BREAD



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FISH

Cameron Nolan

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BREAD & FISH

By

Cameron Nolan

CONTENTS

Introduction

Chapter One

Fishers of Men

Chapter Two

Man does not live by Bread alone

Chapter Three

I am the Bread of Life

Conclusion

INTRODUCTION

A man has several needs, there are material and spiritual needs that affects every Christian; and when we pray to God, we sometimes offer petitions to God that are either related to our physical needs or our spiritual needs. Both needs are extremely important since achieving a balance in both aspects creates fulfillment and satisfaction.

When Christ began his public ministry, he ensured that he provided for both the material and spiritual needs of man. Our God is a loving Lord who cares for all our needs both human and spiritual needs. Physical needs make us comfortable and healthy on earth and give us the energy to carry out our spiritual responsibilities. Spiritual needs are those needs that strengthen our spirit and prepare us for heaven.

The feeding of the five thousand men and the changing of water in wine is a good example that shows that Jesus cares for our material needs, in fact in the Lord's Prayer, Jesus included material needs when he said Give us today "Our daily bread " this goes to show how God cares for all our needs. For those that were set free from the powers of darkness and also got nourished by the word of God, for example, Mary who sat at the feet of Jesus listening to God's word is a good example of Jesus caring for our spiritual need.

However, the truth is that spiritual needs surpass material needs. In fact, every form of mate-

rial satisfaction should lead us to a spiritual attainment; it was for this purpose Christ offered provision for the material needs of those he provided for. Also for the very fact that Jesus wants to satisfy our spiritual needs by first attending to our material needs, he often chose material elements such as Fish, Bread, Vineyard, Mustard Seed, Shepherd, Groom and Bride, Wheat and Weeds, Salt, Light etc. to explain heavenly or spiritual realities. In fact, each miracle that Jesus performed that supplied for the material needs of man was only a pointer towards spiritual realities.

In this book, we shall pay a close attention to two material elements or symbols that Jesus used to satisfy our human needs but also a pointer to spiritual realities that drive towards eternal life. The two elements used in this book are Bread and Fish.

Inasmuch as God cares for both our spiritual and bodily needs, observation from bible accounts has shown that men are attracted to material needs and neglect the spirit of which the material was a pointer to. Take for example the feeding of the five thousand men. They were looking for Jesus so they could eat more bread; rather what Christ wanted to reveal to them were his body and his blood.

Now, natural man is attracted to things that satisfy the flesh; things like wealth, fame, power, pleasure etc. The fact is that there is nothing wrong with taking good care of our bodies. However, it is completely wrong taking good care of your body and deprive your soul of spiritual nourishment. The word of God made it clear that it is unprofitable to care for your body and allow your soul to suffer.

It is also important for Christians to be aware of the fact that not all pleasures are legitimate for believers and hence we must learn to restrain ourselves from unhealthy pleasures. We must learn to prevent not only sin but also the occasions that may lead to sin.

It is important for a Christian to learn how to train and cultivate spiritual habits and culture; you should train yourself in prayer and in the study of the word of God and build up your spirit.

God desires that we use our material gifts and blessings to develop our spiritual growth and promote his kingdom here on earth.

The message of this book is very vital for every believer who wants to grow in faith, ensure you digest every message in this book and excel in the grace of the Lord; God bless you.

Very Important Information:

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EXERCISE YOUR FAITH

THE ABUNDANT LIFE

Born of Water & The Spirit

BREAKING THE WALLS OF JERICHO

Come To Me My Child

Move from the Crowd

LIVING IN GOD'S PEACE

CHRIST THE WAY THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE

I SHALL OVERCOME

CHAPTER ONE

Fishers of Men

Have you ever tried to unravel what Christ actually meant when he told his apostles that he would make them fishers of men?

