his indecisiveness (Gen. 49:3-4).

And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God

- Luke 9:62

Decisive men don’t look back; they are ever forward marching and don’t take “No” for an answer. Their heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord. The reason for many vision failures is that men are not determined to pursue their visions. They may start off well, but when

faced with any little challenge on the way, they draw back. So many things you have seen in scriptures have not produced because you lack the decision to make them produce. Every time a light breaks forth on you from scriptures, reinforce it with a decision, and you will see how real the Word of God is.

God has shown you where you're going; make a decision to press on to its accomplishment.

Information

It is one thing to know where you are going and another to know how to get there. Every vision rides on the wheels of information. No matter the quality of your vision, if you lack

information to match, you will end up in frustration. Information, whether spiritual or secular, is the hub of every outstanding accomplishment. When a vision is starved of information, it begins to suffer disintegration. Information is the cheapest way to eradicate regrets.

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

- Hosea 4:6

When you invest your time in acquiring relevant information that will help drive your vision, the result will

prove that your time was not wasted.

Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard.

- Proverbs 13:15

No matter your goal or vision, information is a catalyst for its accomplishment. You need relevant and adequate information on the subject of your vision in order to fulfill destiny. Go for it!

Association

A wise man said, “You are going to be the same person you are today in five years time except for two things – the books you read and the people you walk with.” Your relationships in life will either make or break you; they never leave you at the same spot (Prov.

13:20). Abraham's vision was delayed because of the presence of Lot and Terah with him. Until Terah died and Lot was separated from him, Abraham did not enjoy speed in the pursuit of his purpose.

There are certain people you have to separate from, if you must see the fulfillment of your vision. The Bible says:

Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

- 1 Corinthians 15:33

It is your responsibility to decide the people you walk with, since friendship is by choice, and not by force. Choose friends and associates that will assist you in fulfilling your

vision, not those who will derail you from its pursuit. Many great destinies have been ruined by wrong associations. Anyone that has a negative influence on your life is an enemy, not a friend. Such “Lots” have to go; otherwise you will lose your lot in life.

Concentration

Another factor that will enhance the fulfillment of your vision in grand style is concentration. Another word for concentration is focus. It is what determines the sharpness of your destiny, as you can’t have a good picture without first having a good focus. There is power in concentration.

The light of the body is the eye: if

therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

- Matthew 6:22

You are one man and you are best at doing only one thing. If you can locate what that thing is, then you have a vision. But you have to give it all your attention in order to succeed at it. You need to give full attention and focus to the pursuit of your vision.

I see God beautify your vision as you pay these prices, in Jesus' name.

Chapter 7

The Master-Key For Success

When we are correctly positioned in the Creator's plan, we reflect His glory without sweat, just as the moon reflects the light of the sun without generating the sun's heat. That's why, I believe, the Bible says, "*Where there is no vision, the people perish.*" The word "perish" does not mean to die. It means to be stripped of honour and dignity (Prov. 29:18). Another translation says, "Without vision is a people made naked."

When you miss God's plan for your life, you become a struggler; you begin

to fight as one beating the air. But when you are on course with God's plan you become an amazement to your world. Without vision are a people made naked, as though they don't know anything. But with vision they command distinction, as though they know everything.

In the school of success, strength is no guarantee; neither is skill a security, because my Bible says, "*By strength shall no man prevail*" (1 Sam. 2:9). Human smartness is no guarantee for success, because the battle is not to the strong, neither yet the race to the swift, nor yet favour to men of skill (Eccl. 9:11). So what is it that really guarantees success?

Right Work

In the school of success, not hard work, but right work is what matters. Doing the “right work” is loaded with a lot of backing that gives you a place in the front line. On the other hand, however, hard work in a wrong direction will still culminate in a hard life.

For example, some years ago, we took off from Kaduna to Port Harcourt for a Full Gospel Businessmen’s Fellowship breakfast meeting. I had just come out from an all-night service in church, so while my driver drove, I fell asleep in the car. My driver took a wrong turn somewhere along the way, but was still driving in the wrong

direction at the same speed he took off with. When I woke up and read the sign of where we were, I knew we had missed our way. We stopped to ask a farmer, who confirmed this.

Our speed was no guarantee for arriving at our destination. Rather, it was taking us farther away from it. The driver's skill was no help either, neither was the comfort of the vehicle we were in. Everything that was supposed to be a plus became a minus, simply because we were on the wrong road. In like manner, skill, speed and strength in the wrong direction/work are no guarantee for success. Right work is what gives value to hard work. That's why there is no substitute for

locating God's plan for your life and walking in it. Sound direction is crucial in your drive towards your desired destination, because you can't come on course with God's plan and not become an amazement to your world.

To be successful, you must first understand that you did not just happen; you were made (Ps. 100:3; 139:14). You are a high-tech product packaged to perform certain well defined functions. Since no product determines his purpose (this is the sole prerogative of the manufacturer), you cannot determine your purpose; all you can do is to discover it.

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest

forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

- Jeremiah 1:5

Every product performs best when used for the task it was designed for. So you must find out, “What am I created to be?” This is because you’ll never be fulfilled with a billion naira or dollars until you find out where you belong. This is where vision comes in. It is the master-key to a world of success. Vision is a discovery of God’s plan for your life. He is your manufacturer, and has designed you to perform a specific task here on earth. You need to find out from Him what that plan is and pursue it with all

fervency.

It is one thing to be convinced and another to be correct. Many today are victims of their convictions. But your conviction is irrelevant; it is your correctness that is important. If you take a wrong step, ten angels swearing that you're right won't make a difference. It is, therefore, very important that you sit down and talk some sense to yourself. "I am not a creature of chance; I am a child of destiny. There is an agenda for my life. I need to discover it and walk in it." This is not only an Old Testament phenomenon, but a present day thing, as Apostle Paul discovered what he was called out to perform (Gal. 1:15).

Everybody is separated unto something; a discovery of what you are separated to is what guarantees your endless success in life. May you find it, pursue and enjoy it, in Jesus' name!

A Search Is Required

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.

And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

- Jeremiah 29:11-13

God has a good purpose for

creating you; you are designed to fulfill a great assignment here on earth. But you have to go to Him to locate what it is. You must ask Him to show you what it is. He is saying to you, “My plan for you is in place, but you need to search for it with all your heart. Until you discover it, you’ll be walking in your own plan; and you can’t be at your best walking in your own plan. Your best lies in My plan for you.” Don’t search for God’s plan like somebody who has already made up his mind on where he is going. That’s why the Bible says the meek will He guide in judgment and teach His way (Ps. 25:9). Position yourself to be guided by God; it will make a lot of difference in your

pursuit.

Success is essentially defined by a task. That is why we talk about a successful lawyer, banker, industrialist, engineer, etc. If you just said, “That man is a success.” People will tend to ask, “Success in what?” Vision is the identification of what he is successful at. A particular mission defines the success you are talking about. Until mission is discovered, success is not in view. I, therefore, ask you: “What is your assignment from heaven?” Find it, keep at it and enjoy success without limits! Become a successful minister, civil servant, academic, etc.

There are people today in ministry who don’t have any business being

there, because they are not designed for the job. On the other hand, some are in business whose place is in ministry. They work day and night, yet no motion, because they are pursuing a wrong cause. Don't seek to be like somebody else – "That guy is in business, and I was smarter than him when we were in school. Therefore, I will go into business too, so I can be successful like him." That's wrong! Please find where you belong and enjoy it. You don't have two lives to live, so don't waste this one that you have.

Every child of God is a choice vine (Isa. 5:1-13). My Bible says you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people, designed

to show forth God's praises (1 Pet. 2:9). You are a choice vine planted by God. All you need do to become a resounding success is to locate your planting and abide there (1 Cor. 7:20, 25).

One wrong step can wreck a whole destiny. Many honourable men have lost colour because they don't know where they are planted. There's an edge of protection wherever you are planted, as the Lord sends His angel before you, to keep you in the way and to bring you to the glorious place He has prepared for you (Ex.23:20-23). When you are on course with divine plan, your destiny is protected and shielded from the evil that beset others.

It’s Never Too Late

Please know that it’s never too late to be right. No matter how far away you have gone from divine plan, it’s never late to be right. Therefore, take courage now and say to God, “Lord, get me back on course with Your plan for my life.”

God is committed in leading you, if you are committed to following Him. He said:

… I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:

Thy seed also had been as the sand, and the offspring of thy bowels like the gravel thereof; his name should not have been cut off nor destroyed from before me…

And they thirsted not when he led them through the deserts: he caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them: he cleaved the rock also, and the waters gushed out.

- Isaiah 48:17-21

On October 1, 1983, during a time of fellowship with the Lord, He said to me: “My son, I am committed to leading you, if you’ll be committed to following Me.” It means that if I am not committed to following Him He won’t waste His time leading me. But

if I follow His leading, then my peace/success shall be as a flowing river. I have followed His leading and have enjoyed unbroken fellowship and unending success ever since.

Following God's leading through a discovery and pursuit of His agenda for you takes you to your high places in life (Deut. 32:9-14). You only gain by operating in the centre of God's plan for your life.

Without a vision the people perish; but he that keeps to the vision, happy is he. Thank God for hard work, strategic planning, consistency and so forth. But none of these is a substitute for sound direction. When you are correctly positioned in God's master plan, you

are free from every form of frustration. Your life will only shine brighter and brighter unto the perfect day. He will not allow the rod of the wicked to rest upon your lot when you are on His assignment. What's more, you are supernaturally provided for. May you find your place, in Jesus' mighty name, Amen!

Pillar 6

WISDOM

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Pillar 6

Wisdom

Introduction

Wisdom is locating God’s way of doing things. It is the applied knowledge of the truths gleaned from the Word of God. This is how Jesus defined wisdom:

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

- Matthew 7:24

Wisdom is not common sense, but scriptural sense. It is not mere mental exertion or restricted to knowledge

alone; but doing the sayings of God. It is making use of the Word of God to produce profits in any given area of life. That is, doing things God's style, His approach, and by His method. This is a better way of getting results and answers, because God's ways and thoughts are higher and better than man's (Isa. 55:8-9).

There are certain scriptural demands, which though vital, many have ignored to their own hurt. But wisdom is in doing them, for they are the bedrocks that determine what happens in one's life. For example, Joshua 1:8 says:

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt

meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Wisdom demands that you pay attention to the book of the law – the Bible. It is in doing what the Word commands that you can enjoy the benefits they deliver. For example, those who would be blessed are those who will do what is commanded in these next verses of scripture:

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the

LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

- Psalm 1:1-3

Divine wisdom is a product of faith, because it is revealed. God's wisdom is hidden, and packaged in mysteries that common sense cannot locate (1 Cor. 2:7-10; Mk. 4:11; Dan. 2:19). It takes a revelation by the Spirit of God to locate divine wisdom. God's Word is His wisdom. To locate divine wisdom, therefore, you must first locate God's Word, which is the

foundation of faith. You then express your faith in the Word by putting it to work — "*doing these sayings of mine.*" It is only after then that wisdom will deliver its products to you. The selection of some of my teachings on the subject of wisdom below will bless you.

I believe these books on the subject of wisdom will also bless you:

Excellency Of Wisdom
The Winning Wisdom
Mental Excellence
Towards Mental Exploits
Walking In Wisdom

Chapter 1

What is Wisdom?

We hear a lot of talk about wisdom both in the world and from scriptures. The American Heritage Dictionary defines it as, “Understanding of what is true, right, or lasting; insight; common sense; good judgment; the sum of scholarly learning through the ages; knowledge; wise teachings of the ancient sages; a wise outlook, plan, or course of action.”

The Bible describes different kinds of wisdom in James 3:15, 17:

This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual,

devilish…

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

There is the earthly wisdom, the sensual, devilish and divine wisdom (wisdom from above). Earthly wisdom is the wisdom of this world, common sense or natural wisdom. Sensual wisdom is men's wisdom; and it centers on the senses. It's basically all about intellectual wisdom and stops at book knowledge. It includes all technological, scientific and intellectual efforts (1 Cor. 2:6). Devilish or diabolical wisdom operates

in the occult realm; it is the wisdom of the princes of this world, that is, satanic wisdom. It involves the manipulation of the mind through satanic influences.

Divine wisdom, on the other hand, is the wisdom that is from above; God's wisdom. Paul the apostle, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, said that all the wisdom of this world and devilish wisdom equals zero when compared with the inexhaustible virtues of the wisdom of God. This wisdom is available to all and sundry via salvation, unlike in occultic circles where there are various degrees of knowledge per time, and the things that are done are largely shrouded in

mysteries.

Divine wisdom can be defined as knowing what to do, and doing it in order to get the desired result. It is knowing which way to go. Divine wisdom is knowing the scriptural way to go, the scriptural steps to take, and the scriptural things to do. It doesn't wait for solutions, but always creates solutions to problems, and has proofs.

Wisdom is not just a product of reasoning; rather, God's wisdom is released by reasoning with Him in the light of His Word. "What does God say I should do?" you ask yourself. When you do what He says you should do, then you have committed God's integrity to confirm His Word in your

life.

In Revelations 10:8-10, God's Word is portrayed as a bitter pill.

And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth.

And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.

And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was

bitter.

It is the application of the bitter truth of God's Word that sweetens destinies. Until you are willing to swallow the bitter pill of the Word of God raw, you are not ready for enduring testimonies. No doctor can help you outside the prescription he has given you. If after giving you a prescription you refuse to take the medication as instructed, there's nothing else he can do to help you. In like manner, having the prescription of the Word of God is great. But how much of its truths are you applying to your life? The application of the bitter truths of scriptures is what culminates in testimonies. Not every truth is

sweet, particularly in its application; but in the bitterness of the truth lies the greatness of your destiny. It is the bitterness of the drugs that people take that result in their healing.

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

- Proverbs 4:7

That means wisdom is the gateway to whatever provisions God has made for you and me in His kingdom. That is, the application of the truth that relates to such issues is what allows you access into the fullness of God's plan in that area. Jesus said, "*This is God's wisdom: whosoever hears these sayings of mine and does them, the*

same is a wise man." So, wisdom is not in hearing, teaching or preaching the Word of God; wisdom is in doing the Word of God. Doing what God says for you to do is what equals wisdom (Matt. 7:24-28).

The Source of Divine Wisdom

Just as everyman's wisdom is expressed in his words, God's Word is equally an expression of His wisdom. God's Word is the source of divine wisdom; it's His wisdom bank. In His Words are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Col. 2:3). Wisdom for enjoying a successful family life, buoyant business and academic excellence are all available in the Word.

The knowledge of the truth makes wise unto freedom and enthronement, and it comes by an encounter with the knowledge of God and His Son, Jesus. The correct application of this knowledge is what is called wisdom. The instructions contained in the Bible are the highest forms of instructions in all human affairs. Whatever is declared in it is superior to any circumstance on earth. No wonder the Psalmist said:

Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.

- Psalm 119:98

The Bible makes one wise. Paul said to Timothy:

And that from a child thou hast

known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

- 2 Timothy 3:15

The Bible is God's wisdom packaged in book form; it is the original wisdom bank that covers all areas of life. This wisdom is the key to exploits and excellence, and guarantees rest round about. Hearing God's Word and doing it makes you a wise man.

By the wisdom of God, you are able to control the goings on in this world – life, death, things present and things to come. You are able to regulate and monitor your future. The wisdom of this world can't handle all that. Side by side with the wisdom of God, the

wisdom of this world is foolishness. For instance, the wisdom of this world cannot handle the future; neither can it handle death – which makes every mortal man shiver. Job 28:22 tells us that, "*Destruction and death say, we have heard the fame (of God's wisdom) with our ears.*" From today, by your application of divine wisdom, not even death will be able to resist you any longer, in Jesus' name!

Here are a few things the Bible says about wisdom:

I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.

- Proverbs 8:12

How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get

understanding rather to be chosen than silver!

- Proverbs 16:16

He that getteth wisdom loveth his own soul: he that keepeth understanding shall find good.

- Proverbs 19:8

Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

- Proverbs 23:23

Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established:

And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

- Proverbs 24:3-4

Who is as the wise man? and who knoweth the interpretation of a thing? a man’s wisdom maketh his face to shine, and the boldness of his face shall be changed.

- Ecclesiastes 8:1

…Wisdom is better than strength...wisdom is better than weapons of war…

- Ecclesiastes 9:16, 18

You will reign by divine wisdom!

Chapter 2

The Wisdom of Love

Everything great must have a base, a platform, a foundation upon which it is built. There is no great building without a great foundation that supports it. Love is the covenant platform for unending success in life. It is where we must stand to commit God to launch us into the realm of success in all facets of our lives. First Corinthians 2:9 says it all:

…Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

This scripture defines the platform upon which all-round success is built. God has a great agenda for them that love Him, which eyes have not seen (pace setting accomplishments), ears have not heard (ear tingling exploits), nor has it entered into the heart of any man, because it's bigger than any dream that any man can conceive.

Success in life has been wrongly defined, even in the Church; and because it lacks a true foundation, it always culminates in frustration. Until this platform of love is established, the struggle continues. Whereas there are many worshippers, there are very few true lovers of God. God's genuine lovers have proved to be the greatest

world changers all through Bible history.

Love is God's dominant nature. God is not faith, vision or power; God is love (1 Jn. 4:16). He that dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him; and you and God form an eternal unbeatable team in the contests of life. We will see generational successes built on this platform; and at the end of the day you will be left to make your choice on which side of the line to belong.

There is nothing new under the sun. There is nothing in scriptures that has not already been proved in the lives of men and women in Bible history. That is why the Bible says for you to stand

in the way and see and ask for the old paths, where is the good way wherein our fathers trod, and walk in them, and you'll find rest for your souls (Jer. 6:16). Only those who understand mathematical examples don't sweat working a problem. But when you want to start from the problem to the example, you will struggle. You must first understand the example before attempting to solve the problem. That way, you will walk through the problems as if they do not exist. The Bible says, "*And be ye not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience obtained the promises*" (Heb. 6:12). The love of God at work in your life is the true foundation for

fulfilling destiny in a grand style.

What Is Love? How does the Bible define love?

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

- 1 John 5:3

The biblical definition of the love of God is keeping His commandments with delight. The Bible also tells us more about love in John 14:21:

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

God’s love is defined by the quality of your obedience to His

commandments. The Bible says *"let us therefore not love in words, but in truth and in deed"* (1 Jn. 3:18). God's love is not in word, but in deed and in truth. But many in the Church today draw near to God only with their mouths; their hearts are far from Him (Isa. 29:13). True God-lovers are wise, and always have something to show for it.

What is love? God's love is a giving love. The proof of love is in giving. That is why God so loved the world, He gave us His Son (Jn. 3:16). If you so love God, you'll so give to prove that you so love (2 Cor. 8:7-8). How dwells the love of God in you if your brother is destitute of his daily needs and you only pray over him,

casting out the spirit of hunger, but you don't give him what he needs, especially when it's in your power to do so (Jms. 2:15-16)? Giving proves the sincerity of your love. God's love is a giving love, not a taking love. Giving is what results in receiving, but giving must come first.

The love of God is always flowing out to meet the needs of the needy and in the building of God's kingdom here on earth. God's love is not a collecting love, but a distributing love. No wonder the Bible says Solomon loved the Lord, and the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; a thousand burnt offerings did the king sacrifice upon the altar unto the Lord (1 Kgs. 3:3-4).

We also must understand that the love of God is a choice we make; it's not a gift we receive. Jesus asked Peter, *"Lovest thou me more than these?"* and he replied, *"Lord, You know that I love You"* (Jn. 21:15-17). Before departing, Joshua made it very clear to the children of Israel that they had a choice to make.

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

- Joshua 24:15

Love is a choice you make, and that choice is what defines your ultimate in the journey of life. Unfortunately, this is where many have problems. The Bible expressly commands us not to love the world and the things in it (1 Jn. 2:15). But many today have exchanged heaven for their passion for the things of the world without any feelings or remorse. Many in the Church now engage in an unholy competition with the world – "We must get it by all means." The love of God has been thrown to the blues because they want to make it by themselves. You know that is an uphill task, because, "*Without me you can do nothing,*" you'll struggle forever.

Except the Lord builds the house, they labour in vain that build it; and by strength shall no man prevail. Favour is not to the men of skill, so your skill is not a merit in getting to where you are going.

Many are running without God, and that's why they are goofing around. The unholy crave for the things of the world today has reduced many in the Church below the level of the world, because the love of the world and the love of God do not go together; one must give way for the other. You cannot serve two masters; you will have to embrace one and disdain the other. Even if I were still where I used to be twenty-four years ago, my

passion and affection for God will not drop one bit. This is because I am not running after Him for what He will do for me or give to me, but for who He is. And because He never changes, my position has kept changing for the better ever since!

There are too many bread and butter people in the Church today, and they keep chasing after it, disappointment upon disappointment. Those who came after Jesus for bread and butter left disappointed. "Master, all men seek thee," they said to Him. But He replied, "I know why you are seeking for me - for bread. No bread today." They left disappointed (Jn. 6:22-69). Every bread and butter

Christian gets disappointed time and again, because it's not the way up.

Let us now see some examples from scriptures of those who loved God and the heights they attained as a result.

Abraham

Abraham's relationship with God was that of instant, delightful obedience. "*Get out of thy father's house*" - "*and so Abraham departed…*"; "*Circumcise all male born in your house*" - "*and Abraham took a stone…*" There was no research carried out first to prove whether it was safe to do so or not. He cut everybody open, with blood gushing. "*Take your son, your only son, Isaac…*" Abraham

took Isaac and they took off early the next morning, without telling Sarah where they were going or what they were going to do. That was when God said, "*Now I know that thou feareth me, and by myself have I sworn that in blessing I will bless you.*"

That's where we all need to get to. We need to get to the point where God swears a blessing on us. When this happens, you will enjoy success without limits in all areas of life. More than twenty years ago, the Lord said to me, "My son David, even if you don't want to be rich, it's too late." He had made a demand on me, and I joyfully, celebrating delivered the demand, and He said that to me on my way home.

The love of God made Abraham; and James 2:23 said he became the friend of God. In Genesis 18:17, God said, "*Will I do a thing and not tell Abraham my friend? Abraham is my friend, I must confide in him.*" Abraham became a friend of God on the platform of love; and the Bible said Abraham was old and stricken in age, and the Lord had blessed him in everything (Gen. 24:1). No wonder he could say to the king of Sodom, "*I will not take a thread from you, lest you say, 'I made Abraham rich.'*" The love of God made Abraham. It will make anybody, any day and at any time.

Joseph

Joseph was sold into slavery out of

envy, and he became a slave in the house of Potiphar. In spite of this, the Bible says in Genesis 39:2, "*And the Lord was with Joseph…*" Even as a slave, Joseph was a prosperous man in the house of his master the Egyptian. All that belonged to Potiphar was under Joseph's care. Verse nine reveals what made Joseph prosper:

…How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

Joseph prospered even in slavery because his life was ruled by God's commandment. His love for God made him refuse to commit the sin of fornication with his boss's wife. Even when he was cast into prison, God was still with him. God's presence with him

made the difference in his life. Joseph made a choice to walk in the fear of God. He was in love with God, so he could not be lost. The love of God brought him out and made him the ruler of the people and a succourer of the destiny of his haters.

Job

Job was the greatest of all the men in the then developed world (Job 1:1-3). When he came under Satan's attack and his wife advised him to curse God and die, Job rebuked her, saying, "Why do you speak as one of those foolish women? God and I are one. I have no where else to go; I will still hold on to my integrity of divine connectivity" (Job 2:9-10). In spite of the calamities

that befell him, Job held jealously unto his covenant of divine connectivity because of his love for God. He said, *"Even though he slays me, yet will I trust in him. All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change comes"* (Job 13:15; 14:14). Songs of Solomon 8:6 tells us that love is as strong as death.

Job's love kept him going in the day of his trouble, until it brought him to the days of his triumph. The latter end of Job was far greater than the first. No matter the setbacks you may have suffered, if only you can maintain the tempo of your love for God, your future will be far brighter than you ever can imagine. The love for God made

the greatest man in the then developed world; therefore, love is the platform for building a prosperous and fulfilling future.

David

David was a man after God's own heart. His heart panted after God (1 Sam. 13:14; Ps. 42:1). No wonder the Bible records this testimony about him in Acts 13:22, "*I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.*" God did not find David because he was a man who will sing every song he can find, but because he was a man who will "*do* all my good pleasure." Biblical love is not a singing love, but an acting love.

When God was being assaulted by Goliath, David couldn't bear it. He was restless. "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine to talk nonsense against the armies of the Lord God of Israel? I would rather die than watch this continue." His brothers said, "We know your pride", but he said, "Oh, I wish you knew what's at work in me; it's not pride, it's love that is moving me." Whereas men thought he was proud, God saw love in action and decided to back him up. David took his life in his hand and headed for Goliath, from where he also ascended the throne. All by being driven by the love of God!

You can't have a heart for God and not make a mark in the world. This is

the old path where our forefathers trod that gave them their generational place in history. Twelve years ago, Israel celebrated the 3,000th year of David as king; because he was a man after God's own heart.

Solomon

The first thing said about Solomon in 1 Kings 3:3 was that Solomon loved the Lord. His love for God landed him as being wiser than all men (1 Kgs. 4:29-34). All the kings of the earth came to hear Solomon's wisdom. His greatness was indescribable, such that when Jesus Christ the Creator came, He compared His greatness with that of Solomon – "a greater than Solomon is here." And that began from the

foundation of "*and Solomon loved the Lord.*" He became the greatest of all kings of the earth.

Daniel

The love of God was what drove Daniel to the heights he attained. Together with his three other brethren, he purposed in his heart not to defile himself with the king's rich food. He couldn't stop praying, despite the decree that prohibited anyone from praying to any other god other than the one set up by king Nebuchadnezzar. They cast him into the den of lions to die, but God never deserts His lovers. Daniel came out alive the following day, causing the king to decree that anyone who would not serve Daniel's

God should be put to death!

Paul

Paul said, "*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us"* (Rom. 8:35-39). Every genuine lover of God ends up a world changer and a conqueror. That is why Paul the Apostle is still preaching today, two thousand years after his death. On many altars around the world every Sunday, you hear people say, "Paul said…, Paul said…" Paul is still speaking today because of love.

Uzziah

There is the story of a young king, Uzziah, who came to the throne at the age of sixteen. The Bible says of him, *"And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper"* (2 Chron. 26:5). As a result, we are told that God helped him against the Philistines that rose up against him. He was mightily helped by the Lord such that he invented great weapons of war. His fame spread abroad all the nations of the earth as a result of God's help. As long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper. That means loving God is not something you do today and withdraw

tomorrow; it’s a thing you keep at.

I’d like you to receive this baptism of love that will keep you burning for God the remaining days of your life. You don’t lose anything loving God; rather, you gain everything loving Him. Eyes have not seen, ears have not heard, it has not entered into the heart of any man the things that God has prepared for them that love him. Every genuine lover of God ends up as a pace setter and trail blazer in his generation.

I have said time and again that you may read all the books I’ve written and cram all the scriptures, but until you discover my heartbeat for God, you don’t know my secret. My secret is not just in those principles, but in the

power that makes them work. So, I'd like you to graduate from being a mere worshipper of God to a lover; from a member to a lover. The love of God does not make a loser; it only makes a winner. The love of God makes a star and guarantees sustainable success. The Bible says love never fails. The love of God immunes a believer to every kind of failure.

Chapter 3

The Power of Dedication

God won't tell you what is convenient; He will tell you what is required, and when you do that which is required, you are sure to get what is desired. Dedication is one of God's requirements for pleasing Him and getting to the top that you desire.

Dedication to your course on earth is a must in order to succeed in life. Whereas receiving a vision from God is the seed for exploit, your dedication to the pursuit of that vision is what plants the seed. No one can succeed in life and ministry without a vision

driving him; but without dedication to that vision, success is a mirage as well.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

- John 12:24

What Jesus means in the above scripture is, “I am on a mission; but My mission without dedication will make it an impossible one.” Dedication is what gives value to your vision. “*Except*” means there is no way out other than this way. The quality of your dedication first to God, and then to your calling or assignment is what will determine the magnitude of your impact.

Inside the seed lies the tree, and on the tree are found fruits, and inside the fruits are more seeds; replanting the seeds equals more trees and fruits, and the planting of those seeds equals much more trees, bearing much more fruits and producing much more seeds, until a forest arises from the one seed.

The Bible says we are trees of righteousness, the plantings of the Lord, that He might be glorified (Isa. 61:3). So, when we catch a vision (seed) and plant it through our dedication to its pursuit, a tree is born. On that tree will grow fruits inside which are seeds. When we then replant that seed, it will bring forth more trees and the trees will bring forth more

fruits and seeds, which when replanted keeps the circle going, and before you know it, you have generated a forest that cannot be ignored. You cannot estimate the potential of a seed until it is planted; and no seed can be planted on behalf of another.

Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.

They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;

To shew that the LORD is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

- Psalm 92:13-15

Your plantedness (dedication to

your course on earth) is what determines the level of your fruitfulness. *"Except"* means your impact and exploits in life will be limited until that principle is put to work. Except a corn of wheat falls to the ground and dies, and under the earth is heat and moisture that messes you up and breaks you (your pride is broken and every carnality in you is shattered), the treasure in you will not come forth. That's why until you pass the test of dedication, your pursuit in life has no future.

The Bible says, *"It came to pass after this thing that the Lord did test Abraham."* God will always test people before He positions them. The test of

dedication (to God and to your vision, no matter the rate at which it is developing) is a fundamental test we must all pass in the pursuit of our vision. When the Lord called me into ministry, it was not popular to go into full-time ministry. The popular thing then was to do it part-time and watch how it went. I went to share my vision with an elderly person in ministry, a respectable person, who said to me, in testing me, “God has not called you.” I immediately replied, “God has called me.” He adjusted his seat and said to me, “I said God has not called you to go into full-time ministry.” I had gone to see him with my wife. We both left, and I said, “God, should I pretend not

to have heard You, see that I don't succeed in any other thing I do." I burnt the bridge, to either swim with Christ or sink with Him.

When your life becomes a seed unto God, your destiny will be supernaturally fruitful, and your assignment full of impact. Until your life becomes a seed, your struggles will continue. But when you plant the seed, the result can only be likened to what the Bible says about the kingdom of God being like a man who showed a seed in his ground and goes to sleep, and the seed grows on its own, first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear, and he knows not how (Mk. 4:27-29). Dedication is the end of

your struggle for impact in life! When you are dedicated to whatever assignment you are called to, the earth will bring forth fruits of its own accord. Your dedication today is what determines your tomorrow.

Affection

Affection is at the root of dedication. That was why Jesus asked Peter, *"Lovest thou me more than these?" "Lord, you know I love you,"* he replied. Jesus asked Peter the same question thrice before putting him in charge of the assignment while He was away. It means that what is or can be committed to you is determined by the quality of your affection and dedication to Him. No matter how hard you pray

over a seed, until it is planted in the soil, when will it ever become a fruit? Intercession is of no value without dedication. Except a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it abides alone; intercession and supplication not withstanding, it abides alone. But if it dies, it will bring forth much fruits.

The future of every seed begins with it being planted. Even God commanded this in Genesis 1:29:

And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

Every tree bears fruit that carry

seeds in itself. And the Psalmist said we shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruits in its season. That means when we are planted, we don't miss bearing our fruits in our season. "*He knows not how, but the earth bringeth forth of its own, first the blade, then the ear, and then the full corn in the ear.*" We are fruit-yielding trees, whose seeds are in itself. So, the seed to bring every vision we receive from God to pass is in us. Your dedication to God and His mission in your hand is what guarantees unlimited exploit. With dedication that seemingly ordinary vision can grow to become a thick forest.

Dedication is your access to the hundred fold dimension of results. Peter said to Jesus, "*Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?*" (Matt. 19:27). Jesus replied him, "*And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life*" (Matt. 19:29). This is repeated verbatim in Mark 10:28-30 and Luke 18:28-30. How much you are willing to leave is what determines how successful or how much impact you will have in life. Dedication enables you to maximally deliver your

mandate, and to fulfill your purpose here on earth. You require total abandonment, which is what I call dedication.

Too many are having fun with their lives. But an unplanted seed will die where it is kept, as it cannot reproduce itself until it goes into the ground. Likewise, my life and your life cannot be any better until it's genuinely planted. Paul the Apostle said, "*For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*" He also said, "*I count all things as dung, for the excellency of the knowledge of God in Christ Jesus*" (Phil. 1:21; 3:7-8). The "If I perish I perish" company are the ones that flourish the most. So it is time to decide what your tomorrow

will be by an oath of dedication today.

The mustard seed is said to be the least of all seeds on the earth; but when it is sown, it grows to become a mighty tree where the birds of the air come to make their lodgings in. Therefore, no matter how little your vision may seem today, your dedication to its pursuit will transform it. Many years ago, I said in our little church then that the time was coming when people we go to meet in America would be applying to come to where we are. We had less than thirty worshippers then. I said this because I knew what will bring it to pass: my unwavering commitment to the Caller and my dedication to the calling. My prayer for you is to make

that wise choice for dedication now.

Dedication born of affection (not result) is what culminates in His manifestations in your life. So, don't crave manifestations, but crave affection, and dedicate yourself to Him because you love Him, and then He will begin to do in your life what He wants to do. Jesus said in John 14:21, *"He that keeps my commandment is he that loves me; and he that loves me, my Father and I will love him and will manifest ourselves to him."* Affection plus dedication will always provoke God's manifestation.

Love is stronger than death (SOS 8:6). I once met a young man, whose dedication to his spouse born out of his

love and affection for her healed her of H.I.V. Intending couples in our church must undergo medical checks before they can be married. This couple had done their test, and the lady was tested positive for H.I.V. One night, as I was driving around our campus, at about 2 a.m., I met the young man praying on the road. He knelt right there on the road, so I had to stop to ask him what the matter was, and he said, “Sir, I still want to marry her because I love her.” I was amazed that he still wanted to marry the lady in spite of the test result. But since we have seen amazing transformations and testimonies of God’s healing power, I said to him, “I decree that change! See me on Friday

with your testimony." The lady was healed! That is the power of dedication. Love is indeed stronger than death!

There are people who are not following God because of what He will give them, but because they just love Him. I have said to God many times, "Whether You give me anything or not, You will still be my God. You clothe me, You don't clothe me, You are my God. Even if You say there is no more heaven, I still follow You; wherever You go, we'll go together." May that love that engenders on dying dedication erupt in you soul today, launching you into a new realm of divine manifestations, in the precious name of Jesus Christ!

A Choice To Make

Dedication is not a gift, but a choice you must make. The planting of your seed is not a gift; it is a choice you made. You determine within yourself that the seed is good for food and for planting as well, but then you make a choice on what to do with it. That's why Joshua told Israel to choose who they wanted to serve – God or the heathen gods (Jos. 24:15).

When you are dedicated to your assignment, you will always be willing to obey and do whatever God tells you. With dedication, you are not having fun with your assignment; rather, you sit down with it day-in-day-out, working it out. Until you arrive at the

point of dedication, you will not be free from frustrations. Dedication is a choice you make, which stems from your love for God. It is what qualifies you for pace-setting, trail-blazing, mind-bugging exploits which eye have not seen, nor ear heard, neither has it entered into the heart of any man the things that God has prepared for them that love Him.

There are three forces that rule destiny: the force of faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love. Love is greater than faith because though faith will provoke divine manifestations, love will bring God down in person. The Bible says he that dwells in love dwells in God and God

in him. God will manifest Himself in response to your faith, but you'll become a manifestation when you are soaked with the love of God. You dwell in God and God dwells in you, making you a wonder.

Think of the seed (your vision) and see whether you are thoroughly planted. If you are truly planted, you will soon become truly fruitful, no matter how it may look today. Unfortunately, today's generation is more concerned about results than about the root. So, the result comes for a while and then suddenly it dries up. But remember, vision is the seed and dedication is the act of planting the seed for the purpose of reproduction,

expansion and exploits.

Chapter 4

Wisdom for Building a Successful Home

The wisdom of God is the principal raw material for building an enviable family life. God's wisdom that we engage in building our homes and families is what guarantees its strength and future. The Bible says in Proverbs 24:3-4:

Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established:

And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious

and pleasant riches.

So, for your home to be filled with pleasure and life, what you need to employ is the wisdom of God. The Bible tells us in Psalm 127:1, "*Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.*" God is in other words saying to us, "Engage My wisdom in building your home, and no devil can break it."

Marriage is instituted for honourable living; it is designed to bestow honour on God's children. No wonder the Bible says, "*Marriage is honourable in all*" (Heb. 13:4). Marriage is also designed by God for better living.

Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.

For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone?

And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

- Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Marriage is not designed for better and for worse, but only for better living. It is also designed for fruitfulness, for He blessed them and

said to them, "*Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth.*" To enjoy the good in marriage, however, we must be ready to apply God's wisdom. The stability and continuity of our homes can only be established on the sure foundation of the Word and wisdom of God. That is the way of insuring it from being overturned by the devil.

The next question I expect from you is: "What must I do to experience all the wonderful things packaged in God's marriage plan?"

A great marriage is not a product of luck, but a product of walking in the light of scriptures. "Oh, what a great family!" you exclaim in admiration. It is simply a product of great obedience.

When you exempt yourself from the demands of scriptures, you have sold off your future, no matter who you are. Let’s now consider what it takes to build an enviable family life.

The Sure Foundation

Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Husbands, love your wives, even as

Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

- Ephesians 5:21-26

Verse 22 tells the wives to be subject to their own husbands in all things. That means your education and exposure notwithstanding, you are to be subject to your husbands. Then the husbands are told in verse 25 to love their wives just as Christ loves the Church and gave Himself for her. How did Christ love the Church? While we were yet sinners, He died for us. That means no matter how your wife is, her behaviour or misbehaviour, you are to

love her. The Church was in a very bad state when Christ died for her. The Bible then goes on to say, "*That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word*," not by the beating of the fist. Husbands are to speak loving and soothing words, words that build, not words that break to their wives.

That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it,

even as the Lord the church:

For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

- Ephesians 5:27-33

Verse 33 smartly summarizes all that I'm saying – "*let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she*

reverence her husband.” This is the marriage equilibrium; this is what every home should be built on. If love doesn’t match reverence in the home, the marriage building is bound to collapse.

The heavier responsibility for building a successful home lies with the husband. Verses 22-24 address the wives, whereas verses 25-33 address the husbands. The responsibility that builds the home rests on the man of the home in a 3:8 ratio. Whenever a vehicle is involved in an accident, you challenge the driver of the car (husbands), not the passengers (wives). As men, you are the one to be first questioned if anything goes wrong n

the home. *"Let every man so love"* is where the key lies, so the "*wife can so reverence her husband"*. When you truly submit, you will be truly loved, and when you so love your wife, she will end up truly submitting to you, because no one ever rejects true love. It is a two-way responsibility, which when fully understood will solve every marital problem.

No vehicle can be successfully driven by two people at the same time. Can you imagine people taking turns to drive and changing seats while the vehicle is still in motion? That is an accident about to happen. When you don't allow the leader of the home to lead, a crash is inevitable. You should

rather pray that the leader continues to lead aright, and God will answer your prayer of faith.

True faith is sharing responsibility with God in the light of scriptures to create the future you desire. There is what you must do for God to move on your behalf. Let's not pretend; the peace in your family is your peace. You will never find a husband in a troubled home who will claim to be happy. Love and reverence is God's sure foundation for a great family. It is where to stand to create the enviable future you desire. So, don't wait for the other party; you play your part, and that will be enough to compel your spouse to fall in line with you.

Learn to Forgive: Every time God forgives, He forgets. Likewise, it is not love documenting all the errors of your wife, only for the purpose of calling a family meeting where it will be raised and read out. The Bible says, *"Let every man so love his wife as himself."* One of the virtues of love is forgiveness. Charity (love) forgives all things (1 Cor. 13:4-7). God's love is a forgiving love. You must be willing to forgive present, past and future offences. This is the love of Christ. God's love is ever fresh and ever burning, and that's the kind of love He said we should have in our homes.

