

BEAUTY OF HOLINESS DR. GIFT CHUKS NNAJI

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CHRISTIAN MATURITY SERIES

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THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS

Holiness is a subject that is very much dreaded by many, though they have had a genuine salvation encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ. This is so because it has been considered from the humanly impossible angle of it thereby projecting the holiness of God unattainable.

This wrong impression has been projected because of the much attention that is paid to the outer man than the inner man. This has exposed believers to servitude to secrete sinful living.

Beloved, the Holiness of God is beautiful and worthy to be hungered for.

As you read through this pamphlet, may your pursuit of God's holiness become the greatest guest of your heart, the beauty thereof, and the glory of your years.

CHAPTER 1
THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS

(PSALM 29: 2)

Holiness is God's attribute to be hungered for. It is His sinless nature. It is His perfect nature. It is His non-existent ability to commit sin. It is who He is. He is holiness personified. In His early presentation of himself to Israel, He said to them:

***“For I am the LORD that
bringeth you up out of the
land of Egypt, to be your God.***

***Ye shall therefore be holy, for
I AM HOLY”***

Lev.11:45

The beauty of God's holiness refers to His sinless and perfect nature. His pure and spotless nature. He is blameless, faultless, and glorious. The Psalmist, King David beheld the glory of the beauty of God's holiness and said:

***“Give unto the LORD the
glory due unto His name,
worship the LORD in the
beauty of holiness.”***

Psalms 29:2

To behold the beauty of God's holiness became the quest of King David's heart that he expressed it as his sole desire. He said:

“One thing have I desire of the LORD that will I seek after, that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple” (psalm27:4).

King Jehoshaphat recognized the power that accompanied the worship of God in

acknowledgement of the beauty of His holiness. When he had great enemies to contend with he raised singers whose responsibility was to worship the beauty the of God's holiness, amidst which God's power was poured down and his enemies were confounded and smitten (2 Chronicles 20:21-23).

In the light of the beauty of God's holiness, the inferior nature of human's holiness becomes revealed. Prophet Isaiah beheld the glory of the beauty of God's holiness and confessed his

unworthiness (Isaiah 6:1-5). He said:

“Woe is me! For I am undone, because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of the people of unclean lips. For mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of host” Isaiah6:5

(Further Scripture Reading Gen.17:1, Mat.6:48, 1Tim.6:14, 1Pet.1:18-19).

CHAPTER 2

THE ATTAINABLE

NATURE OF GOD’S HOLINESS

God, in His perfect nature, cannot place a demand on you if it would be impossible for you to meet it. He is the omniscient God. He knows your frailty as human. He framed you and understands your abilities and capabilities better than you do. He said:

“For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the Land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy”

Leviticus 11:45

He is committed to getting you out of your sin-mess, and to ensure that you stay holy. If He is holiness personified, He wants to be your God, your holiness. You can only attain His holiness standard by Him.

Jesus Christ in His humanity and earthly ministry, lived holy. His holiness was His perfect

submission of His will to the will of the father. He said:

“... I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me, to do thy will, O God.” (Heb.10:7)

In John 5:30, Jesus also said:

“I can of my own self do nothing, as I hear, I judge and my judgement is just, because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the father which hath sent me.”

Please note that the holiness of Jesus Christ was absolute submission to the Father's will. The Father's will is perfect, true, spotless, blameless, faultless. Perfect submission to it would mean His walk in holiness. The scripture calls it the perfect law of liberty (James 1:25, Psalm 19:7). Hebrew 4:15 bore witness to His sinlessness through obedience to the Father's will and said:

“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of

our infirmities but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.”

You can be perfect in holy living as Jesus did by your responsive relationship with Him. If you must walk in holiness you must have received Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Saviour. The Holy Spirit of Jesus must be dwelling in you. You must have the witness of assurance of salvation in your heart. Nothing less than holy living is required of you. Jesus said:

***“Be ye therefore perfect,
even as your father which is
in heaven is perfect.”***

Matt.5:48

Your personal holiness has to do with absolute submission to the will of Jesus Christ which is the Word of God. Apostle Paul said:

***“Finally, brethren,
farewell. Be perfect, be of
comfort, be of one mind, live
in peace, and the God of love
and peace shall be with
you.”***

2 corinthians13:11

He further said:

***“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.” (Acts20:32).***

One of the inheritances the Word of God's grace brings to you is holy living. As you obey God's commands in His scriptures you will walk in His perfect nature.

The scripture recorded several that walked in God's perfect

(upright) nature. But a few will be mentioned as examples of the possibility of holy living in these times and seasons with great invading pressure of iniquity.

NOAH

The scripture has it that:

“Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations and Noah walked with God.”