When Jesus performed the miracle that I fondly call "The Multiplication of the Fishes in the River", he wanted to show his apostles something beyond material success. He was calling them for a greater task; something beyond their imagination. He was establishing them for ministry. He took them from a life of pitfalls to a life of purpose.

There are Christians who are yet to attain a life of purpose, God is calling us to leave behind the life of struggle and pain and come over to achieving a purpose-filled life. God wants us to stop existing and start living, there is so much God has prepared for each one of us. We are the apple of his eyes and he cares for us.

Christ told his disciples that they will no longer catch fish but men. You are important to your generation and the potentials to transform your community for good is within you. God wants you to start exercising those potentials he has deposited in you. You are destined for greatness, you are destined to succeed. The Holy Spirit has

deposited gifts you hardly thought you had inside of you; I have come across Christians who say to me often that they unraveled certain gifts they had accidentally. The truth is that you cannot discover your gifts without first exploring.

It is time we rise up to the task Christ has entrusted to us. We have a lot to accomplish; there are greater task and blessings ahead waiting for us to grab hold of them. Now is the time to walk the talk and achieve excellence in the spirit. We have several shining examples in the bible to emulate; like is said it is time to shake your generation for good. Trust me; you have what it takes to make a positive impact on your generation.

There are people suffering

Mk 6:34 made it clear that when Christ looked at the crowd, he felt pity for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. Yes! There are many sheep without a shepherd in our world, there are teenagers and young people who lack parental guidance and care, many are just looking for the right mentorship, yet no one is willing to take the role of a mentor. There are young people who have been led astray because they were influenced by wrong people; this was as a result of the fact that no one was available to guide them in the right path to follow.

Suffering is widespread, there is suffering of afflictions, this involves the suffering of hunger, lack, death, disease etc. Christ has challenged you like he challenged his apostles to be fishers of men to go out there and relieve men that are suffering not by your power but by the power that is available in the word of God. There are moral sufferings also; you may be amazed but its true; morality has dropped drastically in our world. Most people have lost it completely and its as if no one is available to direct them on

the right path. Fashion and music have led many astray; sexual immorality is on the increase and most people make a mockery of marriage; an institution established by God at creation. People need to be thought the right attitude towards living a holy life that is acceptable unto God.

When Jesus said that he would make you fishers of men, he is challenging you to go out and relieve those who are suffering emotionally. There are people undergoing broken relationships, they need encouragement. Some have been hurt by a traumatic experience that has occurred in the past.

There is spiritual suffering; people lack the right spiritual counsel, they need to be taught the word of God for their hearts and eyes to be opened so they could understand the pur pose for which they were created. Look at the Ethiopian Eunuch Philip met in Acts 8; he lacked the knowledge of God's word, but through the direction of Philip he was converted and got baptized.

People need to be taught the word of God; but how can you teach without first training yourself to be grounded in the word.

For most people, there is the spiritual suffering of possession and addiction; Christ is challenging to go and cast the spell off them by the power and authority he has entrusted to you as a believer. Most young people are addicted to hard drugs, alcoholism, smoking, sexual immorality, they need to be set free.

When Jesus calls us fishers of men whom he has entrusted with the task of relieving those who are afflicted; he is aware that we are weak and afflicted too. However, he is challenging you us to go out there and make someone smile and ensure that they are comfortable and happy.

There are people who are ignorant of the word

When Christ called his apostles to be fishers of men, he challenged them to go and open the eyes of those who are ignorant of the word of God. He is equally challenging you to preach the word today. The word of God makes it clear when it says "My people are perishing for lack of knowledge" the fact is that there are many people who lack access to God's word even in our contemporary world that the message of salvation can easily be communicated via electronic media.

Now, when we talk about "Access to the Word" we need to look at 'quality and the undiluted word'

There are millions of Christians who lack access to the true message being preached in our pulpits. Our churches have been hijacked by motivational speakers and not men of God, churches have been turned to entertainment centers where you sit tight and get entertained in fact you can hardly differentiate between circular music and Christian music. The true message has been technically concealed. If you check there are countless translations of the Bible such that the original text and message have been twisted to suit contemporary greed, in fact, some texts are missing in some translations.