Give: What is love from the biblical perspective? *"For God so*

loved the world, He gave…" God's love is a giving love. The Bible says, *"But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel"* (1 Tim 5:8). Every husband has a covenant obligation to provide for his own house, especially for the people of his own household. The sincerity of our love as husbands is proved by our giving. This obligation must be fulfilled all the time.

Block the cracks: First Peter 3:7 says:

Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the

weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

That means any cracks allowed in your family leads to a spiritual set b a c k . If you want continuous breakthroughs as a family, therefore, you must be willing to pay the price for peace and joy in your home. That is the way not to hinder your prayers, for helps from above not to be stopped. You negatively affect the destinies of your children when you give room to the devil to penetrate your family life, and this can be very costly. This is because the things your children see you do positively or negatively impacts upon them.

There is nothing God ever demands of you and me that is stronger than what we can do. Let’s tap into grace to be able to align with the demands of scriptures in creating our desired future.

Chapter 5

Wisdom For Continuous Financial Success

Talking about wisdom, Proverbs 8:18 say:

Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness.

There is a link between wisdom and riches. The Only Wise God is also the wealthiest (Ps. 27:1; 50:10-12). God gave Solomon wisdom, and the Bible records that he was wealthier than all men in his time. This goes to prove that wisdom is the custodian of wealth.

Riches is one of the amazing products that God's wisdom gives birth

to in our lives. Note that the Bible describes it as durable riches; that is, riches that multiplies and is lasting. There are true riches and fake riches. True riches come by the application of the truth of God's Word. And when you know what it takes to access it, it continues to grow and multiply in your hand.

What are the principles of truth that guarantees access to true riches? How do we apply ourselves to these truths, so we can enjoy a continuous flow of true riches? One of my mentors once said to me, "The reason many people crash is because they soon forget what things took them up. When they stop doing those things that took them up,

they start coming down.”

Liberality

Our access to wealth has its foundation in liberality.

The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

- Proverbs 11:25

At the root of true wealth is liberality. God said to Abraham, “I am going to bless you, and you shall be a blessing” (Gen. 12:2-3). God’s blessings upon Abraham was for a purpose: so he can be a blessing to his world. So, you are not blessed to be a possessor; you are blessed to be a distributor (Prov. 11:24; 1 Tim. 6:17-19).

We live in a consumer culture, where everybody reaches out for whatever they can grab. But that is not God's design for man. It is a known fact that animals live to eat. But when we live to eat, we are not any better than the beast in the field. We shouldn't live to eat, but eat to live. Eating shouldn't be the reason why we are alive. We should live to be a blessing to others, to add value to others. Abraham became very rich in cattle, in silver and in gold (Gen. 13:2). Genesis 24:1 tells us, "*And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.*" Why? We saw him reaching out to be a blessing to others, running

after visitors to entertain them. That is the wisdom for lasting riches.

Your destiny is not a function of how much you have accumulated, as this does not enhance your destiny. It is how much you have been able to distribute with discretion that guarantees your distinctive walk with God. As a business owner, start thinking of how to ensure that everyone that is unable to go to school has some aid from your company. Have a budget of liberality, and see how God's prosperity will begin to grow in your life. The wisdom for achieving lasting prosperity is liberality.

Diligence

The second principle for lasting

wealth is diligence. The wisdom of God says in Proverbs 13:11:

Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase.

Do you want lasting wealth? Then put your hands to work, as labour is a requirement for lasting wealth. After God called Abraham out of his father house and land, the Bible records that Abraham became very rich in cattle. How did he achieve this? By the wisdom of diligent work of course! Even at the age of 75, Abraham was not excused from labour; he had to work by rearing cattle to attract wealth.

Many of us are planning on how to leave a lot of money for our children so

they won’t need to work. I want you to know that if they don’t work, they will not have worth, as work is what gives one worth in life. Abraham was the wealthiest in his time, yet Isaac needed to work in order to secure his own worth and destiny. So he farmed and dug wells of water. Jacob also laboured to the point where he could make the declaration, “I have everything.” The Bible says:

Seest thou a man is diligent in his business, he shall stand before kinds, he shall not stand before mean men.

- Proverbs 22:29

Liberality, yes; but without diligence, your access to true riches will be impeded. In fact, there will so

be nothing to give out if you do not add diligence to your liberality. Only wealth gotten by labour increases; wealth gotten by vanity diminishes.

Prudence

God's wisdom demands prudence from you if your goal is lasting wealth. The story of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15:11-32 is a good example of what I mean here. The Bible tells us that after he received his share of his inheritance from his father he left home.

And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

And when he had spent all, there

arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

- Luke 15:13-16

The Prodigal son began to be in want because he was not prudent with what he had. Living a loose life, spending without discretion, unguarded wastages, living a budgetary-free life and spending on impulse are all things that drain one’s wealth. Remember that a little leak can sink a great ship. If you don’t want your destiny to sink, then

block the leakages.

He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

- Proverbs 18:9

This means that the slothful and the waster both have a common heritage - poverty. Show me a waster today, and I will prophesy that that's a beggar you are looking at tomorrow. The wasting culture we see today is a modern day thing, because our parents were able to build houses with the little they had then. They were workers and enemies of waste, so they were able to send their children to school from peasant farming. There are many today that earn enormous sums but don't have any plot of land anywhere. They have

wasted their wealth on riotous living! Many people's telephone bill is more than their house rent and budget for food. Prudence is a requirement for durable riches. You must declare total war against waste, so you can enjoy lasting wealth.

Faithfulness

Another word for faithfulness is financial integrity.

A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

- Proverbs 28:20

It is not enough to be a good manager of God's resources; you must also be faithful in handling it. You must be faithful in your financial

dealings. Many Christians cannot be trusted with money today; but it takes walking in the truth to qualify for a crown. Jeremiah 17:11 reveals the folly of an unfaithful life.

As the partridge sitteth on eggs, and hatcheth them not; so he that getteth riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool.

Every crooked means to get riches exposes your foolishness at the end of the day. Financial integrity is one way to enjoy God's durable riches. Job was a man of integrity (Job 2:9); no wonder he became the wealthiest man in his time. All the attacks he suffered could not erode his destiny; he still bounced

back, because integrity shall preserve your going. As a spare part seller, don't call second-hand parts new; you won't go far with it. As a motor mechanic, don't say you have changed a part that you did not, so you can get more money. You may live under that car forever. God's wisdom demands that you be straight!

I don't believe in what is called the "Nigerian factor." It's the human factor; it is you. Is every Nigerian a crook or thief? No! It's the human factor, the real you, that is manifesting. Lack of integrity cuts down you days; it's a killer disease: "*He shall leave it in the midst of his days.*" Haven't you heard that the curse of the Lord is in

the house of the thief (Zech. 5:3-4)? Be ye not partakers of the unfruitful works of the darkness, but rather expose them. It takes financial integrity to preserve your destiny.

Chapter 6

Wisdom For Healthy Living

With the wisdom of God at work in your life, you can win the war against sickness and disease. “How?” you may ask. That is what I want to show you in this chapter.

I often say that what you don’t want you don’t watch; and what you don’t resist has the right to prevail. What you don’t confront you cannot conquer. Therefore, to win the war against sickness and diseases and live a healthy life, you must fight the good fight of faith. Don’t stand there, watching whatever is contrary to your heritage in

Christ. Rather, confront and fight it. The Bible tells us in 1 Timothy 6:12 to fight the good fight of faith, so we can lay hold on our inheritance made available by redemption. That means, “Don’t wait for it to drop on your laps; fight your way through to it, because the enemy is contesting your rights.”

A contention is required in every contest. Even though God had given the children of Israel Canaan for an inheritance, He still commanded them to contend for the land.

Rise ye up, take your journey, and pass over the river Arnon: behold, I have given into thine hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land: begin to possess it, and contend

with him in battle.

- Deuteronomy 2:24

God, as it were, was saying here, “I have given you, but he is going to resist it. If you must have it, then begin to possess it as you contend with him in battle. It is yours, but the opposition is contesting it, and you have to contend with him in battle.” In the same way, God has given every believer a heritage of good and sound health. But you must contend to take full delivery of it. My Bible says:

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.

- Matthew 11:12

Your right to healthy living will be violently resisted, and you will need to counter that resistance by a counter violence. Many in the kingdom today who have an understanding of this truth and have put it to work no longer have anything to do with sickness and diseases. One of my most revered mentors once testified that he did not know what a headache felt like for over 63 years! That couldn't have been by chance; it must be God at work in his life, and that same God is your God if you are born again. You too will soon join that group, in Jesus' name, Amen!

The Cause of Sickness

Sickness was not in existence in the Garden of Eden; neither was there any

provision made for man's healing. All the herbs and shrubs in the garden were for food, not for drugs, because God had no intention for man to be a victim of sickness or disease. Sickness is a by-product of the corruption that man became a victim of subsequently. When man became Satan's subject, who is called the wicked, sickness became one of the issues that man will have to contend with. At the root of every sickness and disease is Satan. The Bible tells us:

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

- Acts 10:38

Jesus went about healing all them that were oppressed of the devil. He re-affirmed that sickness was of the devil when He healed the woman with the spirit of infirmity for eighteen years in Luke 13:11-16. He said, *"And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?"*

Sickness and disease is also a product of the curse of the law; that is, the curses that follow the breaking of the law. Deuteronomy 28:15-66 gives a list of the various diseases. But praise God that Jesus' redemption was total, as it includes our redemption from the

curses of the law (Gal. 3:13-14). Jesus dealt a final blow the curse of the law by hanging on the tree on our behalf. Therefore, sickness and diseases has no legal right to harass you any longer.

The Cure

Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?

- Jeremiah 8:22

Our great Physician is God Almighty: *"I am the LORD that healeth thee"* (Ex. 15:26). When Jesus came, He presented Himself as the Physician also. Remember He said "Whosoever has seen Me has seen the Father." So the Father is the Master

Physician, and Jesus is the Great Physician, as He came to duplicate the ministry of the Father to mankind.

"But what is the balm in Gilead?" you ask. The answer is in Proverbs 4:20-22:

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

This is God's recipe for your total health – "*Attend to My Words, give ear to My sayings; let them not depart from your eyes, keep them in the midst of your heart, for they shall be life to*

them that find it, and health to all their flesh." God's Word affects every organ in your body; it will renew your body system and cause it to function perfectly. That's why the Bible said, *"He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions"* (Ps. 107:20). God's Word is the master balm for the healing of mankind. In Luke 5:17, Jesus was teaching and the power of God was present to heal them. God's Word was emitting His power for the healing of mankind.

Healing comes via God's Word because it is a carrier of God's life (2 Pet. 1:4). When you receive His Word you imbibe His nature, which is

sickness-free. When God's healing Word is discovered and received, it conveys God's nature, which is immune to sickness, and you become a partaker of His divine nature, which guarantees automatic escape from the corruption that is corrupting the bodies of other men in the world. God's Word received divinely inoculates you against every form of sickness and disease.

Healing also takes place via God's Word because His Word is Spirit and life (Jn. 6:63). When you receive God's Word, His anointing and healing virtue flows into your body to take care of every poison in your system. Note that when Peter was speaking in the house

of Cornelius, the Holy Ghost fell on the people as they listened to him. And when that woman touched the hem of Jesus' garment, her faith captured the word, and virtue flowed to take care of the twelve-year problem.

The entrance of His Word gives light. So, when you receive His Word, light comes into your system, and that light is able to dispel every work of darkness in your body (Ps. 119:130; Jn. 1:1-5). "*In him was life; and the life was the light of men.*

And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." Every activity of the devil is carried out through the medium of darkness, and when light comes,

darkness must give way. These are the three-dimensional channels through which God's Word brings your healing.

Your Access to Cure

The Word is the cure, and faith is your access to the cure. "*Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD been revealed?*" (Isa. 53:1). Until you believe the report of His redemptive hand, the arm of the Lord cannot be revealed in your life. When two blind men came to Jesus to ask Him to heal them in Matthew 9:27-29, Jesus asked them, "*Believeth thou that I the Son of man, I am able to do this*?" They said yes, and He told them, "*According to your faith be it unto you*," and they were healed

immediately.

We see faith on display again in the story of the healing of the woman with the issue of blood (Lk. 8:43-48). It's the prayer of faith that heals, not just prayer (Jms. 5:14-15). You must ask in faith to be healed also (Jms. 1:5-6). Faith is what makes prayer effective. You must believe to receive from God.

How then do you take delivery of sound health or healing?

The Violence of Faith

Whereas faith is your master access, the violence of faith is your guarantee for a delivery. "*The kingdom of God suffereth violence, and the violent taketh it by force.*" They brought a paralytic man to Jesus in

Mark 2:3-12, but there was no way to get to where Jesus was. The man violently took delivery of his healing by being lowered to Jesus through the roof! The Bible says when Jesus saw their faith (not their efforts), He said, *"Son, thy sins be forgiven thee."* Do you also remember the story of blind Bartimaeus in Mark 10:46-52? He cried out to Jesus, and the people shouted him down. But he cried yet louder, and the same people that told him to be quiet said to him, "*He calleth thee.*" Casting away his coat, Bartimaeus rose and ran to Jesus. The violence of faith!

I'll like you to engage the roof-tearing faith for your healing today; to

say to that affliction, “Enough is enough!” You can’t be a tither and still remain sick, for He said, “*I will rebuke the devourers for your sake.”* So, say to yourself, “Enough is enough! This cancer must return back to sender today; enough is enough! This HIV/AIDS must end here now; enough is enough! The price has been fully paid for my body to glorify God.”

Holy anger is an asset I would like you to engage right now in order to take delivery of your inheritance of sound health. I had a fever in 1979, and one of my uncles out of compassion said to me, “Now that you have prayed and you are not healed, why don’t you get down to the hospital?” Anger rose

in me, and I shouted at him, saying, “Who told you I am sick? Who told you I am not well?” And as I was shouting at him, the healing virtue began flowing. I began to sweat, and that was how I became healed of the fever forever. My Bible tells me that I am of much more value than the sparrows (Lk. 12:6-8). If any sparrow is healthy today, then you should first enjoy total health before it. So, get angry! Deuteronomy 7:15 says the Lord will take sickness away from you and lay it upon them that hate you.

Holy anger is a spiritual asset in taking delivery of your heritage of a healthy life. You are too gentle for the victory you are looking for. Someone

came to me in 2004. He met me in our office lobby, and immediately started shouting at me, saying, “I don’t have HIV, I can’t have HIV!” as though I gave it to him. I laid my hands on him and said, “You don’t have HIV, the price is paid.” He went straight from that place back to the hospital to have a test done, and he tested HIV negative! You need the violence of faith to possess your possession.

Note that every physical brokenness has its root in the brokenness of the heart, and it takes joy to sustain your health (Prov. 18:14; 17:22). So, wisdom demands that you be joyful and steer away from anything that will cause brokenness of the spirit.

Until you are depressed, you cannot be oppressed, as depression is the gateway to oppression. That's why the Bible says in Nehemiah 8:10, "…*neither be ye sorry for yourselves; for the joy of the LORD shall be your strength.*"

When Jesus came, He came to heal the broken-hearted and to set the captives free. That is because until your broken heart is healed, your body cannot be healthy. You need to be free from depression; it is the cheapest way for the devil to buffet your body. On the other hand, the joy of the Lord is the secret of supernatural strength and health. If you want to enjoy divine health, that is what it takes, and wisdom demands that you give it all it

takes.

Chapter 7

Wisdom for Living a Fruitful Life

God's wisdom is the answer to all of man's woes, because it shows you the right way to go and the right things to do. You can't go the right way and do the right things and not win. That is why He said, "If you will diligently hearken to my wisdom and observe to do what I say you should do, I the LORD will set you up on high, above all nations of the earth; and you shall be blessed in your body, in the city and outside the city. Your store house shall be blessed also, as well as your basket, your cattle and your kine. You shall be

the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not beneath. You shall lend always, and you shall not borrow" (Deut. 28:1-14).

You can't go the right way and not win, and you can't do the right things and still fail. I located God's wisdom for financial fruitfulness twenty-five years ago, and I'm still enjoying it till now. I have never had to beg any man, living or dead, for anything, and I have never received anything for my survival or for the triumph of the ministry from any kind of government or authority. Why? God's wisdom is the answer to man's woes. If you do what He tells you to do, you are bound to live a super abundant life! God's

Word is God's wisdom in print. Luke 11:49 says, "*Therefore also said the wisdom of God…*"

The Word of God

In Luke chapter 8, Jesus gave the parable of the sower. While giving the interpretation of the parable, He said, "*The seed is the word of God.*" That means, the miracle seed for whatever increase you desire, no matter in what area, is the Word of God. The Bible says in Genesis 8:22:

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Increase only answers to a seed sown. Unfortunately, we have reduced

seedtime and harvest to mean money only. While that is inclusive, it is incomplete. The real seed that opens up every destiny for fruitfulness is the seed of the Word of God. Talking about the Word of God in a parable, Solomon said:

My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb which is sweet to thy taste:

So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off.

- Proverbs 24:13-14

That is to say: "…So shall the knowledge of wisdom (the Word of God) be unto thy soul; and when you

have found that one missing thing, the one that addresses what you are looking for, then there shall be a response from heaven, and your expectation shall be established." There must always be a finding first before there can be a victory.

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

- Proverbs 4:20-22

A finding always precedes a response from heaven. For example, in order to be physically fruitful, you

must find the Word of God that guarantees your fruitfulness. It is your finding and receiving that Word that sets the pace for your physical fruitfulness, just as until a seed is sown the harvest is not in view.

God's Word is the miracle seed that generates the miracles that we desire. In 1985, a young and vibrant Catholic boy picked up my first book, "*The Miracle Seed*", to read. By a force of the Spirit, he went and sat on a rock under a tree. After reading chapter one, he gave his life to Christ by himself, sitting on that rock. He went on to chapter two and then to chapter three, where he saw the place of the Holy Spirit in assessing the Word of life. He

was immediately baptized in the Holy Ghost without praying, and started speaking in tongues! Today, he runs a ministry with a network of other churches. *"The seed is the Word of God!"*

The seed is the Word of God that gives birth to the miracle that we desire. *"It shall be life to them that find it."* Uterus or no uterus, the Word will create life. Ovary or no ovary, the Word will generate life; because *"while the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest shall not cease."* And going back to Deuteronomy 28:1, *"If you will diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD your God* (which is the Word of God) *to observe and to do all*

that He commands you…blessed shall be the fruit of your body." That is, inside that Word is power to make your body fruitful.

The Bible says, "*I wept much because there was no one found worthy to open the book."* Until the Book of Life is opened, life remains a burden, and weeping continues without end. It is the opening of the Book to you that opens your destiny. So, as the Book is opened and the seed of life is being sown, may your heart be open to receive it. And as you receive it, may you see the blessing that comes along with it, in the name of Jesus Christ.

The Trinity of Triumph

There are three forces that will

always guarantee your triumph in every battle that you are faced with in life. I call them The Trinity of Triumph – Faith, hope and love. Just like the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit have the reign of the universe, faith, hope and love hold the reign of victory on the earth. These three forces will also ensure that you live a very fruitful and fulfilling life.

Faith

Faith is a spiritual medium through which we engage the power of God for the delivery of our inheritance. How? Faith will convert the Word to power, and that power will deliver your victory. It will always guarantee victory when it comes by a revelation.

But our problem is that we have placed more faith in the doctor's verdict than in the Word of God. So we shiver and shake over whatever the doctor says. In many minds, the doctor's words are superior to the Word of God; and the report you believe is what determines the result you obtain. "*Who hath believed our report? Let him expect to see the hand of God*" (Isa. 53:1).

The scriptures in Luke chapter one reveals two vital ways through which God converts barrenness to fruitfulness. Talking to Mary about her conception, the angel said to her:

…The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that

holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

- Luke 1:35

That is, the power of God is what will make it happen. Though inconceivable to her, Mary went on to reply:

…Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word…

- Luke 1:38

"*Be it unto me according to thy word.*" We see the power of the Highest and the Word of God on display here. These are the forces that go into operation to accomplish the impossible. And verse 45 said:

And blessed is she that believed:

for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord.

When you receive the Word of the Lord and believe it, it is then converted to power that has the ability to accomplish the impossible. If you read that chapter again from verse 30, you will see the Word come, and then faith is released into the Word, which then converts it into power that gets the job done. No wonder Romans 1:16 says, "*I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth.*" The Word of God is converted to power for everyone that believes it. God's Word plus faith plus power equals

victory.

What is written has no value without faith. It is faith that gives value to what is written. Abraham had to believe in what God had said before it could produce for him. When he did, the God who quickens the dead caused Isaac to come out from two seemingly dead people! In like manner, it does not matter what is said to be dead in your body: low sperm count, impotency, infertility, fibroid, blocked tubes, missing ovaries or uterus, name it, the God who quickens the dead, and calls those things that be not as though they were, will step in now and change your story, if only you will believe!

Hope

Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken…

- Romans 4:18

The Bible says, "*And hope maketh not ashamed.*" It takes a living hope to be free from every form of shame. The Bible says, "*And whatever things are written aforetime, they are written for our admonition, that we through the comfort of the scriptures might have hope*" (Rom. 15:4). So whatever you see God do in scriptures is to help get your hope alive; and He said, "I am the Lord, I change not."

Do you know how Job got his restoration? Hope! Job said, "*All the*

days of my appointed time will I wait until my change comes" (Job 14:14). Job knew that his change was coming. Though everything had gone, and he was left alone in ashes, he said, "But I can see changes coming. There is a hope for a tree if it be cut down, that it will sprout again. Through the scent of water, it will bud, and bring forth boughs like a plant" (Job 14:7-9). Hope was burning high inside Job, and his hope gave value to his faith.

"*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for…"* That means when there is no hope, faith is impotent. Faith is the wife of hope, and what they give birth to is called a miracle. What negative reports do is to paralyze and

destroy your hope, so it can steal your victory.

Love

When Job's wife said he should curse God and die, he said, "Me to curse God? Never! I am still in love with Him. Why are you speaking as one of those foolish women?" And then in Job 13:15, he said, "*Even though He slay me, yet will I trust in him.*" That is love! He remained in love with the Father. His hope was burning high, his faith was intact, and so he triumphed. Wherever these three forces abide – faith, hope and love, victory is non-negotiable.

The Bible says "*faith which worketh by love*" (Gal. 5:6). Love is the

platform upon which faith and hope function. So love is the catalyst of faith; it helps to accelerate the rate of the reaction towards the desired end product. What we have is faith married to hope, and love making their union to work. If you want to be truly fruitful, I charge you to refuse to be depressed, but remain intoxicated with the love of God. Get excited because you are in good hands. You can't be in a better hand than in the hands of the Most High, as no one can handle what God cannot handle.

The trinity of triumph: faith in what is written, hope drawn from what God has spoken all through the pages of scriptures and the testimonies you hear,

and then your love remaining intact, no matter the circumstances or the mockers around you. That is how winners win and overcomers overcome. That is what makes the difference at all times.

These three forces were at work in Abraham's life; no wonder he was called the friend of God! Abraham believed God and His Word, kept his hope alive and remained absolutely in love with Him. Even after having Isaac, in response to his love for God, he was willing to sacrifice his only begotten son. Abraham so loved the Lord that he was willing to give Isaac that he had waited 25 years for, just as God so loved the world that He gave His only

begotten Son. There is no greater expression of love than that! That is what gave Abraham his place.

No matter what you are believing God for, if you place your faith in what God has spoken concerning that issue, your hope is kept alive and your love is in place, then no devil can stop your triumph. God visited Job and gave unto him twice as much as he had before; and Job's dignity was gallantly restored. Faith, hope and love were what gave Job his place and restored his destiny. The trinity of triumph will restore yours too. My Bible says, "*Eye hath not seen, nor ears heard, it has not entered into the heart of any man, what God hath prepared for them that*

love him” (1 Cor. 2:9).

Pillar 7

Success

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Pillar 7

Success

Introduction

Success can be defined as the satisfactory realisation of a given goal or set objective. Success is not a destination, but the satisfactory accomplishment of a given purpose. Success in life is a life-long adventure, as no one actually graduates from the school of success. The amazing thing about success is that we all, whether white or black, educated or illiterate, free or bond, have equal opportunities to either succeed or fail in life. But why do we all not succeed?

True and lasting success is rooted in God; and His Word, the Bible, is the compass that points out the way. God gives success and the grace to enjoy it as well. That is why a truly successful person is not only successful in the works of his hand, but also in his family, health, mentality, etc. True success guarantees all-round rest and security; it makes rich and adds no sorrow (Prov. 10:22).

Revelation is the foundation for lasting success. Every true revelation (heavenly information) from God's Word on success establishes a revolution, which ignites faith in you for accomplishment. Success is a covenant. When you discover the

secrets of the covenant of success and do them, nothing will be strong enough to stop you from succeeding. Remember I said earlier that faith is an expression of confidence in God's Word. That is, faith is doing God's Word. So, when you discover the secrets of success and do them, what you receive is the product – success!

As you read some of my teachings on the subject of success, I pray you will discover whatever missing link that is standing in the way of you achieving lasting success from them, and mend it.

Here is a list of some books I have written on this subject. They will bless you:

Success Systems

Success Strategies

Born to Win

Making Maximum Impact

Maximised Destiny

Success Buttons

Exploring The Secrets of Success

Success in Marriage

All You Need to Have All Your Needs Met

Towards Excellence In Life and Ministry

Exploits In Ministry

Chapter 1

What Is Success?

I began to examine a very interesting truth lately. Everybody knows what he or she is looking for. The problem, however, is that most people do not know how to get at it. Ask any man in his right mind, and he will tell you that he wants to become successful. The problem is that most people do not know what success looks like, so they never find it. Rather, they are busy all over town passing by the thing they are looking for and not knowing that that is what they are looking for. But a reasonable search

begins with a detailed description. Because of the wrong descriptions of success, many have been searching for it in futility.

It Is Not Possessions

Most people mistake success for possessions. They think one is successful when one has houses, lands, cars, etc. They say, “Oh, that man is a big success!” Then a thief says to himself, “If that is success, I am going to get it.” So he arms himself with a gun without training on how to shoot, and on the first night he is climbing somebody’s wall, they give it to him in the forehead and he “succeeds” into hell, all because of a misconception of what true success is!

Possession is not a correct description of success. Jesus said a man's life does not consist in the abundance of things he possesses (Lk. 12:15). *"O man of God, flee these things…"* (1 Tim. 6:10-11). God cannot be telling you to flee possessions if it is actually a correct description of true success. God who teaches us how to make our way prosperous and have good success cannot be telling us to run away from success. All He is saying is that having money is not an accurate description of success, as many moneybags in town are abject failures, having failed in their families, careers and communities. They are bywords and proverbs, yet they have plenty

money.

Some people also think success is defined by the position one holds. Until recently, for instance, coup planning and execution was the order of the day in the armed forces of some African nations, because the coup planners mistook position for success.

What then is the accurate description of true success? Let us hear it from Jesus' mouth. There was a strife among His disciples about which of them would be the greatest, leading Jesus to give them an accurate description of true success. He said:

…The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are

called benefactors.

But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.

For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

- Luke 22:25-27

Jesus said to them, “I am the most accomplished personality on earth, and this is the secret of my exalted accomplishment: I am among you as one that serves.” No wonder we are told in scriptures, “*Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name*”

(Phil. 2:9).

So what is the description of true success? It is accomplished stewardship towards God and men, serving God's purpose and promoting mankind's welfare here on earth. Examples of successful people in the Bible include Moses and Nehemiah. Though he was living in the comfort of Pharaoh's palace, Moses could not ignore the affliction of his brethren. He would leave the comfort of the palace and would linger in the camp, and one day he saw an Egyptian afflict and buffet a Jew, and he could not stand it. He had a burning passion for the liberty of his people. And God said, "I have found someone to lead My people out

at last." It was his passion for his people that qualified him to be the leader of the people.

Nehemiah was also living in the comfort of the palace, but had an unusual passion for the restoration of the colour and beauty of Israel. And we were told that the good hand of God was upon Nehemiah. When you have a good heart towards God's purpose, His good hand will be upon your life. So, true success expresses itself in true service to God's plan and the needs of mankind. When that is established on your inside, your destiny is established with God.

The Law of Discovery

Success is the result of doing

something; it is the result of doing the right thing by choice. It is not about sitting around and bemoaning your situation, but is about waking up from your slumber and doing the right thing. Success implies satisfactory progress. The Bible in Proverbs 4:18 reveal God's success agenda for His people:

But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

Success is not merely about getting results, but about getting results in successions, one result coming after the other, because God has programmed you and me for success without limits. We are destined to go from one level of success to another

and one level of exploit to another. No wonder Psalm 92:14 tells us that, *"They shall still bring forth fruit in their old age."*

Note, however, that success anchors on certain fundamental laws. There are laws to discover and engage in order to succeed. Here is the fundamental law of success:

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

- Joshua 1:8

Certain laws must first be in place

before you can enjoy success. Another law of success is found in Deuteronomy 28:1. There is a command to obey before you can be set up above all nations of the earth. In order to succeed, therefore, you must first know what these commandments are and apply yourself to them, before God's integrity is committed to confer success upon you. This is because no one succeeds by accident.

The attainment of success begins with a discovery. "*You shall observe to do all that is written therein…*" You must first be able to find what it is to be done. A wise man once said the best place to begin is at the beginning. In the school of success, discovery is the

foundation. If you will diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord your God and observe to do all that He commands you, He will set you up on high above all nations of the earth. If you want to make your way prosperous, look out for the book (the Bible), find out what is written inside and then apply yourself to it, and you will make your way prosperous and have good success.

From scriptures we understand that we only excel by light. "*Arise, shine, for your light has come and the hand of the Lord is stretched forth upon you*" (Isa. 60:1). We rise by light not by strength or struggles, for by strength shall no man prevail. So the first law in

the school of success is the law of discovery of who you are, what you are worth and what you can do; a discovery of your mission on earth. That is why every success story is traceable to certain discoveries. A discovery of the fundamental laws of success and the application of the same is the only way to taste the grapes of success.

What you do, how you think, what you say and what you do are all informed by the discoveries you have made. Discovery is the foundation of every enduring, lasting and growing success. Our financial success as a family and ministry is as a result of the discovery I made on finance. I went on a three-day journey with Kenneth

Copeland's book, *"The Laws of Prosperity"*, Gloria Copeland's book, *"God's Will is Prosperity"* and my Bible. I said to God, "Show me the secret of kingdom prosperity." And on the third day the heavens opened, and I stood up in my shorts and screamed, "I can never be poor!" That singular discovery broke the yoke of poverty mentality, which is responsible for the poverty in Africa.

The people that speak into your life determine what becomes of you. The Bible says, *"And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet"* (Ezek. 2:2). If you want to be successful, then listen to successful people. Read books of

successful people and listen to their teachings, as no one can give you what he doesn't have. Every success story stems from making discoveries from the right sources. In the academic world, the quality of your references is what determines the quality of your paper. Therefore, businessmen should look out for materials of successful Christian businessmen who have made outstanding marks in their various pursuits.

The discoveries you make and engage are what make men discover you. Paul the apostle was a man of discoveries; he couldn't be separated from his books and parchments (2 Tim. 4:13). Daniel was another man of

discoveries. He is quoted as saying, *"I Daniel understood by books."* His understanding through books made for his outstanding result even in the land of captivity.

Check every true success story; it is traceable to fundamental discoveries. The more discoveries you make, the higher you fly. The law of discovery is the number one law in the school of success.

Discover Your Purpose

Another discovery you must make is a discovery of purpose. Success is not a function of position or possessions, but a function of fulfillment in life. You can never be fulfilled until you locate and begin to

pursue God's purpose for your life. Many stars have refused to rise because they have applied themselves to wrong purposes. They are busy doing what they are not created for, so they look like dummies.

We will all never be pastors, no matter how much Bible one reads. Neither will we all be lawyers, no matter how intelligent one may be. You need a well-defined purpose to fly high in life. When Jesus came, He said:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set

at liberty them that are bruised,

To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

– Luke 4:18-19

That was His purpose defined, and He kept to it all through the days of His earthly ministry. I would like to introduce you to three avenues through which you could locate God's purpose for your life.

Calling

This is a divine revelation that defines God's purpose for your life. In this case, God exercises His right to assign anyone (via revelation) to any assignment of His choice. It has nothing to do with your abilities but God's abilities at work in you, because

"Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it" (1 Thess. 5:24). Every divine calling naturally enjoys divine backing.

Gifting

This is when you discover the natural endowments inherent in you, the productive abilities that flow out of you naturally.

For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods…to every man according to his several ability…

- Matthew 25:14-15

There is no ungifted being on the earth. Everyone is divinely endowed for a profitable life. In case you have

not heard a voice and have not seen a vision, look inward and identify your gifting. There is enough inside you to occupy you till He comes.

Gifts and callings are equally potent; either one can get you to your throne in life (Rom. 11:29).

Choices

…I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

- Deuteronomy 30:19

God respects your choice. Not everyone must have a divine calling, and there are some who may not be able to point to any outstanding gift in their lives, but can still be established

in a purposeful, fulfilling life based on their choice.

God made you a creature of choice, and as long as your choice is not contrary to His covenant provisions for you, you have His backing. The power of your choice in locating God's purpose for your life covers areas like academics, business, professional practices, but not ministry which is given strictly by divine callings.

So, whatever you have discovered, either by calling, gifting or your choice, nurture it and do all you can to develop yourself in it, because the brightest stars in the kingdom are those who know where they are going and give it all it takes to get there.

Chapter 2

Information — The Highway to Success

Success speaks louder than words! It commands greater attention than the greatest oration anybody can make. Success is self-inviting and self-attractive. No wonder the prophecy in Zechariah 8:23, where ten men will hold on to the skirt of a Jew, saying, *"We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you."*

God's agenda for the end-time Church is to engage the supernatural lifting of His people as the force of attraction to the dying world. He wants

to make you a resounding success! God has programmed to reap the end-time harvest through the outstanding, rewarding success of His people. That is, the enthronement of the saints will be a weapon in the hand of God in reaping the end-time harvest. They will look at you and say, “I am following you,” because God would have so decorated your life within a short time of following Him.

We are not smarter than the past generations; we are only a people born in due season. Success must be the garment of the saints, thereby attracting the dying world to their Saviour and bringing them to the city of refuge. But there is what we must do

to attain to this height.

Information Brings Transformation

Information is a very great asset in the world of success. That is why the end-time Church will be given such an unusual access into heavenly information for earthly manifestations. They will have unusual insights; they will see what the vultures' eyes have not seen.

Information is power! You must be informed in order to be transformed. Therefore, you must crave for information, as you cannot get any higher than you are informed. When God was giving the formula for everlasting success, He said:

This book of the law shall not

depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

— Joshua 1:8

That means you will draw from it and operate by it; then will you make your way prosperous and have good success. This is because every outstanding transformation and resounding success is traceable to discovered secrets. Certain information is handed over to you, and when it is properly traded, it brings you your desired end - success.

Richard Branson who owns Virgin

Airlines is one of the wealthiest Britons alive today. How did he get there? Richard Branson dropped out of school at the age of 19 and started business as a newspaper vendor. He encountered a vital information from a little economics book titled, *"Small Is Beautiful"*. That book provided certain vital information, which became his trade secret. He built his entire business empire on that principle — each department becoming autonomous, and the heads of each department becoming a co-president with him. The information he contacted from that little book paved the way for his great heights in business.

The whole world is trading

information. The role of information in the world of success cannot be quantified. But unfortunately, there are some in business today who do not know anything about their businesses except for personal ideas, most of which are not working. Men have transformed their lives and destinies by laying hold on information and applying themselves to it. We can't go any further than we are informed, as it is an idea that begets another idea; a thought gives birth to an act, which in turn gives birth to results. Thus the value you place on information will determine the level of transformation you will enjoy.

To be a resounding success on

earth, you need a working knowledge of your assignment, no matter what it is. If you are in business, strive to have a good working knowledge of that business, so your work won't be wearisome (Eccl. 10:15). You need to know what obtains in that business, career or vocation, you need to know what makes it work, and apply yourself to them. In fact, you have to go in search of information; don't just seat there waiting for it to walk to you. If need be, buy it! That's why the Bible admonishes us to buy the truth, and sell it not.

Every candidate in an examination has an idea; but only those with facts pass the exam. You don't pass an exam

with ideas, only with facts. Likewise, you need the facts of whatever you are engaged in to succeed in it, as it takes facts to become fat. What facts do is to make you stand out among your equals. If you locate the facts of life, you will be a high-flyer in life. So, locate the facts of that assignment and put them to work! That's the highway to success!

Lazy men believe in luck, but men of worth believe in facts. A wise man once said, "Success is a matter of luck, ask any failure." Rather than go for facts, the lazy man thinks people arrived at success by luck. There is no accidental success, as no accident is a success. I love how the Living Bible

renders Proverbs 24:3-4:

Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts.

Facts are what make one profit wonderfully, so go for information!

Reading

The most effective avenue for information acquisition is reading. God places emphasis on the printed page, that's why He commanded us to, *"Study to show thyself approved"* (2 Tim. 2:15). In fact, God is the first writer. He wrote the Ten Commandments on graven stone before giving it to Moses. That shows the divine endorsement of the printed page

as the most effective avenue for information acquisition.

Paul told Timothy to give attention to reading, doctrine, and exhortation. He said, "*Meditate upon these things that thy profiting may appear to all*" (1 Tim. 4:13, 15). So reading makes living successful. Most of the greatest minds in today's world emerged out of a studious life. The quality of the information that finds its way into your mind determines the quality of your mind. Anthony Robbins has grown to become a consultant to big corporations such as IBM, the US Army, AT&T, etc. by reading. By virtue of information, the capacity of his mind has been enormously

enlarged.

We must never mistake schooling for education. Education is largely a function of information, whereas schooling is a career. So it is possible to spend two years in school and still not be educated. Great minds are not born; they are developed. Every great mind is personally developed. There is no one born a success. Success is a conscious process that individuals subscribe to.

Benjamin Franklin had only two years of formal education before he branched off to become a printing apprentice. He spent his feeding money to buy books, and thus read himself to great heights. Someone who taught

himself how to read later successfully founded a university, built a specialist hospital, and became one of America's foremost philosophers. He did a study on lightning and single-handedly negotiated the French government's support for the America Revolution, which enabled America gain independence from Britain.

Michael Faraday was also an apprentice in a book binding centre. Though uneducated, he taught himself to read. He spent his money to attend scientific seminars, and grew to become an inventor. Nothing dignifies life like light, nothing enhances dignity like information. So settle down to consciously acquire relevant

information for your life.

Your dream for transformation is rooted in information. There are many people who went to school, earned degrees, but can't even talk sense. Such fellows only had a schooling career; they don't have any information that is relevant to life. Many have left school many years ago, but have not read a single book since they left. If a book binding apprentice can emerge a great inventor in the scientific world, and a printing apprentice can emerge a foremost philosopher in America, and they are still being celebrated today, then you have a hope.

Information makes the difference in the school of success. Every reader

is a successful leader, and every successful leader is an avid reader. To be a leader means to be ahead, to see ahead, to see before, and to stay above the others. I think one of the reasons for the leadership problem in Africa today is because a lot of undeveloped minds are in charge. Most of the people in charge are mostly uninformed - military administrators that have never read any book on administration sit over a council meeting to direct what they know nothing about and Presidents who have no reference to any government of any nation, even the government of their own nations. As a result, we have largely undeveloped people embarking on the task of

developing nations. Can you imagine somebody who failed the School Certificate Examination trying to teach others how to pass it?

Information must be consciously acquired. I once said every vision rides on the wheels of information. No matter how authentic your vision, your level of information determines your speed and overall accomplishment. Every purpose is brought into effect by information. Iron sharpens iron. What reading does is to enable you rub your small mind with greater minds, so as to sharpen it and make it sound. I have never seen a generation that has so many books pouring out from the Church like ours. We are in the age of

success, so let's invest; let's spend and be spent to acquire information, because it will determine the colour of our destiny.

Chapter 3
Covenant Keys To Success

Success is the heritage of the last days' Church, as every child of God is set apart for success. From the day you step into the kingdom of life, success becomes your inheritance. But the success of every man in the kingdom is a function of the light in which he walks. The last days is the era of the Church; but she will not take charge by rigorous prayers or exhaustive fasting,

but by the divine secrets that shall be delivered to her.