In the pulpits, we now have greedy fellows who are interested in enriching their pockets in the name of preaching the gospel. The word of God has been watered down; we no longer have sincere and gifted teachers who would teach the raw message of the gospel, we no longer have bible scholars in our pulpits. For most people, going to church is a complete waste of time; they see Christianity as Childs play.

There are people, who are experts or professionals in their various fields, but when it comes to

the word of God or spiritual teachings they prefer to be a novice and occupy the back pews; in fact, they are not ready to kneel or bow their head in prayers. This shows there is a problem.

If you check, most homes lack quality Christian formation for their kids; parents are ready to spend their last penny for the academic and material needs of their children but yet they are not interested in their spiritual growth and formation; there are some homes that lack bibles, in fact for some who have access to the word, they hardly read it. Instead, they are comfortable reading health books or cookbooks.

Christ is calling you just like he called his disciples to be fishers of men so you could change these wrong ideologies. In fact, there are still many pagan territories to be conquered. Some other religions that don't evangelize are taking the world by storm because we are not doing our jobs as Christians.

Go out there today and do the little you can and be fishers of men.

Hundreds of hearts need the word of God

We have just discussed poor access to the word, but I must add that there are millions of people out there who just want to hear the word of God. There are people waiting to be counseled by the word of God.

We have the likes of:

Cornelius

In Acts chapter 10 there is the story of a devout and honorable man called Cornelius. A religious man who was charitable; he did so much to assist the Jewish poor people but he lacked access

to the word of God. However, through a revelation, Peter would be led to this man and the word of the Lord would be preached to the Gentile community and Cornelius and his households and community would be baptized.

I would like you to pay attention to verse 24-27; you would discover that through Cornelius, his community was converted.

There men like Cornelius in our days that have so much influence and many subjects. If they are converted, you automatically draw their entire community to Jesus.

Ethiopian Eunuch

In Act chapter 8, the Ethiopian eunuch represents those who strongly desire to hear the word of God but lack access to those who can interpret the true message of the word. Thank God the Holy Spirit ministered to Philip to go close to this man (Acts 8:29). Unfortunately, we hardly have the likes of Philip in our days because people are no longer attentive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

God is calling you today to go and minister his word as Philip did.

There also the likes of the Jailer in Acts 16 who got converted by the miracles he witnessed through Paul and Silas when they were thrown into prison. In verse 20 he would request "What must I do to be saved?" there are Gentile communities who still need the word of God even in our days. Thousands of souls are waiting for a touch from the Lord through you.

Go to the ends of the earth

This is a call to action; Christ admonished his disciples in Mathew 28:19 to go and proclaim the gospel. He is equally calling us to do the same.

We are called to be missionaries; we are called to proclaim the good news of the kingdom. We are missionaries in wherever we find ourselves; at home, at work, in the church, among friends and colleagues, public centers etc.

The missionary journey is never an easy task, it requires commitment because there would be challenging times and environment; you should expect discomfort but don't get discouraged because you are sowing a seed.

Christ has instructed that we should go to the ends of the earth; in order words he wants us to penetrate remote regions. Observation has shown that most preachers neglect the remote regions and focus more on urban centers, but this was not the instruction of Jesus. Jesus desires that the gospel is preached even to those at the fringes. Christ has given us the power and the mandate to proclaim the word and we should never be scared to do so.

Be a shining light in a dark world

We are aware of what light symbolize; the word of God challenges us to be a shining example to our brethren. As a custodian of the message of Christ, we are called to reflect the glory of God among our brethren. The light of Jesus must be reflected in your words and in your works, let people see the glory of God in you. It is time to affect your generation for good.