I will be showing you some of these keys in this chapter.

Favour

Success is a direct function of divine favour. Thank God for hard work, but if it were equal to greatness, a lot of men would have been great today. What hard work could not accomplish for the children of Israel in their 430 years of enslavement in the land of Egypt, favour did in one day when they turned on this covenant key. *"Lord, by thy favour thou hast made my mountain to stand strong..."* (Ps. 30:7). Favour, and not your strength, is what makes you stand out in life.

Though success is a product of favour, enjoying favour places a demand on those who desire it, as you do not wait for God's favour; you work it out. How then do you provoke God's favour?

Be Kingdom-Minded

Psalm 102:13-14 reveals that favouring God's kingdom was what triggered the favour they enjoyed. God will only favour you when what matters to Him matters to you. When you are passionate about God and His kingdom, then you are set for success.

No matter how hard you preach, if you do not love God's kingdom and favour the dust thereof, you will never succeed. Devotion, dedication and

yieldedness to God and His kingdom are the ways to secure God's favour. I am not in any trade, neither have I ever invested a dime in any business; yet I will never beg till my time on earth is over, because I favour His kingdom. I enjoy His special favour that forbids that I lack any good thing. Moreover, when I have favour with God, I am bound to have favour with men (Prov. 16:7).

When you sow a seed of favour, you are set for a harvest of favour, so do not scorn kingdom projects. Rather, develop a new and positive attitude to the kingdom of God. Consider it a privilege to be involved in whatever affects the kingdom in whatever way

you can, as God is watching from heaven to reward His diligent seekers with success.

It Is Entreated

And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift; even the rich among the people shall entreat thy favour.

- Psalm 45:12

Favour can also be entreated; and a gift is the instrument with which you entreat it. The Bible says, *"A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men"* (Prov. 18:16). You can entreat God's favour with your gifts. I gave God something one day, and He said to me, "My son David, even if you do not want to be rich, it is too late." The summary of my story

today is that I am highly favoured. So be determined to retain God's favour by constantly provoking it. Whenever you see toughness and hardship around you, organise your way out of it by giving a favour-provoking seed as the people did in Psalm 126.

Favour is not to be prayed or fasted for, it is to be entreated; and God enlarges your room in proportion to your gift. Favour is the pathway to fortune and success. It does not happen by chance or luck; it is taking conscious steps towards a conscious end.

Another way of entreating favour is by showing favour to others.

Blessed are the merciful: for they

shall obtain mercy.

- Matthew 5:7

In other words, “Blessed are they that give favour, for they shall obtain favour in return.” The level of favour you enjoy is a function of the level to which you favour others. In the book of Esther, Mordecai got wind of a plan to kill king Ahasuerus and leaked it, thereby sparing the king’s life. A time came when Mordecai was also to be killed, but his earlier seed of favour will not allow it. Instead, the king could not sleep for his sake that night, and the man who was to kill him was killed in his place. No wonder Jesus said in Luke 6:36, “*Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is*

merciful.”

The law of seedtime and harvest controls the issue of favour. Do you want to walk in favour? Then be a man of favour.

Be Grateful

And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you.

If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the Lord of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart.

- Malachi 2:1-2

Ingratitude is a character crisis that stops the flow of favour. Watch every

ungrateful man, he hardly smells success. David came into favour with God because of His lifestyle of gratitude: *"I slept and I awoke because the Lord sustained me." "Bless the Lord O my soul, and forget not all his benefits…"* Others would probably not see anything in what he was saying, but his gratitude caused him to walk in favour before God.

A man of gratitude will perpetually walk in favour. But this is a missing ingredient in the life of many Christians. A businessman who is not grateful for the one thousand naira sales he made today may not make such profits tomorrow. Do you want to walk in favour perpetually? Then

become a man of gratitude. Let gratitude become a way of life with you. Teach your children to be grateful. Ingratitude has cost many their great destinies, so learn to show gratitude to both God and man. Show it in words and in deeds also.

Some other covenant keys that lead to true success include:

Goal

Success begins with having a goal; that is, a defined target. That is why successful men are usually referred to as “goal-getters”. You do not get a goal except you set one. Where there is no target, you never hit one. So a life without a goal is sure to suffer frustrations and setbacks. Have you

ever seen a football match without a goal post? The match will end in frustration, as no winner can emerge. The same way, if you start any day without a set target, that day is likely to be wasted, because you are going to lose time and end up frustrated. That is why any successful executive plans his day before he moves out.

But it is not enough to set long-term goals; you also need to have daily goals, because the farthest journey begins with a step. What you are doing today is a pointer to where you are heading tomorrow. Jesus, our perfect example, was a great goal-setter. He said, "*To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into this world, that I*

should bear witness to the truth" (Jn. 18:37). That was His goal, and He achieved it.

Grasping

It is not enough to have a goal; you must have a good grasp of the details involved in achieving that goal. An understanding of the details of your goal enhances the quality of your output. The Bible says, "*Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of the ignorant is hard"* (Prov. 13:15).

A good understanding will not only place you in high demand in your field, but will also grant you speed for accomplishment. Every outstanding result is a product of good

understanding. But you must know that understanding is not a gift. It is a task that you undertake out of a strong desire and desperate search for knowledge. Daniel was a man blessed with the gift of wisdom. Yet he said, *"I Daniel understood by books"* (Dan. 9:2). Therefore, understanding does not come without a search.

Growth

Growth talks about a maturing process; that is, growing into your desires. Your level of maturity is what determines your placement in the race of life, as you do not take command until you have been certified mature enough for the position.

But strong meat belongeth to them

that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

- Hebrews 5:14

It follows that growth is a function of mental maturity. It is having your senses exercised to the level that you have a firm hold of secrets and details which puts you in command. God does not entrust great things into the hands of amateurs. No matter how much you cry, God will not commit something beyond your capacity and maturity into your hands.

Grinding

This is the investment of time, energy and resources into the goals you believe in. No matter how colourful

your goal, it will never be accomplished without a grinding or working process. The setting of a goal, grasping, and growing are all preparations behind the scene, which set the stage for the actual work.

There is dignity in labour, but the talk of the lips only tend to penury (Prov. 14:23). The Bible says, "*The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat*" (Prov. 13:4). Fatness is a function of hard work. No amount of certificates you acquire can substitute for hard work. The world of yesterday celebrated certificates, but today's world celebrates results; and there can be no result without hard

work.

"He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread..." (Prov. 12:11). Your destiny is determined by what you do with your hands, so put them to work. Do not watch life pass you by; you must make it count. There is no substitute for hard work if you want to succeed. If any, the only substitute for hard work is a hard life; so make your choice. No one will hear your story tomorrow without you working hard today.

A Gallup poll in America came up with the statistics that 80 per cent of the children of successful people do not succeed. This is because they are not exposed to the major ingredient that

makes for success - hard work. Everything is done for them, so they are never able to maintain what is left to them. Living without working is like dying without knowing. Be identified with your job or studies, and do it with all your heart. Do not see it as a punishment or burden, for it is the access road to where you are going.

Gaining

Profit is the motivation for hard work. *"In all labour there is profit"* (Prov. 14:23). The benefits of labour are comprehensive, covering material, physical and mental dimensions of life. The founder of the Daewoo industry said, "Hard work enhances creativity. Not only that, it keeps you physically

fit and mentally alert."

However, to retain the profits, you have to embrace change. But what we have is that some welcome change as long as it doesn't cost them anything. But that is impossible! If you must maintain whatever success you have attained, then you must be adaptable to the demands of change. Robert Schuller told the story of a young man in the Middle East, who had studied in Cambridge but lost everything he had during a crisis. He got to the desert one day and said, "There must be water under this ground," and everybody laughed him to scorn. But he went ahead and got some of the war refugees to start digging by hand. They dug until

the ground started getting wet, and they later came across portable water. That was the beginning of irrigation farming in the Middle East. Somebody was set for a change and got it.

If you want a different result, then change your approach. If you want to maintain success, then you must be adaptable to change.

Challenges

There is no freeway in the pursuit of any goal. You must expect road-blocks and get ready for challenges, which can come in the form of mockery, oppositions and persecutions. If you must reach your goal, you must understand that such challenges exist and be prepared to confront them.

In 1992, God said to me, “I am going to bless you and cause the work to blossom, but persecution will come to authenticate the blessing.” That is why I always respond to oppositions with a smile. Have you not heard? *“There is no man who has left house, mother, wife, children or land for my sake and the gospel, who shall not have hundredfold of each one with persecution”* (Mk. 10:29-30). If you do not expect those challenges, they may drown you when they come. You may give in to discouragement, which may make you lose or miss your attainment. Therefore, be determined to keep going no matter what comes your way. The Bible says, “*Offences must come, but*

woe unto him, by who it come" (Lk.17:1).

May God help you to fulfill all that is required of you to attain success, so that your life will not be a waste, in Jesus' name, Amen!

Chapter 4

Divine Guidance Is A Must!

Success is a choice to which you must be truly committed before it can be actualised. It is also a choice that operates on laws which you must obey consistently, excitedly and tirelessly. One of the fundamental laws of success is the law of divine guidance. That was how Abraham's journey to success began in Genesis 12:1-3:

Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

The Lord said to Abraham, “I’m moving you forward as you follow My guidance. I will show you the land of your unending success.” Speaking about how God led Israel through the wilderness, the Bible says in Deuteronomy 32:10&12, *“He lead him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of His eye…So the Lord alone did lead him...”* The Bible also tells us:

Thus saith the Lord, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

- Isaiah 48:17

In the non-Christian world, hard work is considered the principal asset for success; but it is not true of the Christian faith. Before Peter met Jesus, he had been working hard, but without success. In fact, he had toiled all night and caught nothing. But as soon as he obeyed the voice of divine instruction given by Jesus, he caught so much fish that he had to call on others to help, as his net began to break (Lk. 5:1-7).

Every true and lasting success in

the kingdom is traceable to divine guidance. You cannot afford to keep struggling as a Christian. Hard work alone is no guarantee for true and lasting success. That is why the Psalmist said in Psalm 127:1-2:

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

In your walk with God, you need to be sensitive to divine signals, as it is what will enable you locate from heaven the provisions that will move you on to the next phase in your

business, career, family, relationships, etc. If you study everyone that was divinely lifted in the Bible (Abraham, Moses, David, Paul), you will discover that their lifting by divine guidance was absolutely a personal affair. You need a personal encounter with God; you need to be alone with Him to discover what is required of you. You do not have to wait for a message on the pulpit; rather, wait on the Lord, and He will direct you.

Just as there were fishes in the sea waiting for Peter's net, so also is success waiting for you, if only you understand and appreciate the divine guidance factor for becoming a success. Many business people have

taken some regrettable steps time and again because they were not divinely led. You can’t be led and still lose, as God never leads His people backwards, He leads them forward. He led Israel about until He made him to ride upon the high places of the earth. When God is leading, He leads you higher and higher, not higher and lower.

According to scriptures, there is a land appointed for your success; there is a place where your success is guaranteed. But every dislocation will lead to frustration. Many have thought their success lie in Europe or the United States, and they have gone there looking for it, only to end up being frustrated. They led themselves there;

they were not divinely led. You can't be truly led and not take the lead. God led Abraham, showing him which way to go, and then suddenly Abraham deflected in Genesis 12:10. Because of the famine in the land, he went down into Egypt, where he lost his integrity and was eventually sent packing. When Abraham traced his way back to God, the Bible records that he became rich in cattle, silver and gold (Gen. 13:1-2).

Benefits of Divine Guidance

Whereas the world is guided by scientific facts, feasibility studies, dreams, etc, believers are guided by the finger of God. When you are divinely guided, God goes before you to make the crooked paths straight.

Thus saith the LORD to his anointed…

I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron:

And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

- Isaiah 45:1-3

God also sends His angel to go before you, to keep you in the way and to do warfare against opposing forces in the spirit realm.

Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to

bring thee into the place which I have prepared.

- Exodus 23:20

God commits His angels who excel in strength to guard you until you get to the place of promotion prepared for you. They are equipped to deal with any dragon on your way to the top. That's why the going goes great when God is leading you.

Divine guidance is very important in a Christian's life, because it ensures divine backup. God is committed to ensuring the success of whatever He directs you to do. The Bible says, *"Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it"* (1 Thess. 5:24). God, being the good Shepherd, always goes

ahead of us to silence all opposition and dismantle all obstacles on the way to the top (Jn. 10:4). So when you walk in divine guidance, only the forces that can stop God can stop you from being successful.

Since there are different voices giving instructions (Jn. 10:5), it is important to know how to recognise God's leading.

How To Recognise God's Voice

The Bible admonishes us to "*Prove all things; hold fast that which is good*" (1 Thess. 5:21). There are four unique characteristics of divine guidance. The first is that it is accompanied by **peace** (Ps. 85:8). God will always speak peace. When He

instructs you, there is a deep-seated peace of heart, eliminating all inner turbulence.

Secondly, there is **ease** whenever God directs (Ps. 25:12-13). You operate in a tension-free atmosphere. When God shows you the way to go, you are at ease. Also, when the Lord is leading, you are endued with **strength** (Judg. 6:14). An unusual type of energy comes upon you to move in the way you have been directed.

Finally, the Bible says wherever the Spirit of God is, there is **liberty** (2 Cor. 3:17). There is no feeling of being bound or choked when you are doing what God has directed you to do. Rather, you enjoy spiritual freedom.

Now that you know the benefits of divine guidance and how to recognise God's voice or leading, you also need to know how to be divinely led.

Securing Divine Guidance

The Holy Ghost is the principal agent of divine guidance, and He can only relate with you via your spirit (Rom. 8:16). Therefore, in order to be divinely guided, you must be in the spirit. But the problem with many Christians today is that they are more often in the flesh than in spirit, so they cannot pick the voice of divine guidance. You cannot be in the flesh and expect to hear God. So you have to constantly tune in to your spirit man, to hear the voice of the Spirit of God.

In addition to being in the spirit, you must be joyful to secure divine guidance (Isa. 30:29-31). The voice of the Spirit is a joyful sound, so it takes an equally joyful spirit to hear it. That is why depressed people end up oppressed, because they cannot hear the directives they need to go above their situation. No wonder, Paul, a man of many revelations, kept on emphasizing the need to be in a rejoicing state (Phil. 4:4).

Apart from being joyful, you also need to be still (Ps. 46:10). The voice of God can hardly be picked in a rowdy atmosphere, whether internal or external. Elijah's encounter with God in 1 Kings 19:11-13 is an illustration of

the need for stillness. It takes a still spirit to hear the still, small voice of God.

A fourth requirement for securing divine guidance is through prayer (Ps. 32:6). You can know the details of God's programmes and purpose for your life through prayer. David, a man who was highly lifted by God, often secured divine guidance through prayer, his excellent war record notwithstanding (2 Sam. 5:18-25). At every crossroads, rather than depend on your own understanding, go to God and ask for His way (Jer. 33:3). Note that God said He would *show*, not *give* answers. Most people pray to get; very few pray to see, not knowing that if you

can see what He is showing you and hear what He is saying, you will get what you desire. It is important to note that the purpose of praying for divine guidance is to receive answers from God.

This brings us to the final means of securing divine guidance, which is by being watchful (Hab. 2:2). There are many misguided prayer warriors, who do not know anything about watching. You cannot be talking and hearing at the same time. So, after talking in prayer, you need to stop and watch to receive the required directions.

Divine guidance is what makes the journey to success great, not your expertise or skill, as one wrong step or

move can wreck a whole destiny. You must mind the law of divine guidance if your goal is to be successful, as the anointing is no substitute for His leading. God already had a plan and programme for our lives before we arrived; walking in the centre of His programme for our lives is what makes us the envy of our world. May you never miss your place in God's master plan.

As you put these factors to use, you will no longer miss your steps or invest time, energy or resources in the wrong things and your success will not be denied, in Jesus' name!

Chapter 5

The Place of Opportunity

A wise man is quoted as saying, “Success is a matter of luck, ask any failure.” That is to say, every failure sees and believes that success is a matter of luck. But that is not the truth. Success is a matter of light!

There are two words that are almost similar: one is opportune, and the other is fortune. When somebody is fortunate, I believe it is because he is opportuned; that is, he is smart enough to grab a productive idea and put it to work. He was smart enough to know what would work and how to make it

work.

What is Opportunity?

Opportunity is a discovered avenue for profiting. It is locating what will work and making it work. It is knowing what will produce. I consider opportunity as the mother of all fortunes, and to lack it is to be unfortunate. A wise man once said, “Opportunity is missed by many because it is dressed in overalls that look like work.” Many don’t like the word “Work”. They think opportunity is merely a chance to enjoy what they don’t earn.

Taking advantage of situations by the gifts of God in your life is another definition of opportunity. Seeing the

situation around and knowing what abilities are inherent in you, you then look for where those things will sell and put them to use. Nigeria is a country blessed with great reserve for great exploits. In fact, an Indian once said, “Nigeria is so blessed that you can literally pick Naira on the road; but Nigerians are so blind that they cannot see it.” May God open your eyes!

Stop seeking short cuts to success. You can make the most of where you are by deciding to be productive and not look for cheap money! Nothing stays with you that you have not earned (Prov. 13:11). There is no untalented Christian; there is no ungifted child of God. And every gift of the Spirit is for

the profiting of the saints. You can engage the gifts of God in you to locate opportunities that abound around you and make the most of them.

Some time ago there was kerosene and gas scarcity in town, and one of my brothers located firewood in nearby villages, brought them to town and made great gains in six weeks by selling them to people. That is opportunity! Our success or prosperity is not tied to a particular area of endeavour. Psalm 1:3 says, *"Whatsoever he doeth, it shall prosper..."* It is not tied to any particular field, but to whatsoever thing he can make anything out of. That's why God's Word says, "*Whatsoever*

your hand findeth to do, do it with thy might...” (Eccl. 9:10). Proverbs 14:23 also says, *“In all labour there is profit...”* So, do not be imprisoned by your discipline or be tied down by your certificates and qualifications. Do not give in to frustration because of your education. We live in a land of great fortunes, and so there is no excuse for misfortune. We live in a land of great opportunities; to be unfortunate is a shame.

What is the need for education? It is to broaden your understanding, helping you locate the abounding opportunities around you that will cause your star to shine. It exposes you to a wider range of choices. People

with limited education do not know perhaps beyond what they are told by people around them. But the educated have volumes here and there from where they can gain and understand things. Utilize your education; don't allow it tie you down in failure.

How To Locate Opportunity

There are three ways of locating the opportunities that abound around you.

By a Search

The Bible says, "*He that seeketh findeth.*" What you do not seek, you will never find. "*Ask, you shall be given, seek you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you*" (Matt. 7:7). It is your responsibility to conduct a search on where the gifts of God in you

can produce good values and results. Conduct a search and be sincere about it. You must do that because opportunity is a man that is ever in great demand; if he does not come to you, go for him.

There is something in you crying out for expression. Look for where and how you can express it and profit by it as well. Opportunity abounds, but people are afraid of the labour it entails. People don't want to work, that's why they claim that there are no opportunities. In the parable of the idle labourers in Matthew 20, Jesus said, *"Go and work."* That means there is something for you to do. You must find it. You don't get from life more than

what you put in it. So, go in search of opportunities.

Create Opportunities

If at the end of your search you cannot locate opportunity, then create one by creative thinking! Tell yourself, “It can be done. I can do something here. If nobody hires me, I will hire myself.”

Creative thinking helps to locate diverse opportunities. You have a God-given ability to create things, because you are an heir of God and joint-heir with Christ. By Christ were all things made. So you too can make things happen, because you have creative capabilities like Christ.

Catch Opportunities

At times, you do not even need a search, as opportunities present themselves. That is, there is no search, there is no effort, there is no rigour, but you just find opportunity waiting for you. A wise man said, “Eyes that look are many, but eyes that see are few.” David saw an opportunity in Goliath. He killed him, and by Goliath’s death David ascended the throne. Joseph saw an opportunity in the cupbearer he met in the prison. After interpreting his dream, Joseph said to him, “*Remember me when you get to the palace.”*

Note that opportunity must be utilized in order to bring profiting. The man by the pool of Bethesda was sitting by the pool of opportunity for

38 years and could not utilize it. Worse still, even when Jesus walked up to him to ask, “Would thou be made whole?” he almost lost the opportunity of being healed by explaining away his situation rather than answering in the affirmative.

Opportunity has been described as a baldheaded man that must be grabbed quickly before it slips by. A wise man said, “Many of us have heard opportunity knocking at our doors. But by the time we unlock the chains, push back the bolts, turn the two locks and shut off the burglary alarm, it was gone.” This is a very apt summary of Songs of Solomon 5:2-8. When opportunity is lost, misfortune sets in.

So, it’s not enough to see and have opportunity; you must rise up swiftly to utilize it before it is gone.

It is time to see the opportunities that pass by daily. May they not slip by you unutilized anymore!

Chapter 6

You Need Endurance

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

- 2 Timothy 2:3-5

The law of endurance is a cardinal law in the journey to success. It is the price you pay to ascend your throne, as everything precious comes out of

pressures. Proverbs 27:21 says, "*As the fining pot for silver, and the furnace for gold; so is a man to his praise.*" How much heat you are willing to endure today determines how high you will fly tomorrow.

The Church is full of earthen vessels, but a few gold and silver ones, because not many people are willing to endure the heat of the furnace and the pressures of the refining pot. But those who take short cuts in life end up having their lives cut short, and those who dodge the heat miss the height. Endurance is the identity of men of prominence. It is a required quality for distinction in life, for unless a man strives lawfully in a race, he cannot

win the prize. It is my prayer that you will receive grace from heaven to give life what it takes, so you can make the most of it. You will not miss it, in Jesus' name!

Pay The Price

For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

- Luke 14:28

Your place in destiny is not free; there is a price to be paid to secure it. Psalm 126:3 says, "*The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.*" But verses 5 and 6 tell us what provoked the mighty acts of God:

They that sow in tears shall reap in

joy.

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

It takes a great price to secure a great destiny. Jesus was born of the Holy Ghost, and was sent down to earth from heaven on a mission. Yet He had to pay the price to secure His place in destiny. Today, He is still the most distinguished man that ever lived. He paid the price for greatness, and the profit is everlasting. The Bible says, *"…Of the increase of His kingdom, there shall be no end."*

In Matthew 20:21-22, the mother of James and John came to Jesus to make

a request:

...Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom.

But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able.

In other words, enthronement does not answer to prayer, but to the payment of the required price. Every tower has a price attached to it. Until you first sit down, count the cost and give it what it takes, your dream of a tower will never be realised. This is because the desires of your heart only

answer to your input in life. If you do not pay the price today, you should not expect to receive anything when the time for giving out prizes comes. Proverbs 27:21 makes it very clear that a man's praise never goes beyond the price he is prepared to pay. Whatever your desire in life is, pay the price today, and it will be delivered into your hands tomorrow.

Sacrifice

Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

-John 12:24

The grace for sacrifice is the path to significance. The reason there are

too many mediocres in the Church is because most people sit down with folded hands, waiting for something to happen. We are co-labourers with God, and until our part is fulfilled, God is not committed to doing His part. For instance, there may be two individuals working in the same organization and earning the same salary. But one has built a house, without stealing, while the other has built his stomach. The first man knows the rule of game, so he regulates and disciplines his taste, sacrificing every luxury in order to have a shelter over his head. But the other man is not willing to sacrifice anything. He eats all and keeps wishing for one day when a building would

drop from the sky with his name written on it. Of course, that day will never come, because the Bible says every house is built by some man (Heb. 3:4).

There must first be a dying, before living can be colourful. Therefore, get ready to give it what it takes to succeed in life, so that you do not end up as a Prodigal Christian. Place value on your time and every covenant resources at your disposal, and invest them appropriately as a man who is in a race and is determined to get the prize. Psalm 126:6 says:

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his

sheaves with him.

Every great season of harvest is preceded by a great season of sacrifice. So, do not expect to reap success until you are prepared to sacrifice whatever will qualify you for the harvest of success. Remember, a man can only reap what he has sown.

Keep At It!

But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!

- Luke 12:50

If you want to make it to the top, the law of endurance must be embraced. And the harder you are on yourself, the higher you will fly in life. Do not give up in the middle of the

race; you must endure to the end in order to win the prize. Some people faint when they are just about to hit their miracle. But the Bible advises us, *"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not"* (Gal. 6:9).

Look at the case of a cocoa farmer and a tomato farmer for instance. In the first three years, the cocoa farmer looks like a miserable man, because he has no harvest to take home. In fact, the tomato farmer who harvests his crops every few months may even begin to mock him. But when the cocoa farmer begins to harvest his crops, he becomes the centre of attraction. Even after his death, his children's children

will continue to enjoy the proceeds from the cocoa farm.

The next phase of your life is waiting, but you can not access it without paying the necessary price. Stay committed to that seemingly little career, and gradually you will begin to compel God's good hand to lift you. Hebrews 12:2 says:

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

If only you can see the colourful future that awaits you, you will never be discouraged. Even Jesus went

through a process to possess His possession. In Luke 12:49, He said, *"I am come to send fire on the earth…"* and in verse 50, He said, "…*How am I straitened till it be accomplished."* That means He was stretched to the full, yet He had to endure to the end. Men who are able to set their world ablaze by their impact are men of endurance. Every man of significance has a story of sacrifice and endurance to tell. There will always be opportunities to turn back if you do not have the grace for endurance. But I see that grace come upon you now, in the name of Jesus!

Success is your portion, and you will get there, in Jesus' mighty name!

Chapter 7

Fundamentals of Success

Most teachings on success, promotion and divine lifting major on what people should do to succeed. However, many are doing all the prescribed things, yet there is no positive change in their status. Why is this so? I discovered the reason is that success or divine lifting is not so much a function of what to do, but a function of what to be.

For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.

But God is the judge: he putteth

down one, and setteth up another.

- Psalm 75:6-7

Many are excellent in their fields of endeavour, yet every opportunity for lifting passes them by because they lack the necessary character to match the position they aspire to. Therefore, what to BE is much more important than what to DO, because what you are is what actually determines what you do.

God enacted the law of divine success in Joshua 1:6-9. A careful look at those verses shows that God spoke to Joshua five times about what to BE, and just twice on what to DO; showing how vital what you are, as opposed to what you do, determines how

successful you are or will be.

The truth is that the future of every seed lies in its nature. The quality of your character is the foundation for how great your future will be. Unfortunately, awareness of this fact is greatly missing in the body of Christ today, so many are struggling with doing, not realising that the fundamental requirements for divine lifting lie in being.

What should you BE to qualify for lasting success?

Be Strong

Be strong and of a good courage…

Only be thou strong and very courageous...

Have not I commanded thee? Be

strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed...

-Joshua 1:6-7, 9

God kept reiterating to Joshua the need to be strong. The strength referred to in this context is not physical strength. It means to be wise as we see in Proverbs 24:5: "*A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.*" The essence of this wisdom in the school of success is to offer divine direction. The Preacher tells us that wisdom is profitable to direct (Eccl. 10:10). When you are wise and divinely directed, a sense of purpose comes upon you, which induces inner strength and makes you unstoppable in your journey to the top.

The latter part of the scripture in Proverbs 24:5 says, *"A man of knowledge increaseth strength."* Knowledge here means to be informed, to be adequately enlightened about your mission. God was telling Joshua to check out everything He told Moses, because such information would help him on his journey to success. Daniel also attests to this truth that strength comes from knowledge (Dan. 11:32).

Be Meek

Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.

- Numbers 12:3

Moses was one of the greatest men that ever lived on the planet earth. His

lifting was not a result of his intelligence or physical strength; it was a result of his meekness. The Bible tells us that God resists the proud (1 Pet. 5:5). Meekness is a must if success is your goal. You require meekness (not religious piety) to see true greatness.

Meekness or humility is not what you do; it is what you are. Be humble, and that will qualify you for divine lifting, which ends in success. Our Lord Jesus Christ, despite the great and mighty works He did, and heavens' open declaration and public confirmation of His position, said, "…*I can of my own self do nothing.*" He never arrogantly took up the glory for

anything He did, but meekly kept on acknowledging God as the Doer. No wonder He was so highly lifted by God (Phil. 2:5-9).

Be Faithful

Jesus gave a parable in Matthew 25, about some servants whose master gave different amounts of talents to trade with while he went away on a journey. When he returned, he called the servants to give account of their activities, and the first one said he had doubled the initial amount given him. His master's glad response was:

…Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into

the joy of thy lord.

- Matthew 25:21

Take note of the double emphasis here on faithfulness. It is a fundamental requirement for success, divine lifting, promotion and increases. No wonder God said in 1 Corinthians 4 : 2 , *“Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”* Here faithfulness is not a suggestion, but a requirement.

Some Christians are going through hard situations today, not because they are not walking in the covenant per se, but because they are not faithful, especially in money matters. I saw a statement about father Abraham in Nehemiah 9:8:

And foundest his heart faithful before thee, and madest a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites...to his seed, and hast performed thy words; for thou art righteous.

Faithfulness was what qualified Abraham for greatness. Again in Galatians 3:8-9, we see how faithfulness provoked divine blessings for him; and by covenant for all of us who follow his example.

Faithfulness is, therefore, a requirement for success.

Be Grateful

To be grateful means to be thankful or appreciative. It is your depth of gratitude that determines your altitude.

David said it is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord (Ps. 92:1). That was one of the secrets of his lifting. In Psalm 116:12, 17, the Psalmist said he would render unto God the sacrifice of thanksgiving. Why did he call it a sacrifice? It is because there are times you give thanks for what you have not yet received. Note that nothing shatters destiny like grumbling. It breaks down your defences and exposes you to the oppression of the wicked one.

God's will for every member of the body of Christ is for us to be thankful in everything. If you have lost anything at all, God is the reason you have not lost everything. Therefore, follow prophet Habakkuk's advice and rejoice

(Hab. 3:17-19). You cannot go down praising God, neither can you remain empty.

These four fundamentals are things you deliberately and consciously choose to be. The choice to succeed is in your hands. Take grace today to make the right choice, and your success will be unending.

Pillar 8

Prosperity

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Pillar 8

Prosperity

Introduction

Prosperity in the kingdom of God is not a promise you claim in prayers or through fasting and confessions; it is a covenant (Gen. 8:22; Deut. 8:18). It answers only to your understanding and practice of the covenant details. Whatever career or business you are involved in is not the sole determinant of your prosperity; the light or revelation under which you are operating is what determines your prosperity.

The Word of God is what creates wealth. The Word seed is what controls all forms of increases in our human

endeavours; and the faith we put in by doing what the Word says is what delivers kingdom prosperity. That is, while the Word of God is the covenant platform for kingdom prosperity, faith is our access into it. No blessing of God can be delivered to you without faith first being in place (Lk. 1:45; Heb. 4:2).

Faith is active; it controls your actions. In Genesis 12, God said to Abraham, "*Get thee out…to a land that I will show you.*" The Bible records Abraham's reaction thus: "*And so Abraham departed…*" Is it any wonder then that the Bible also records in Genesis 13:2: "*And Abraham was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.*"

Prosperity is a product of faith. After discovering the secrets of covenant wealth, it takes faith to put it to work. The following teachings on the subject of prosperity will show you what it takes to enjoy lasting kingdom prosperity.

The listed books below will also greatly boost your insight on the subject of prosperity:

Breaking Financial Hardship

Understanding Financial Prosperity

Financial Prosperity

Covenant Wealth

The Hidden Covenants of Blessings

Chapter 1

The Covenant of Prosperity

He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

- Psalm 105:37

Redemption is your divine insurance against poverty. If you are saved, you are secured in abundance. God is committed to the abundance of His people, as divine provision authenticates redemption. You are redeemed to be provided for, to be supplied for. You are not redeemed to beg; you are redeemed to distribute.

We are in the season of the latter

rain, which is the season of the wondrous acts of God – the season of unimaginable favour and fortune (Joel 2:21-26). No more will poverty be identified with the Church of Jesus Christ. The season of the latter rain is also the time for the adorning of the bride of Christ with divine providence, affluence and the divine supplies of the sea (Isa. 60:5; 61:10-11). The conversion of the riches of the gentiles is going to be supernatural monitored by heaven, to ensure that every saint gets his portion. Jesus will be decorating His bride (the Church) for the great marriage supper, and we are the privileged bride of the great Bridegroom, who is the Creator of the

ends of the earth.

As a latter day saint, supernatural prosperity is your heritage. May you receive your own portion of the divine providence packaged for this season!

The Covenant Platform

The covenant is the platform for your economic empowerment; it is the foundation for supernatural prosperity. There is a clear description of covenant wealth in Deuteronomy 8:7-18, whereby you eat bread without scarcity, you build goodly houses and dwell therein, and everything around you multiplies. However, God said you should never think this is possible by your power. Rather, He says:

But thou shalt remember the LORD

thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

- Deuteronomy 8:18

There is nothing you are and have that can qualify you for this dimension of wealth outside God. Proverbs 10:22 says, "*The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.*" The Bible also says:

Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

- Psalm 127:1

So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that

sheweth mercy.

- Romans 9:16

I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill…

- Ecclesiastes 9:11

The power to get wealth is only released on the platform of the covenant, not because of your expertise or skills. Covenant prosperity has no respect for prayers; neither does it recognize the force of fasting. It only answers to the covenant. You access to prosperity in the kingdom of God is via a good understanding and practice of

covenant details.

By covenant I mean that God has given guidelines on how to enjoy prosperity. You locate them, understand them and do that which is required of you. It is only then that God is committed in prospering you according to His Word. A covenant is like a contract. It involves two people – God and you. God the Covenantor is the originator of the deal, and you are the beneficiary after your part of the deal is fulfilled.

This scripture in Psalm 89:34 will help boost your confidence in God and in the covenant:

My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my

lips.

God is a covenant Keeper. He keeps His side of whatever covenant He cuts with you. All you need do is to locate what you must do to enjoy the benefits the covenant offers and do them. God is ever constant; man is the variable party in every covenant. I entered my financial rest since that day in March 1981 when I discovered the covenant of prosperity and began walking in it. You can always go to rest when you enter a covenant with God and are committed to fulfilling your part of the deal. The children of Israel enjoyed rest round about after they entered into a covenant with God:

And they entered into a covenant to

seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul…

And all Judah rejoiced at the oath: for they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire; and he was found of them: and the LORD gave them rest round about.

- 2 Chronicles 15:12, 15

In March 1981, I set out for three days to discover the secrets of Kingdom prosperity. I went on my journey with Kenneth Copeland's book, *"The Law of Prosperity"*, his wife's book, "*God's Will is Prosperity*" , and my Bible. On the third day, I found something in Jeremiah 33:20-21 that made me jump up in my shorts and

spun around, shouting, “I’ve found it! I can never be poor!”

Thus saith the LORD; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season;

Then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers.

- Jeremiah 33:20-21

I discovered that God’s covenant was as eternal as the day and the night. You can only stop the covenant from producing if you can stop the day and night from appearing. What God is

saying, therefore, is that as long as human life exists on earth, His covenant is in force. He further assures us in verses 25-26 thus:

Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth;

Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them.

What then is the covenant that God swore?

The Covenant

After the flood, Noah reared an altar and sacrificed unto the Lord of every clean beast and fowl. The Bible says God smelt a good savour, and in Genesis 8:21-22, He said in His heart:

…I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

The covenant is: what you sow is what sets the pace for what you will reap. God said, "The earth is barren

today; but I am going to fill the earth again on the basis of this covenant." The flood had swept away everything, but God restored everything via this covenant.

Your sweat will never amount to surplus; it is your obedience to this covenant of seedtime and harvest that guarantees abundance. Can you imagine a farmer, who rather than plant seeds in the soil of his farm goes there and lifts his hands up to pray prevailing prayers, after which he goes home to announce to his wife, "We have the heaviest yam harvest coming this season!" What he has signed in for is a heavy harvest of lack and want, because harvest of yams only answers

to yam seeds sown in the ground.

Note that the knowledge of scriptures is not what guarantees a future, but its practice. Every testimony of abundance in scriptures is traceable to the practice of this law of seed time and harvest. Abraham took one son to the altar, and we all are covenant sons and daughters of Abraham today. God sent Jesus Christ to die so as to connect us to the blessings of Abraham. Jesus was made a curse for us that we might be connected to the Abrahamic blessings (Gal. 3:13-14).

Solomon took a thousand burnt sacrifices to the altar, and God said, “You have fulfilled the terms of the

covenant, so you are entitled to the fullness of My blessings." With that, divine wealth multiplied in Solomon's life (1 Kgs. 3:3-15). There is no testimony of supernatural abundance in scriptures that is not first preceded by a compliance with the terms of the covenant. No poor man can be excused from complying with the terms of the giving law, if he must prosper. Everyone that must come out of poverty must first comply with the giving law. To help the widow of Zarephath out of lack and imminent death, she had to first give out of her last meal to Elijah. Even though she was a widow and was about to eat her last meal, but for her condition to

change, the law had to first be obeyed, because every material blessing is provoked or preceded by a material seed.

The lack of knowledge is the reason many are poor. There is no poor nation without rich people living in it, neither is there any poor village where there are no moneylenders. Therefore, you can live in a poor environment and be prosperous, if you know and do what it takes to prosper. The poverty of the nation where you live does not determine your destiny in that nation. Your knowledge of God and His ways, and your obedience to the covenant is what determines your lot there.

I want you to know also that the

covenant will always prevail over the prevailing situations or circumstances around you. When God entered a covenant with Abraham in Genesis 12, Abraham did as he was commanded. But not long after, he was faced with a famine in the land. But the Bible records that in spite of the famine in the land, Abraham prevailed! Isaac and Jacob also prevailed against the famines they were confronted with, because they were walking in the covenant. No economic dearth or crisis can break the efficacy of the covenant! So enter into a covenant of prosperity with God today, and enjoy supernatural prosperity!

Chapter 2

Access To Kingdom Prosperity

Supernatural abundance does not end with sowing seeds alone, but is also the result of a quality walk with God, in which you understand what God expects you to do and you do it. God expect you to be correctly positioned so as to see His supernatural hand upon your life. I've given the illustration about the moon and the sun time and again. The moon has no light of its own; all it does is to line up at a particular angle to the sun, and that's what gives us the moonlight we all so enjoy. The moonlight is nothing but the

reflection of the light from the sun as a result of a correct alignment of the moon to the sun. The sun generates the heat, while the moon simply reflects the light.

Jesus is the Sun of Righteousness, and when we, like the moon, are correctly aligned to Him, we will reflect His glory without struggles. He will generate the heat, while we will simply reflect His glory!

In this chapter I will be showing you some ways you can position yourself for kingdom prosperity.

The Fear of the Lord

Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his

commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

- Psalm 112:1-3

The fear of the Lord is a principal requirement for a harvest of prosperity. You can’t connect with divine blessing by playing dubious games. One who is well-positioned with God is not a trickster; rather, God is his focus for living.

The fear of the Lord guarantees you access to supernatural supplies even in famine (Ps. 33:18-19; 37:18-19). It is

no wonder then that Paul told Timothy to exercise himself rather unto godliness, because bodily exercise offers only little profit (1 Tim. 4:8). This also helps one understand what John meant when he said, "*Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth*" (3 Jn. 2). In other words, the quality of your spirituality is what determines the dimension of prosperity you can enjoy from the Lord.

Kingdom prosperity is not like a casino game, where you bring this and get that. It is accessed through the fear of the Lord, through an intimacy with God. Your spiritual prosperity is what

determines your material well-being. True spirituality is not a function of prayer and fasting, but a function of your knowledge of God. That is why the Bible tells us in Job 22:21-25:

Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee.

Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.

If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, thou shalt put away iniquity far from thy tabernacles.

Then shalt thou lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks.

Yea, the Almighty shall be thy

defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver.

If you put iniquity away from your tabernacle through the fear of the Lord, then shall you lay up gold as dust and have plenty of silver. It is one before the other. Your spiritual stability determines largely how much God will prosper you, as He will not prosper you beyond the level of your spiritual maturity, so you will not go off course and forget Him. If some experience certain levels of abundance at the level they are now, they may wander off into sin, because they are too spiritually immature to handle blessings of such magnitude.

When God sees that you are serving

Him for who He is and not for what you can get from Him, then He will prosper you beyond your widest imagination. But you can't be involved in bribery and corruption and still expect to enjoy supernatural prosperity. It is not possible. You can't be changing books and figures in your office or sharing what does not belong to you and still expect to enjoy kingdom prosperity. What you need is to position yourself correctly with God through a quality walk with Him.

Kingdom prosperity responds to how you live, and not to your giving alone. Therefore, embrace the fear of the Lord as the gateway to supernatural prosperity. Make quality acquaintance

and intimacy with God your goal.

One other way that the fear of the Lord brings about prosperity is that it connects you with His secrets, which is your link to prosperity. God Himself testified that Job feared Him. No wonder He revealed His secrets to Job, which made him the greatest of all the men in the east (Job 1:1-3, 8; 29:4). God showed Job what to do to get outstanding results in his business and endeavours, which gave him an edge over his peers.

What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose…

The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew

them his covenant.

- Psalm 25:12, 14

The fear of the Lord enlarges your understanding of the ways of God, so that you know what He requires of you to get to that position you desire. When you fear the Lord, He shows you His covenant. That means He will show you what you need to do to commit Him to your affairs.

Obedience

A life of obedience to God is also required in order to enjoy kingdom prosperity.

If they obey and serve him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures.

- Job 36:11

If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

- Isaiah 1:19

Every story of divine abundance is rooted in obedience, which is the gateway to the world of abundance. Reading through Job 22:21-25, you will discover that to step into abundance, you must first receive the law. Obedience is a non-negotiable requirement for walking in heavenly abundance. You mustn’t just obey for the sake of obeying; your obedience must be willingly done (Isa. 1:19; 2 Cor. 8:12). The quickest way for God to set you up on high is through obedience. The Bible says:

And it shall come to pass, if thou

shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.

- Deuteronomy 28:1

If you won't do what God is saying, you will remain on the same spot. Be ready to listen and apply yourself to the things God tells you to do. God sent Saul to go and destroy the Amalekites, and what did he do? He preserved the best of sheep and their king, Agag.

And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better

than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

- 1 Samuel 15:22-23

Every time you rebel against God, you are no better than a witch. When you don’t do what He has instructed you to do, don’t expect Him to do what He has promised. Disobedience is the reason for hardship in the body of Christ. The gateway to blessings is open unto us when we receive His commandments. Whatever God has commanded to bring about any kind of

blessing you desire, go for it. You won’t need to beg God for His blessings to flow in your life, if only you will obey His commands.

Distribution

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

- 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Distribution is one of your covenant accesses into supernatural prosperity. Psalm 112 tells us of a man whom God has blessed, and verses 4, 5 and 9 reveal the secret of his wealth.

Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion…

He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.

To enjoy supernatural prosperity, you must be upright, show favour and give out to people. You must, however,

be discrete about it; knowing where the needs are and counting it a privilege to meet them. Here is what the Bible says in Proverbs 11:24-25:

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

We have a covenant obligation of tithing and investing into the kingdom, and we also have the covenant opportunity of ministering to the poor. That way, you will escape the clutches of poverty. Your willingness to be a blessing to the world around you is the

reason God will bless you (Gen. 12:2-3). As you reach out to the needy, you commit God to meet your own needs as well.

What's more, the God-kind of love is a sharing love (Jn. 3:16). God gave His only begotten Son, to prove the sincerity of His love for you. Likewise, giving is the only way to authenticate the sincerity of your love for Him (2 Cor. 8:8).

But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

- 1 John 3:17

It's not enough to give your tithes

and other kingdom investments. You need to show that you truly love God by extending your blessings to those around you; otherwise your love is fake.

If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

- 1 John 4:20

Being a willing distributor guarantees you an unending access into kingdom prosperity.

Chapter 3

Why God Prospers

God is a God of plan and purpose. He doesn't do anything without a reason. What then is God's reason for prospering people? Let us see some of them.

To Be A Blessing

God blesses people so they can be blessings to others. He made this very clear to Abraham when He called him:

And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

- Genesis 12:2

"I will bless thee…and thou shalt be a blessing." The purpose of kingdom prosperity is made very clear here. You are blessed to be a blessing. The flow of the blessings will stop when you stop being a blessing. Your desire and willingness to be a blessing is the reason God blesses or prospers people. You must understand this very clearly and align yourself with God's purpose, if you desire His blessings.

When God said in Isaiah 51:2, *"Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him"* He means to say, "Understand the basis for My blessing Abraham and align yourself with it, so

you too can qualify for My blessings." What is the basis for Abraham's blessing? The answer is: so he can be a blessing.

When the rich fool in Jesus' parable heaped up all the worldly treasures for himself alone and said, "I have gathered enough for me to eat till I die. I will pull down these stores and build bigger ones and I will say to my soul, 'My soul rest.'" God said, "Your body will also rest tonight, because I didn't bless you to accumulate and to eat up wealth by yourself; I blessed you in order for you to be a blessing." God said the man was not fit to live, and so took him that night (Lk. 12:16-21). This parable clearly illustrates that the

reason God prospers people is so they can distribute their wealth. Paul also emphasized this point in 1 Timothy 6:17-18:

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate.

The admonition above notes that it is time for the rich to let the impact of their riches be felt around them. That is why some individuals see some level of prosperity only for a season, and then enter into a dry season that has no

end; because they forgot what brought them into their rainy season in the first place. I've never had a better last year in my financial journey, neither have I had a dry season, because I know how I got to my rainy season and I've remained addicted to it.

You are to do good with His blessings in your life and be rich in doing good works, willing to distribute with discretion. Then the Bible gives us this assurance in 2 Corinthians 9:8:

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

Your commitment to being a blessing is what qualifies you for His

blessings. Your desire to employ many more people in your business should be the reason you want business expansion, and not so you can have more money to spend on your self. There is no nation where the government alone solves unemployment problems. The government definitely plays a part in providing employment for the people, but it is not enough; the private sector must also play its role in employing the populace. That's where you come in.

Understand this: prosperity in the kingdom is not an achievement, but an "entrustment". Kingdom prosperity is entrusted. God only commits His riches into the hands of people He can trust to

disperse it to areas most needed. Can you be trusted to be a blessing to the world around you with His blessings in your hands? That is why Jesus said in Luke 16:11:

If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

A group of people who God has sent you to bless is the poor and needy around you. How have you responded to them? You are not to wait for them to come begging you, but to reach out to them and bless them. The Bible says:

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which

he hath given will he pay him again.

- Proverbs 19:17

He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

- Proverbs 28:27

He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.

- Proverbs 22:9

There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing: there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches.

- Proverbs 13:7

Prosperity is a giving and receiving covenant. Your receiving stops where your giving stops. The rich fool in Luke 12:16-20 did not know the

purpose of his wealth, so he became a victim of it. God is only committed to blessing you to the level to which you are prepared to distribute. When you are not a distributor, you don't have a future, as your financial future is tied to this key. Knowing this truth, Apostle Paul said to the Philippian Church:

Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity…

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

- Philippians 4:15-16, 19

To enjoy enduring covenant riches, you have to be on the giving and receiving platform on a “once and again” frequency, as prosperity does not come by giving once and for all. That is why some stumble on riches once and never taste it again. When you give once, you receive once. But when you give once and again, your receiving is endless. So, look out for opportunities to give once and again, as this will enhance your financial destiny.

The poor and needy around you are a covenant opportunity for your supernatural prosperity, as giving to them opens you up for divine blessings.

You're not merely blessing them, but are taking advantage of them to secure what you need. As you lend your human hand to the poor, you secure God's divine hand upon your life. Job took advantage of this secret (Job 29:1-17). You are blessed to be a blessing, not to be a consumer of such wealth upon yourself alone. When you become a wealth distributor and willing communicator, you are laying for yourself a good foundation against the time to come (1 Tim. 6:17-19).

Ministering to the needs of the poor is a covenant opportunity, not a burden. The Bible says, "*Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be*

heard” (Prov. 21:13). Jesus was committed to the needs of the poor, so we must follow in His footsteps. The New Testament Church was also committed to distribution, no wonder none among them lacked (Acts 4:34-37). Begin now to secure your destiny by being a blessing and responding to the needs of those around you, and great shall be your financial future!

To Promote His Kingdom

Another reason God prospers people is so they can promote His kingdom with their wealth. The Bible says in Zechariah 1:17:

Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad;

and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.

God places wealth in people's hands so they can shake the world with the gospel. He takes pleasure in your prosperity, but you must first favour His cause.

Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.

- Psalm 35:27

God gave the children of Israel favour before the Egyptians as they left Egypt, such that they went away with plenty of gold, silver and raiment (Ex. 3:21-22; 12:35-36). But what was the

purpose of the gold? Exodus 25:2, 8 tells us:

Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.

And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

God blessed them with the wealth of Egypt so they can build Him a sanctuary in the wilderness with some of the wealth (Ex. 35).

You are blessed not only to wear good clothes, shoes and live in good houses, but mostly to be a channel of blessing for the spread of God's kingdom here on earth. When you seek His kingdom first, you will no longer

need to keep running from pillar to post, because God says all other things you need shall be added unto you.

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

- Matthew 6:31-33

Life is not only about being able to pay your house rent, ride a car, get married, have children, travel on

holidays, etc. It is about touching people's lives positively. Life is about connecting mankind with the genuine source of wealth – God, and promoting His kingdom for the liberation of the world.

Note that every gold (wealth) you keep away from God will take you away from Him. This is because you will either worship the Lord with your gold or you'll worship your gold (Matt. 6:24). Before the children of Israel knew the purpose of the gold in their hands, they made golden calves with it, which they worshipped (Ex. 32). So, it's a risk when you do not know the purpose of His riches in your hand or lack the opportunity to give according

to His will.

God is prospering His Church for the spread of His kingdom. So, your degree of kingdom commitment determines the level of your prosperity in whatever pursuit you are involved in. God declares in Haggai 2:7-8:

And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts.

Therefore, the bigger your kingdom dreams, the larger your business and career coast will become.

Chapter 4

How God Prospers

Whatever can stop a man from giving has succeeded in stopping him from prospering. The Word says in Isaiah 55:10:

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

He gives seed to the sower, but gives only bread to the eater. That means there is no future for a non-giver, as no matter the quality of the

bread he has, it can't last for long. When God gave them manna in the wilderness, it melted every evening. Non-givers only survive; it is givers that actually live. They have seeds to keep sowing, which keeps bringing in the harvest. To be a blessing indeed, you must become a committed seed-sower, so that God can entrust more seeds into your hand.

We have identified the covenant as the platform for prosperity, and that your access to it is by sowing seeds, as harvest only answers to seeds sown. You may then want to ask, "How will God prosper me when I sow seeds?" God will definitely not rain down physical money from heaven upon you

in response to your giving. There are avenues through which your harvest will return to you. That's what we will be discussing in this chapter.

Divine Ideas

One of the ways through which you harvest your seeds sown is through the rain of divine ideas. God said in Malachi 3:10:

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

In Genesis 7:11-12, we understand

that when the windows of heaven first opened, what poured down from heaven was rain. But what is this rain? What does it symbolize, what does it represent? It is not the literal rain, neither is it destructive. It is the rain God talked about in Zechariah 10:1:

Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.

It is the rain of refreshing; it is the rain of the Spirit of God, the anointing of the Holy Spirit. It is the rain that produced unimaginable abundance in Joel 2:23-26:

Be glad then, ye children of Zion,

and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.

And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpiller, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.

And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.

The Holy Spirit is always symbolized as rain in scriptures - the latter and former rain. He is the rain God releases upon people in response to their giving. Talking in prophecy about the Holy Spirit in His seven-dimensional form upon Christ, the Bible says in Isaiah 11:1-3:

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord:

and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

The Spirit of the Lord in summary is wisdom and power, which we saw operating in Jesus during His earthly ministry. So, in response to your giving, God pours upon you wisdom and power. That is, God's ability in man that enables him know what to do at every point in time.

Therefore, when you give, God responds to your giving principally through the transmission of His divine ability and ideas back to you. He said He will open for you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing. That is, He will pour out the rain of the

Holy Spirit upon you, Who will give you divine ideas on how to create or generate wealth. The windows of heaven open to connect you with ideas that will in turn lead you into your blessings.

Let us consider some biblical examples of this.

Abraham

The Bible records that Abraham became very rich in cattle, silver and gold. But how did he beat other cattle businessmen? Through the rain of divine ideas which came in response to his giving, Abraham must have said to himself, “Let me dig wells here and water my cattle.” So his cattle were not going about in search of water in the

desert, but were being watered at one spot. Divine inspiration located for him what to do to get fatter and fresher cattle and sheep than the others.

Isaac

Isaac knew about irrigation farming through inspiration, so he kept digging wells and watering his crops with the water from the well. While other farmers were waiting for rainfall, Isaac was busy digging wells and watering his field through irrigation. The Bible records that Isaac sowed in the land and received in the same year a hundredfold, because the Lord had blessed him (Gen. 26:12). He prospered so much, until the man went forward and waxed strong, and became very

great. The Philistines envied him, because he got ideas that others didn't have. Isaac became the farmer of the year in a strange land and during famine, just by a divine idea.

Jacob

How did Jacob beat Laban in his games? Through an inspired idea, he made strips on polar sticks and placed them in the watering troughs. So when the strong sheep came to drink and mate, they mated before these polar trees and the sheep produced after the strips made on them. Inspired ideas! An idea came to him, he played his cards right and it secured a destiny of great riches for him.

When you receive a divine idea

from God, you will know what opportunities exist in the land of seeming poverty and how to utilize them to your advantage. They help you see treasures in the midst of trash; your eyes begin to see every precious thing, even when others claim there is nothing more in the land, and are looking for how to escape from the land.

The Works of Your Hand

Another channel through which God’s blesses you in response to your giving is through the works of your hand. The Bible says in Proverbs 10:4:

He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

"He becometh poor…" Just as some men become rich, some others become poor. You choice is what determines your lot. "…*But the hand of the diligent maketh rich."* God prospers your giving through the works of your hand.

Giving without working is like pouring water into a basket. This is because whereas giving procures the blessing, working is what opens the channel through which the blessing will flow to you. So, if you are not working, you do not create the channel through which the blessings will be delivered to you. The two scriptures below show the link between your giving and work:

A man’s gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

- Proverbs 18:16

Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

- Proverbs 22:29

Room is created by your gift (giving), but your diligence is what delivers the goods. Unfortunately, many have faithfully fulfilled the first part of the deal, but gone to bed, expecting money to drop down from heaven for them. No! The works of your hand is the channel through which God will release the blessings to you, as He is no magician. For instance, though Abraham was in the giving

covenant, he became prosperous through working. The Bible never recorded that God poured down showers of money for him. His prosperity was delivered on the platform of work.

That is why the Psalmist said in Psalm 1:1-3:

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf

also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

The man that does the will of God (giving) is a blessed man. Therefore, whatever he does shall prosper. If you are a cook, for instance, you are bound to prosper in it, especially when you are an excited, committed and dedicated cook. Joseph prospered in a strange land, both in slavery and in the prison. If you are a giver and a mechanic, do it as if you are repairing Jesus' vehicle. As a storekeeper, keep that store as if God were the Chief Executive of your business. The Bible says, "*Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might*" (Eccl. 9:10). God is committed to commanding His

blessings upon the works of your hands as you continue in the giving covenant. But He has nothing to bless if you are not working.

If you are not working, you will not only become poor, but are actually signing for poverty in spite of your giving. The Bible says whosoever doesn't work shouldn't eat (2 Thess. 3:10). That means he will have to beg to eat. Also, looking at Deuteronomy 28:1-14, you will discover that God's blessings are poured out on the works of the hand, not on idleness. So, your giving is like the rainfall that comes upon the works of your hand, causing the release of your blessings.

Note that your giving comes before

your working. No matter how hard working you are, if you are not a giver, all your labours will be in vain, because God's blessings can't come upon it.

Divine Favour

The third way God prospers, which incidentally everyone believes in, is through divine favour. Concerning the children of Israel, God said in Exodus 3:21:

And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty:

God did as He promised, and the Bible records in Exodus 12:35-36 thus:

And the children of Israel did

according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment:

And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians.

There was a supernatural transfer of wealth on the platform of divine favour, such that four hundred and thirty years of labour was paid for in supernatural arrears in one day! The Lord gave Israel favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they gave them all that they required. The favour of God can produce anything for you. No

wonder Psalm 30:5 says, "*In His favour is life.*"

For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

- Psalm 5:12

God commands His favour upon you in response to your giving. As a result, in spite of whatever economic crisis, political instability and pressures, there will be pleasure all around your life, because of divine favour. God's favour made a distinction for Israel even in Egypt. While the Egyptians were selling themselves and their lands for food, Israel enjoyed abundance in Goshen, in the same land where famine was

destroying others (Gen. 47:13-27).

In like manner, His favour will distinguish you. There will be such massive and unheard of conversion of wealth to the body of Christ in the last days by reason of divine favour. All the seeds you have sown and will yet sow shall keep coming down for you in torrents of divine ideas and favour. And as you put your hands to work, He will also bless the works of your hand. All your seeds sown shall not be lost, in Jesus' name, Amen!

Chapter 5

Fundamentals of Kingdom Prosperity

If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

– Psalm 11:3

The foundation of every structure is crucial to its future. Hence, your understanding of the fundamentals of divine wealth determines your future as far as financial prosperity is concerned. Jesus said, "…*Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that*

house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock" (Matt. 7:24-25).

Without a solid foundation, you will be building on the sand, which cannot stand the test of time. But you must build upon a sure foundation in order to enjoy lasting covenant prosperity. I will be discussing some of the virtues required of you in order to enjoy lasting kingdom prosperity in this chapter.

Give Willingly, Cheerfully & Tirelessly

It is not enough to give your tithes and offerings in church or give to the poor. For it to be acceptable to God, enough to produce a bountiful harvest for you, it must be given willingly. If

you obey the giving law, but do not give willingly, you stand to lose your harvest, as you still will not eat the good of the land of prosperity. The Bible says:

If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

- Isaiah 1:19

Your giving must be willingly done for it to be acceptable before God. That's why God instructed Moses in Exodus 35:5:

Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the LORD; gold, and silver, and brass.

We are told in verse 29 that "*The*

children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the LORD, every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all manner of work, which the LORD had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses."

Only a quality offering or gift that comes from a willing heart will be rewarded by God.

For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

- 2 Corinthians 8:12

The above scripture reveals that willingness far outweighs the quantity of your seed or giving. This foundation of willingness must be in place for

your giving to produce prosperity for you.

Your giving must also be cheerfully offered for it to be acceptable, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

- 2 Corinthians 9:7

If your offering is not given willingly, then you can’t be cheerful giving it. And a lack of cheerfulness in giving can turn your blessings into a curse as the Bible tells us in Deuteronomy 28:47-48:

Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and

with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things;

Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee.

Your giving must also be tireless. Paul admonishes us to not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not (Gal 6:9). He also talks about giving once and again in Philippians.

Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church

communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity.

Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

- Philippians 4:15-19

The prayer in verse 19 is in response to their tireless giving to Paul.

Even the Preacher advises on tireless giving:

In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good.

- Ecclesiastes 11:6

This foundation of giving willingly, cheerfully and tirelessly must be in place for you to enjoy covenant prosperity.

Water Your Seed

To enjoy the harvest of prosperity, you must also water your seeds sown. Every farmer knows that despite having sown his seed in the ground, he needs to water it to ensure a bountiful

harvest. Likewise, your giving must be accompanied by watering before God can bring the increase.

By the watering of your seed, I mean the proper use of your mouth. The kinds of words you speak can either enhance your harvest or hamper it, the quality of your seed notwithstanding. This is because what you do with your hands will only be profitable when matched by what you say.

A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth: and the recompence of a man’s hands shall be rendered unto him.

- Proverbs 12:14

A man shall eat good by the fruit of

his mouth…

- Proverbs 13:2

What we say with our mouths goes a long way in determining our harvest, because the Bible tells us that death and life are in the power of the tongue (Prov. 18:21). Unfortunately, this is where many Christians miss it. They are very generous givers, but poor talkers.

The words we speak are seeds. When you constantly talk lack and want, that is what will be multiplied back to you, the quality of the seeds you have sown notwithstanding. Note also that it doesn't matter whether you are speaking publicly or in private. Your destiny is in your mouth, so speak

right words to match the seeds you have sown (Prov. 18:20).

After you have fulfilled the giving law, then the Bible says you shall decree a thing, and it shall be established unto you (Job 22:21-28). What you will not decree won't be established unto you. There's always a planting and a watering before God will bring the increase. Your seeds can never bring forth fruits without water, and God's Word is the water with which you water your seeds sown. So, it is time to open your mouth wide and comply with the covenant demands for prosperity.

Do you want the mountain of poverty in your life overturned by the

roots? Then don't destroy your seed in the ground with the wrong use of your mouth. Rather, when others are telling of their financial woes and fears, you should be speaking of your expectations in God. What you do notwithstanding, you shall have what you say, so speak right (Mk. 11:23)! What do you expect from the seeds you have sown? Say it! Water your seeds with the right words!

Service

Service is another foundation that must be in place for your prosperity to be unending. The Bible says, "*If they obey and serve him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures*" (Job 36:11).

Prosperity answers to service. Note that it says they shall spend their days in prosperity and years in pleasure. That is unending prosperity!

Job became prosperous through the ladder of service. Even the devil acknowledged Job's service unto the Lord. He said to God, "*Doth Job serve thee for nought?*" Even Satan knows that there is reward in serving God. No wonder Job became the greatest man in the east. The Bible says in Exodus 23:25-26:

And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.

There shall nothing cast their

young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil.

You are a prosperous person when God blesses your bread and water, and takes sickness away from you. Serving God is your covenant insurance against lack and want and every form of bondage.

And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

- Malachi 3:17-18

God will distinguish between those that serve Him and those that don't. If you are committed to serving God, nothing can stop you from being a partaker of the day of His wealth. Talking about king Uzziah in 2 Chronicles 26:5, the Bible said, "…*As long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper.*" Psalm 34:10 also says, "*The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.*"

Your financial liberty is tied to your readiness to serve God. What's more, in addition to your being prosperous, service sets you free from all forms of slavery. Until the children of Israel were ready to serve the Lord,

God was not willing to set them free from their many centuries of slavery in Egypt. But as soon as they were wiling to serve Him, they were free from slavery and even left Egypt with plenty of gold (Ex. 4:22-23). Service is a key to unending riches, so take advantage of it. Serve Him willingly and with joyfulness of heart!

Integrity

Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

– 2 Timothy 2:19

To enjoy kingdom prosperity, you must also first be free from every form

of financial corruption. Job in his days was the richest man in the east, and the Bible described him as "*perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil*" (Job 1:1). God has not changed. If He required integrity to lift Job to that position, He will not require less from you. It is only men who live in the fear of God that end up being full of His blessings. Psalm 112:1-3 says much along this line:

Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Wealth and riches shall be in his

house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

Wealth and riches shall be in the house of one that fears the Lord, and his righteousness shall endure forever as well. That means multiplication will continue only for as long as you uphold your righteousness. Financial unfaithfulness always leads to financial emptiness. Jesus said, "*He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much*" (Lk. 16:10). That means God will never entrust much into your hands, until He has proved you faithful with little.

No wonder Jesus said in verses 11-12, "*If therefore ye have not been*

faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?" Until the foundation of integrity is solidly put in place in your life, don't expect to see the hand of God in your finances.

The Bible makes us understand that the curse of the Lord is in the house of the thief (Zech. 5:1-4). No matter how much a thief tries to walk in the covenant, the curse will never allow him to rise. The harder he works, the harder life becomes for him, because the scriptures cannot be broken.

Also, note that divine wealth is not

a function of your hard work or labour, smartness, crooked dealings or connections: it is the blessings of the Lord that makes rich and adds no sorrow with it (Prov. 10:22). That is why the Bible admonishes us thus: *"Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom"* (Prov. 23:4). When you are involved in dealings that do not glorify God, His blessing cannot be upon your work. And if His blessings are not there, you can never enjoy true prosperity. But when you uphold financial integrity both in your dealings with God and your fellow men, you are on your way to financial dignity.

Avoid Waste

Waste is another thing you must guide against if lasting prosperity is your desire. This is because God hates waste. After Jesus fed the five thousand in the wilderness, He said to His disciples, "*Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost*" (Jn. 6:12). The Bible says concerning a waster:

He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

- Proverbs 18:9

That means whatever befalls a lazy person is what awaits a waster, no matter how hardworking he is. A waster today will beg tomorrow, because God never prospers wasters. Until you are prudent in managing the

small God brings your way, you will never be made lord over many (Matt. 25:23). God's prosperity in your life increases with the level of your prudent management of His resources in your hands. So, block every leaking hole, so you can enjoy lasting covenant prosperity.

Chapter 6

Kinds of Giving

The covenant of prosperity operates on the law of giving. So, we'll be identifying some forms of giving in the kingdom. But before that, I'd like to show you something that makes it easy to enjoy kingdom prosperity. It is what I call the "Giving Grace."

The Giving Grace

It is one thing to know what to do and another to be empowered to do it. Power is the ability to get things done. Every result is a product of power display. Principles are good, but it takes power for principles to produce.

Wealth in the kingdom of God is not an achievement or an accomplishment; it is entrusted (Lk. 16:11). God puts wealth in the hands of men and women He can trust to use it for the purpose it is given. That is why power to get wealth is given only by God; it has nothing to do with the natural system or your abilities (Deut. 8:18). The grace of God is what makes you abound in kingdom wealth. The Bible says:

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

- 2 Corinthians 9:8

If God must empower you for

wealth, He must first empower you to become a willing distributor; that is, He must first endue you with the giving grace. When this power comes upon you, it enriches you for wealth. Paul said concerning the Macedonia Church:

Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia;

How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality.

For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves;

Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take

upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints…

Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

- 2 Corinthians 8:1-4, 7

The Macedonia Church was made up of delightsome distributors. In spite of their poverty, they still gave willingly and joyfully. Why? Because they were empowered to give! You need the giving grace to enjoy kingdom prosperity. The giving grace is the covenant secret card for supernatural turnaround. This is because the giving grace empowers you to give excitedly

and willingly, even in the midst of scarcity.

It is the giving grace that was upon Abraham when he willingly took Isaac his son to sacrifice at God's command. When God empowers you to give, He will give you the grace to do what you must do to bring about your desired turnaround.

Let's now identify and discuss some kinds of giving in the kingdom.

Tithe

Tithing is a command from God, and is the master key to enjoying financial miracles. It is the tenth part of whatever increase you enjoy. It does not belong to you; it belongs to God.

And all the tithe of the land,

whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD’s: it is holy unto the LORD.

- Leviticus 27:30

That is why God commands us to:

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

- Malachi 3:10-12

Tithing is an inescapable covenant obligation. You can’t escape poverty if you do not pay your tithes. Rather, you come under a curse, because God says you are robbing Him (Mal. 3:8). The tithe is the Lord’s. So, no matter how much you give in other areas, if your tithe is out of place, you still come under a curse, because you are robbing God.

Tithing was in existence before the Law of Moses came. Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek in Genesis 14. Jacob also covenanted the tenth of all

his treasures to God as he fled from Esau, his brother (Gen. 28:22). All these took place before Moses came on the scene.

Note that God is not enriched when you pay your tithe. Rather, it is your covenant access to securing a financial destiny with Him. God promises to rebuke the devourer on your behalf when you pay your tithes. That means the benefit of paying your tithes goes beyond financial gains alone. Other areas of your life, like your health and home, are secured when you pay your tithe.

Kingdom Promotion Giving

This includes your free-will offering and kingdom demands

offerings. The free-will offering is the general offerings you give in church on Sundays and other service days, in worship of God. The Bible instructs that we shall not come before the Lord empty-handed (Ex. 23:15; 34:20). So we are expected to bring an offering whenever we go before Him.

In giving this offering, you give whatever you like, and the purpose is for the promotion of God's kingdom. You go before the Lord with an offering that is commensurate with how much He has blessed you, to appreciate His good hand upon your life. Like everything in the kingdom, it must be willingly and cheerfully given.

Giving To The Prophets

Jesus introduced us to this form of giving in Matthew 10:41:

He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

Prophets are God's messengers sent to be a blessing to us. Everything you give to them attracts prophetic rewards. We provoke prophetic utterances from them with the prophetic offerings we give to them, just as Jacob was able to provoke the release of blessing from his father, Isaac, with the venison he brought him.

Giving to God's prophets provokes

prophetic blessings that cannot be bought with money. The widow of Zarephath and the Shunammite woman were two people that enjoyed prophetic blessings by reason of what they gave to the prophet (1 Kgs. 17:10-24; 2 Kgs. 4:1-37). Whatever comes to you as a result of seeds and gifts given to prophets usually lasts. So, let's take advantage of the prophets of God in our midst to take delivery of what God has in store for us. You need their blessings for lasting prosperity, so go for it like the Philippian Church did (Phil. 4:15-19).

Giving To The Poor

Like I said earlier, giving to the poor around you is an opportunity for

your rise in the kingdom, as it is a command from God Himself.

For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.

- Deuteronomy 15:11

When you give to the poor, you are indirectly giving to God. That is what the Bible says:

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

- Proverbs 19:17

The Word of God assures that we are sure of getting back whatever we give to the poor.

He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

- Proverbs 28:27

Giving to the poor is an everlasting covenant opportunity for our rising. And what's more, you are guaranteed much more than financial rewards:

Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.

The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.

- Psalm 41:1-2

The Lord's deliverance from

trouble can’t be bought with money. It’s one of the true riches we enjoy from God.

Sacrifices

Sacrificial giving is a key for turning man’s financial captivity. This form of giving usually cost you something, but is worth it at the end, because it is always followed by an oath or covenant from God. Abraham gave a sacrifice to God when he was willing to kill Isaac when God asked for the boy. As a result, God swore an oath of blessing upon him:

And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,

And said, By myself have I sworn,

saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

- Genesis 22:15-18

Sacrifices are usually sown in tears, but the results can’t be denied.

When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.

The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.

Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south.

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

- Psalm 126:1-6

Usually, sacrifices are given for the promotion of the kingdom of God. Though they cost you something, note

that they must be given willingly and cheerfully for them to bring you increases. I gave God my car many years ago, when we needed money to start our church planting project, and on my way back home that day, He swore a blessing unto me. He said, “My son, David, even if you don’t want to be rich, it’s too late!” I have enjoyed financial abundance, along with other fringe benefits ever since.

When God makes a kingdom demand on you, it’s so He can add colour to your destiny. It is His secret way of promoting you; so, respond to it with all excitement.

Your Due Season

The Bible tells us in Galatians 6:9

not to be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. The question then is, “When is my due season for a blessing?” This is what the Word says:

If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth…

- Ecclesiastes 11:3

You are not due for a harvest of blessings until when your cloud is full. You fill up your clouds by casting your bread upon many waters (Eccl. 11:1); and when your cloud is full, it will rain down showers of blessings for you.

Note that every man plays a principal role in determining his due season. Your due season is not when God thinks you are due, neither is it

when you have a need. It doesn't answer to prayers either, but to how fast you fill up your rain clouds with your giving. How much you lay up in heaven is what determines when you are due for a rainfall of blessing.

Your due season is when you are due! Unfortunately, many faint before their due season. I advise you to not just fold your hands and wait for your due season to come. Rather, programme yourself for it through our giving, and sacrificial giving is one way of filling up your cloud very quickly.

Chapter 7

Some Hidden Covenants

Giving is the highway to a prosperous life. True. But there are some hidden covenants of blessings that must also be in place for you to enjoy true kingdom prosperity. God is our heavenly Father, not our heavenly banker. So, don't expect to be prosperous if all you do is to just give to Him as though you are at a casino feeding money into the machine in order to hit a jackpot. The subject of giving and prosperity is much more than that. Various factors come together to make the whole; so,

everything must be in place for it to work.

God's Word says, "*whoso breaketh an hedge, a serpent shall bite him*" (Eccl 10:8). For the covenant of prosperity to produce in response to your giving, you must not break the hedge of the hidden covenants we shall be discussing in this chapter. Though very vital, they have either been forgotten or neglected by many. No wonder many give and give, but do not get results. After identifying which one you have failed in or neglected, wisdom demands that you put things right immediately. You shall not fail, in Jesus' name.

Honour Your Parents

There are many kingdom people who diligently pay their tithes and give offerings, but who things are still not well with, because this block is missing from their covenant walk.

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

- Exodus 20:12

Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)

That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

- Ephesians 6:2-3

It is neither well with some believers who are great givers, nor with

their homes, businesses and careers because they are dishonouring their parents. *"A son honoureth his father… if then I be a father, where is mine honour?"* (Mal. 1:6). God has given our parents a covenant place in our lives that we can't afford to toy with. Honouring them is a command from God, and it is the first commandment with a promise attached to it.

You are to honour your parents by relating well with them and caring for their needs. You can't be eating so well and living in affluence while your parents are suffering hunger and deprivation. God says it won't be well with you, no matter what you give to Him and His kingdom. You are

breaking the hedge, and the serpent must bite. Some live in very big houses in the cities, but their parents are sick and live in huts, with leaking roofs in the village. No! It can't be well with you living like this.

You should cater for your parents according to the level that the Lord has blessed you. You don't have the fattest calves in your flock and take the blind and the lame to them. You don't take friends to five-star hotels but send some miserable amount of money to them as though they well beggars. Our parents carry special blessings for us which are released as we relate well with them. Remember how Isaac blessed Jacob after he had eaten the

venison he made for him? (Gen. 27) Our caring well for our parents is that venison that will release the blessings for us. Visit them regularly and place them on your regular budget, not on a once-in-a-while, hit and miss budget.

I know that some of our parents have done us wrong in time past. But that is in the past. With your knowledge of God and His ways, you should put it behind you and go forward through obedience. The Bible tells us that:

Whoso curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness.

An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end

thereof shall not be blessed.

Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee.

- Proverbs 20:20-22

No matter what they have done to you in the past, that does not give you the licence to dishonour them. According to God's Word and wisdom, you are not permitted to retaliate. Leave it to God to handle. This is especially true of children from polygamous or separated homes, where one parent has poisoned their minds against the other. You are now a new creature; old things are passed away, and all things are become new.

After teaching on this subject in

church, some members obeyed the Word of the Lord and put things right with their parents, and they had diverse kinds of testimonies of blessings and healings to share. Don't break the hedge; go and put things right, so you can be prosperous and live long on earth. Until you start doing what God commands, you'll keep struggling, no matter how much you give. Note also that your parents don't have to be in need or a problem before you fulfill your covenant responsibility to them. It is a covenant demand that must be obeyed.

Provide For Your Household

This is another covenant practice that can rob you of your harvest if it is

out of place. The Bible commands:

But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

- 1 Timothy 5:8

It is the duty of the man of the house to provide for his home, otherwise, he will live a life worse than that of a sinner. Man, it is your covenant responsibility to provide for your household. When you stop caring and providing for your wife and children, you come under a curse that all your giving can’t deliver you from. No matter how much tithes and offerings you give, the Bible says you have denied the faith, and so you will

suffer what unbelievers suffer.

The duty of providing for your family must be joyfully accepted and excitedly executed. It is not to be shared with your wife or anybody else. You must ensure that your family is well fed, clothed and have shelter over their heads. You have no right to put on a tie when your children are not well clothed. That is why all your tithes and kingdom investments are not yielding anything: because you are off course. It is a curse if your family has not eaten and you are going about town unperturbed. God's Word says a good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children (Prov. 13:22). Return home and put things right,

otherwise God will not hear any prayer you pray.

As a man another thing you must do is to honour your wife, in order to bring home the harvest you are expecting.

Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

- 1 Peter 3:7

Deal with your wife according to knowledge, that your prayers be not hindered. That is, that your connection with God be not disconnected and your heavens closed. Any leaking house is

not worthy of a harvest. Tension within the family system disqualifies it for divine blessings. Husbands are commanded to love their wives as Christ loves the Church. So dealing with your wife according to knowledge will check any leakage in your family and help you enjoy harvest.

Wives on the other hand are commanded to submit to their husbands (Eph. 5:22; 1 Pet. 3:1). Many problems in the home are largely caused by wives over whom their husbands have no control. In family government, the man is the head, while the woman is the subject. The woman's role is to be a help meet for her husband, not to lord it over the man in

the home. A submissive woman is precious in the sight of her husband. So, block that leakage in your home by being truly submissive to your husband. Nothing can stop your harvest if this is in place.

Pay Your Workers Well

If you run a business where you hire people who work for you, but you do not pay them well, you can't enjoy the harvest of all your giving. This is because the scriptures can't be broken. The Bible says in Luke 10:7 that the labourer is worthy of his hire. You can't be living in opulence and splendour while your workers are starving.

Pay your workmen well, or do your

work yourself if you can't. If you are not in a position to pay them due to whatever reason, let them know and give them the choice of deciding either to stay or leave. Don't go to five-star hotels and squander money, feasting friends and so-called business associates while you pay your staff miserable amounts at the end of the month. It will hinder your access to an open heaven, what you have given notwithstanding.

On the flip side, servants or workers are to ensure they don't defraud their masters. This is a command from the Lord (Eph. 6:5-8; 1 Pet. 2:18). Many workers are in the habit of defrauding and undoing their

masters in a bit to rise. But note that every step you take against your master robs you of your promotion. Every step you take against the source of blessing that God has placed around you goes into undoing your destiny. This could possibly be why your giving hasn't produced as you expect.

Prosperity is accessed via the covenant of giving; but your giving won't produce if these other things are out of place. Find out which one you are lacking in and correct it. You shall not fail!

Section C:

The Word of Signs & Wonders

Pillar 9

The Holy Ghost

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Pillar 9

The Holy Ghost

Introduction

Another word for the Holy Spirit is the anointing. The Holy Spirit helps us in all aspects of our lives – spirit, soul and body. Jesus describes the Holy Spirit as our Comforter; that is, He is here to make life comfortable for us.

The Holy Spirit is our number one helper in fulfilling destiny. He helps us to get saved, because the Bible says no one can say that Jesus is Lord, but by the Holy Ghost (1 Cor. 12:3). He helps us in prayer when we do not know how to pray (Rom. 8:26-27). He reveals the

mind of the Father to us (1 Cor. 2:10-11), and helps build up our faith.

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

- Jude 20

The Holy Spirit is a Person no Christian can do without; One that no other experience can substitute. He is the ever-abiding power of God made available to the saints. The Holy Spirit helps to boost and strengthen our faith by revealing the Word of God and the mind of the Father to us. He also enables us to do the Word and to live a victorious Christian life. The following sample teachings will further show you more ways that the Holy Spirit helps us

fufill destiny.

The underlisted books will also help your understanding on the subject:

Understanding The Anointing

Anointing For Breakthroughs

Anointing For Exploits

The Mystery of the Anointing Oil

Chapter 1

The Holy Spirit – Who Is He?

God has destined the last days' Church to set the pace for others to follow. The whole of creation is groaning and travailing in pain, suffering under the bondage of corruption, waiting for the hour that the sons of God will manifest. But this manifestation can only be made possible by the operations of the Holy Spirit. He is the One in charge of the affairs of the kingdom of God on earth today.

Both Prophets Isaiah and Joel prophesied about His coming at diverse

times:

For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:

- Isaiah 44:3

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

- Joel 2:28-29

These prophecies were fulfilled on

the day of Pentecost in the book of the Acts of the Apostles.

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

- Acts 2:1-4

God had earlier been pouring the

Holy Spirit out in drizzles upon prophets, pastors, priests and kings in the Old Testament times, enabling them to function in their offices. For instance, until Saul was anointed king of Israel, he could not ascend the throne (1 Sam. 10:1). Elisha could also not stand in the prophet's office until after Elijah had anointed him (1 Kgs. 19:16), neither could Aaron and his sons minister unto the Lord as priests until Moses had anointed them (Ex. 28:41).