Our world is full of so much darkness, we need more lights; we need people who are ready to stand for the truth, people who are ready to de-

fend the gospel and reveal Christ to those who are ignorant.

To be a shining light to the world means that you are required to:

Put off darkness

The powers of darkness try to rule the world by spreading and planting false information into the hearts of men; in the parable of the Wheat and Weeds, after the wheat was planted, the enemy came and sowed weeds. This is the powers of darkness; being light to the world we should preach the message of salvation and draw people from darkness into the light of Christ.

Illuminate

Having a dark world, we must ensure that we illuminate the darkened parts of our world. To illuminate, therefore, means that we become a source of motivation and a shining example to our brethren.

Penetrate

To penetrate our world with the word means that we are able to convince our colleagues; it also means that we are expected to be persuasive in our approach in preaching the word and also cultivate the habit patience.

Attract

This means drawing people to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. We should be aware that each time we preach the word, the Holy Spirit speaks through us and sow the message

in the hearts of those that listen to the message. And through this, people are drawn to Christ.

The harvest is large

Christ talked about the harvest when he was addressing his disciples and he encouraged them to pray for more laborers for the kingdom; we are called also to be laborers in the vineyard of the Lord.

We cannot talk about harvesting without first having a seed that was planted. If good seeds are sown and conditions are favorable, then we can talk about a rich harvest.

The word of God is the seed that must be sown. The way we sow this seed counts and would determine if there would be abundant harvest or not.

Christ challenges us therefore as fishers of men to go and sow seeds of righteousness and faith, it is our responsibility to plant and nurture the seed in the soil which is the hearts of men. When the seed is properly nurtured there will be a time to harvest. We are called to be part of the laborers of the kingdom.

CHAPTER TWO

Man Does not Live by Bread Alone

Bread is a basic diet worldwide; bread is very satisfying and has been a staple food for a man over the ages. The people of Israel are very familiar with bread, and so Christ during his teachings often emphasized on bread in explaining the secrets of the kingdom so the people would understand him much better.

There are countless events in the New Testament and Old Testament that made reference to bread, lets looks briefly on some of the instances.

When the Israelites complained in the wilderness they were given bread to satisfy their hunger. Similarly, when Jesus saw that the people were hungry he fed them with five loaves and two fish. He went further and declared that he is the bread of life.

When the Devil tempted Jesus, he knew that bread was very satisfying and so he asked Jesus to turn stones into bread, and Jesus would reply that man does not live by bread alone but by the word of God.

During the Last Supper, Jesus would likewise break bread, and giving thanks to the Father he would distribute the bread to his disciples as his

body and also request that his disciples should continue in that order in memory of him.

Similarly, after his resurrection, he equally broke bread; and it was at the breaking of bread that the eyes of his disciples will be opened.

The apostles of Jesus were faithful to the instruction Christ gave them; they were faithful to the breaking of bread which was the body of Christ.

Christ chose bread as his body because it was among the basic diet for man and also a meal that was very common among the people of his time. In fact, when Jesus mentioned to his disciples to beware of the yeast of the Pharisees they thought he was making reference to bread.

Now, because the bread was a necessity at the time of Jesus, he chose bread as his body at the Last Supper; and just as bread nourishes and satisfy hunger, so does his body nourishes and satisfy our soul.

Christ chose the earthly bread so he could use it and reveal the heavenly bread; therefore the earthly bread is only a pointer to the real substance which is the heavenly bread. He who is sustained by the earthly bread perishes but he who is sustained by the heavenly bread lives forever.

There are many who are attracted to the earthly bread (wealth, fame, power) and they are comfortable at that stage; they fail to see beyond earthly bread that satisfies the flesh.

However, there are some who through the eyes of faith saw beyond the earthly bread and are drawn to the heavenly bread (grace, righteousness, faith, love)those who are drawn to the heavenly bread are destined for eternal bliss.

Christ is the bread of life; he has come to establish his reign and his domain. Unfortunately, there are people who have placed so much attention on material possessions.

Don't be carried away

The fact is that if you are not careful as a child of God, you can easily be distracted and begin to focus your attention on worldly affections. You could be carried away by money, power, fame and other forms of worldly attraction and forget God who is the giver of every good gift.

There are several factors that have become people's bread. Some have made carrier and achievement their bread. For others, it could be a particular task or someone that they cherished so much that makes them neglect the true bread, Jesus Christ. Let's take a practical example from the bible. Peter walked on water when he fo cused his attention on Jesus; at that moment you could say Christ was his prime focus or bread, however, when he began noticing the wind (worldly affection) his attention drifted and something else became his bread. Behold he started sinking, and so when he discovered that he was drowning, he had to cry out for safety for the only true bread to save him.

Judas Iscariot was one of the twelve who followed Jesus wherever he went. He saw the great miracles Jesus performed and Jesus preached the word of God with so much zeal; however, Judas was carried away by material gains that later became his bread; greed and materialism obstructed his vision from beholding the only through bread Jesus Christ, and so he sold his master for a penny.

Worldly affections can take us from Jesus, the rich young man was unable to neglect his wealth and follow Jesus; his wealth was his bread. Other

factors can likewise make us neglect Jesus, it could be your family, your work or even sin but whatever it may be never ever allow anything to steal your heart from the Lord.

Material needs cannot satisfy

The truth is that material needs cannot satisfy you because they are only temporal achievements. Only Jesus can truly satisfy the yearning of our souls. Now, it is necessary that we must showcase the right attitude and response towards life. We should understand that material wealth was made for us and not we for wealth; we should learn to control worldly achievements and use them for the glory of God.

There are people who have served materialism so well. People have served fashion, health, and diets so well that they forget Jesus. Some people are very faithful to keeping up with the diets recommended by their nutritionist but the same categories of people find it difficult to kneel in prayers for ten minutes. Material attractions are basically distractions; people are attracted to trending information, politics, sports, trade and business, travel and tours, music, education, prestige etc. These are beautiful and wonderful things that are necessary for our happiness but they shouldn't become our bread and take us from Jesus.

Be conscious of your soul

Jesus made it clear that nothing can be made in exchange for one's soul. Our salvation is extremely important to God. When God formed Adam he was lifeless; though he had a complete body he was lifeless until God breathed life into him and he became a living soul. The flesh and all the glamour it possesses will rot away, however, the soul lives on in eternity. Your soul strengthens you for the task Jesus has entrusted to you.

At his passion, Jesus would declare that the spirit (soul) is will but the flesh is weak.

It is important for Christians to be conscious of the essence of their being. Know what matters most to you and priorities what you allow into your being. Your soul is very important to God. In your soul lies life, in your soul lies purpose; ensure you nourish your soul just as you cater for your body, in fact, your soul needs more attention, and just as you feed your body with the physical bread, you should feed your soul with the spiritual bread.

Your soul establishes you for an eternal purpose which is life after bodily death. Ensure to strengthen your spiritual man (soul) with the word of God and retrace your steps each time you discover your actions are going contrary to God's will.

We live by the word of God

When the devil tempted Jesus, to turn the soul into bread, our Lord quickly countered the words of the devil that we must live by the word of God.

The word of God strengthens us and gives us life. The word of God nourishes and enlightens our souls. It guides us, it teaches us something new each time we read it. The word of God is the power of God that we can use to bring down the stronghold of Satan. When Jesus was tempted, he ensured that he overcame the devil by the word of God, we can also do as Christ did. We can our passions, the world and the devil by the word of God.

The word gives us life and light; it rebrands us and makes us conquerors, ambassadors, and soldiers for Christ. The word of God has the power to purify our conscience; it edifies the souls and

makes it glow in the Holy Ghost. The word of God makes us righteous and we are privileged to be called sons and daughters of God. The word of God takes us to greater heights in the spirit and establishes us for eternal life; the word of God awakens our faith, gives us hope and attracts graces and blessings into our spirit.