But God never intended that the gift of the Holy Spirit be given to only a few people. That was why He spoke through the prophets that a time would come when His Spirit would be poured

out, not in drizzles or sprinkles, but in its fullness, upon all flesh. No longer will the Holy Spirit be upon a few, but upon all who desire Him.

In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

- John 7:37-39

So until Jesus was glorified not

everyone who desired the Holy Spirit could have Him.

Who Is The Holy Ghost?

The Holy Ghost has a number of names, titles and symbols by which He is known, all of which portray His character and personality. His most popular names are: the Holy Spirit and the Holy Ghost.

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity. He is equal to God the Father and God the Son, but different in function. He is referred to as God in Acts 5:3-4. Like every other member of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit is eternal (Heb. 9:14), Omnipotent (Lk. 1:35), Omniscient (1 Cor. 2:10, 13), Omnipresent (Ps. 139:7-13), Sovereign

(1 Cor. 12:6, 11) and is a Creator (Gen. 1:2).

The Holy Ghost is also a unique Person; not an “it”, but a “He”. For instance, He speaks (Acts 28:25), teaches (Jn. 14:26), and can be grieved and resisted (Eph. 4:30; Acts 7:51) just like any other person.

The Holy Ghost is not an emotion, a feeling or a falling, nor is He a crying or a wailing. He is a Person. He is the One in charge of the affairs of the kingdom of God on earth today; the Chief Executive of the divine programme on earth. He is the motivator, energizer and operator of every revealed plan (vision) from God. He is the Revealer of the hidden

treasures of the kingdom and holds the key to the inheritance of the saints. The Holy Spirit is the most valuable asset to Christian living. He is the central figure in any breakthrough in life.

The Bible makes it very clear that everyone lives to fulfill his name. When the angel appeared unto Joseph to tell him about the birth of Jesus, he said, "...*Thou shalt call his name Jesus...*" By this statement, he revealed something about the person of Jesus. The name Jesus means Saviour; and His mission — to save His people from their sins (Matt. 1:21).

The name "Simon" (the reed; one who is easily shaken) affected Simon Peter's personality, so Jesus changed

his name to Peter, “the rock” (stable, immovable). There was also a man called Nabal, of whom these words were spoken: “...*As his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him...*” (1 Sam. 25:25). Another man was called Ichabod, meaning “the glory is departed” (1 Sam. 4:21).

He Is The Comforter

Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

- John 16:7

When Jesus described the Holy Spirit as the Comforter, He automatically revealed His mission - to

make men comfortable. The Holy Spirit was sent primarily to establish comfort for God's people. Jesus gave the people some level of comfort, but promised that with the coming of the Comforter, the comfort they previously enjoyed would fade into mere insignificance. Therefore, though the disciples mourned after He left, it was short-lived, for after Him came the One that took the baton from the Bridegroom - the Comforter!

The Comforter is the true name of the Holy Spirit, and His ministry is to make living comfortable for us.

He Is The Spirit Of Holiness

We are told in Romans 1:4 that Jesus was declared to be the Son of

God with power, according to the Spirit of holiness. Naturally, the Holy Spirit hates sin, as He has His source in the thrice-Holy God. His name means a Spirit that is Holy. He is Holy and cannot behold sin. That was why He dealt with Ananias and Sapphira in Acts chapter five. They lied, so He destroyed them. When you give Him a chance, He enables you live clean. You will suddenly find out that you have a total distaste for sin.

The Holy Spirit is out to ensure that *"the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit"* (Rom. 8:4). What the law demands is made possible only by the operations of the

law of the Spirit. The law on its own is helpless to bring you to a place of sanctity. But when you operate the law of the spirit you are automatically able to fulfill the righteousness of the law.

He Is The ‘Quickener’

But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

- Romans 8:11

To quicken means to revive; to inject life into something. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of life (Rom. 8:2), so He also has a mission to preserve your body from death by quickening it. That is, He removes every killer disease

from your mortal body and also rescues you from the sin nature, which leads to the second death. Of Him, Luke 3:17 says:

Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.

If you are born again and filled with the Holy Spirit, then understand that He who indwells you has a fan in His hand and will thoroughly purge the floors of your body, soul and spirit, sweeping them clean. Whatever does not glorify God in you, whether sickness or sin-related problems, He will sweep them all out and burn the

chaff with unquenchable fire (Matt. 3:11-12). Sin and sickness cannot inhabit wherever the Holy Spirit dwells.

No other personality of the godhead is more impersonated than the Holy Spirit. But you need to know Him in a personal and intimate way in order to flow in His anointing, as you can't go far as a Christian without the anointing and help of the Holy Spirit.

Chapter 2

Our Covenant Faith Booster

The Holy Spirit is our number one faith Booster; He helps to build up our faith. As seen in earlier chapters, faith is very paramount in our walk with God, because it's the only way we can please Him (Heb. 11:6). Faith is also the only way we can access the things of God; and the Bible says faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God (Rom. 10:17). The Holy Spirit teaches us the Word and opens our eyes to see what we need to see in it, which causes faith to be built up in us, and then delivers the good report we so

earnestly desire.

Our Covenant Illuminator

Speaking about the Holy Spirit, Jesus said:

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

- John 14:16-17

The Holy Spirit, the Comforter Jesus promised to send us, indwells every redeemed child of God, and His mission is to make life comfortable for the saints. One of the ways He does this

is by helping to boost our faith. Jesus described what His mission on earth will be thus:

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

- John 14:26

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

- John 16:12-14

The Holy Spirit is our Teacher; He is commissioned to teach us those things we do not know. He does not only teach us all things, but also brings what we have been previously taught to our remembrance. That way, when we are faced with a challenge, we are easily able to locate a way of escape from scriptures. He connects us with the right Word, and without any form of struggle, we are able to walk out victoriously on all forms of stress.

What’s more, the Holy Spirit grants us insight into the will and purpose of

God for our lives. Apostle Paul tells us more of His role in our lives:

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

- 1 Corinthians 2:11-13

Since He knows the mind of God,

He reveals it to us and helps us to do the will of the Father, which is the right thing. He guides us into all truths and speaks to us. In accordance with His role as our Helper, He helps our understanding into the will of God.

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

- 1 John 2:27

Miracles come as a result of depth discovered in the Word of God; not by struggles or crying. Once you are able to locate the right Word on any issue

you are confronted with and apply the Word, God is committed to confirming it. Thus the Holy Spirit unveils the deep things of God to you, to cause you to encounter your breakthroughs.

God has mapped out highways He wants His children to ride on. That is why He gave us the Holy Spirit, Who will grant us supernatural access into those deep things. It is depth that determines height in life. So, let the Holy Spirit open up the Word of God to you and unravel those hidden mysteries specially packaged for your profiting.

The Love Dimension

The Bible further tells us that faith works by love (Gal. 6:7). That is, faith can only be effectual when we walk in

love. The Holy Spirit comes in here again, because we are told in Romans 5:5:

And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

The Holy Spirit it is that injects the love of God into our hearts; and love is what determines our access to revelation, which in turn boosts our faith.

Except by the enable force of the Holy Spirit, it is humanly impossible to love the way Jesus commands us to:

…Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

- Matthew 22:37-40

Love is the platform upon which the laws and commandments function, and it takes the help of the Holy Spirit to so love. It is only then that we can fulfill the demands of Matthew 6:33:

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

What can be more comfortable than having all things that men are struggling for and running after added

to you simple because the love of God dwells richly in your heart? The love of God in your heart is the bedrock for success in life, and it is a gift from the Holy Spirit. Faith is futile without love in place; and a faithless life is a frustrated life. But when you are injected with the love of God by the Holy Spirit, you are excited and relaxed about doing the will of the Father.

Chapter 3

The Spirit of Revelation

And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

- Isaiah 11:2

The spirit of knowledge referred to above is the same as the spirit of revelation Apostle Paul described in Ephesians 1:17:

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

The spirit of revelation is the ‘unfolder’ of the mysteries of the kingdom of God; and every kingdom mystery you grasp makes you a master in that area. When you have insight into a particular mystery, you become a man of authority in that area. For instance, I am through with sickness, because I have gained mastery over it by reason of the insight I have on the subject of divine health.

Insight is what makes one a man of authority, saying to one mountain, *“Go!”* and it goes, and to blessings, *“Come!”* and they come. Knowledge and understanding is what gives one such mastery.

Note, however, that insight does not

come by merely reading. No! It comes by one seeking revelational knowledge. The Ethiopian Eunuch read, but had no insight. "*Understandeth thou what thou readest?*" Philip asked him. He replied, "*How can I, except some man should guide me?*" (Acts 8:30-31.) This is where the Holy Spirit comes in. Paul said:

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

- 1 Corinthians 2:11

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, and is our best guide in understanding the things of God. It takes the Spirit of God to know the things of God. He is

the Revealer of God's hidden mysteries. He gives us understanding, which is what begets faith; and faith is what gets the job done. The Bible says:

The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

- Deuteronomy 29:29

Oh, how we need the Spirit of revelation in the Body of Christ today! We shouldn't be reading the Bible for the fun of it, but should be receiving instructions for manifestation from it. So, engage the search ministry of the Spirit of God. Cry out to Him, saying, *"Oh Spirit of Revelation, open my eyes.*

There are things freely given to me by God in this Book. Show them to me now."

The Spirit of revelation cheaply commands the miraculous, because whatever instruction He gives, when obeyed is guaranteed to manifest in a sign. We see this happen in John chapter two, when Jesus instructed that the water pots be filled with water. At the servants' obedience to that command, the impending shame was averted, and glory was the end result.

There is a spirit called the Spirit of Revelation. It will be in great operation this end-time, because the Bible says in Isaiah 11:9:

They shall not hurt nor destroy in

all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

When you encounter the revelation knowledge of the Lord on any issue, you become a man of exploits in that area. The Church is in her season of exploits, so we need the ministry of the Spirit of Revelation in order to enlist in this great army God is raising.

…But the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.

- Daniel 11:32

It is no longer enough to just read, so stop priding yourself on how many books you have read and how many times you have gone through the entire Bible. Rather, the question should be:

"Understandeth thou what thou readest?" The only authentic proof of knowledge is liberty; for, *"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free"* (Jn. 8:32). So, always desire to catch a revelation of what you are reading; that is what will make the difference in your life and destiny.

"God had spoken once; twice have I heard…" (Ps. 62:11). It is this second hearing that is called revelation. Having read what the book of John said, you now go beyond that to gain an insight into what God is saying to you personally from it. That's revelation. Revelation makes God's Word become personal. It turns the general written Word into a personal word; what the

charismatics call "Rhema". This is where faith is born. It is what energizes you to act upon what you have read and received; and the end result is a miracle!

God has spoken so many things to me by His Spirit that no man could have taught me. When God teaches, it is an instruction; and when you receive it, it brings a manifestation in your life. Revelation is power! This has brought me to conclude that people are not suffering because there is a great devil somewhere. No! They suffer untold afflictions because of their great ignorance! God once said to me: *"There's no mountain anywhere. Every man's ignorance is his mountain!"*

Revelation is the bedrock of every revolution, it is the greatest asset to a life of exploits; and the Holy Spirit is there to make it happen for you, if only you will call on Him. The glory of the end-time Church will centre upon the revelations God grants her. There is a better way of doing what you are doing now. When God shows it to you, you are sure of achieving better results.

Think about this: if Christ were the One running your business, will any government policy or annual budget affect it? If Jesus were running your ministry, would He have a location problem? Would the church have just two to three people in attendance every Sunday? To avoid the multitudes, Jesus

ran to the wilderness, but they still pursued Him there. He crossed to the other side of the river, and they chattered a speedboat and arrived there before Him. Why? Operational in Him were the seven Spirits of God. So you don’t have a location problem, but an insight problem.

It is impossible to imagine that we can arrive at the fullness of the measure of the stature of Christ without the forces that worked in Him being at work in us also. Jesus triumphed by the Spirit of revelation. He was a Master over situations and circumstances. He was never stranded. You too can excel by this same Spirit of revelation.

The Fear of the Lord

There is, however, something you must possess in order to freely enjoy the operations of the Spirit of revelation. It is called the fear of the Lord. The Bible reveals how important this is in our quest for revelation:

> The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.
>
> - Psalm 25:14

God reveals His covenant or Word only to them that fear Him. Every man in Biblical history who ever did exploit possessed this component of the fear of the Lord. The Bible quotes Joseph, a man discreet and wise, who through his wisdom saved Egypt in the time of

famine, as saying, *"For I fear God"* (Gen. 42:18). Job, a man described as the greatest of all men of the East, was acknowledged by Satan as possessing one outstanding quality: the fear of the Lord. Satan asked God, *"Doth Job fear God for nought?"* (Job 1:9).

A close study of the seven Spirits of God listed in Isaiah 11:2 reveal that at the root or foundation is the spirit of the fear of the Lord. It is at the bottom rung of the ladder, and just as every ladder is climbed from the bottom up, so you climb into the fullness of the seven Spirits of God from the spirit of the fear of the Lord.

And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and

understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

- Isaiah 11:2

The spirit of the fear of the Lord is what gives birth to the spirit of knowledge:

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...

- Proverbs 1:7

Knowledge then brings you into might, which is inner strength. "*A man of knowledge increaseth strength*" (Prov. 24:5). From might you graduate to counsel, to understanding, and then to wisdom, which culminates in the manifestation of power. The spirit of the fear of the Lord is what Apostle

Paul refers to as the spirit of holiness.

And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

- Romans 1:4

Jesus was declared to be the Son of God with power, because the spirit of holiness was at work in Him. He was tempted at all points, yet was without sin; so He qualified to be anointed without measure. No wonder He knew and did the will of the Father always.

Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth

the Son likewise.

- John 5:19

I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

- John 5:30

…I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.

And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.

- John 8:28-29

The spirit of the fear of the Lord will grant you access into revelations, so you can walk in victory and do

exploits in life. When you walk and live in the fear of the Lord, you are guaranteed automatic exploits, because you not only enjoy revelations, but also carry God's presence, which commands exploits — the sea gives way to Him, Jordan is driven back from Him, and the mountains skip like rams before Him (Ps. 114).

When you walk in the fear of the Lord, you become a friend of God and you have access to all things that the Father has shown Jesus. When this happens, you will begin to operate at the level Jesus operated in, and you will do the kind of exploits He did when He was on earth, and even greater (Jn. 14:12).

Chapter 4

He is an Excellent Spirit

But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

- Job 32:8

The Spirit of God is an intelligent Spirit; He gives understanding. The Holy Spirit is an excellent Spirit, and He causes men to excel cheaply here on earth. He gives men the supernatural ability to intelligibly diagnose situations, put solutions together and carry through those solutions to the ultimate end for practical results.

Enough of mediocrity in the body

of Christ! Salvation is superior to education. Daniel became "*the man in the kingdom*" simply by the operation of this Spirit of excellence. He always had the answers to whatever problem was before him.

The Spirit of God is what connects us to this excellent spirit. He quickens our understanding and helps us in our quest for knowledge by revealing truths to our spirit-man. He teaches us by quickening our understanding to grasp the things He is revealing.

Not only was our spirits redeemed at new birth, but our minds also. The Bible tells us in Revelations 5:10:

And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on

the earth.

So, whether you are saved and called to be a priest in the temple or a Christian on the streets, you are expected to reign as a king wherever you are. But this can't be possible without the excellent Spirit of God at work in you. Talking about wisdom, the Bible says:

By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.

By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth.

- Proverbs 8:15-16

You need this excellent Spirit to reign on earth, as God won't bless you beyond your mental capacity. Unfortunately, the Church has grown

lopsided over the years. She has laid a lot of emphasis on the growth of the spirit, to the detriment of the growth of the mind. Some even think it is carnal to put their minds to work. No wonder many in the body today are so ignorant and defeated in life.

But we see from scriptures examples of great men who developed both their spirits and minds simultaneously.

Joseph

Joseph was a man that walked in the fear of the Lord. He refused to yield to his master's wife's temptation to sin. The excellent spirit was at work in him, for we saw him effectively manage Potiphar's home and wealth,

such that his master left all to his care. Even when he was put in prison, he sweatlessly gave the correct interpretation to the butler and baker's dreams.

When Pharaoh had a dream that no one else in the kingdom could interpret, was it any wonder then that Joseph was again called upon? The excellent spirit in him came on display again, and he was able to give the correct interpretation.

And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise

as thou art:

Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

- Genesis 41:38-40

The Spirit of God, the Spirit of excellence was at work in Joseph, causing him to be discreet and wise. Not only was he able to correctly interpret the dream, but was also able to devise a means of preserving grains for the fourteen years of plenty and famine! By the Spirit of excellence at work in him, he reigned in a foreign land as Prime Minister! *“By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.”*

Daniel

Daniel was a man described as possessing "*the spirit of the holy gods.*" In Daniel's time also, the king dreamt and could not remember his dream nor understand what it meant. He called on all his magicians, astrologers, sorcerers and Chaldeans to tell him what his dream was and to give the interpretation, but they could not. In fact, they acknowledged thus:

And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can shew it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.

- Daniel 2:11

As a result, the king commanded that all the wise men in Babylon be destroyed. Daniel and his three other

colleagues would have been affected by this decree, so they went to God for an answer. Remember:

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

- 1 Corinthians 2:11

So, the Spirit of God, that Excellent Spirit came on display in Daniel, and gave him the interpretation!

Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision...

I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known

unto us the king's matter…

Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king;

But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days…

- Daniel 2:19, 23, 27-28

The excellent Spirit of God at work in Daniel was able to solve the problem!

In chapter five of Daniel came another troubling event, when a mysterious hand wrote on the wall. Again, the king and all his men could

not read the handwriting or tell what it meant. King Belshazzar was greatly troubled by this mystery. But thank God for the queen, who came in and said:

There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers;

Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of

doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation.

- Daniel 5:11-12

The king sent for Daniel, and the gift of God in him answered. All the exploits he did were traceable to this unique spirit in him. See where it took him:

Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

- Daniel 6:3

You also have this spirit dwelling in you, if you are redeemed. All you

need do is to put it to work.

Jesus

And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works?

- Matthew 13:54

The mighty works Jesus wrought were products of the excellent Spirit at work in Him. Jesus was never stranded; He always knew what to do per time. He always had ready-made answers for the questions of the Jews. The Bible records in Luke 2:47:

And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and

answers.

Everybody has problems; but those who know the answer appear as though they didn’t write the exam. The examinations of life have no timetable. If you have the answer to that problematic family relationship, that dwindling business or unfulfilling career, you cannot be said to have a problem. That is why you need to stir up that excellent spirit in you to work; so you will have the answer to whatever problem might come before you.

Two Levels Of Understanding

For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be

filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

- Colossians 1:9

There are two levels of understanding. The first is spiritual understanding and the other skillfulness. Spiritual understanding is when you understand what God has planned for you from the beginning (2 Pet. 1:3-4), while skill is the knowledge or ability that enables you do something (such as a job) very well.

And Moses said unto the children of Israel, See, the LORD hath called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah;

And he hath filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, in

understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship;

And to devise curious works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass,

- Exodus 35:30-32

Bezaleel was a skilful man. A combination of skill and spiritual understanding made him supernaturally skilful. You too need to lay hold on supernatural skills to handle whatever assignment has been placed in your hands. Others will learn from you when you possess it.

And he hath put in his heart that he may teach, both he, and Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan.

Them hath he filled with wisdom of

heart, to work all manner of work, of the engraver, and of the cunning workman, and of the embroiderer, in blue, and in purple, in scarlet, and in fine linen, and of the weaver, even of them that do any work, and of those that devise cunning work.

- Exodus 35:34-35

The excellent Spirit of God in you will enthrone you among white, yellow or grey people anywhere, any day. The excellent spirit in you will gradually motivate and mobilize you until that business in your hand becomes ‘The Business’ in town.

Most heavyweight accomplishers make it in their thirties. Quite a number in their forties, and very few in

their fifties. That goes to show that their success was not as a result of experience, but by the spirit of God in operation in their lives. Men like Michael Faraday were men that operated by the spirit of excellence. That's why although he had only primary school education, at age forty-four he was already recognised by all as the leading man of science! Yet he was a devout Christian and a celebrated preacher at his local congregation. He was one of the physicists that greatly advanced the work on electricity; all by the operation of the spirit of excellence!

Chapter 5

He Beautifies Your Social Life

The mission of the anointing of the Holy Spirit has in most cases been limited to only spiritual and physical manifestations. It is, however, important to note that He has a social relevance in our lives as well. When Jesus Christ was here on earth, He had the anointing without measure. He did not only heal the sick and cast out devils from the people, but also provided bread for them, and "buttered" it with fish. He was never a beggar, but a distributor.

Jesus was socially comfortable. He

would always lodge in the large upper room, ride in special and very spacious boats (we saw Him "*asleep on a pillow*", where you cannot feel the billows), and was always moving in a convoy ("*and other little ships with him*") . His ministry was so socially relevant that they came to take Him by force to make Him king, but He fled.

Isaiah 61 tells us that among the effects of the anointing are the building of the old wastes, the raising up of the former desolations, the repairing of the waste cities and the desolations of many generations. Then we are also told:

And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien

shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers.

- Isaiah 61:5

That talks about we becoming major employers of labour, which points to the social impact and exploits that will happen through us via the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

You Have An Identity

The anointing gives men identity. See what it did to Jesus:

And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.

- Luke 4:14

We live in a world of about seven billion people. Therefore, it will take

nothing but a supernatural push to shoot the believer into the limelight. For instance, Jesus was here on earth for thirty years without any form of identity. He was the Messiah sent for our emancipation, but He remained a mere lay reader in the synagogues of Nazareth until He was anointed. But as soon as Jesus had an encounter with the Revealer of men, He came out of His hiding place! When the Holy Ghost laid hands on Him at His baptism, He made Him known to the world.

In like manner, no matter your field or area of life God has called you into; it will take the anointing of the Holy Spirit to distinguish you. The grandeur of your destiny notwithstanding, your

destination is not sure without the unction of the Holy Spirit.

And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

- Acts 4:31

This scripture makes it clear that the anointing cannot go unannounced. I often humorously say that “anointment” is what provokes announcement! This is because an anointed man is automatically announced. He may be an ignorant and unlearned man (like the apostles), but the anointing will compel even the most prominent of men in the world to

take notice of him. Those who dislike him may castigate him, but they cannot ignore him.

I once met a man of God who is from a West African country and does not speak English. When he ministers, he would read just a verse of scripture and then pray, and that is it! All kinds of healing would then begin to erupt! I was told he never had much formal education. But he had an encounter with the Holy Spirit, and that has given him a place of prominence among men.

It is the anointing that distinguishes between one Christian and the other. How much anointing you carry is what determines the quality of life you will live. The business of an anointed

businessman will automatically be announced, because of the unction he carries.

The first thing the Holy Spirit did when He came was to bring the disciples out of their hiding place in the upper room. Subsequently, they that were once fugitives became rulers in the land. He announced His arrival, broke the walls that enclosed them and dignified His people. Peter, who had earlier denied his Master even before a little girl, could now proclaim boldly, *"Jesus Christ whom your fathers killed."*

The Holy Ghost came to reveal them, to bring them out of darkness and cause their light to shine forth

from obscurity. In no time, the apostles became a concern to the entire province where they lived. The authorities held several meetings because of them. They became the unbeatable winners, speaking and having what they spoke by reason of the Holy Spirit at work in them! The apostles took over the synagogues as though there were no high priests there previously. According to the Bible, "*A great company of the priests became obedient to the faith*" (Acts 6:7). The Holy Ghost came to reveal the sonship of the sons of God. He is the personality to lean on today, if we want to be accomplished.

Even though you are saved, your

place in life cannot be secured until you receive the unction of the Holy Spirit, who is the gift of God to man (Acts 2:38; Lk. 11:13). Haven't you heard it said in Proverbs 18:16 that "*A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men*"? By virtue of your new birth, you are a new personality, a city set upon the hill that cannot be hid. But until you receive the gift of God, the Holy Spirit, you remain hidden in the valley. It takes the Holy Spirit to push you into the limelight.

By destiny, the last days' Church is designed to be a pacesetter. All nations shall flow into her (Mic. 4:1-2); she will be so exalted that she will be the envy of men. But then, in the kingdom

of God, nothing is possible by power or m i g h t . Every accomplishment or exploit is made possible by the operation of the Spirit of God. That's why you need Him in your life. We read of great men of God such as D. L. Moody and Smith Wigglesworth, who though unlearned, made history by the operation of the good Gift of God at work in their lives.

You Enjoy Favour

The anointing of the Holy Spirit also procures favour for you.

Because of the savour of thy good ointments thy name is as ointment poured forth, therefore do the virgins love thee.

- Songs of Solomon 1:3

When you carry the anointing of the Holy Spirit, even your name is sweet and creates an expectation. You smell good and enjoy love from others. Love from a second party is known as favour. The favour you command depends on the level of the anointing that operates in your life. That you are loved is not because of your looks, status or educational background. The anointing upon you is simply what compels people to love you in spite of themselves.When Saul was anointed king by Samuel, one of the things the anointing did to him was to procure favour for him (1 Sam. 10:3-4). The three men he met saluted him (felt kindly disposed towards him) and gave

him gifts, not because he talked to them or asked for anything from them, but because he was clouded with favour by reason of the anointing.

When you carry the anointing, you will be welcomed everywhere you turn. When they don't see you, they will look for you. It is not sonship to be turned away from every office you go to in search of a job or contract. Registered sonship is all about honour. The people were always looking for Jesus when He was here on earth.

Check yourself. If nobody seems to want to see you, it is either because you don't carry the oil or the one you carry is stale. It takes fresh oil to enjoy favour with God and men. The

Comforter inside you is not only for speaking in tongues, but His ministry is also to make you comfortable by making you experience joy, love, praise and favour. Keep Him fresh in your life and you will live a practically translated life.

You Are Enthroned

The anointing of the Holy Spirit enable the saints of God enjoy royalty. The Bible tells us in Revelation 5:10:

And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

But royalty in its fullest is impossible without the outpouring of the oil of the Holy Spirit upon a man, because no king reigned in Israel

without first being consecrated by the pouring on of oil upon his head.

One major function of the anointing is to distinguish the beneficiary; to enable him stand in the office of his calling. The calling of God upon our lives is that we have been redeemed unto God and called out as priests and kings, to reign on the earth. We have been redeemed, not given a new title. We were rescued from death and brought out into priesthood and royalty. We represent men before God as priests and reign as kings on the earth. But how many in the Church today are living like this?

There is a very gory picture painted in Ecclesiastes 10:5-7:

There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, as an error which proceedeth from the ruler:

Folly is set in great dignity, and the rich sit in low place.

I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth.

Unfortunately, this is the state of things in Christendom today. Rather than reign as kings, believers are walking about like servants! God calls this state an evil. By reason of the work of redemption, believers are so loaded with redemptive packages, such that our failure to manifest our true royalty constitutes an “evil”. Until there is an awareness and a consciousness of our

true birthright, this evil will not cease. The Holy Spirit, through His teaching ministry, helps us to see the truth and empowers us to take steps to free ourselves from the devil's captivity.

We are all eligible for the throne, but only the anointed ones will reign. We are all potential kings, but it takes the anointing for enthronement to manifest kingship. God has destined every believer to be the head and not the tail in whichever area of life he is placed. As a righteous businessman, you should prevail in every venture you undertake. At no point in time should you be confused and not know what to do, because you are a partaker of the divine nature and possess the Creator's

brain.

The Word of God says, *"Where the word of a king is, there is power"* (Eccl. 8:4). The anointing of the Holy Spirit is what upgrades the authority of your tongue and make your words effective when you speak, causing the things you declare to come to pass. Royalty destroys inferiority complex, as no king is inferior in his domain. Begging must cease in the area where God has called you. It is time to manifest the royal blood flowing through your veins.

When you carry a royalty consciousness, it moderates your behaviour and even affects the way you dress. You won't walk out of the house

in bathroom slippers and put on funny-looking hats, like someone from some odd place! Even kings in the village don't do that. Your behaviour from this moment on will reflect royalty, in Jesus' name.

Have you ever heard that a king fought with his wife and then went to his subjects for settlement? Subjects are brought before the king for judgment and not the other way round. When I received this light, I promised myself that I will never have an argument with my wife, because kings don't condescend so low. I have not yet found a cudgel with which to make my children obey my voice in the home. They don't fight over trivial matters in

a royal family. Instead, you are reminded that because you are of royal blood, such behaviour is not expected of you.

When you realise that you are royal, you won’t feel free anymore to misbehave or lose your temper and speak all manner of wrong things. From this day on, misbehaviour will be far from you, and the noise of fighting will no more be heard in your household, in Jesus’ name!

Chapter 6

He Helps You In Praise

One of the Comforter's missions in your life is to give you a supernatural enabling to praise God qualitatively. Praise is God's "food", for the Bible says He inhabits the praises of His people (Ps. 22:3). Each time you praise God, you command His presence. When you are enabled by the Holy Spirit to give God quality praise, you succeed in invoking His presence, thus giving you a walk-over in life.

See what happened as the children of Israel journeyed through the wilderness:

When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language;

Judah was his sanctuary, and Israel his dominion.

The sea saw it, and fled: Jordan was driven back.

The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like lambs.

What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?

Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams; and ye little hills, like lambs?

Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob;

Which turned the rock into a

standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters.

- Psalm 114:1-8

The Israelites carried His presence as they journeyed through the wilderness, so no nation was strong enough to withstand them; not even the Red Sea or Jordan!

When Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah appointed singers to praise God, the Bible says that God set ambushments against their enemies, such that they began to help destroy one another till none of them escaped alive (2 Chron. 20:22-24).

God’s presence with you converts the battles of life to a walk-over for you. The same thing happened for Paul

and Silas in Acts 16:25-26. They began to pray and sing praises aloud to God in the prison, and suddenly there was an earthquake; the prison doors were flung open and their chains fell off on their own accord! God had arrived on the scene for their rescue! Praises bring down God's glory.

By helping you in praise, the Holy Spirit causes you to have sweat-less triumphs in whatever battles of life you may be faced with. Being on a higher praise frequency with God brings down His presence, which always results in victory. This is what the Bible says happens when we praise Him:

Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a twoedged sword in

their hand;

To execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people;

To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;

To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD.

- Psalm 149:6-9

This level of high praises is only made possible through the help of the Holy Ghost. Jesus said the Holy Spirit, when He is come, shall glorify Him (Jn. 16:14). When you enter into the Holy Ghost dimension of praise, tears sometimes roll down your cheeks as you sing of the Excellency of God’s

name; and when Jesus is glorified through you, you end up being glorified with Him.

The anointing of the Holy Ghost is not in falling or feeling; it is an experience that reveals itself in the human life style. You can win without sweat, but this can only be achieved through the instrument of praise. Praise is a fundamental requirement for making God take over your battle while you become a spectator. When the Holy Ghost is given access, He turns you on to the realm of high praises; and when that happens, you begin to execute the judgment that is written. Whatever is not supposed to be in you can’t remain, and that is how He makes

you comfortable.

...Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.

- Psalm 105:15

As you begin to praise the name of the Lord in the high praises' dimension, the heavens take vengeance on whoever is hurting you and render the right judgment upon your enemies. Such was the case with David and his wife, Michal, Saul's daughter. David had just finished dancing before the Lord with all his might and she condemned him for disgracing himself before the people. She despised him in her heart, and so God's judgment fell upon her. She was barren — the only woman that remained barren in the

entire scriptures (2 Sam. 6:16-23).

The high praises of God takes you off the battlefield, making you instead a reporter of your own battle. God doesn't need His fist to give you victory; the breath of His nostrils is more than enough to take care of your enemies!

Apart from carrying God's presence, many other things happen when you praise God acceptably. Here are some of them:

You Are Filled With Joy

The Holy Spirit is referred to as the Oil of joy.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me…

To appoint unto them that mourn in

Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.

- Isaiah 61:1, 3

He is also referred to in Psalm 45:7 as the Oil of Gladness:

Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

What this means is that He is the

anointing for joy and gladness. Like an injection, He injects joy and gladness into the beneficiary.

What is the significance of joy and gladness in a man's life? The Bible says, "*A merry heart doeth good like a medicine; but a broken spirit drieth the bones*" (Prov. 17:22). Joy makes for a healthy body, whereas a broken spirit dries the bones. Doctors would tell you that there are certain diseases that cannot be traced, but yet exist. Most health problems come from a broken heart and not necessarily from any traceable disease; which is what is chiefly responsible for "dry bones". But the oil of joy which the Holy Spirit infuses into the bearer guarantees a

healthy life; it is like medicine to the body.

Do not, however, confuse joy with happiness. Happiness comes as a result of what you have or possess and what you can see and touch; it is temporary. Joy, on the other hand, has its fountain in God. No wonder Apostle Peter referred to it as “joy unspeakable and full of glory” (1 Pet. 1:8)! You can’t define the reason for it, but it is there. This is one of the cardinal missions of the Holy Spirit in your life.

The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?

- Proverbs 18:14

A wounded spirit inflicts

unbearable afflictions upon a man. But when the Holy Spirit has His way in your life, He releases in you the oil of gladness that puts an undeniable, unspeakable and perpetual smile on your face. The joy is such that you can't explain or express why you are so excited. It wards off infirmities from you and sustains you, which is in line with Nehemiah 8:10, which says, *"...The joy of the Lord is your strength....The joy of the Lord is your strength."*

The joy of the Lord takes over your entire system, keeping you healthy, active and well. Show me a man who has escaped the realm of worries and anxiety, and I will show you a man who

has the strongest immunity against all diseases and plagues. Joy easily wards them off. When you have this joy in you, people can't understand what it is that gets you so excited. Believe me, it is more comfortable to be healthy than to be sick!

Revelation

You also enjoy fresh revelations when you praise God acceptably. The Holy Spirit in praises illuminates your spirit man to the mysteries of the kingdom of God.

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and

even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

- 1 John 2:27

The Holy Spirit takes you on an adventure into the deep of God's Word as you praise Him. Praise begets revelations, which in turn begets revolutions, that is, a forceful turn-around! When the minstrel began to play to Elisha, the hand of the Lord came upon him, and a word of direction came. The clouds that form a barrier and hindrance to revelation are lifted as you sing praises to the Almighty.

Fresh Oil Is Released

Praise releases upon you fresh oil, which makes for a new anointing.

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High…

But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.

Mine eye also shall see my desire on mine enemies, and mine ears shall hear my desire of the wicked that rise up against me.

- Psalm 92:1, 10-11

Fresh oil, which is divine enablement to do great exploits, is released upon you as you praise God. Fresh oil also commands fresh joy that in turn leads to your flourishing.

The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in

Lebanon.

Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.

They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;

- Psalm 92:12-14

Flourish means to develop quickly and be successful; to grow well; to be healthy and happy. When the fresh oil comes upon you through praise, you are successful, you grow well, and you are healthy and happy. What's more, every yoke around your life is broken, and all oppositions are silenced.

Praise retains the freshness of the oil upon your life. Without it, your oil

will become stale, and testimonies will soon give way to trials. But that shall not be your portion, in Jesus' name!

I commend you to a life of praise. Seek the help of the Holy Spirit for a praiseful lifestyle, so you can command God's presence with you always. That way, you are guaranteed of victory all the days of your life.

Chapter 7

Doing Exploits By The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit has dwelt here on earth since His arrival on the day of Pentecost. You do not need to wait to receive Him as the apostles had to. The Holy Spirit is resident here on earth, attending to whosoever desires Him. If you are born again, He already dwells in you. All you need do is to stir Him up to do what He is sent to help you accomplish.

Jesus said to His disciples before He left:

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:

and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

- Acts 1:8

You need the Holy Spirit's power to reign here on earth; otherwise the devil will deal with you.

The Holy Spirit helps you speak in an unknown tongue, which only God understands. This prayer language helps you to pray according to the will of God (Rom. 8:26-27). This language is what to engage when you seem to be confronted with an issue and you don't know what to do and how to pray. It is what to switch to when you want to intercede on behalf of others. It also

helps you to praise God acceptably and to give thanks well (1 Cor. 14:17). What's more, the devil can't intercept your prayer and praises when you use this language, because he doesn't understand the heavenly language. Praying and praising in tongues is a guaranteed express line to God.

But then, the Holy Spirit in you is for doing much more than these; He is for doing exploits here on earth! We are in the day of God's power, and the Holy Spirit is the person sent to help you reign in power.

Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy

youth.

- Psalm 110:3

The anointing of the Holy Ghost upon men is not to make them fall, but to cause them to rise up and take charge. It is not just for vibrating and speaking in tongues; it is to establish your dominion in the midst of opposition. That is why no matter how saved you are, until you are anointed you can’t get much done. The anointing is a divine enabling. It is a higher encounter with the Holy Spirit than the baptism.

In the Old Testament, Joshua the servant of Moses had no title or particular office. His primary assignment was to minister to the

servant of God. But when the anointing came upon him via the laying on of hands, the people submitted to his leadership.

And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the Lord commanded Moses.

- Deuteronomy 34:9

Elijah was a man with a fiery anointing; he called down fire from heaven to slay the prophets of Baal. After his departure, Elisha his minister took up his mantle and went forward, dividing Jordan into two. The sons of the prophets who had earlier mocked him came bowing down to him when

they saw the double portion of Elijah's spirit and anointing upon him. Unction gave Elisha a new position.

David was a man that craved for the "fresh-oil". Was it any wonder then that he never lost a battle? The oil upon him was always fresh. He said:

But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.

- Psalm 92:10

As a result of the fresh oil he always carried, David's eyes saw his desires on his enemies and he flourished like a palm tree and was strong like the cedar of Lebanon. He was productive, even in old age.

Saul became captain over the

Lord's people after he was anointed king in first Samuel 10. Likewise, when you are anointed, you become a captain among men. Whatever you say stands, as your word will be a command. You will say to the devil, *"Go!"* and he will go, and you will say to blindness, *"Go!"* and it will obey you. You will be enthroned captain in your field when the Holy Ghost comes upon you.

Also, as a result of the anointing, whatever had been missing or stolen from you will be restored, as was the case with Saul. You will go forward, making satisfactory progress. Like Saul also, you too will be favoured, and the anointing will cause men to give to

you.

In the New Testament, we see that even though Jesus was the most talented mortal that ever lived, He could do nothing until the anointing came upon Him and declared Him to the world. His talent could not distinguish Him. He was highly gifted, because at age twelve great men had already begun to marvel at His wisdom. But He still needed to be endued with power from on high before He could fulfill His commission.

First, He was born of the Spirit (the new birth), then He was baptised of John and the Holy Ghost descended upon Him (the Holy Ghost baptism). In spite of these two spiritual experiences,

however, Jesus could not do miracles or excel in ministry until He was led of the Spirit into the wilderness, where He was anointed and equipped for exploits.

And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness…

And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.

- Luke 4:1, 14

Jesus only began to do exploits after He returned from the wilderness in the power of the Holy Spirit. After His encounter with the anointing, He declared:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

And he closed the book… And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

- Luke 4:18-20

The people could no longer ignore Jesus, because the anointing and divine enabling of the Holy Spirit had come upon Him! In like manner, the plan of God for you is also great; but you need the anointing to actualise it.

After the outpouring of the Spirit upon them, the apostles also took over the temple, such that the Bible records that "*a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith*" as a result. A little while later, they gathered again to pray, and the Bible says the place shook where they were assembled and they were filled with the Holy Ghost, speaking the Word with boldness and with great grace they gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. They had been connected to the dynamic ministry and power of the Holy Spirit.

No matter for how many years you have been going to church, if you don't seek a contact with this divine source

of power, you will live a meaningless life. But when you connect with the Holy Spirit, men will begin to run helter-skelter, seeking for ways to be connected to what you carry! The anointing is for “doing”. It is to enable you fulfill God’s purpose for your life. Jesus fulfilled His ministry (Acts 10:38), and now, it’s your turn. You will not fail, in Jesus’ name!

See Your Need for Empowerment

Many don’t seek the anointing of the Holy Spirit because they don’t understand His function in their lives. The anointing is what adds colour to our lives as Christians; otherwise, Christianity will be nothing but frustration and mere religion.