We live by faith

The people of old were put right with God through faith. Abraham had a fair share of the blessings of God because he had faith. Faith drives our spirit and we become children of God when we walk by faith.

We are able to overcome and conquer the world by our faith. Faith makes us see beyond the temporal and shows us the assurance of future graces and blessings.

In fact, faith is an assurance that equips us with boldness and sets us in motion towards heavenly inheritance. Faith gives us a mandate and we can easily overcome the enemy by our faith.

Elijah overcame the prophets of Baal and called down fire to consume the sacrifice by faith; faith quickens our mortal bodies and makes them radiate the glory of God. We can move mountains by our faith, we are filled with the power of the Holy Spirit by faith, through faith we become righteous and justified; and through faith, we match forward towards our heavenly homeland with boldness and confidence.

The Spirit gives us life

The essence of our being is the spirit. God's glory is reflected in us through our spirit and make us partakers in eternal life. The eternal entails a glory in the Holy Spirit because God's spirit

joins himself with our spirit to declare that we are God's children. The Holy Spirit is the revelation of God and He quickens our mortal bodies to operate as though immortal even on earth; Elijah sets a good example when we talk about the power and workings of the Holy Spirit in the life of a man. In 1Kings 18:44-46 Elijah instructed his servant to declare to Ahab to get into his chariot and head back home before the rain stops him. However, the power of the Holy Spirit will quicken Elijah's body that he ran ahead of Ahab. This is the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

It was by the power of the Holy Spirit that the apostles of Jesus will work great signs and wonders. Christ cast out devils by the power of the Holy Spirit; it was the spirit of God that raised Jesus from the dead. The same spirit has the power to give life to our mortal bodies.

There was the former Law that emphasized on flesh; but here comes the New Law that is led by the Spirit of God which dwells no longer by human effort but by grace. Therefore we no longer live by the Law of works but by the Law of grace through the Spirit of Jesus.

The Spirit of God establishes us for eternal glory; the spirit himself bears fruits in us, he pleads our cause and enables us to cry Abba Father! The spirit elevates and enriches our souls and cast out fear and failure from us.

Finally, the spirit gives us the life of righteousness, glory, abundance, grace, favor, He reveals the secret truth and God's purpose for our lives.

Eternal life is our utmost priority

"Man does not live by bread alone." Our priority as Christians goes beyond material gains. Everything we do as believers should be driven to-

wards achieving eternal life. Christ came for the purpose to bestow eternal life into our souls. We are destined for eternal bliss, Eternal life is life for the kingdom; eternal life is a fellowship in the Holy Spirit. Eternal life is established in our relationship with Jesus who came to bestow life into our souls. Eternal life activates the purpose and essence by which we were created; eternal life clothe us in glory and we should keep our eyes focused on Jesus and head straight towards the kingdom he has secured for us by his blood.

In the Lord's prayer, Jesus requested that the kingdom of God be established among us his children; "Thy Kingdom Come." This is eternal life. Eternal life also connotes the indwelling of the Holy Spirit who springs out life in our being. Eternal life means that we are influenced and led by the spirit of God such that we begin to think and act the way God wants of us.

Be prepared for greater works in the spirit

The life of a believer is very much interesting, and even though there may be obstacles, there are countless prospects that await every true believer. The power of the Holy Spirit is made manifest in the life of a Christian for the Holy Spirit establishes us for greater works in the kingdom. The Holy Spirit gives us life and strengthens us to take up the task entrusted to us by Jesus.

There are tasks ahead of us. A lot is needed to be achieved and we are a people of purpose, therefore our attention should not be drifted towards earthly affiliations or attractions.

Christ has established a task for us when he said that "The Harvest is Large" it follows therefore that there is a task to be carried out; there are

greater works the Holy Spirit wants to accomplish through us.

We need to build our spiritual skills and we need to put our spiritual potentials to work. People are very conscious of building technical skills or intellectual development, but how often do men pay attention towards building spirituality. We must begin to work the talk; we must prove the reality of our faith by our actions. Abraham proved his faith in God through obedience and trust in God. The apostles proved their faith by works of evangelization and there were great miracles and signs that accompanied their works. It is time for you and me to prove our faith by our actions, for there are greater works in the spirit that awaits us.

CHAPTER THREE

I am the Bread of Life

Earthly bread satisfies only the needs of the flesh, but the bread that came down from heaven satisfy the need of the soul. The body perishes but the soul lives on. The end product of the earthly bread is corruption but the end product of the heavenly bread is eternal life.

Christ is the heavenly bread that came down from heaven to establish life among men. This life was vividly displayed in his works. And before he began his works he promised that he has come to establish this life in Luke 4:18-19.

Christ is the giver of life, in him, we have a life. We live for him and through him; he has paid the prize on the cross by his blood that was shed on the cross of Calvary, Christ is the bread of life; for he has offered his body for us to have a life. He has offered his word to give us life and he continues to feed us with his body and word.

It is in Christ alone we have life and Christ is the truth who reveals the secret truth of the kingdom to those who believe in him.

He gives us life

Everything about Christ speaks life from the beginning to the end at the wedding at Cana he turned water into wine when the woman with hemorrhage touched Jesus, life was restored into her soul. Our Lord restored sight to those who were blind, to those who possessed by demons he set them free. Christ brought life through his:

Works

Among the ministry of Jesus was his works, Christ is the tireless worker, in fact, the last gospel of John rightly quotes that not all of his works were recorded; and if all were to be documented, the entire books in the world will not contain his works. What the author of the gospel of John meant was simply that the works of Jesus were just too numerous to be mentioned or counted, he became broken as bread so we may have a life for our souls

Words

The words of Jesus are sacred, his words are spiritual bread for our souls; his words are the light and livewire of our souls. The words of Jesus instruct and caution us to desist from evil; Christ words are the most powerful in the history of man and most of his words are captured in the gospels.

By the power of Christ words hearts were converted for the kingdom; the power of the words of Jesus brought healing to those who are sick, by his words he rose the dead and drove out demons; Christians worldwide hold on firmly unto the words of Jesus and by his word we have life and healing for our souls.

The power of the resurrection

The greatest event that took place in the history of man was the resurrection of Jesus; his resurrection established a new era for us Christians.

For what would be our hope if Christ has not risen? His resurrection established the covenant of grace and the blessings God has reserved for his children and we now move and speak by the power of the resurrected Jesus and take dominion over creation.

The resurrection of Jesus broke the curse that was upon Adam; for the first Adam died and decayed, but the new Adam (Jesus) died and resurrected, the Old Law and order was broken and gave way for the New Law to be established, and through Jesus we shall all resurrect into a new life in the kingdom of God in company with the angels where we shall sing forever in the glory of his name.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he promised

Christ has given us life by the power and workings of the Holy Spirit that dwells inside of us; his spirit gives us life and restores our hope. The power of the Holy Spirit makes us walk in glory for the spirit of God gives us an assurance. Before Christ left his disciples he promised that he would send them the Holy Spirit who would establish them for ministry, a promise he fulfilled on Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came down mightily upon his disciples.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, we have been brought to newness of life and the Holy Spirit who dwells in us teaches us the secret truths of the kingdom, and by the workings of the Holy Spirit, we are able to perform great works.

By the teachings and testimonies his apostles

Christ entrusted a great task to his apostles and commissioned them to spread the good news, he also instructed his apostles to continue in the ritual of the breaking of Bread which was

his presence among them, a practice which his apostles continued faithfully. The apostles of Jesus continued the mission of Christ of bringing the good news of the kingdom to the Gentile communities.