Without the Holy Spirit at work in you, life will be meaningless and destiny insecure. You will be totally helpless in conflicts. But with the help of the Holy Spirit:

…When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

- Isaiah 59:19

We need to arise to our God-given responsibility and role as saviours (Obad. 1:21). However, we can only do so by the enabling of the Holy Spirit, as power or might can't get the job done. We are helpless on our own to carry out the great task the Lord has prepared for us.

You cannot afford to live a life that

lacks the anointing, because your personal encounter with the anointing will lead to the liberation of multitudes. After reading the book of the Acts of the Apostles many years ago, I became desirous of the power that was at work in the apostles, which caused them to produce the signs and wonders I read about. I read the book again, this time slowly. I drank in every word as I read, with a deep longing in my soul, and I had very definite and specific encounters. It is no wonder then that today the Lord has given me a liberation mandate, which has led to the setting free of many captives around the world.

You also have a great call upon

your life. God’s power is available, but you must long and thirst for it, as God hates waste. He will not anoint one who will hide it, rather than use it. That is why He said:

In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

- John 7:37-38

For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:

- Isaiah 44:3

Only the thirsty qualify for an outpouring of the anointing. Now cry out to the Lord, say: “Anoint me Lord, I long for Your touch!”

Pillar 10

The Supernatural

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Pillar 10

The Supernatural

Introduction

Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

- Mark 9:23

The supernatural is the answer to all the impossibilities of life; and faith is what puts you in command of the supernatural. This is because it is only to you according to your faith.

The supernatural is a product of faith. Like I so often say, miracles are no accidental occurrences. Rather, they are the deliberate acts of God provoked

by the desperate faith of men. Faith is a vital key for unlocking the door of the supernatural. Jesus said:

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

- Mark 16:17-18

That is the supernatural in operation! It takes faith to do this, for *"these signs shall follow them that believe."* As far as God is concerned, the miraculous or supernatural does not depend on Him, but is initiated by man

through his faith.

The Jews observed how Jesus commanded the supernatural, and asked Him what His secret was.

Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?

Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

- John 6:28-29

Faith is the way to “work the work of God” (the supernatural). Jesus’ answer to the Jews who wanted to work the works of God was: “*That ye believe.*”

The selection of some of my sample teachings on the subject of the

supernatural below will help you better understand the subject, and cause you to also begin working the supernatural. Also below is a list of some books I have written on this subject. I believe they will bless you.

Operating in the Supernatural
Anointing For Exploits
Commanding the Supernatural
Releasing the Supernatural
Walking in the Miraculous

Chapter 1

Operating In The Supernatural

Every need answers to a miracle, every challenge bows to a wonder, and every desire surrenders to a sign. The supernatural is the true root of Christianity; it is what gives credibility to the Christians faith. The virgin birth of Jesus Christ was a miracle, just as His strange understanding at age 12 that amazed the doctors of the law. His ministry of signs and wonders cannot be denied: He made the blind to see, the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak. His death and resurrection was a miracle.

Christ is our root in the faith, and everything about Him is a miracle. Therefore, the supernatural is the security of our destiny in Christ. When we disregard the place of the supernatural, we become spiritually impotent and vulnerable to the wicked maneuverings of the devil.

‘Who Are You?’

The Bible says in Isaiah 8:18:

Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion.

The supernatural is the birthright of every believer! Our foundation in the supernatural is defined thus by Paul in

his letter to the Ephesian Church:

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

- Ephesians 2:20

We are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Himself being the chief corner stone! Therefore, whatever we see in Christ and in the apostles and prophets must be available in us too. They operated in the supernatural, and so much more should we, because we live under a better covenant. Nothing defines Christianity as the supernatural; it is what gives colour and beauty to the faith.

But to operate in the supernatural, you must first know who you are in Christ, as the future and destiny of every believer is defined by his understanding of his root. The believer must know who he is, where he is from, and what he is worth before he can operate in the supernatural without sweat. People came to John the Baptist and asked him “Who are you?” He replied them boldly, “I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness.” He knew who he was and what he carried. But many believers today don’t know who they are or what they are worth. Is it any wonder then that they find it difficult to operate in the supernatural, which is their birthright?

Your Supernatural Root

Talking about our root in the supernatural, Jesus said:

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

- John 3:6,8

Everyone that is born of the Spirit is a spirit being, not a spiritual being. So, new birth makes you a spirit in human flesh. Adam was a supernatural being before the fall in the Garden of Eden. He operated in the same class as

God, Who always came in the cool of the day to fellowship with him. In fact, after creating the animals, God brought them all to Adam to name, and whatever name Adam gave them was the name by which they were called. His spirit was alive, and he operated in the supernatural. But Adam's spirit man died after the fall, and Adam was reduced to a natural being.

Blessed be God, however, that when Jesus came, what died in Adam was restored to the believer! Therefore, whatever virtues Adam possessed in the garden before the fall are the same virtues you carry in your body today. You are now born of the Spirit, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit!

New birth enables you to share divinity with God. It is a restoration of the human dignity, and is designed to restore dominion back to mankind.

Being born again is not a religious identity, neither is it merely a visa for getting to heaven. Rather, it is the gateway to a world of wonders on the earth. New birth is like a resident permit to execute the ways of heaven here on earth as an ambassador of Christ. Just as the wind does not struggle with anything in its path, as heaven's ambassador you too need not struggle with obstacles here on earth.

New birth makes you a commander in all situations of life; it is your certified access to divinity. It makes

you a god in human form. If you are born of God (born on the Spirit), then you are no less than a god. This is because a goat gives birth to a goat, and a cat to a cat. Therefore, as long as God is your Father, you are also a god. It is God's nature to do wonders; the supernatural is God's natural habitat (Ex. 15:11). To behave less than your divine root, therefore, is an abuse on redemption (Jn. 20:21). The world is waiting for your manifestation as God's son and representative here on earth, not for your excuses (Rom. 8:19)!

Signs Follow Sons

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government

shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

- Isaiah 9:6

Children are born, but sons are given! Before Jesus was born, many prophecies had gone ahead of Him saying that He would be great and save His people Israel from sin. Yet, He was born as a child. Since no child is equipped to fulfill destiny, Jesus had to grow and develop into a Son before He could take authority and bear the government upon His shoulders.

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom:

and the grace of God was upon him.

- Luke 2:40

If Jesus had to grow, then you cannot use magic to get to your place in God. You have to settle down and work at it. When you fulfill the responsibilities of development, you are naturally released as a sign. So, until you grow into “sonship”, signs will not follow you. Children run after miracles, but sons distribute them. In the Bible, we always read of the crowd seeking Jesus because of the miracles He did among them. They were children, He was the Son. Only sons are vested with the authority to be signs and saviours in the kingdom (Obadiah 21). On the mount of transfiguration,

God said of Jesus, "*This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him*" (Matt. 17:5). When you become a son, all elemental forces such as sickness, disease, failure and frustration must hear and obey you.

Power is never put in the hands of children, because they are themselves under tutors and governors until the time appointed by the father (Gal. 4:1-2). That is, until they develop into sons. Talking about Jesus, Isaiah said, "*His name shall be called Wonderful.*" It takes sonship to be full of wonders and to sit in judgment (Jn. 5:22). No matter the weight of prophecies that have been declared concerning you, you need to grow into them, if you must see their

manifestations in your life.

It is not enough to discover your heritage in Christ; those discoveries must be developed, otherwise they might as well not exist. By heritage you are created a sign, but it will only become a reality by development. Children are born, but sons become (Jn. 1:12). No matter how great a man's destiny, if he remains at home sleeping, he will never taste of that greatness. So, rise up and work your way into the reality of your heritage in the supernatural. No one triumphs without training. Training is the core of any army, and we are the soldiers of Christ. After the disciples had stayed with Jesus for a period of three and a

half years, He released them as sons into the world, and signs dogged their every path (their training was complete, so their shinning was inevitable). May you also be released as a sign that you are created to be!

Chapter 2

Foundation For The Supernatural

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

- Mark 16:17-18

This is the supernatural! The reason many people cry and agonize fruitlessly in prayer is because they have lost command of the situations of life. In John 5:22, Jesus said: *"For the*

Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son." God committed all judgment to Jesus, and He in turn passed the authority down to us. He said: "*As my father hath sent me, even so send I you"* (Jn. 20:21).

Christians do not need to cry or beg for anything. All they need do is to rise up and be in command. God has deposited in us all it takes to produce signs and wonders and to manifest the supernatural. But we must accept the responsibility of making it happen in our lives. First Peter 2:9 makes us understand that believers are a peculiar people, called out of darkness into God's marvelous light. That means we

are not part of the world's system, and so are not programmed to suffer the same frustrations that the people of the world suffer. Things should not happen to us as they happen to others, because we belong to a different and superior source – the supernatural.

Unfortunately, however, many Christians have been corrupted by their natural environment, and so have lost the understanding of their peculiar nature. Their case is like the story of the baby lion that grew up among sheep. Story has it that the cub adjusted so much to its new environment that it forgot that it was a lion. One day a lion came to the river where the sheep were drinking water and roared. All the

sheep ran away, including the ignorant cub. This continued for sometime until the cub one day saw its reflection in the river while drinking water from the river. It saw that it looked like the lion they usually ran away from. Subsequently, the next time the lion roared at them, the cub refused to ran away, but rather ran excitedly to the lion, who in turn welcomed it into their midst. The cub crossed over from fear to boldness by understanding its true nature. No wonder the Bible says:

They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course.

I have said, Ye are gods; and all of

you are children of the most High.

But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.

- Psalm 82:5-7

An understanding of who you really are will always build in you the confidence required to be in command.

You Are A Sign

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son...

- Isaiah 7:14

God gave Jesus as a sign from heaven. In like manner, you are also a sign from heaven by new birth (Jn. 20:21). New birth means another sign is born. It is a supernatural event, just like the birth of Jesus by a virgin

mother. If you are a child of God, then you are for signs and wonders (Isa.8:18). It is not something you are trying to be, but something you are created to be. New birth confers on you the ability to operate in the realm of signs and wonders. It is not a privilege reserved for a select few, but something that naturally follows all who believe (Mk. 16:17).

Every circumstance in life is under the control of the supernatural. God's Word says no matter the tribulation or trial, you are more than a conqueror (Rom. 8:37). This means you are already equipped to command the supernatural. A good understanding of this truth will help build in you the

confidence required to take charge.

You Are A Wonder

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful...

- Isaiah 9:6

Wonderful simply means full of wonders, which Jesus truly reflected. As God called Him Wonderful, even so have you also been called Wonderful. You are created full of wonders at new birth, as the life of God replaces the natural life that was earlier in you. This means God’s abilities are now transfused into you; and as a partaker of His divine nature, you too can perform the wonderful acts that He did

with ease.

Men said of Jesus, "*What manner of man is this!*" (Matt. 8:27). They always marveled at both His words and deeds (Mk. 5:20). As a believer, your life must also be a wonder to the world. People should look at you and know that God is alive in you. Inexplicable things that can only be described as supernatural should naturally happen to you and through you. Jesus said:

The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit

- John 3:8

You are so wonderful that you are

likened to the wind. People cannot tell where you are going to or coming from, but they can see you growing and becoming greater daily; they see that you are in command of every circumstance of life.

You Are A Spirit

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

- John 3:5-6

When you are born again, you are not only spiritual, you are a spirit; and the spirit is what commands the

supernatural. Since every life, be it plant or animal, produces after its kind, as a true child of God, you too belong to God's kind of order. God is a Spirit (Jn. 4:24), and you also are a spirit. Therefore, the abilities of God are inherent in you. You actually carry divine power on your inside, giving you all it takes to be in command of the supernatural.

An understanding of this fundamental point is crucial to your walk in the supernatural. Everything goes out of course when the children of God lose control due to lack of knowledge and understanding of their divine nature (Ps. 82:5). God says you are a god, but if you do not understand

this truth, you will remain in darkness and defeat. It is not the enemy hindering your progress; it is your lack of light. Do not watch things get out of control around you any more; get up and take charge! As you do so, no devil in hell will be able to stop you on earth any longer.

Chapter 3

Fundamentals Of The Supernatural

For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

- Romans 8:19

Many Christians wrongly assume that signs and wonders are free. The truth is that nothing is free in this world, not even miracles. That is why,

to lay a solid foundation for the operation of signs and wonders in your life, I will show you a few basic ways of accessing the realm of the supernatural.

The New Birth Access

The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

- John 3:8

Nicodemus thought that only Jesus could perform signs and wonders, but Jesus emphasized that all men had equal access to the supernatural by the new birth (Jn 3:1-8). This is because you are born of the Spirit when you are

born again, thus making you a spirit being. If you are a spirit being, then you share divinity with God, and so can operate in the supernatural like Him. New birth makes you a commander in all situations of life, like God. It is your certified access to divinity; it makes you a god in human form (Ps. 82:5-7).

New birth also bestows the creative mind of Christ on you, which is needed to live life in the supernatural (1 Cor. 2:16). See what that mind is capable of doing:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with

God.

All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

- John 1:1-3

The Word is Christ, whose mind you possess through salvation. If that mind created all things, it, therefore, means that you also possess a creative mind. When the earth was without form and void, the mind of Christ came on the scene, and now we talk about the earth as the Lord’s and the fullness thereof, the world and all that dwell therein.

You possess that creative mind, so you have what it takes to operate in the supernatural! You can recreate

whatever is not good around you, just as God did! That is life in the supernatural! When faced with the challenge of feeding five thousand men, the Bible says Jesus knew what He would do; and the supernatural manifested, as heaven's kitchen came down, and all the very hungry men were fed, with twelve baskets of fragments gathered! New birth is what connects you to this life. With the mind of Christ in you, you will always know what to do.

New birth also re-establishes your relationship with God that was lost after Adam sinned and was chased out of the Garden of Eden. It qualifies you to carry divine presence, which

automatically qualifies you to operate in the supernatural. God now becomes your companion (Matt. 28:20), and if God is with you, the miraculous becomes the order of the day for you, because obstacles cannot withstand God’s presence (Mk. 16:20; Ps. 114:1-7).

The Word Access

Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?

If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken;

- John 10:34-35

They became gods by the Word that came unto them. Until the Word of

God comes to you, you can't access the world of signs and wonders, as anyone who has the Word of God is a god. Get the Word, and you will be in control, and become a sign and a wonder to your world. You will lord it over circumstances and be a god over situations.

Before God sent Moses out as a god to Pharaoh (Ex. 7:1), He gave him an instrument for working miracles. God called it a rod in Exodus 4:17:

And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs.

God placed the instrument of working miracles in the hands of Moses. But what is this rod in our own days? By prophecy, the rod refers to

Jesus Christ (Isa. 11:1-3), Who in the New Testament is revealed as the Word (Jn. 1:1-3). Therefore, just as Moses took the rod, when you take the rod of the Word in your hands, you will be able to do signs. So Exodus 4:17 can be paraphrased like this: "*And thou shalt take this Word in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs.*"

We work the Word to produce the wonders. When you get the revealed Word over any issue of concern in your life, you automatically operate in the class of God in that area, as you can then do as occasion serves you. There is nothing new under the sun, so there is no situation in life that does not have a way out in the Bible. However, it is

your responsibility to camp around the Word, for sign-producing encounters and discoveries (2 Tim 2:15).

But note that it is not just enough to find the necessary Word; much more, you need to put the discovered Word to work by applying it. The Word you know is great, the one you believe is fantastic, but the one you act upon is what will deliver the result you desire. Every miracle is traceable to the applied Word of God. No wonder James said:

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

- James 1:22

Manifestation is revelation plus

corresponding action. When you take steps in the direction of the light God has shown you from His Word, you compel signs to be born. All the miracles recorded in scripture came as a result of deliberate actions taken by the beneficiaries. For example, at the miracle of turning water into wine recorded in John 2:1-11, Mary, Jesus' mother, told the people, "*Whatsoever he sayeth unto you, do it.*" The people didn't have to fast to get the miracle; they simply did what Jesus (the Word) told them to do. Many have camped around revelations but ended up in frustrations, because they will not take the corresponding actions that turn revelations into reality. Until you act

on the Word you have received, God is not committed to confirming it.

Another thing you must do with the Word you receive in order to work the supernatural is: you must speak the Word.

For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

- Mark 11:23

In the story of creation recorded in Genesis chapter one, everything God said, He saw. Likewise, when you

speak the Word you have received and believe in, you will also see what you desire, as you commit God to perform that which you have declared. No sound, no sign is the fundamental rule in the school of signs and wonders. Even Jesus operated by this rule: "…*as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things"* (Jn. 8:28).

The sound you make is the trigger for the signs you get; but it takes a heart filled with the right Words to produce the right sound. Signs and wonders in the kingdom are not magic; they come via discoveries. So, sit with the Word!

The Holy Spirit Access

But the natural man receiveth not

the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

- 1 Corinthians 2:14

Knowledge of the Word is a principal requirement for working signs and wonders. However, there is a difference between mental knowledge and revelation knowledge. The latter is what is needed for manifesting your divinity, and it can only be accessed with the help of the Holy Spirit.

No matter the volume of scriptures you have memorized, without the help of the Holy Spirit, you cannot accomplish much in the school of signs and wonders. You are absolutely

incapable of tapping into the deep things of God without the help of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 2:10-14). It is the Holy Spirit that brings out the life from the letters of scriptures.

Knowledge of the Word is not just knowing where something is written, but having proofs of freedom (Jn. 8:32). One major assignment of the Holy Spirit is to guide believers into this liberating knowledge (Jn. 16:13). He does not just tell you, He shows you; and the moment you can see the truth, doubt is automatically destroyed. The Holy Spirit also quickens your understanding, telling you what to do (Isa. 11:3); and when you know what to do, you become a commander of the

supernatural.

We need the help of the Holy Spirit more than the help of any human being on earth, as He alone is the custodian of all truths.

The Faith Access

Walking in the miraculous or being a sign on the earth does not happen by accident; neither does it just drop on you. Your deliberate act of faith is what provokes God to deliver your miracle to you. Miracles do not just happen, nor do they happen at God's timing. You make them happen when you want them to; and faith is your key to the miraculous, because signs follow only those that believe.

And these signs shall follow them

that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

- Mark 16:17

Signs follow only those who believe, not those who are engaged in religious activity. Faith is a major qualifier for signs, as it translates you from the natural to the supernatural realm. Faith is not mental assent, but a heart-seated belief in God's commitment to do what He says He will do. It is a tangible force with which you can quench all the fiery darts of the devil (Eph. 6:16). Even if you know volumes of scriptures, they are useless if faith is not applied (Heb. 4:2). Although Moses had the rod (the

Word) in his hand, all the supernatural feats he performed hinged heavily on his faith (Heb. 11:24-27).

After miraculously feeding 5,000 men, those who witnessed it wanted to know how to do such supernatural exploits. Jesus' reply to them was: *"This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent"* (Jn. 6:29). Believing in Him that is sent is faith: faith in the Word and in Jesus, the sent One.

Two things make faith invincible: first, it commits the ability of God. An example is seen in the story of the woman with the issue of blood (Lk. 8:43-48). Her faith compelled the flow of divine virtue that healed her. God's

omni-potency was provoked by her act of faith. Secondly, faith commits God's integrity. If you dare to believe whatever He has promised you, He cannot deny Himself, because it is impossible for God to lie (2 Tim. 2:13; Tit. 1:2; Heb. 6:18; Num. 23:19).

The supernatural draws essentially on your obedience of faith to the demands of scriptures. When you do whatever He tells you to do, you have committed Him to confirm His Word. There is nothing magical about the miraculous; miracles are no accidents, but the deliberate acts of God provoked by the desperate faith of men in the living Word of God. When your faith comes alive on every scriptural

demand and you respond positively to them, you birth signs and wonders at will.

Chapter 4

The Trigger For Signs & Wonders

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

- Mark 16:17-18

The name of Jesus is God's ordained trigger for signs and wonders. An understanding of the potency of that name will put you on the miracle path all the days of your life. The name of

Jesus is not just a clause we use in prayer, neither is it a punctuation in a religious talk. It is not an emblem that we bear to show that we are Christians either. The name of Jesus is a sceptre of signs, a seal of authority which He handed over to His disciples to command signs at will. The name of Jesus is the heritage of the sons of God.

The Wonder-Full Name Of Jesus

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

- Isaiah 9:6

God names people according to His purpose for their lives. He changed Abram's name to Abraham, and Sarai's to Sarah, to suit their destinies (Gen. 17:5, 15). The prophet Isaiah said of Jesus, "*His name shall be called WONDERFUL…*" That means, His name is not ordinary; it is full of wonders. While praying in Acts 4:30, the disciples said:

By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

Signs and wonders are rooted in the name of Jesus. The eruption of miracles, signs and wonders in the Acts of the Apostles was as a result of the

use of the name of Jesus. In Acts 3:6, Peter said to the lame man at the beautiful gate:

…Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

Note that he said, "*Such as I have…*" That is because he had possession of the name as an instrument for working signs. When the disciples were brought before a panel to defend the miracle, Peter said:

…Be it known unto you all … that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you

whole

- Acts 4:10

The name of Jesus is enough to silence all the roaring, howling and noisome pestilences of your life; it is equal to any task it might be required to perform. The name of Jesus produces immediate results. When the lame man at the Beautiful Gate was healed, the Bible records in Acts 3:7, *"…And immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength"*, and in Acts 9:34, when Peter prayed for Aeneas, we were told, *"…He arose immediately."* That gives you an idea of how powerful the name of Jesus is; it causes immediate releases!

The name of Jesus also destroys

yokes. In Luke 10:17, the disciples said to Jesus, "*…Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.*" Isaiah 59:19 tells us that the Spirit of God raises a standard against the devil our enemy. That means the name of Jesus also commands the effectual working of the Spirit of God against the enemy.

The Uniqueness Of The Name

There are several factors that make the name of Jesus unique, that make it a power-conducting name. Let us consider a few of them:

It Is A Gift From God

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

- Philippians 2:9-10

God gave Jesus that name! While telling Joseph about Mary's conception of Jesus, Angel Gabriel said, "*And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS...*" (Matt. 1:21). We know the gifts and callings of God are without repentance. No wonder the name has not changed, but is still full of wonders (Heb. 13:8)!

It Is Self-anointed

Christ means the Anointed One. That means there is an anointing built into that name that makes it peculiar

and strange. Songs Of Solomon 1:3 says:

Because of the savour of thy good ointments thy name is as ointment poured forth, therefore do the virgins love thee.

Yokes are destroyed because of the anointing (Isa. 10:27), and we see this happen once and again in the book of Acts, as the disciples use the name of Jesus to set men free. This proves that the name Jesus is self-anointed.

It Puts The Angels To Work

And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him

- Hebrews 1:6

That means all the angelic hosts stand at attention to receive orders when the name of Jesus is mentioned. They move in to intervene in situations and bring deliverance once that name is invoked in the face of any opposition.

Invoke The Name!

And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

- Acts 9:34

When Peter invoked the name of Jesus, it set Aeneas on his feet, after eight years of sickness! Note that there is a difference between calling the name of Jesus and invoking it. To invoke means to enforce the release of

the wonders in the name.

There is enough power in that name to get you out of that sick bed, failure and frustration! When you invoke the name of Jesus, you are as it were, spraying forth His immeasurable anointing, which works on your behalf to cause every opposition to surrender. The name of Jesus establishes your dominion on the earth, and brings you into a realm of outstanding results.

Have Faith!

And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

- Acts 3:16

Faith is what releases the virtues in the name of Jesus. It is not enough to know the name; you have to inject faith into it when using or invoking it. Knowing what the name carries increases your confidence, because when you invoke the name in faith thereafter, signs are bound to flow.

From today, when you see opposition, aim at the devil's head and shoot at him by pulling the name trigger and your victory will be established. This is the confidence that we have when we use that name:

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the

Father by him.

- Colossians 3:17

Chapter 5

Guarantee For The Flow Of Signs And Wonders

Moses was one of the greatest signs in the Old Testament; God smote Egypt with mighty signs and wonders by his hand. Moses was a sign even unto death, as he has no grave among men, because God took him. The Bible reveals Moses' secret to us in Exodus 33:15:

And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.

In other words, "I know I cannot fulfill my mission as a sign except

Your presence goes with me." This is God's reply to him:

And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.

- Exodus 33:14

God re-assured Moses, saying, "My presence will go with you, and you will have it the way you want it. You will be in command, and will be a sign and a wonder among the people. I will distinguish you among men by My presence." When Israel came out of Egypt, God was in their midst. Consequently, "*The sea saw them and fled*" (Ps. 114:3).

What is our guarantee for an unending flow of signs and wonders?

Divine Presence

God’s presence is our guarantee for a continuous flow of signs. Jesus, the Moses of the New Testament, also tells us His secret of success in John 8:29:

And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.

God’s presence was His guarantee for an unending flow of signs (Acts 10:38). Also, God’s presence was the secret behind the explosion and success of the apostles.

And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.

- Mark 16:20

God’s presence was with them,

confirming their words with signs following. When you carry God's presence, you begin to experience His mighty acts. The Bible tells us in Zephaniah 3:17:

The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

God's mighty acts are generated in His presence, because signs trail His presence. To maintain the flow of signs and wonders, therefore, divine presence is a must.

You may then ask, "If divine presence is so valuable, what then does it take to carry it?" Every treasure has a

cost. There is a price you must pay in order to carry God's presence. Let me show you two of them:

Love

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

- John 14:23

That is divine presence – "*we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.*" Love is so important to the Christian faith that Jesus hinges everything about Christianity on it.

Master, which is the great commandment in the law?

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt

love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

- Matthew 22:36-40

True love begins with God and overflows to men. The depth of your love for God is usually reflected in your love for people. Naturally, you are more comfortable staying around those who love you; you feel more at home with them and are constantly drawn towards them. The Bible says two

people cannot walk together or cooperate if they do not agree or have like minds (Amos 3:3). God is love; and the scripture says if you do not have love, you do not have God (1 Jn. 4:7-8). If God is love and you walk in hatred, there is no way you can carry His presence, because two cannot walk together except they be agreed. Until you become a true lover of God and other people, you cannot carry His presence.

No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

- 1 John 4:12-13

God becomes your friend when you walk in love, and if God is for you, who can be against you (Rom. 8:31)? All your enemies are rendered helpless, because of the presence of God that you carry through love (Ps. 114:1-8).

Soul Winning

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

- Matthew 28:19-20

In other words, “As you go to

influence the nations, your friends, neighbours and members of your family for My kingdom, lo, I will be with you. You are guaranteed of My presence, if you will be committed to My mission of reaching the world." A practical involvement with God in His purpose of reaping the over-ripe harvest of souls guarantees His ever-abiding presence. After Jesus healed the mad man of Gadara and he wanted to follow Him, Jesus said to him in Mark 5:19-20:

...Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.

And he departed, and began to

publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel.

Going out for Jesus and the kingdom of God is a cardinal price to pay for divine presence. Jesus said to the man, "*Go home to thy friends…*" That is, "Show your friends the effect of redemption on your life; tell them what Jesus has done for you and others. As you market your faith among your friends, His presence will abide with you."

The harvest of the world is over-ripe. There is an unlimited opportunity to secure divine presence perpetually as you influence your environment for Jesus. His presence goes with people

that are on the go for Him; it does not sit with them. The Bible says, "...*The Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.*" The Samaritan woman at the well went to tell others about Christ. "*Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?*" she said to the people (Jn. 4:29).

Soul winning does not only guarantee divine presence, it is also rewarding. Paul said:

Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

- 1 Corinthians 3:8

Soul winning attracts divine wages. Jesus said in John 4:36, "*And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.*" It also ensures that you are a candidate for divine health (Jn. 15:1-2). When you win souls into the kingdom, God removes every parasite troubling your body, so you can bear more fruits.

Winning souls into God's kingdom also gives you a prayer advantage with God (Jn. 15:16) and ensures that God makes a star of you (Dan. 12:3; Prov. 11:30). If you must maintain the flow of signs and wonders in your life, then divine presence is a vital requirement. When you succeed in maintaining His

ever-abiding presence, you stand out among men. Then it shall be said of you, “What manner of man is this that such mighty works are done by his hands?” That shall be your portion, in Jesus’ name!

Chapter 6

The Sound Factor

The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

- John 3:8

Signs and wonders refer to occurrences outside the usual or natural sphere of life. They do not happen by chance; rather, they are the deliberate acts of God provoked by the desperate faith of man. This implies that you have an active, non-transferable part to play in the manifestation of the

supernatural. There are things you must do if you must overcome whatever situation you are confronted with. One of such is the effective use of your tongue.

The sound factor is principal in your quest for commanding signs. Without a sound, there can never be a sign. The greatest of all wonders is recorded in Genesis 1:1-31. The entire universe was created by what God said: *"...And God said..."* God saw all that He said.

The words you speak or produce determine the wonders in your life. This is seen in the lives of the apostles, who experienced signs based only on the words they spoke (Mk. 16:20; Acts

14:3). Until you say it, do not expect to see it (Mk. 11:23). As terrible as death poses to be, it also responds to the command of your sound (Prov. 18:21). The challenges of life can be subdued by your sound; it is your instrument of command.

The words you speak are destiny moulders. You can give shape and colour to your life by the sound you produce, just as God did:

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

- Hebrews 11:3

You are a child of destiny; you cannot afford to live like a destitute.

Speak good words, because God not only watches over His Word to perform it, but also confirms the words you speak.

The Potency Of Your Words

Four things make your words potent. First, **God confirms your words**; He is committed to performing whatever you say. God has not changed, He is the one that *"...Confirmeth the word of his servant, and performeth the counsel of his messengers…"* (Isa. 44:26).

Secondly, your words **put the angels to work**. They carry out your words, whether positive or negative. No wonder the Bibles warns in Ecclesiastes 5:6:

Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands?

God gave a similar warning to Moses and the children of Israel in the wilderness (Ex. 23:20-21). Angels can be turned on in your favour by your words of faith. The three Hebrew boys in Babylon enjoyed angelic intervention because they spoke the right words before being thrown into the fiery furnace (Dan. 3:15-25).

A third reason why your words are powerful enough to command signs is because **every word is a seed**. The Word of God is seed (Lk. 8:11-15). As

a true child of God therefore, your words are also seeds (Ps. 82:6). Since whatever a man sows is what he reaps, the things you say are what will happen to you. So, begin to say exactly what you want to see, because until you say it, you won't see it.

Think about it for a moment: is it the same day you sow a seed you expect a harvest? No! Therefore, it is not always the first time you say a thing that you see it. But keep on saying the right words in faith, until the harvest manifests. The more contrary things look, the louder you must declare the way you expect them to be; and you shall have what you say.

Fourthly, your words **give you**

control over all opposition. Every "close-mouthed" Christian is a victim of oppression. Open your mouth wide, and God will fill it (Ps. 81:10). He has given you a mouth and wisdom that no opponent can withstand (Lk. 21:15). All the enemies of your life are waiting for the sound of your voice to bow; so start speaking loud and clear (Ps. 18:44-45).

If you must enjoy the supernatural, you need to mind what you say about your life, person, business, career, marriage, property, children, etc. Until you know how to use your tongue correctly, you can never enjoy a colourful future.

Speak Boldly

Speaking boldly gives divine authority to your speech. Jesus, our perfect example, spoke so boldly that every one who heard Him marveled at His boldness. Even the storms could not withstand the authority with which He spoke, and bowed at His sound (Mk. 1:21-28; Lk. 8:22-25).

Boldness is a proof of your trust in God. You cannot trust Him and not be confident; and your confidence automatically reflects in your speech. The apostles wrought so many signs and wonders; they did not just speak, but were described as "*speaking boldly in the Lord*" (Acts 14:3). This type of speech is what commits God in your favour, causing Him to respond with

signs and wonders.

Note that nothing enhances boldness like your depth of knowledge of God and His ways (Dan. 11:32). The more you know, the more you increase in strength.

A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.

- Proverbs 24:5

Miracle Words

Miracle words are drawn from a heart filled with the truth of the Word of God. Miracle words can only come out of miracle hearts. Jesus said in Matthew 12:34-35:

...Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

A good man out of the good

treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

The more you sit with the Word of God, the more life that comes out of you. Mary chose to sit at Jesus' feet to hear the Word, and He commended her for it (Lk. 10:38-42). You cannot fill your heart with words of abundance and divine health and still talk poverty and sickness. You need the Word of God in your heart to govern your situation in life.

It is time to take charge and command. You are equipped to set the pace for wonders in your life with the sound you produce, which in turn is a function of your depth in the Word of

God. So, use your mouth and take charge!

Chapter 7

Maintaining The Miraculous

For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

- Romans 8:19

It is not enough to acquire a machine; you also need to possess a working knowledge of how it is maintained. The same way, you need to have a working knowledge of how to maintain life in the miraculous.

Whatever God does require maintenance. For instance, a group of people came up with the doctrine of once saved always saved. But we know

that once saved is not always saved, as there is what to do to maintain your salvation. The miraculous is not different. There is what to do to maintain your walk in the miraculous, and there is also what not to do, if you want to sustain it.

Having a working knowledge of how to maintain a miraculous lifestyle, and walking in the light of that revelation makes you a bona-fide commander of the miraculous.

Purity

A life of purity is required in maintaining a supernatural lifestyle. Jesus was declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness (Rom. 1:3-4). It is,

therefore, the effectual working of the spirit of holiness in men that makes sons out of children, and causes the sons of God to emerge.

Unction (power) is tied to consecration, and manifestation is a natural by-product of unction. That means at the root of your manifestation is consecration. When you respond to the commands and dictates of the god of this world (the devil), you are a child. As long as the sin nature has the final say in the steps you take, you are a child. Let that sin die, for until sin goes, signs would not flow. Sin is the greatest enemy of the flow of signs. Living a life of purity makes you worthy to do signs.

Your status in God is a function of your walk with Him. The sin nature has tied the Church down to childhood, and as such her manifestations have been delayed.

If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.

- 2 Timothy 2:21

Your lifestyle, to a great extent, determines the quality of power you carry. Until you are able to successfully and continuously guard yourself against the bondage of the elements of this world, you cannot be considered a son. And until you are

considered a son, you are not worthy to manifest signs. Signs are the exclusive preserve of sons.

Preparation

Every divine encounter calls for genuine preparation. Every miracle, no matter how used you are to the miraculous, must be consciously prepared for. There is no manifestation without preparation. Every outstanding result is traceable to outstanding preparation.

In John 11, I believe Jesus got Himself set to get Lazarus out of the grave. He knew that Lazarus was dead, but He abode there two days more; I believe, in preparation to raise him up. When He came out to pray later, He

simply said, "*Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.*" That statement would not have been normal or sane if nothing had gone on earlier between Him and the Father.

So the things you see happen on the stage in Jesus' life actually first happened behind the stage, during the time of preparation. You too can turn everything around you the right way up, but you will first need to take time (in preparation) to get it done. Elijah didn't just get up and say, "*By my word, it shall not rain.*" James 5:17 reveals what his secret was:

Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it

rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

He prayed earnestly; that is, he first connected with heaven and organised it with God, and then came out to make the declaration. Declaration without preparation will end up in frustrations. If your declarations do not match your preparation, you are only signing up for frustrations.

You want to live a life of signs? Do you want to live life in the miraculous? Then you must know how to operate behind the scene, setting the stage for the signs and wonders you desire. It takes your personal preparation to guarantee your personal manifestation.

Spiritual Smartness

The Word of God is described as quick:

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

- Hebrews 4:12

As quick as the Word is, it will only answer to quick responses from you. There was a man who lived by the miracle pool of Bethesda for 38 years, seeking healing! He was not a man of action, but of explanation; so he laid there watching everyone else get healed and leave him by the pool for 38

years (Jn. 5:2-9).

Every time God's Word is being preached, the miracle pool is being troubled; every sensitive person steps into it. Men of action are naturally men of manifestations. If you are smart enough to move at the instance of every revelation, you will never lack manifestations. That is, as soon as God shows it to you, you are on the move!

It takes spiritual smartness to command and maintain the flow of the miraculous. Every time a Word drops in your heart, immediately step into action with it.

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him,

and will sup with him, and he with me.

- Revelation 3:20

That is manifestation. Every time God knocks on your door with an insight from His Word, He is only calling on you and saying, “Do you want it? Rise up and catch it.” The ministry of the Holy Spirit comes on mostly on sudden frequencies. While Peter was yet speaking in the house of Cornelius, the Holy Ghost suddenly fell on them. Also on the day of Pentecost, the Bible records “*…And suddenly, there was a mighty rushing wind…and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost”* (Acts 2:2-4). If the Holy Spirit’s manifestations are on sudden frequencies, then it takes people who

are hypersensitive to catch it. You will not miss the hour of your visitation.

The above listed factors are ways of maintaining a life in the miraculous.

Pillar 11

Healing

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Pillar 11

Healing

Introduction

Every born again child of God has a covenant of divine health with God. This is because God is not only interested in the well being of our spirits and souls alone; but also in the well being of our bodies as well. That is why the Bible says, "*Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth*" (3 Jn. 2). Jesus paid the full price for our total health on the cross (Isa. 53:5), and God emphatically declared: "*I am the Lord that healeth*

thee" (Ex. 15:26).

God's ultimate plan for His children is living a sickness-free life; that is walking in divine health. But if you are afflicted with sickness, I have good news for you: God wants you healed! Jesus said healing is children's bread (Mk. 7:25-27). That is, if you are born again, it is your right to be healed! Jesus was anointed with power, and He went about doing good – healing the sick. Divine healing is your right if you are redeemed.

There's a place in God where you will stand and never get sick. It is the realm where the divine nature on your inside is so stirred up that you become immune to sickness and disease. It

takes faith to get there.

Faith is a necessary ingredient for healing. This is because every provision of scriptures is accessible only through faith. In many accounts of Jesus healing the sick, you hear Him say, *"Your faith has made thee whole"*, *"Be it to you according to your faith."* In Acts 14:9, the Bible tells us that while preaching one day at Lystra, Apostle Paul perceived that a certain man had faith to be made whole, and he was healed.

Divine health is available; but it is obtainable only through the faith channel. Until you believe the report of divine health and healing, you can't enjoy it. As I take you through some

sample teachings on the subject of divine health and healing, your faith will be built up, so you can take delivery of your rich covenant heritage.

Also listed are some books I have written on this subject. I believe they will be an asset in your understanding of the subject.

Keys To Divine Health
The Healing Balm
The Miracle Meal
Miracle Healings

Chapter 1

Divine Health Is Your Birthright

Sound health is paramount to human existence; every other thing in life comes after it. That is why everybody responds quickly to its demands, because sickness can be very devastating. Very colourful dreams can and have been terminated by sickness. It can make a hitherto successful man a total failure in life. Very many wealthy people have ended up in penury because of sickness and disease, since any man would do or sell anything to save his life.

Good health is the springboard for

progress and achievement in life, which is why it is crucial to all. The Psalmist acknowledges this, and so is thankful to God for his healing.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.

- Psalm 103:2-3

God's wish for you is sound health. He makes this very clear in 3 John 2:

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

God is as interested in you being healthy as He is in you being saved and prosperous. Unfortunately, however, some Christians think the Lord is

trying to teach them lessons when they fall sick. No! God's desire for His children is that they live a sickness-free life; that is, a life that is completely free of all forms of sicknesses and diseases. In fact, that was why Jesus came. The Bible sheds more light on this:

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

- Acts 10:38

God anointed Jesus, so He can heal all those that were oppressed with sickness by the devil. If it were God's will for you to be sick, Jesus won't go

about healing the same people He wants sick, as a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus cannot be healing the sick if sickness was from God! Sickness is not God's will for you! Satan is the root cause of sicknesses and diseases, and he goes about deceiving men, trying to make them believe it is from God. But I have good news for you! The Bible says:

…For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

- 1 John 3:8

Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil in your life (sickness) and to set you free! God Himself said, "*I am the Lord that healeth thee*" (Ex. 15:26).

God your Father is your Healer and Deliverer! He is the solution to all your problems, not the cause. After the salvation of your soul, the next most important thing to God is the salvation of your body. You must know this, understand it and walk in its consciousness; otherwise, the devil will keep robbing you of your birthright of divine health and healing.

Let me now show you God's provisions for your total health from scriptures.

Your Covenant Access

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.