This good news brought life and hope to those who were in need; the book of the Acts of the Apostles contains the great works which the apostles of Jesus did, of which we still benefit the fruits of their works.

We cannot do without him

Christ is our life; he is the center of our Christian calling. We cannot do without him, for in him we move and have our being. Unfortunately, we see most believers flock around personalities who are mere mortals. As true believers, our attention is focused on Jesus and not a man who can fail or disappoint us at any moment.

Jesus is our source and we must anchor on him alone, we need Jesus in our carrier, homes, work etc. We need him in all that we do; we need the hand of the Lord to establish and bless us. The presence of Jesus in what we do changes everything for he can transform the little we have into a great supply just as he fed the large crowd with just five loaves and two fish.

We live in him and for him

Our life as Christians revolves around Jesus who gave up his life for us. For at baptism we die with him with all our faults and wicked acts, we have also risen with him into newness of life when we are born again. Jesus made it clear to Nicodemus that unless a man is born of water and the Holy Spirit he cannot enter into heaven; Christ has given us a new life and we live for Christ alone. St Paul recognizes this union with Christ when he declared in his letter to the Galatians that he has

died in Christ Jesus, that he no longer lives but Christ is the one who lives in him. The power of Jesus draws us to the Father and he pleads for us, Jesus is the one and only mediator between God and man and his cross is our passage and ladder to the kingdom.

He is Bread for our Souls

Jesus is bread for our souls; for the natural bread satisfies the human hunger but the bread Jesus is offering us is the new bread for our souls, which is the bread of his body. In John chapter 6 Jesus showed the people new bread, the bread of his body which is not meant for the flesh that corrupts but for the soul. This bread strengthens the soul, also this bread makes us better Christians and prepares us for eternal bliss, we must eat this bread to gain life for our souls.

The Bread of the Word

The word of God is life for our souls, the word of God satisfies the yearnings of our souls; when the devil tempted Jesus to change the stones into bread, Christ quickly responded that the word of God was the true bread that gives true satisfaction. The word of God strengthens us and is our guide. The word teaches and reveals the truth about God and sets us free from ignorance and the powers of darkness.

The breaking of Bread

Christ offered himself and became broken for us on the cross and through his death on the cross, we can boast about eternal life. We are called also to be broken for our brethren so they also can have access to Jesus through us by the preaching of the word and by our examples. Jesus in the breaking of bread made himself available to his disciples and to all believers, let us also be bro-

ken to our brethren so we could be the means by which they are drawn to Jesus.

The apostles were always in fellowship and in the breaking of bread. We must also work in harmony like the apostles did for the purpose of the growth of the gospel.

The offering on the Cross

The cross is our treasure, Christ won the battle on the cross and conquered death. The cross that was the symbol of shame and death became the symbol of life and triumph by the power of the resurrection of the risen Lord; apostle Paul will boldly declare that he boasts of nothing else than the cross which is the power of God to save a man. On the cross, Christ crucified our death and gave us new life and hope by the power of is the resurrection and by his bruises on the cross we are healed completely of sin, sickness and dis ease.

The cross of Jesus exposes us to the heavenly gates that became wide open for us and we are flooded with heavenly blessings. The cross establishes the New Covenant which is the covenant of grace, this grace sets us free from the captivity of sin and restores us to newness of life.

The cross is our crown of salvation and our victory over Satan and over death. There in the cross lies the blood of Christ that was shed for the remission of sin and in the cross we find a life for our souls.

Conclusion

I want to thank you especially for reading this book, and I say to you congratulation for Jesus is with you and you need not be afraid. He has conquered death in your life.

Thank you once again, but also I would be grateful if you share this message of hope to someone out there who might need a touch from the Lord by recommending this book, finally, please ensure to check my other titles for interesting messages, thank you once again and God bless you.

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FRUITS OF THE RESURRECTION

I SHALL OVERCOME

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