- Galatians 3:13

God’s solution for sickness and diseases is wrapped up in the mystery of salvation. It is interesting to note that Jesus could have forgiven our sins without having to go to the cross, because the atonement for sin only required His blood, which He could have shed through any other form of death. But Jesus had to go to the cross in order to establish a covenant of sound health for mankind.

We understand from Deuteronomy 28:15-61 that every sickness and disease is a curse of the law. Jesus, therefore, went to the cross to avert that curse and to set us free from its effect. So every redeemed child of God

is no longer under the law, and can now react against the operations of the law in their lives. First Peter 2:24 and Isaiah 53:5 tells us that by His stripes we were healed. By the two acts of Jesus hanging on the cross and receiving stripes on His back, He fully paid the price for our total health!

God is committed to your total health just as He was to the health of the children of Israel. The Bible tells us that the children of Israel journeyed through the wilderness for 40 years, and there was not one feeble person among their tribes in all these years! It was because Jehovah Rapha (the Lord that healeth) was in their midst (Ps. 105:37). The nights were chilly and

cold, yet they did not suffer fever. The mosquitoes also had a field day on them, but none of them broke down with malaria. They were exposed to the harshest weather conditions and journeyed through the wilderness where wild beasts were in abundance. They trekked for 40 years, yet their legs were not swollen. Why? Jehovah Rapha was their covering. And God says, *"I am the Lord, I change not"* (Mal. 3:6). That same God is your God. It, therefore, means you too can enjoy divine health as they did of old!

A picture is painted of the Messiah in Malachi 4:1-2. The Bible says:

For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the

proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

While multitudes are burning off, leaving them with neither root nor branch, a company of people who are under the rays of the Sun of Righteousness (Jesus) shall be growing up and going forth! When you are under the messianic covering of the Sun of Righteousness, HIV/AIDS,

cancer, kidney failure, heart and liver diseases and those funny diseases that the world suffers will be far from you. There will be a clear difference between you and the world, as new birth is accompanied with the enviable benefit of sound health. You are not born again to suffer again! You are not saved to suffer, but to be sound in health! That is why the Bible tells us in Matthew 8:17:

That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

Divine health is your birthright in God; Jesus already paid the price in full on your behalf, so enjoy it! Let me

again show you two other vital roots that guarantee you divine health:

The Abrahamic Covenant Root

And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

- Genesis 15:15

God made this promise to Abraham, and because he walked in obedience to God, it was converted to a covenant for him. Abraham not only lived a very long life, but also enjoyed sound health.

And these are the days of the years of Abraham’s life which he lived, an hundred threescore and fifteen years.

Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man,

and full of years; and was gathered to his people.

- Genesis 25:7-8

Abraham went to his fathers in peace, and you are connected to this same Abrahamic covenant of longevity through Jesus' hanging on the cross of Calvary (Gal. 3:13-14). This covenant virtue of longevity flowed from Abraham to Isaac also (Gen. 35:28-29). Isaac was full of days like his father Abraham; he died at age 180. The Bible tells us in Galatians 4:28 that we, as Isaac, are children of promise. Again, this Abrahamic covenant virtue flowed down to Jacob (Gen. 47:28).

Every time you see longevity, sound health is implied. We have a

covenant of divine health in God under the Abrahamic covenant. The death and resurrection of Jesus is our eternal ransom from sickness and disease. Jesus Christ died in order to connect us to the Abrahamic covenant. Therefore, picture yourself in a good old age still vibrant, strong, refreshed and bubbling with life. Like Abraham and our covenant forefathers, you will go to your fathers in peace and in a good old age!

Your Prophetic Root

We also have a prophetic root of sound health and longevity in Christ. The Bible says:

And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye

was not dim, nor his natural force abated.

- Deuteronomy 34:7

Moses was just as vibrant when he died at 120 as he was at 40. This is how he is linked to Jesus: verse ten tells us that there arose not a prophet in Israel like unto Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. And Peter tells us in Acts 3:22:

For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

Jesus came like unto Moses, and you are like unto Jesus (Jn. 17:18;

20:21). That means you are like unto Moses; you have a prophetic root of divine health. Moses enjoyed divine health. Despite his age, his eyes were not dim nor did his natural force abate.

Your Abrahamic and prophetic roots all prove the validity of your heritage of divine health.

Chapter 2

The Root Of Sickness

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

- John 10:10

You have an enviable heritage of divine health in God. Right from creation, it is very clear that man was not created for sickness and disease. This is proved by the fact that no provision was made for man’s healing at the beginning. The provision for healing only came after the fall of man.

Man was not created to be sick; rather, he was created in the likeness and image of God. But Satan came and corrupted that wonderful creation. The scriptures make it clear that every disease is machinated by the devil. In the story of Job we are told:

So went Satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

- Job 2:7

Contrary to Job's belief, Satan was actually behind his afflictions, not God. It was Satan who smote Job with sore boils, not God. Also in Luke 13, the Bible tells us of a woman said to have a spirit of infirmity that bowed her down

for 18 years. This is Jesus' diagnosis of her sickness:

And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?

- Luke 13:16

Her infirmity was the handiwork of Satan. The Bible tells us in Acts 10:38 that Jesus went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil. From Acts 19:11-12 and Matthew 8:16 also, we see that evil spirits were always behind every sickness and disease, showing that the devil is the one behind every form of sickness. The Bible always described

the people as being oppressed by the devil, not by the weather.

The Sin Connection

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

- Romans 5:12

Like I said earlier, God designed man for perfect health right from creation. That is why He never made any provision for man’s healing in the Garden of Eden. There is no where in scriptures, either by instruction or commandment, where Adam needed to do anything to keep himself healthy. He was a symbol of total health. Until he shifted his ground and gave in to

sin, sickness and disease had no access to him. We can conclude, therefore, that sin is the root cause of sickness, because it was after man sinned that he became a victim of sickness and disease. The Bible says:

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

- Romans 6:16

Sin gave Satan an in-road into man’s life and health and the right to determine what happens as far as man’s health was concerned. It was after sin came that man began to fall sick and to look for healing. But praise

God we have a provision in God which restores us to our original position of total health.

Sickness Is A Spirit

I want you to know very clearly that Satan is the author of sickness and disease, and that he operates through a battalion of evil spirits, such as deaf and dumb spirits, spirit of infirmities, and so on. The Bible says:

And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath.

And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself.

- Luke 13:10-11

From the original Greek text,

Ostheneia is the root word for “infirmity.” The word Ostheneia (want of strength) is the common Greek word for sickness. For eighteen years the woman referred to in the above scripture was being oppressed by the spirit of sickness. That means sickness is a spirit. If sickness is a spirit, then it means that there is a spirit of deformity, a spirit of fever, a spirit of cancer, a spirit of migraine, a spirit of kidney failure, a spirit of fibroid, a spirit of blood disease, a spirit of lameness, etc. That is why Mark 9:25 tells us:

When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou

dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

Jesus rebuked the deaf and dumb foul spirit that was oppressing the boy, and he was made whole. There is always an evil spirit behind every infirmity or sickness, and Satan is the source of all sicknesses.

Satan Lost His Throne!

God created you perfect; you were created very good. Then Satan came and sowed his evil seed of sin, and the good creation of God became evil. Until Jesus came, and then the tables turned! The Bible says:

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the

beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

- 1 John 3:8

Every disease is the work of the devil. But praise God Jesus came that He might destroy the works of the devil! The Bible says He went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil. Here are some examples:

And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One

of God.

And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

- Mark 1:23-26

And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit,

Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains:

Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him.

And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.

- Mark 5:2-5

But then, he came in contact with the One that has the power to destroy every spirit of sickness – Jesus!

But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him,

And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.

For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit.

- Mark 5:6-8

The man was set free! By the time

the people who used to know him as a mad man saw him again, he was *"sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind..."* (Mk. 5:15)!

By virtue of your redemption in Christ, Satan has no final say in your life any more. Jesus came to destroy all the works of the devil, including all his sicknesses and diseases! The Bible says:

When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

- John 19:30

After taking that bitter drink, Jesus said, "It is finished"; that is, it is finished with anything that is making

life bitter for you - finished with sorrows and pains - and He bowed His head and gave up the ghost. That may sound like defeat, but in Hebrews 2:14-15, the Bible says:

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Death was overthrown when Jesus gave up the ghost! The one who had the power of death (Satan) was destroyed, and man’s liberty from all his

oppressions was sealed. When Jesus descended into hell, Satan's throne was destroyed and man's liberty was established!

"It is finished!" was the proclamation that put an end to the dominion of Satan over your life and destiny. The dominion of the wicked over your body came to an end as a result of that proclamation also! Know this then, Satan is too weak to make you sick! Power was taken from him when Jesus went down to the grave, and the scriptures cannot be broken! If Jesus hadn't destroyed Satan, He couldn't have been Lord over your life. But He did, and Satan lost his throne! As a result, Matthew 15:13 says:

… Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.

That sickness in your body is a planting of the devil. But Jesus has come to root out everything Satan has ever placed in your body. So, the only sickness that won't leave you alone is the one that is stronger than God; and of course, there's no such sickness! If God says, "Yes!" the enemy cannot say, "No!" God has already said, "Yes!" concerning your healing. The Bible further gives us this assurance in Romans 8:11:

But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead

shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

There's something in you that guarantees health. It is the Spirit of Him that raised Jesus up from the dead, the same Person we call the Holy Spirit. He has a mission to supply the virtue for divine health to your body. He is the same Spirit in the Healing Balm. Get set for an encounter with Him that will end all your aches and pains forever!

If you are born again, then you are seated in heavenly places with Christ, far above all principalities and powers (Eph. 2:6; 1:20-22). It means you are far above the "troubler" of this world (Satan) and all his plagues (sickness

and disease) and all their evil spirits of infirmities, for the Bible tells us in Romans 16:20:

And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly…

Satan has already been bruised under your feet, so enjoy the liberty of total health given you by God!

Chapter 3

The Word—Master Key For Total Health

Divine health is your heritage in God and your birthright in Christ. The price for your total health has been paid in full by Jesus. The Bible says:

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

- Isaiah 53:5

Jesus paid the price for your sound health 2000 years ago when He was beaten with 39 stripes. He fully paid

the price, so you can enjoy divine health (a sickness-free life). That's why the Bible tells us in 1 Corinthians 6:20:

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

The price was fully paid on your behalf, so you don't have to suffer sickness again. Your body is now to glorify God through sound health, for you are His. God has made several provisions for you to enjoy total health and healing. Let me show you the major one:

The Word Of God

The Word of God is the master key for your total health. It is the principal

channel for the healing of mankind. The Bible says:

He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

- Psalm 107:20

The Word is quick, living and powerful, and can combat any form of sickness and win (Heb. 4:12). Since everything was made by the Word, everything can be repaired by it as well. Therefore, until you know enough of the Word, you cannot be free enough. It is the degree of your insight in the Word that determines the degree of your freedom. The Bible shows us the importance of the Word of God to your total health:

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

- Proverbs 4:20-22

The Word of God is health to every part of the body of whosoever finds it – the liver, kidneys, intestines, bone, marrow, eyes, and whatever body part you can imagine. It is an all-purpose drug! There is something in God's Word that guarantees your divine health. When you attend to the Word of God and keep it, the Bible says it shall be health to all your flesh. The truth is

that there is treasure in the Bible, and those who find it find health and strength. Unfortunately, many have mistaken the contents of the Bible for stories. But they are not mere stories, but Spirit and life (Jn. 6:63).

Behind every word in scripture is the Spirit of God. The breath of God is what quickens, and healing virtue is transmitted whenever the Word is being preached. The Bible tells us in Luke 5:17 that as Jesus was teaching, the power of God was present to heal the people. That is, God's power to heal was being communicated via the Word Jesus was speaking. The Word of God carries the Spirit, which is the power of God. So God's Word you hear

and read is not merely for your information, but for your total health as well; it carries the power to heal. But what actually delivers the good health and healing is faith in the Word that you have heard. The lame man at Lystra was healed because he had faith in the Word that was being spoken by Paul. The Bible records that:

The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,

Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

- Acts 14:9-10

Your faith in the Word you have

heard and read is what provokes the flow of the healing virtue that is able to handle every form of sickness and disease. One day in 1983, a relation of mine was dying of sickle cell anemia, and I was sent for. I didn’t go immediately, but told them I would be with them the following day. I first wanted to prepare myself in the Word before going. I went there the following day as promised, and began sharing the Word of God with the family. As the Word was going forth, the boy’s countenance began to change, and while I was yet speaking, the boy stood up from his mother’s laps. Without prayer, he was made whole, and is alive and well today! Faith in the

Word he heard was what healed him.

God's Word is Spirit and life! It is health for the flesh also; so go in search of it! When you find and believe it, then shall you enjoy the reward of sound health that it carries. Rather than do this, however, many Christians are busy fishing in shallow waters; they make several half-hearted attempts at reading the Bible and give up, saying, "I have tried my best, it is just not working." Why is it not working? The reason is that they have not delved into the deep, where it will always work.

The Bible tells the story of Peter's frustration in fishing one day in Luke 5:1-9. He, along with James and John had toiled all night and caught nothing.

Then Jesus came and told them to launch out into the deep and let down their nets for a catch. After they did as they were instructed, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes such that their nets began to break. They had to beckon to their mates in another ship to come to their aid, and the Bible records that both ship began to sink by reason of the multitude of fish they caught. These were the same people that were frustrated earlier because they hadn't caught any fish. But they became amazements to their community after they obeyed the command to launch out into the deep for a draught.

What awesome encounters one comes across in the deep! It is the same

with the study of the Word of God. It is not how many scriptures you know, but the depth of the truth you encounter from it. What you need is depth, not volumes of scriptures. It is not enough to know a particular scripture; but you must know it well enough to have results.

Digging Deep

Knowledge is in degrees and it varies in depths. The more of the Word of God you study and know, the more of His provisions for your well being you will discover. Paul told the Corinthian Church that God had prepared great things for them which eye had not seen, ear heard, nor the heart understood (1 Cor. 2:9).

If you know enough of what provisions God has made for your sound health, you will no longer suffer ill-health. This is because all your health needs have been met before the foundation of the world. The same day you were redeemed from your sins, was the day you were set free from all forms of sicknesses and diseases (Ps. 103:2-5, Isa. 53:5). But it takes knowledge to enjoy it.

All your health needs have been duly taken care of before you arrived here. All you need do now is to make adequate discoveries, which will guarantee you enough recoveries. Jeremiah 1:11-12 makes us understand that the brighter you can see, the faster

the speed of delivery. That means it is not enough to see, it is much more important to see well. When you dig into the Word of God, you will make discoveries that will guarantee that you live a sickness-free life always.

Greater depth in the Word guarantees your access to liberty. After you discover treasures in the Word, it is also your responsibility to apply them, for your total health and healing is in the doing of the Word you have discovered. The application of the Word of God is the original Balm of Gilead.

Now, let me show you some steps that will enhance your access to depths of insights in the Word of God.

Right Attitude

You need to possess the right attitude of meekness to access depths in the Word of God. The Bible gives a guide to those who qualify for depths in the Word of God:

The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.

- Psalm 25:9

Possessing the attitude of meekness is a requirement for assessing the deep things of God. There was a man described as the meekest man on the surface of the earth – the man Moses (Num. 12:3). Moses' meekness granted him access to great mysteries such as the story of creation. Moses wrote the

story of creation in Genesis and the first five books of the Bible because God revealed it to him. God revealed His ways to him as well, whereas others only say His acts (Ps. 103:7). Moses was in a class of his own, and meekness was what paved the way for him.

You need a meek and teachable heart to access the deep things of God, as He will only teach the meek His Word and ways. With the right attitude in place, you will make discoveries in the Word that guarantees your total health.

Access By The Holy Spirit

Access to the deep things of God is also by the help of the Holy Spirit.

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

- Romans 11:33

No matter the depth you are looking for, the Holy Spirit is the master Teacher. Consciously embrace the ministry of the Holy Spirit by asking for His help in accessing depths in the Word of God. Allow Him to teach and show you things from the Word of God. Jesus said that is His job; so let Him do it.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear,

that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.

- John 16:13

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the

things that are freely given to us of God.

- 1 Corinthians 2:9-12

Do not assume the ministry of the Holy Spirit; rather, consciously seek and desire His help in getting to where you are going. Instead of explaining away your defeat with your health, settle down and ask the Holy Spirit to help you see God’s rich provisions for your healing and total health. Refuse to be discouraged; rather, get excited and rely on the ministry of the Holy Spirit in accessing the deep things that belong to you. Your long-awaited access to total health is in the Bible, and the Holy Spirit will help you locate it in no time.

Chapter 4

Prescriptions For Total Health

Apostle James asked in James 5:14, *"Is any sick among you?"* That means it wasn't a usual occurrence for them to be sick, because they knew and enjoyed their God-given heritage of sound health. They walked in the reality of the truth that the price for their total health had been paid in full by Jesus. But in case sickness reared its' ugly head, there are provisions in scripture to take care of it. Those provisions are what we shall discuss in this chapter.

The Great Physician

Is there no balm in Gilead; is there

no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?

- Jeremiah 8:22

When some people are afflicted with major sicknesses and terminal diseases, they often think of going for better medical attention in other countries, especially if they can afford it. But this is simply because they do not know the Great Physician. If they did, they would stop chasing after human physicians. This was God’s cry in Jeremiah 8:19-22.

The Great Physician is Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God. He introduced Himself to us in Matthew 9:12-13:

...They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.

But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

When you go to a consultant, after diagnosis, he may say to you, “Oh no! You need another specialist to handle this.” But this Specialist I am presenting to you, the Great Physician, is an all-purpose Specialist that can handle every case. Every human doctor only manages life, but Jesus gives life. He said, “*I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live*” (Jn. 11:25).

The Great Physician's mandate is clearly defined in John 10:10:

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Only the hospital of the Great Physician can guarantee the healing of all kinds of terminal diseases and plagues you can imagine. He said, *"I am the Lord that healeth thee;"* therefore you can count on Him, as He is committed to your total health. Jesus healed as many as came to Him during His earthly ministry. He will do the same for you today, if only you will care to go to Him.

And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases;

And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed.

And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all.

- Luke 6:17-19

When Jesus was leaving, He said, *"Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also"* (Jn. 14:19). If you can see Him, the healing virtue He

carries will flow to you; and because that virtue is able to handle any plague and disease, your total health will be permanently established.

Let this truth be settled in your heart: God is committed to your total health! When human doctors come to their wits' end on a case you often hear them say, "It will only take God." And as many as have turned to God at this time have never been turned back, but have always been healed. What God cannot do, no one else can; but there is no sickness or disease that is beyond Him, so go to Him! Healing is children's bread, and He is committed to your total well-being.

The Anointing Oil

And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;

And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them.

- Mark 6:7, 13

Jesus sent His disciples out to preach; and as they went, the Bible records that He gave them power over unclean spirits. Verse 13 then clearly tells us what that power was – the anointing oil. As they anointed those that were sick with the oil they were given, all that were anointed were healed. The anointing oil is power against all manner of sickness and

diseases; it is a balm in Gilead.

It is not just carrying the oil that matters, but an understanding of what the oil represents is what makes it have maximum effect. What does this oil represent? It is a spiritual medium through which the Holy Ghost manifests Himself for the liberation of mankind. The anointing oil is one of the vital prescriptions of the Great Physician.

And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

- Isaiah 10:27

Every yoke of sickness, no matter what name it bears, shall be destroyed when the anointing comes on the scene. Speaking about the Holy Ghost, Jesus said:

Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

- Matthew 3:12

The Holy Ghost has a fan in His hand for sweeping His floor clean. He will first separate the wheat from the chaff, which He will then gather and burn with unquenchable fire. Remember that the Bible says you are the temple of the Holy Ghost. So, in

order to sweep the floor of your body thoroughly, the Holy Ghost comes inside you via the anointing oil mystery and cleans up your system. It will do what no medicine, injection, or surgeon can do.

Using the anointing oil is not a strange doctrine, but the application of the truth of scriptures for your total health. Jesus' disciples were familiar with its use and effect that James said to the Church:

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him

up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

- James 5:14-15

The anointing oil is not a mere chemical product, but an all-purpose drug – tablet, syrup, capsule and injection all wrapped up in one. It will destroy whatever the enemy might have planted in you to destroy you. In 1 Samuel 16:13, David was anointed with oil, and the Spirit of the Lord came upon him. And the Bible says, "*when the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him*" (Isa. 59:19). When you are anointed with oil, therefore, the Spirit of the Lord comes upon you and becomes the standard

against all oppositions to your health.

The Holy Communion

The Holy Communion is one of God's covenant prescriptions for total health. It affects the spirit, soul and body. The power in the Holy Communion far exceeds that in the manna, which the children of Israel ate in the wilderness, and the Bible says there was not one feeble person among their tribes after 40 years of traveling through the wilderness.

See what the Holy Communion offers:

Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

- John 6:53-54

The purpose of the Holy Communion is to inject life into your whole body – your muscles, organs, nerves, bones and marrow. It infuses so much life into you that it swallows up all elements of death in your body. No matter what might be said to be dead or dying in your body, when you partake of the Communion, it will come back to life. As the flesh and blood of Jesus enters you, what could not survive in His body will be impossible to survive in yours. The Communion infuses eternal life into you, which is superior

to human life.

This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.

I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

- John 6:50-51

That bread both produces and infuses life, which is immune to all forms of sicknesses and diseases. Whereas the blood of Jesus in the Communion (the wine) attacks all satanic assaults, the flesh (the bread) re-orders your physiological state; and

we know that most sicknesses today are purely physiological disorders. God provided the Holy Communion mystery to guarantee the flourishing of our bodies and the soundness of our health. In Psalm 103:5, we are told that God is the One "*who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.*"

The flesh in the Communion is one of such good things for us to eat for total health. While instituting the Holy Communion mystery, Jesus said, "*Take, eat; this is my body*" (Matt. 26:26). Later on in John 6, He said, "*I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.*" This implies that the manna

God gave them to eat in the wilderness is nothing to be compared with what Jesus is offering us today via the Communion. What we have now is superior to what they ate; this is the covenant antidote for all diseases.

Let's see two graphic illustrations from the Old Testament of the effect of the flesh of Jesus in destroying every form of disease that might be ravaging your body. When God sent Moses to deliver the children of Israel from Egypt, God used the rod in Aaron's hand to work wonders. This rod was put down before Pharaoh and it became a serpent. When Pharaoh's magicians put down their own rods, the Bible says the rod of Aaron swallowed up their

rods (Ex. 7:10-12). Symbolically, Jesus is the Rod of God (Isa. 11:1). So, as you partake of the flesh of Jesus in the Communion, like the rod of God in Aaron's hand, it will swallow up every disease plaguing your body.

The second illustration is found in 2 kings 4:38-41. One day the sons of the prophets went out to gather herbs to cook pottage, but innocently gathered some wild gourds, which poisoned their meal. When they ate, their body reacted to the food and they cried out to Elisha, "*There is death in the pot.*" Elisha simply asked for a meal, which he cast into the pot of pottage, and the poison was neutralised. What Elisha threw into the pot swallowed up the

harm in it. Your stomach can be likened to a biological pot, and the flesh of Jesus is the covenant meal that neutralises all body poisons. If the meal in the Old Testament could cancel the effect of poisoning, imagine what the original meal, the bread of life (flesh of Jesus) will do.

Every sickness is essentially an evidence of body poisoning. They are mostly virus-based. The viruses cause discomfort, pains and inconveniences. They eat up the system and destroy one's vitality. But when you partake of the Communion, every form of "poison" responsible for blindness, deafness, stomach disorder, chest or heart diseases, AIDS and every other

kind of disease will be destroyed!

If you understand these two pictures I have just painted to you, then you will enjoy the benefits of divine health in the Holy Communion. See the flesh as the rod that swallows up the magicians' rods, and the meal in the hand of Elisha that neutralises the poison in the pot. The flesh of Jesus is the antidote for all physiological imbalances, and His blood is the answer to every satanic assault. A proper understanding of the virtue contained in the Holy Communion will guarantee you great, sound and flourishing health all the days of your life.

Ministry Gifts

God has placed within His body apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers with the mission of perfecting the understanding and faith of the saints, until we all attain the same level of faith (Eph. 4:11-12). They are given to help perfect our health also.

Sickness is not expected in the camp of believers, but should it happen, then make a call. James instructs that you call upon the elders of the church, and let them pray over you, and anoint you with oil in the name of the Lord. Not only will the prayer of faith save you from the sickness, but the Lord shall raise you up, and even if you have committed

any sin, it shall be forgiven you (Jms. 5:14-15). Don't be tied down by any sense of condemnation. No parent would wish sickness or disease for any of his children; how then will the loving Father in heaven think that the best way to deal with you or to teach you a lesson is to send you to an early grave. What wisdom is in that?

The accurate interpretation of the truth will always provoke divine intervention, because the scriptures cannot be broken. When the truth is accurately comprehended, it puts you in supernatural command. I pray that you will comprehend and utilise these provisions God has made for your total health.

Chapter 5

The Faith Access

Every provision in the kingdom, including divine health, is accessible only by faith. That is why Isaiah asks, *"Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?"* (Isa. 53:1). Only those who believe see His glory. If you believe what you have read so far about your heritage of sound and total health, and you put your faith in the Great Physician and His prescriptions for your healing, then you will see His glory.

Until you believe the report of

divine health, don't expect to see His healing hand. Divine health is available, but it is obtainable only by faith. When you believe His report on divine health, that Jesus suffered that you will not suffer sickness and pain, then you commit His hand, which then causes the flow of the healing virtue to you.

Looking at Jesus' ministry, you will discover that everyone that enjoyed the healing virtue from Him tapped into it by faith. When two blind men met Jesus in Matthew 9:27-30, and said to Him, "*Have mercy on us*," Jesus said to them, "*Believe ye that I am able to do this?*" and they said, "*Yea Lord.*" His final response to them

was, *"According to your faith, be it unto you."* Jesus, in other words, told them, "Yes, I can do it; but only your faith will let Me do it in your life."

The problem is not whether God can or will heal you; the problem is whether you will allow Him to heal you. When the blind men operated in faith, the Bible says their eyes were opened. Bible faith is the master key to a world of divine health. The woman with the issue of blood was made whole because of her faith, *"And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague"* (Mk. 5:34).

They brought a man through the roof in Mark 2, and Jesus, seeing their

faith, said, "*Take up your bed and go home.*" Healing has always been a question of faith, not a question of whether God can or will; so would you let Him heal you? You must have faith in the Word you read and hear concerning God's provisions for your sound health and healing. You must also have faith in God's ability and willingness to heal you. Not only that, you also must trust His prescriptions for your healing. Absolute trust and faith in God and His Word is your guarantee for staying healthy.

A woman who hitherto had no fallopian tubes was able to deliver a set of twins, to prove that there is no reason strong enough to make you

barren. Another sister was diagnosed as having fibroid and was to be operated upon on a Thursday. But she placed a mantle on her stomach, and when the operation was to be done, they couldn't find the fibroid! These two had absolute faith in God to do the seemingly impossible, and He did!

There is no kind of sickness or disease under the sun that a living faith in the living Word of God cannot rout or humiliate. Bible faith will destroy any disease or sickness from its root, because faith is the answer to every fiery dart of sickness. But when it is absent, nothing can happen. Jesus, with all the power He possessed, could not do any mighty works in His hometown

of Nazareth, because faith was absent (Mk. 6:5-6). He desired to heal the people, but couldn't because there was an unbelief barrier. In the same way, God will not force healing and total health on you; it's your responsibility to first believe in His provisions.

Act Your Faith

Faith in God means acting on God's Words and instructions. James said:

Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

- James 2:18

You must act out your faith in God to heal you. By this I mean you must back up your faith by your action. For

instance, the man sick of the palsy whose friends brought in through the roof expressed his faith in Jesus' ability to heal him when he rose up and took up his bed as he was instructed, and went home. If he had still remained there, waiting for a special force to lift him up from his bed, he can't be said to have faith. Also, the lame man at Lystra that Paul healed expressed his faith by leaping to his feet at Paul's command (Acts 14:8-10).

Your actions will truly reveal whether you have faith or not. Having a pity party for yourself when afflicted with sickness does not show you have faith in God's provision for your healing. Instead, you ought to rise up

and begin to “do” what the Word tells you to do. For instance, the Bible says, *“Let the weak say, I am strong”* (Joel 3:10). What are you saying concerning your health? What are you doing? Are you just lying there helpless, and waiting for a force to lift you up? Note that the people that were told to rise up and take up their beds and go home were usually the ones that did the rising by themselves; Jesus or Paul didn’t have to do the rising for them. Your actions are very important. Until Hannah’s action changed, she didn’t become pregnant for Samuel (1 Sam. 1:18).

The word of your mouth is another way of determining whether or not you

have faith. Your deliverance is in your mouth, because you are only permitted to see what you say. Therefore, if you believe that Jesus has already gone to the cross for you, and that you are no longer under the curse of the law, shout it loud! Address that sickness by saying to it: “Jesus took you out of my way and nailed you to His cross, and you cannot disprove that. Now take off your hands from my life. Liberty is my heritage, and I am going to live my remaining days on the earth free of diseases.”

Talk your way to sound health, for it is an expression of your faith to be made whole! Also, back up your talks with the appropriate action. Don’t say

one thing and your actions do the contrary.

Chapter 6

Wisdom For Total Health

Wisdom can be defined as the accurate application of knowledge. You command unquestionable triumphs when you apply yourself to the knowledge of the truth. Jesus said you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free; and whosoever the knowledge of the operation of the truth shall make free shall be free indeed (Jn. 8:32, 36). And Jesus defined what this wisdom is in Matthew 7:24:

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man…

It is one thing to discover what the Word says about your health, and another thing to do what it says. The Bible says a sound application of the truth of God's Word is wisdom, and that is what guarantees unquestionable triumph in every battle of life. Naaman put the words spoken to him by Prophet Elisha to work, and he came back cleansed from his leprosy (2 Kgs. 5:10-14). That is God's wisdom. His wisdom may sound like foolishness when compared with the wisdom of this world, but it's what gets the job done. He says:

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your

thoughts.

- Isaiah 55:9

God’s ways are higher than man’s ways, and by going on that high way you can say bye-bye forever to every bodily torment and affliction. Let us now consider some of God’s wisdom for healing.

Service

This is a key to enjoying a life of total health. The Bible says:

And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.

There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil.

- Exodus 23:25-26

One of the rewards of service is sound health. God takes sickness away from you as you serve Him - you shall serve, then God shall bless; it is a covenant! Not only that, He says He will fulfill the number of your days. See also what Jesus said in John 15:1-2:

I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

You don’t have a healthy future if you are not investing in kingdom service. Don’t reduce yourself to a

“Give me, give me” Christian. Rather, look out for and locate opportunities to serve God in your church and community. It is true that divine health is your birthright, but you must serve your way into it also. Engaging in service with understanding brings about divine rewards, which includes a sickness-free body.

As you bear fruits in Him through service, He commits Himself to your health by purging every stranger in your body. You cannot serve Him with your strength and still be weak and sickly. You can’t serve God and sickness at the same time, for no man can serve two masters.

Be Merry

Another wisdom for staying healthy is by being merry. Nothing drains mankind of health and vitality like depression; it is the gateway to oppression.

A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

- Proverbs 17:22

The enemy identifies his victims by depression. Without the joy of the Lord at work continually in your life you are like a flower that will soon wither. Fight depression the same way you fight against sin and satanic attacks. There is no hope of total health for someone who gives in to depression, because when it becomes your way of

life, sickness and disease become your natural companions.

To stay healthy, be merry hearted. Live a lifestyle of excitement and be enthusiastic about life. You will live a healthy life when you live under the intoxication of the joy of the Lord. Only truly happy people are entitled to healthy living. Note that the joy of the Lord does not depend on the circumstances around you, but on the vision of the Lord that you are able to see from His Word. When you are intoxicated with inspirations from the Word of God, you will remain excited, just as Jeremiah was.

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the

joy and rejoicing of my heart.

- Jeremiah 15:16

Every genuine Word-eater is always an excited believer. It is the application and practice of God's Word that stimulates the joy of the Lord in your life.

Another way of remaining joyful is by the ministry of the Holy Ghost. The Bible says the kingdom of God is not in food and drink, but in righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost (Rom. 14:17). That's why every believer needs to be baptized in the Holy Ghost. He provokes joy in you, because He helps you gain access into the truth of God's Word, which gives hope and causes joy to well up in you.

After the gospel of salvation, the next gospel Jesus came to preach is to set free the broken-hearted and to liberate mankind from depression, because until you are free from depression, there is no hope of freedom from oppression (Isa. 61:1). The Bible refers to the Holy Spirit as the “Oil of gladness” and the “Oil of joy” (Ps. 45:7; Isa. 61:3).

God has packaged a solution for you in the anointing, which destroys the yoke of depression, sickness and disease forever in your life. You have power over sickness, because greater is He that is in you (Jesus, who already paid the price for your total health) than he that is in the world (the devil,

sickness and disease). You are stronger than sickness; it is under you, so it cannot cut short your destiny and joy.

Chapter 7

Maintaining A Healthy Lifestyle

Sound and total health is your birthright in God, yes; but you have a responsibility to enforce it. There are things you must do to ensure that you truly enjoy a healthy life. The Bible tells us to:

Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes.

- Songs Of Solomon 2:15

In order not to come under the affliction of Satan, there are certain things you cannot afford to indulge in, because you are a tender grape upon a

tender Vine. If Satan is the root cause of sickness, then you must avoid him and his plagues by being spiritually sensitive to what can give place to him. Let me identify some of them.

Fear

Fear is one thing you must avoid by all means. Remember that Job was a perfect man, but in spite of it, fear was at work in him, so it was easy for Satan to gain an in-road to torment him. But if you are born again, Satan can't operate in your life or around you without your permission (Eph. 4:27). Fear is one of the ways believers open the door to sickness. Job was a covenant child, but opened the door for Satan affliction through fear. The Bible

quotes him as saying:

For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.

- Job 3:25

Just as faith provokes divine intervention, fear provokes satanic intervention, because what you don't fear can't befall you. Man's fear always ensnares him. Fear is a spirit, and an oppression of the devil. It is not of God. The Bible tells us that "*God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind*" (2 Tim. 1:7). We are also told in Romans 8:15:

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have

received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Give no room to fear in your life, so you don’t open the door for sickness and all manner of satanic affliction to enter your life. I curse whatever sickness fear must have caused you, in the name of Jesus!

Hatred

The Bible says in 1 John 3:14-15:

We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

If you harbour hatred in your heart, you're disconnected from the life of God, giving the devil room to buffet you in whatever way he likes. No reason is strong enough to make you walk in hatred; the cost for doing so is too high. The Bible says anyone who hates is a murderer, and does not have eternal life. That automatically denies you access to divine health.

Proverbs 4:23 admonishes us to guard our hearts with all diligence. Hatred is one thing you must guard your heart against, if you desire to walk in divine health.

Bitterness

This is another fox you must take out of your life in order to enjoy total

health.

Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled.

- Hebrews 12:15

Bitterness troubles people and defiles. Saul was troubled by an evil spirit because of his bitterness towards David. The Spirit of the Lord departed from him, and in its place, an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him (1 Sam. 16:14). At the end, Saul's whole lineage was wiped out, leaving only a cripple. Bitterness embitters life, so don't toy with it!

Unforgiveness

Quite a number of diseases are

traceable to sin. But we often emphasize on the sins of commission without paying much attention to the sins of omission. Unforgiveness is not a sin you commit, but one you refuse to let go of. This is what Jesus had to say about it:

And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

- Mark 11:25-26

This scripture reveals that certain things won’t leave you except you

forgive those that have offended you. If you refuse to forgive, your sins will be retained; and when they are retained, the consequences of sin (sickness and disease) will be retained as well. Forgive! It's the only way to exercise authority in the kingdom. Let that fellow go, so you too can go.

We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

- 1 John 5:18

It is time to keep yourself from the evil one by blocking all avenues through which he can gain access to you to torment you. Keep away from fear, hatred, bitterness and

unforgiveness, and you would have succeeded in shutting the devil out of your environment and affairs forever.

Fight It!

Sickness and disease do not come from God, but from the devil. One other thing you must do to remain healthy is to fight sickness when it comes. Stop nursing sickness, fight it! The Bible tells us in James 4:7 to, "*resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*" Satan is not a gentleman; he won't leave without a fight, so fight him off your body! Nobody wins a battle without fighting; so, if sickness comes knocking, rise up in arms against it, don't welcome it. You can't walk in divine health until you stop

nursing sickness.

In fighting sickness, the first thing you must do is to recognise that you are stronger than it. You must always be conscious of your superiority over it and remember all God's provisions that guarantees you health and healing. It is the cheapest way to disarm sickness. Unfortunately, however, many Christians are ignorant of what the Bible says in 1 John 4:4:

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

You have a colourful heritage of divine health in Christ, so go forth and take it by force, for the violent take by

force.

Pillar 12

Praise

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Pillar 12

Praise

Introduction

Praise is what to do when you don't know what next to do. Paul and Silas were unjustly thrown into a Macedonian jail. When it seemed as though they had reached their wits' end and didn't know what next to do, they began singing praises unto God. Guess what? Help came down for them! The prison doors were flung open, and they did not attempt to escape. Why? Their faith was so built up that they knew they could supernaturally open the gates again if it was shut (Acts 16:25-

28).

Singing praises commits God's presence, which is the greatest access to faith (Ps. 22:3). More often than not, He reveals the appropriate scriptures that show you the way out as you praise Him.

Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

- Psalm 16:11

As you sing praises in the midst of your confusion and helplessness, you will always come in touch with what to do. The teachings and books I have included on the subject of praise will help to boost your understanding and

faith, and make your Christian walk colourful.

The Wonders of Praise

Understanding The Power of Praise

Chapter 1

The Wonders Of Praise

Praise is appreciating God for who He is. Your appreciation then leads you to worshipping Him. The Bible tells us that praise is comely to God (Ps. 147:1) and that it is a good thing to praise Him (Ps. 92:1). We are also told that God inhabits praise (Ps. 22:3). He loves praises and loves being praised. No wonder then that the Bible commands:

Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

- Psalm 67:3

Praise is cardinal to the believer, as it is his cheapest access to God. Since

God inhabits praise, it is your surest access to the miraculous. No matter how great the opposition, it does not require more than praise to handle it. Praise was all it took to get Paul and Silas out of the Macedonian jail (Acts 16:25-26). Unfortunately, the power of praise is not fully understood in the Church. Some think praise is just a church activity and what you do while you wait for others to join you in church.

Praise is the fastest ladder to your high places in life. Developing a lifestyle of praise is what you need to be more than a conqueror. I encountered this truth in 1979 and hosted my first Hosanna service

immediately. You can't tell what has happened to my life between then and now, because praise has become my way of life. It is an effective weapon in my hands, and so I recommend it to you as well.

Proverbs 13:15 says, "*Good understanding giveth favour…*" You need a good understanding of praise in order to enjoy its benefits. Knowing what you stand to gain through praises will probably help you see what I mean. So, let me show you the wonders that abound in praise.

Provokes Divine Presence

But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

- Psalm 22:3

Praise compels God's presence, because it is His natural habitat. God cannot but respond to praise. As much as God wants to be with you all the time, His presence is not automatic; praise is the price you must pay for it. That is why 2 Chronicles 15:2 says, *"The Lord is with you, while ye be with him…"* And Romans 8:31 asks, *"If God be for us, who can be against us?"* That means when you are in praise, you are in God, and if you are in God, you are unbeatable, because His presence will naturally distinguish you. As the children of Israel praised God on their way out of Egypt to the Promised Land, God was their sanctuary. The sea saw them and fled (Ps. 114).

This is one of our secrets of t r i u m p h . Every outstanding accomplishment our ministry is enjoying today only cost us praise. Many decades have passed since we began this journey of faith, and we have seen God at work; we have seen Him taking the lead and causing everything to work for us. As we praised Him, He came on the scene and His presence caused us to enjoy ease and speed.

Likewise, the greatest events of your life won't need more than divine presence; and it takes nothing more than your heart-felt praise to provoke His presence. If you determine to give Him genuine praises the remaining

days of your life, the difference will be clear. God's presence will answer to you, and that which you thought impossible will cheaply come to pass in your life. When you praise Him like Paul and Silas did in the prison, He will show up in every area of your life and convert your reproach to dignity, just as He stepped into the prison in an earthquake, flung the gates open, causing everyone's chains to fall off (Acts 16:23-40)!

Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

- Exodus 15:11

Praise compels the manifestation of

divine power on your behalf. God does fearful and wonderful acts in praises. You will never know how powerful your God is, until you stir Him up in praise. Your unreserved praise is what moves Him into action in your favour. We have recorded diverse testimonies of healings and other fearful acts of God in church; and they were all wrought while we were praising Him.

Give God a chance to do something fearful in your life by just giving Him quality praise from the depth of your heart. Never mind what the situation may look like; God is never late, so give Him praise! The Bible assures us that the battle is not yours, but God's. Be not afraid or dismayed; rather, set

yourself, stand still and you will see the salvation of the Lord (2 Chron. 20:17). You set yourself through praise. I see the power of God answer to you in praises from henceforth!

It Enforces What Is Written

Praise is a spiritual medium through which God enforces what is written concerning you and removes whatever is not of Him in your life. The Bible records that when the people sang Hosanna to Jesus, He entered the temple and cast out everything that was contrary to what was written.

And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the

changers of money sitting:

And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables;

And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise.

- John 2:13-16

When you praise God and shout with a loud voice unto Him, what you are doing is provoking Him to enforce what is written, contrary to what is happening in your life. For example, to be married and have a good home is what is written. The Bible says

whosoever finds a wife finds a good thing, and has obtained favour from the Lord (Prov. 18:22). It is also said about you that the Lord shall compass the righteous about with favour (Ps. 5:12). That means the righteous (male or female) is not permitted to be unmarried when they desire to be. Barrenness is also contrary to what is written, because God's Word says children are the heritage of the Lord and the fruit of the womb His reward (Ps. 127:3). Praise commits God to enforcing your marital destiny.

We are not dancing for fun when we dance and sing praises unto God; we are dancing because we know that our dance is loaded with virtues. When

we dance unto the Lord, He turns our mourning into joy. People may not see what you are dancing for now, but they would see it when it manifests later. Praise and thanksgiving are not what you do after things have happened; they are what you do primarily for things to happen.

Hosanna is a shout that turns Jehovah on. And when He steps in, everything that is not of God around you must leave. When you sing His praises, He restores your home, business, career, destiny and whatsoever had hitherto been molested by the enemy.

Praise Brings Favour

Praise causes you to enjoy favour

from God. When He is pleased with your praises, He goes ahead to shower you with whatever you desire. A very graphic picture of what praise does to God is painted in Mark 6:21-23. Herodias' daughter had danced before Herod. He was so pleased with her dance that he told her to ask him for anything she desired, even to the half of his kingdom. That was an outbreak of favour as a result of her dance. In the same way, your high praises to God will cause Him to deliver to you whatever will give you your place in destiny.

Praise Brings Promotion

Praise also brings promotion. The Bible says in Habakkuk 3:17-19:

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.

Do you want promotion? Your high praises is the covenant highway to your high places. Praise is your way out of stagnation. God will command every siege that is sitting upon your lifting to be broken when you praise Him. There

is a breakthrough for you today as you praise your way out of poverty, misfortune, stagnation, sickness and disease.

It Silence Your Enemies

Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

- Psalm 8:2

Jesus interpreted “strength” here to mean praise in Matthew 21:16. That means God has ordained perfect praise to silence the enemy and the avenger. Your enemies are doomed when you engage in high praises, because your praise provokes God to rise up in your

defence; and when God arises, His enemies are scattered (Ps. 68:1).

Praise is a weapon of warfare. It is an honour reserved for every saint, to enable them humble their enemies.

Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand…

To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD.

- Psalm 149:6, 9

Every opportunity to praise God is your chance to silence your enemies, and to see prophecies fulfilled in your life. You can sing and dance your enemies out of your way.

Preserves The Blessings

It takes praise to preserve whatever blessings you have received. Praise is to blessing what salt is to meat. In Malachi 2:1-3, the priests stood the risk of losing their blessing for missing out on this vital key:

And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you.

If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart.

Behold, I will corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and

one shall take you away with it.

The priests stood to have dung spread on their faces for not remembering to praise God and to give Him glory. If you don't give Him the glory due to His name for what he has done for you, He will withdraw His hand. And when God withdraws His hand, man is finished. So, give Him the glory that is due to Him, and watch Him take over the affairs of your life.

Deepens Knowledge

Praise deepens your knowledge of the truth, because with joy shall you draw water out of the wells of salvation (Isa. 12:3; Jn. 8:32). As the minstrel began to play, the hand of the Lord was upon Elisha, and the Word of God

came to him, giving him the answer (2 Kgs. 3:15).

Praise your way out of every pit! Praise is the way to preserve His blessings upon your life. Let us, therefore, praise Him in the morning, afternoon and at night!

Chapter 2

Give Him Thanks!

Thanksgiving is an attitude of appreciation and gratitude to God for something He has done for you. It is a major secret for a colourful Christian life and adds flavour to you, causing everything around you to begin to respond positively.

Thanksgiving precedes praise. The Bible says in Psalm 100:4:

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him and bless his name.

This is heaven’s protocol for

appearing before God. Thanksgiving is what graduates into praise, as your sincere appreciation of what God has done for you will always culminate in a hearty celebration of His awesomeness. You cannot praise God sincerely and acceptably until you are first thankful and grateful to Him.

The Bible says it is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord (Ps. 92:1). That means it is a bad thing not to do so. Come to think of it, if you are thoughtful, you will always find something to thank God for. No wonder a Yoruba adage says: "*If you do not know how to think, you will never know how to thank.*" The Psalmist was a thoughtful man, so he always had

reasons to be thankful. He said in Psalm 103:1-2:

Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

He then went on to list out all God's benefits in his life. No wonder he won all the battles he was confronted with!

What's more, God expects an acknowledgement from us after every act of His in our lives. The story of the leper that returned to give thanks after he was healed in Luke 17:12-19 clearly reveals this. Jesus asked:

…Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?

There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.

This shows that God keeps record. Every act of His not acknowledged disqualifies you from receiving any further blessings from Him. Pondering on this truth, the Holy Spirit inspired me one day to make this great utterance: **“To take God for granted is to be grounded.”** Everyone that takes God for granted will be grounded. The way not to be grounded, therefore, is not to take Him for granted. So, thank Him for all His benefits in your life.

Life is your most valuable possession. Those who don’t have value for life don’t have value for God,

for God is the sole author of life. If you have lost anything, He is the reason why you have not lost everything. So, be grateful to Him and praise him! I'd like you to look away from what is not there, and rather focus on what He has placed there. The life you have today is a gift from God.

If anything has been done, behind those great events is God, "*For without me, ye can do nothing*" and "*By strength shall no man prevail*" (Jn. 15:5; 1 Sam. 2:9). Whatever good thing you have seen comes directly from God, because God's Word says, "*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" (Jms. 1:17). Your good health, good looks, good wears, good wife/husband, good children and good business/career are all from God; so thank Him!

For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?

- 1 Corinthians 4:7

Everything you have today is a gift; that's why we are under a covenant obligation to give God thanks; otherwise, you will start to sink. When you give thanks, He keeps you afloat; but when you refuse to give thanks, you

begin to sink. Have you lost something? He's the One who kept you alive to know what you lost and what you have gained. If you had lost your mind, it would have been impossible to know what you have lost and what you still have. But He has kept you sound and alive; so, be grateful and thank Him!

Those who thank God for their marriages will have children added to them, and those who thank God for their children will begin to notice that He has added excellence to their children's studies. Those who thank Him for academic excellence will enjoy promotions. God is always waiting for our thanks in order to

perfect the issues of our lives.

Thanksgiving is one of our most powerful, mysterious weapons. Those who give thanks have come to know what it is to live a request-free life. Since I stumbled upon this truth, I no longer have requests, but thanksgiving points. In fact, ninety percent of the time I spend in God's presence is spent in thanksgiving! Get on the right side of the ship, as you won't get any catch on the wrong side.

If you settle down to reason, you will see that the fact that you are breathing means that vital issues are right in your life. But minor issues have blinded you to these vital ones. I have seen people spend millions of

naira and dollars on illnesses which still persist. Somebody told me he had spent over two million naira in search for a cure for kidney failure. You say your business is not working; at least thank God that your kidneys are working! Did I hear you say you don't know what is working? Your eyes are still working, your heart is working, your lungs, kidneys and livers are working! You owe God thanks! That's what it takes to move Him in your favour.

God has kept watch over the great plans you had for the year, preserved you and kept you alive till now. Give Him thanks, and He will convert every insufficiency into sufficiency. Give

Him thanks and that “little boy’s lunch” in your house will be enough to feed you for the remaining days of your life. Just give Him thanks; that’s all you need! I am so busy thanking Him that I no longer know what I need.

Do you know the way up? Give Him thanks for giving you a shop and He will command your shop to make good sales. Thank Him for giving you a qualification and He will give you a job. Thank Him for giving you a profession and He will make it work. Thank Him for giving you an office; He will command good clientele there. Anything you thank Him for increases! Thanksgiving is a spiritual yeast that brings multiplication wherever it is

found. Just give Him thanks and He will be compelled to perfect whatever He has begun. But whatever you complain about will die; so thank Him and the dying thing will receive new life!

God has preserved you and kept you alive; it's time to give Him thanks. I'd like you to consciously free yourself from all concerns and rather consciously and sincerely give Him thanks, for He has done all things well!

Why must we give God thanks?

Doing God's Will

In everything give thank: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

-1 Thessalonians 5:18

Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

- Hebrews 10:35-36

Thanksgiving is doing God’s will. Until you have done the will of God, you will never obtain the promise. And what is the will of God? “*In everything, give thanks.*”

Securing Heaven’s Attention

Very many know the acts of God, because they have seen miracles; but very few know the ways of God. It is not enough to see things happen; it’s much more important to know how to

make them happen at will. Thanksgiving is the way to securing heaven's attention. The Bible says:

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

- Philippians 4:6

Your prayers and supplications will never reach heaven until they are wrapped up in thanksgiving. Thanksgiving in the kingdom is not as it is in the world. In the secular world you only say, "Thank you" to someone who has done something for you that is worthy of thanks. But in the kingdom of God, until you say, "Thank You" to God, nothing gets done. It's an entirely

different kingdom and operates on different rules from what we are conversant with (Isa. 55:8). Until you say, “Thank You”, heaven can’t step in on your case.

Thanksgiving is heaven’s requirement before anything gets done, as only the grateful wins the Father’s attention. Can you imagine that Jesus got to Lazarus’ grave and said, “Father, I thank You.” He knew that until He gave God thanks, the promise would not be delivered. But this is why many are in the pit today - they are waiting for whatever they are believing God for to first happen before they can then say, “Thank You.” As a result, nothing happens for them, because in this

kingdom, until your hands are lifted up in gratitude to God, you'll die in the pit.

When Jesus needed to feed five thousand men in the wilderness, He knew what to do to open heaven's kitchen – He gave thanks! You must be a man/woman of gratitude in order for your requests to be heard. It is the fastest way to God's hotline. So, let the woman who is called barren thank God that she is married and stop complaining about not having children, and she will compel God to stop everything and answer her. When gratitude becomes your lifestyle, you keep gaining altitude, because gratitude is what provokes heaven's attention.

It is time to be grateful for every finger of God you have seen in your life. If you thank God for His finger, you will see His hand; and as you appreciate Him for His hand, you provoke Him to show you His outstretched arm. You are to gain for being grateful to God for His benefits in your life. When you do, you attract extra benefits from heaven. It is my prayer that you will make gratitude your way of life, so you can enter your season of unending rewards.

Chapter 3

The Supremacy Of Praise

Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee.

- Zechariah 9:12

Praise is a weapon and stronghold that brings deliverance. Unfortunately, many are unaware of its potency. It has been taken for granted in the Church as a result of ignorance. But let me show you how effective it is by comparing it with the force of prayer.

To show how powerful and effective this weapon of praise is, you

will discover from scriptures that while angels attend to prayers, God personally attends to praises! How is this so? When Peter was locked up in jail by Herod "*the Church made prayers without ceasing unto God for him.*" An angel was sent to deliver the answer in response to their fervent prayers, for the night before he would have been brought out and killed, God sent an angel to bring him out of prison (Acts 12:5-7).

We also find three instances of angelic responses to prayer in the book of Daniel – Daniel in the den of lions (Dan. 6:19-22) and twice when Daniel prayed (Dan. 9:3, 21-22; 10:10-14). Though angels excel in strength, they

are limited in power, as there is no omnipotent angel. Only the Almighty God can fill that position.

Even Jesus confirmed that angels are the ones that attend to prayers. This is what He said when he scolded Peter for using the sword against one of those who came to arrest Him in the Garden of Gethsemane:

Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

- Matthew 26:53

On the other hand, however, when we praise God, the Almighty Himself arises! The Bible says:

But thou art holy, O thou that

inhabits the praises of Israel.

- Psalm 22:3

God inhabits our praises! No wonder He came down Himself when Paul and Silas began to sing praises to Him in the Macedonian jail! The Bible says:

Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him.

As smoke is driven away, so drive them away: as wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice.

Sing unto God, sing praises to his

name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him.

- Psalm 68:1-4

God arose in Acts 16:25-26 as Paul and Silas began to sing praises unto Him. And the Bible says when God arises, His enemies must be scattered. No wonder there was an earthquake that shook the prison, causing all the chains that held them bound to fall off!

Notice that Paul and Silas first prayed. They must have felt that the answer was not getting to them fast enough, so they switched to praise. Sure enough, when they began to sing, the Almighty, Whom the prince of Persia cannot withstand, arose and

came down by Himself! How do I know? The earth trembled! And the Bible says, "*The Lord reigneth…let the earth be moved"* (Ps. 99:1).

Whereas an angel can be waylaid on the way with your answers, no one can waylay the Almighty! Answer to Daniel's prayer had been released from when he began to pray; but the answer-bearing angel was waylaid for twenty-one days (Dan. 10:12-13). But see what happened to the children of Israel when they left Egypt singing praises unto the Lord:

When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language;

Judah was his sanctuary, and Israel

his dominion.

The sea saw it, and fled: Jordan was driven back.

The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like lambs.

What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?

Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams; and ye little hills, like lambs?

Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob;

Which turned the rock into a standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters.

- Psalm 114:1-8

Verse 2 says, "*Judah was his*

sanctuary.” Judah means praise. That means they praised God so much that He came down to dwell with Him. Any wonder then that the mountains began to skip like little rams and the hills like lambs? Even the sea fled! No nation was strong enough to stand in their way as they journeyed to the Promised Land, because God was with them.

Also, see the experience of the praising giant, David:

I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies…

In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his

ears.

Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations also of the hills moved and were shaken, because he was wroth.

- Psalm 18:3, 6-7

God arose to fight for him! Praise is God’s hotline. Whereas you can pray amiss, especially if you are not praying according to His will; but you can never praise amiss. Every acceptable praise brings God down.

Everybody knows about prayer. Even when they don’t receive answers to their prayers, they still keep praying, not bothering to know why the answer is not forth coming. The angel bearing their answer may as well have been

delayed for one year, ten or even fifteen years! But can God be delayed for one minute? That's why wise men praise Him. Some have prayed themselves to death and yet no answer, but nobody can praise Him to death. Every prayer Jesus made received instant answers, because they were wrapped in praises - "Father, I thank You because You hear Me always."

Bring God Down!

Many have done everything except the right thing. Praise is the key that brings heaven down. It is what causes God to arise from His holy habitation. When you are clothed with His presence in praise, you are free from pressures, because in His presence is

fulness of joy, and at His right hand, pleasures for evermore (Ps. 16:11).

I can now ask you when you are stranded, “Have you praised Him?” Since the angel He sent hasn’t come with your answer yet, why don’t you invite Him in person? Praise Him in the dance; make a joyful noise to the Lord in praises. “*O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph”* (Ps. 47:1).

Since no one can stop Him, it is wisdom to turn Him on with praise. I see so many people dying in prayers, but I haven’t seen anybody crushed in praise. Praise always raises the one praising. There’s no door on earth that praise cannot open. You have cried to

God over that business enough; now praise Him! You have fasted until you have almost lost your intestines; just praise Him! Relax and give Him what turns Him on. Give God a chance to come down for you into that situation. You have cried enough; now praise Him!

There are too many prayer warriors in the Church; but it is time to raise up praise warriors. When you begin to sing, dance and praise God, He sets ambushment against your enemies (2 Chron. 20:22-25). Praise is what causes your battle to change hands.

God is restoring the tabernacle of praise to the Church (Amos 9:11). That's the realm we are entering into

now; a realm where nothing answers until praise is offered. So, please come into the ark of praise. God will baptize you afresh with the spirit of praise. It will be so heavy on you that it will never depart from you forever.

Chapter 4

Foundation For Acceptable Praise

Praise is pleasing to God. It is the cheapest way to live, because you come on the hurt-free zone of life. Whereas you have everything to gain when you praise God, you must also know that not all praises are acceptable to Him. The praise that is acceptable before God has nothing to do with your vocal melody or instrument, but with the melody from your heart.

As in all things with God, there's an acceptable way of praising Him. God will not inhabit your praises simply because you are thanking,

singing and dancing before Him. The wood must first be in order. What is it that makes our praises acceptable before God then?

Righteousness

Every benefit we receive from God is by His grace. You can't enjoy His grace and not praise Him. But there is something that can stop the flow of grace – sin. You must be free from sin for your praise to be acceptable before God, because the praises of a sinner ("the wicked") is noise in God's ears.

The Bible says in Psalm 7:11 that God is angry with the wicked every day. That means if you are in sin you will only provoke God's anger the more with your praises rather than His

blessings and interventions, because He is angry with you. You must, therefore, first deal with the enmity between you and God before going on to praise Him. The Bible says this concerning God and sin:

Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity…

- Habakkuk 1:13

Righteousness must first be in place in your life before your praises can be acceptable unto the Lord. Since God does not hear our prayers when we regard iniquity in our hearts (Ps. 66:18), He will not also accept or celebrate our praises when we sin. He forsook His Son on the cross when He

bore the sins of the whole world, so He will not come down for you when you praise Him in iniquity.

God does not care about the melody of your voice when you praise Him in sin. How vigorous your dances or delightsome the rhythm of the song is irrelevant as well. As long as you are in sin, the melody of your songs and praises is nothing but croaking noise in His ears. All He cares about is your righteousness. It is only when you praise Him in righteousness that your praises will deliver amazing results to you. The foundation of God is sure – depart from iniquity (2 Tim. 2:19).

You need grace to praise Him acceptably; but you can't see grace if

you continue in sin. I break the power of sin over your life, so you can praise Him acceptably, in Jesus' name.

Gladness Of Heart

Another requirement for offering acceptable praise to God is gladness of heart. Not every song or dance equals praise; only joyful dance and song equals acceptable praise. That is why the Bible tells us to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. It must be joyful before it is acceptable. If it is not joyful, then it will be unacceptable and impotent; it cannot produce or deliver.

Note that there is a difference between joy and happiness. Happiness is dependent on the happenings around you. When things are going well, you

are happy; but when they are not, you are unhappy. Joy, on the other hand, is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22) and is not dependent on happening or circumstances. The Bible describes it as joy unspeakable, full of glory (1 Pet. 1:8). It is the exclusive preserve of the saints of God.

Sorrow of heart is at the root of man's struggles in life. That is why the Bible says in James 5:13, *"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms."* Until you are joyful, you can't offer sincere and acceptable praises. No wonder when Jesus came, He committed Himself not only to healing man's body, but to healing broken hearts as

well (Lk. 4:18). What you experience next after salvation is the healing of your heart. This is because until your broken heart is healed, your destiny remains sealed.

Sorrow of heart or depression and gladness of heart are like light and darkness – they can't dwell together. One must give way for the other. Depression makes you a candidate for oppression, and you cannot be delivered as long as you are depressed. You cannot praise God with sorrow in your heart and so can't get God to intervene in your situation. But when depression is healed, oppression ceases.

To avoid falling a victim of

depression, whenever negative situations come up, tell yourself it could have been worse if it were not for the grace of God. One day the Lord said to me, "*If you have lost anything, I'm the reason you have not lost everything.*" Therefore, you owe God praise! If you can breathe, then you are indebted to Him in praise, because all you need to possess in order to praise Him is breath in your nostrils. The Psalmist said, "*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord*" (Ps. 150:6). God is the reason why you still have that breath; so be joyful and offer acceptable praises unto the One Who is worthy to be praised!

Let The Past Go!

You must learn to let go of the past, for it only leads to depression and afflictions. The past is irreparable; there is nothing you can do about it. If somebody slapped you yesterday, your crying today does not remove the slap. So, let go of the past. You should start looking forward instead. No one succeeds in driving forward by looking backwards. Paul revealed to us how he handled the situation:

…Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

- Philippians 3:13-14

If you won't let the past be bygone, you will carry the weight of the past, which can rob you of the future's great fortunes and ground you as well. The past is just that – past. It can't be mended, repaired or adjusted. It is past forever. What should you do? Look forward so that you don't miss the great fortune loaded into your future.

If you lost your job yesterday, thank God you didn't lose your life. What if instead of giving you a letter, they gave you a bullet instead? Did you lose your car last year? Thank God it was not your life that was lost. At least you are still alive to ride another car. Was your house burgled three years ago? Please thank God it wasn't your

life that was burgled. If it were burgled, where would you be to know what was lost in the house? Forget about your past, forget about where you are now, and reach out to the agenda God has for you. It is an enviable and colourful agenda.

Praise is what creates the conducive atmosphere for the wonders of God to be made manifest in our lives. But if you still hang on to the irreparable past, you will be sorrowful and unable to praise God acceptably for Him to be able to intervene on your behalf. But with joy in the heart, you are able to offer acceptable and fearful praises, which in turn provoke His fearful acts on your behalf.

I command the yokes of whatever has tied you down to past failures and disappointments to be broken now, in the name of Jesus! Forget the past and celebrate your way into the fortune that awaits you in the future.

Chapter 5

Praise Motivators

Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.

- Psalm 100:1

Every object assumes a state of rest until a relevant force is applied to it. This law of nature can be applied to the issue of giving God praise on a continuous basis. As the above scripture shows, you are the one to make praise happen, as praise is not a gift of the Spirit. However, man's heart needs some motivation in order to be able to give praise. I have, therefore, identified some motivators, which are

guaranteed to trigger off praise in you.

The Word

I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil…

Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

- Psalm 119:162, 165

The Word of God is the principal praise motivator. According to the Psalmist, God's Word triggers off joy in his inner man. Every man of revelation is automatically a man of celebration, as every discovery made in the Word ignites praise inside him. Even when one has not yet seen the manifestation of the Word, the discovery of it alone is enough to be excited about. This was what kept

Abraham going throughout the many years he had to wait for his promised heir. He was able to keep rejoicing, giving glory to God, despite his old age and the “deadness” of Sarah’s womb (Rom. 4:16-22).

Revelation from the Word makes otherwise oppressive circumstances of no consequence. This is because revelation can be likened to the voice of the Lord, which is mightier than the voice of many waters (Ps. 29:3-9). Nothing turns a man on like the Word. When you catch a revelation from the Word, you become intoxicated and seem dead to circumstances around, making it possible for you not to be offended in anything or anyone.

Prophecies

A direct offshoot of the Word is prophecies. They not only motivate praise in you, but also enable you to be ever joyful, which in turn will cause you to be ever praiseful. Prophecies are instruments that unveil what lie ahead; they tell you what to expect in the future. The Bible is a bank of prophecies, and God's Word is essentially prophetic. It is described as the more sure Word of prophecy (2 Pet. 1:19-21).

You can't see a bright future and not celebrate it (Ps. 42:11). It chases away every form of depression that might have been lurking around you. What's more, every prophetic Word

found in scriptures is backed up by God's ability to bring it to pass. The Bible gives us this assurance in Isaiah 34:16:

Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them.

What God's mouth has spoken, His Spirit will perform. In fact, we see God bringing His promises to pass with His own hand in 1 Kings 8:15. This assurance from scripture is what causes praise to well up from within you whenever you catch a revelation or prophetic Word from the Bible. God is obligated to performing whatever He

has promised. Isaiah 55:11 further assures us thus:

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

God's Word is not permitted to return to Him unfulfilled; and so this motivates praise to Him in you, for you know that whatever you have seen from scriptures God is bound to deliver to you (Gen. 13:14-15). Scriptures give you access to your future. If you can see them, you will be ever joyful and praiseful, because you know for a surety that you will take delivery of

them, like Abraham did.

Prophetic scriptures create a colourful future. You can’t see them and not be joyful and praiseful. They stimulate joy and rejoicing within you, even when they seem farfetched.

Gratitude

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

- Psalm 100:4

Thanksgiving precedes praise. Your gratitude is what graduates into praise (Ps. 92:1). Your sincere appreciation of what God has done in your life always results in a hearty celebration of His awesomeness. Every ungrateful

Christian will end up as a failure in the school of praise, as you cannot be ungrateful and yet be praiseful.

The easiest way to provoke gratitude within you is to recall the past benefits of God in your life according to Psalm 103:1-5. If you remember that you are what you are today only by the grace of God; and it is by His grace that you can get to where you will be tomorrow, you will be full of gratitude and praises to the Most High God.

Are you grateful for your salvation, the health and numerous mercies of God you are enjoying? Then it's time to show Him your appreciation. As you do, you will enter the praise realm,

where your raise is guaranteed.

Testimonies

Testimony is another praise motivator. Whenever you hear the wonderful acts of God in someone else's life, you raise your hand to heaven and say, "Praise the Lord." Just hearing about God's great acts in other people's lives causes praise and excitement to rise from within you. The fact that God has done it for someone else is a sure indication that it can happen to you as well.

Anyone who takes advantage of testimonies never lacks joy. There are four major things to do with testimonies in order to enjoy their praise-provoking benefit.

Bind them (Isa. 8:16). That is, have a record of them and store them up, so you don't lose them.

Consider them (Ps. 119:95). The word "consider" here implies to bring to remembrance, to recall past testimonies for the purpose of matching them with the present challenges confronting you.

Meditate upon them (Ps. 119:99). This means to ponder on the nitty-gritty of what brought about the act of God in that particular circumstance.

Love them (Ps. 119:97). Don't always read satanic meanings into the testimonies you hear; just love them, even if you don't like the person it happened to.

If you handle testimonies correctly, then you will be ever joyful and praising the Lord. Stop reading for a moment, and think of all the testimonies you have heard, read or experienced, and lift up your hands in celebration of God's faithfulness.

The Company You Keep

Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

- Proverbs 27:17

One of the most contagious things in life is joy. Friends can help to brighten your countenance. They can cause joy and praise to come forth and stay alive in you. If you enter a room and meet the people there laughing

hilariously, you will unconsciously begin to smile. If their laughter continues and increases, you will also join them to laugh, whether you know why they are laughing or not.

You cannot walk with one that murmurs and be praiseful always. No matter how anointed you are or how knowledgeable and old you are in the Christian faith, the company you keep can easily affect your life. The Bible says: *"Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners"* (1 Cor. 15:33). Where you find yourself determines what happens to you in life (Prov. 13:20). So stay in the company of people who will brighten your countenance and make

you joyful, not in the company of those who constantly cause you to be downcast and sorrowful.

I don’t keep complainers as friends or colleagues. If you come to me for counseling looking downcast, I will first tell you to brighten up before I can listen to you. No one wins God’s attention with complaints. Even if you find yourself in the company of mourners, mind what you say and think. Focus all your thoughts on God’s faithfulness, so that you can retain your inner joy

If you want to protect your joy, then mind the kind of company you k e e p . Break all unprofitable relationships and pull out of every

negative company. You can’t afford to let them influence your praise lifestyle anymore.

Embrace these praise motivators and line up yourself with them. Then, like Paul and Silas, you can always sing your way out of any negative situation or prison house (Acts 16:25-26). Keep on rejoicing, and God will never stop causing you to be victorious!

Chapter 6

Praise Warfare

Praise, as we have seen, is a very effective spiritual weapon. In addition to all we have said about it, praise can also be used as a weapon of war. Most of the impossible battles in scriptures were won through the use of the praise weapon. The shout of praise brought down the wall of Jericho in Joshua 6, Jehoshaphat led Judah to victory by simply engaging the weapon of praise, and high praises was what opened the prison doors and loosed the chains for Paul and Silas.

When you don’t know what else to

do in a situation, then bring God, Who always know the way out, in through praise, for He inhabits praise. Every time this weapon is engaged, you provoke His presence, before which no obstacle can stand (Ps. 114). You can engage the weapon of praise against the invisible battles of your life. The Bible says:

Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a twoedged sword in their hand;

To execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people;

To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;

To execute upon them the judgment

written: this honor have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD.

- Psalm 149:6-9

Praise is enough to handle any situation you might be confronted with. The Bible says, "*Who is like unto thee, O Lord, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?*" (Ex. 15:11). If you want to see the fearful acts of God, then give Him fearful praise; and He will come down to fight for you. Praise is what hands the battle over to God.

Our ministry has engaged this weapon in securing all the victories we have enjoyed and will continue to enjoy. In fact, we dedicate a whole

month annually to praise God in our entire church network. Is there any wonder then that we enjoy such great level of ease and comfort in ministry? We bring down His majestic presence in our midst, and so we can't but enjoy strength, security and endless testimonies. His presence with us is what is causing all the great happenings in our midst - *"The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over you with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing"* (Zeph. 3:17).

When praise becomes your lifestyle, testimonies and triumphs become your heritage. You are clothed

with His presence, causing His fearful acts to become the norm in your life.

The Opposition Is Silenced

Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

- Psalm 8:2

Quoting this same scripture in Matthew 21:16, Jesus said, "*Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise.*" Jesus, therefore, interprets the strength spoken about in Psalm as praise. And in Psalm 110:2, the Bible says, "*The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.*"

What then is the rod of His strength? Praise! When praise is perfected, the enemy and the avenger are silenced. Your enemies have no choice but to give way when you bring on the praise weapon, because God's presence is invoked, and they can't stand before Him.

It is one thing to have to fight before you win, but another to win without having to fight. Praise causes you to win without having to fight, as you turn the battle over to God. That was exactly what happened in 2 Chronicles 20, when Judah was confronted in battle by three enemy nations.

O our God, wilt thou not judge

them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee…

Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you…

And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth forever.

And when they began to sing and to

praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

- 2 Chronicles 20:12, 17, 21-24

Judah had no need to lift a finger to fight; as God fought for them and not

one enemy soldier escaped. They simply turned the battle over to Him in praise, and spent three days gathering the spoils of war! I see God taking over your battles from henceforth!

God takes over our battles when we sing praises unto Him in spirit and in truth. Paul and Silas brought Him down into their prison cells where they were locked up in Acts 16:25-40. The Almighty had no choice but to step in when the praise weapon was engaged. There was an earthquake that shook the foundation of the prison and all the prison doors were opened and their chains fell off! Everything happened at the same time! The people that had earlier been humiliated and mistreated

were given a royal exit out of prison!

In praise warfare, you don't just get emotionally excited. Rather, you look at that issue of concern and bring it down through praise; what I call "Target Praise." Then see what will happen:

Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him.

As smoke is driven away, so drive them away: as wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God…

Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him.

- Psalm 68:1-4

Praise is a God-given weapon for humiliating Satan. None of your enemies is safe when you enter the realms of high praises. The higher your praises, the stronger His presence and the more fearful will His acts in your midst be. So, turn God loose on your behalf with your praise! Don't praise Him for fun; engage in target praise warfare. Perhaps there is an issue in your life that seems to have resisted prayer and disregarded fasting; it has no choice but to bow to praise. Every wall of Jericho will come crashing down as you engage praise in battle.

So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it

came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

- Joshua 6:20

Only what will refuse to bow to God will refuse to bow to the power of praise, because praise provokes divine presence, which in turn delivers the fearful acts of God in your life. So, target that sickness that must leave your life, that poverty, failure, joblessness and barrenness, and praise Him. Psalm 92:11 will then become real in your life:

Mine eye also shall see my desire on mine enemies, and mine ears shall hear my desire of the wicked that rise up against me.

You can uproot every evil lurking around or afflicting you through praise. Somebody says, “I should be married by now.” Praise Him for that state, and you will soon be married. “I should have a job by now.” Praise Him in the dance, and the job will soon be yours. That was how a brother got a job. He couldn’t get a job, so he began selling malt drinks by carrying it on his shoulders around the market. He came to church one day and heard me tell the congregation to get home and sincerely thank and praise the Lord for His

goodness in their lives. He got home that day and did as I had instructed; he danced around his crate of malt drinks.

He went to the market the following day as usual. And as he went about his business, a man walked up to him and asked where he got the drinks he was selling from. He told the man, who then asked if he needed a job. That was how this brother was employed as a manager in the same company that produced the malt drink he was selling!

Praise is a potent weapon in spiritual warfare. It brings you into the hurt-free zone of life, because the Almighty takes over the battle, making you a relaxed winner. Note also that praise is much more than just singing:

Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.

- Psalm 149:3

You can praise Him with your dances and musical instruments too, and your beauty will emerge as you do.

For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

- Psalm 149:4

Become a David of our times and dance your way into sweatless triumphs. As you praise Him and dance before Him, don’t mind what others might say or think. David did not care for people’s opinions when he danced before the Lord his God, and every

enemy mocking him was judged (2 Sam. 6:14, 20-23). I see God judge your enemies from today, as you sing, dance and praise His name.

Chapter 7
Enemies Of Praise

We have seen all that praise offers. Wisdom demands that we go for it. Why would one know all this truth and yet not praise God? It is because the devil is seeking to destroy that person. Therefore, in this chapter I shall be discussing the enemies of praise. You must do everything to guard against falling victim to them.

God desires and deserves your praises. Praise is one thing God can't do for Himself. He gave you the privilege of filling that role; so praise Him, before He raises stones to take your place!

Lack Of Joy

Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

- Psalm 16:11

Divine presence is the ultimate of man’s search in the adventures of life, as it secures destiny, unfolds revelation and provides guidance. It is, therefore, something one must strive to possess always. Praise is the surest access to divine presence, as God inhabits praise. So we must always make our environment conducive for His manifest presence.

Just like fish cannot survive on land, divine presence cannot survive a

joyless and praise-less environment. Joy is the state to be in always, for praise naturally flows when you are joyful. That is why Paul admonished us to: *"Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice"*; *"Rejoice evermore"* (Phil. 4:4; 1Thess. 5:16). No matter how prayerful and dedicated you are, if you are joyless you make your environment an impossible place for His presence to be made manifest. Anything that will rob you of joy, therefore, is an enemy that must be fought with all your might.

The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are

withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men

- Joel 1:12

This is the consequence of a joyless state. When joy is absent, God withdraws; as a result, everything withers, for without Him you can do nothing (Jn. 15:5). No matter what is happening around you, there will always be something to be thankful for; so search for that thing. A wise man would do exactly what Habakkuk said in Habakkuk 3:17-18:

Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and

there shall be no herd in the stalls:

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

Be always joyful and get excited! Be happy with your room, office, bed, curtains and everything; just be happy as you are. Satan cannot afflict you in your Father's presence, that's why he strives to pull you away from His presence. Lack of joy opens the door to depression, which is the bait for oppression. You cannot be oppressed until you are first depressed. Also, you cannot have inspiration without joy (Isa. 12:3). Joy is what sets the pace for inspiration.

Joy is the vital link you need to be connected to divine presence;

therefore, remain joyful!

Murmuring And Complaining

When you stop seeing what good things God has done for you, you will fall victim to this trap of the devil to destroy you. But the Bible expressly commands us:

Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

- 1 Corinthians 10:10

Destruction is what awaits everyone that murmurs against God, as he hates it. God is displeased when we murmur and complain (Num. 11:1). It is a form of ingratitude; and when you are ungrateful you can’t be thankful and praiseful.

When we murmur and complain, we are as it were saying God has not done anything for us, which is not true. He has done all things well! He is the reason you are still alive now. If it were left to the devil, you would have since been gone. Like I so often say, “If you have lost anything, He is the reason you haven’t lost everything.” He has preserved that “little” thing left; so be grateful and praise Him, because it could have been worse.

God expects your gratitude whenever He does anything for you. When rather than being grateful you complain, it’s like a slap in His face. Murmuring opens the door for the destroyer to come into your life. You

will do well to keep the door shut against him.

Covetousness is one of the things that lead men to murmur. Nothing is ever enough for the covetous. No matter what the covetous has, he is never satisfied; he always wants more. Contentment is the cure for covetousness, so learn to be content with what you have and your state per time (1 Tim. 6:6-8). Contentment is the gateway to the attainment of great heights in life.

Holding On To The Past

The habit of looking back to past failures is an enemy of praise. You can’t live a praiseful life until you first let go of your negative past.

Remembering the negative past places a burden on you; and you can’t praise Him acceptably carrying a burden about.

The Bible tells us what to do with the past and the benefits we stand to gain from doing it:

Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old.

Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

- Isaiah 43:18-19

Lay every negative past to rest. The only thing worth remembering in your past is testimonies. If they are not

good, then, “Remember not”. Like Apostle Paul, press on to greater heights instead.

Engage The Holy Spirit

A major ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glory God (Jn. 16:13-14). He helps our infirmities by moving on us to glorify God. He is a depression and sorrow Destroyer; so engage Him in praise. The Holy Spirit will launch you into a praising and thanksgiving lifestyle, which will put you permanently on the miracle lane.

When you engage the Holy Spirit, He places on you the unction to glorify God, which is your security against the wicked forces in the world, because you carry God’s presence with you

wherever you go. The Holy Spirit is a destroyer of yokes, therefore, lifting every burden upon your shoulders and enabling you to praise God acceptably.

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me…

To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

- Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of God exchanges your heaviness with the garment of praise and becomes in you the oil of joy in

place of mourning. He releases you into a life of continuous, endless praise that brings you into union with God. You become God's sanctuary, and so no evil will be able to withstand you; you simply enjoy sweatless victories in every battle of life.

There is such thing as singing in the spirit (1 Cor. 14:15). Since the Holy Spirit knows the will of God, when we sing in the spirit, He helps us to sing aright, as He praises the Father through us. He brings to our remembrance all that God has done and helps us to praise Him acceptably.

Conclusion

I define life as a privileged existence, with attendant responsibilities. You are a child of destiny, and so cannot afford to live any longer as a destitute. But as is so often said, “Responsibility is the price for greatness.” Every child of God is redeemed as a king and a priest, destined to reign on the earth.

By implication, therefore, we are a people of equal destiny. But it is by wisdom that kings reign and princes decree justice (Prov. 8:15). In our context, wisdom is essentially putting God’s Word to work. Jesus described whosoever hears His sayings and does

them as a wise man (Matt. 7:24). That is what this book is all about – putting in your hand reader scriptural tools with which to actualise destiny.

One of the things I have done in this book is to introduce you to the integrity and efficacy of the Word of God. According to scriptures, God upholds all things by the word of His power (Heb. 1:3). How does He do this?

Remember that all things were made by the Word; without the Word was not anything made that was made (Jn. 1:1-5). If all things were made by the Word, it is only logical then to conclude that all things must be and remain under the control of that same

Word. If we are Word-made, then we must be Word-ruled. If our life is Word-created, it must remain Word-controlled.

The Bible asserts that we are trees of righteousness, the plantings of the Lord (Isa. 61:3). But the destiny of any tree is dependent on its access to sunlight. In the same way the destiny of any believer is absolutely dependent on his access to the Word, which is Christ, and Who is also the Sun of Righteousness (Mal. 4:2). Remember, the entrance of the Word gives light (Ps. 119:130). In the same vein, the quality of our destiny is determined by the quality of light we access from the Word.

Being ruled and guided by the living Word of God is the cheapest way to fulfilling destiny in a grand style. The Word of God is the divine license for living a successful and impactful life; so give it first place in your life. You will fulfill destiny, in Jesus' name!

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