Genesis 6:9

JOB

Job walked in God’s realm of

holiness in his days and had this scripture testimony:

“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.”

Job1:1

KING DAVID

King David said of himself by the witness of the Holy Spirit:

“I was also upright before him, and I kept myself from mine iniquity.” (Psalm 18:23)

You can live holy and relate with God in His own realm of operation. Holiness is His operational realm. It is the zone of His demonstrations and manifestations. It is the realm of the visibility of the reality of His Almightyness (Matt 5:8, Heb 12:14).

You were created for fellowship relationship with God. Without holiness this cannot be possible (Isaiah 59:1-4).

CHAPTER 3

DIVINE PROVISION

FOR A WALK IN HOLINESS

God has adequately provided for your holy walk with Him. 2Peter 13:4 said:

“ According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.

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.”

Beloved, you are inexcusable. A stable holy walk with God has been available provided for by God's power. Some of these available provision are discussed below.

1. THE HOLY SPIRIT

The primary provision God has made for your effective holy walk with Him is His Holy Spirit.

Holiness is a spirit and a spiritual dimension of the Holy Spirit. He is the personality of effective holy living. Without Him, all efforts to live holy will be futile. Without Him, the pursuit of holiness will be sanctimonious and self asserted righteousness.

The answer of Angel Gabriel to Virgin Mary pertaining to her virgin conception reveals

holiness as the product of Holy Spirit's presence. He said to her:

“... The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee. Therefore that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.” (luke1:35)

The Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin. Unbelievers and believers alike are brought to heart-conviction of sinful living (John 16:7-11, Roman8:16).

He gives enablement to overcome the force of sin. Battles in life emanate from the pressures of the force of sin. Without Him there will be no profound victory over sin (Isaiah 59:19, Romans 8:26). He helped Jesus to overcome the power of sin while on earth (Luke 4:1-4).

The presence of the Holy Spirit in you is to lift you up to God's realm of holy living, the realm of victorious living.

If you will consciously walk in His standards you will enjoy the sweet life of God's holiness.

The Holy Spirit has the assignment of guiding you into the way of holy living. He will also teach you to walk in Jesus' steps, the way of holiness. He will reveal deeper mysteries of God's holiness to you (John16:13). He will ensure that the call to holy living is placed afresh on your mind (John14:26). He projects God's commands to your mind to keep you from yielding to demonic flooding pressures. By His victory standards you will surely overcome the wild projections of the force of evil (Isaiah 59:19).

2. GOD'S WORD

You cannot walk in God's realm of holy living without sound knowledge of God's Word and deep fellowship relationship with it.

God's Word is God in His Word (John1:1-3). What God can do, His Word can. If God's personal presence could transform you, then faith in His Word would do same. Hebrew11:3 says:

“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.”

The transformation you have encountered, being born again and made a new creature in Christ Jesus, all happened because you received God’s word into your heart with faith and the power of the Holy Spirit was put to work to give you a new experience. 1Peter1:23 says:

“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of

God, which liveth and abideth forever.”

God’s Word can frame you into His likeness, into His glorious image. (James1:25). It framed the visible and invisible. It can frame you in His measure of holiness. You can also be kept living holy by it (Hebrews1:3).

God’s Word could quicken your spirit against weaknesses and sinful spots in your life, and could release supernatural power in you to soar high above them (Hebrews 4:12).

It would give you wisdom to frustrate every cunning craftiness of sin and Satan. It would give you wisdom to obtain deliverance in your dark moments of satanic temptations and trails. Apostle Paul wrote Timothy and said:

“And that from a child scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”

2Tim.3:15.

The purifying power of God's Word is also found in it. If you

receive it with humility, and rightly apply it in moments of pressure, you will enjoy great victory (James 1:21).

You can enjoy cleansing from prevailing sinful habits as you practice the doing of God's word. Jesus prayed and said:

“Sanctify them through thy truth. Thy word is truth.”

John17:17

The measure of holiness you attain is dependent on the quality of your commitment to

God's Word. If you experience much struggles with sinful habits, trace it to your limited or absence of commitment to it. This is as obviously stated in the scripture that says:

“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.

2Chor. 3: 18

If you are beholding God's Word committedly, the Holy Spirit of

the Word will surely transform you into God's glorious holiness.

4. PRAYER

Prayer is communication with God. It is a walk with God. It is fellowship relationship with God. A prayerless person would live a defeated holy life. Prayerfulness will cause you to come in contact with God's purifying fire. In prayers, you come in contact with God's purifying presence. The more you fellowship with Him in prayers, the more your weaknesses are turned to strength.

The longer you wait in prayers, the more your frailty is revealed, the more you groan to be more like him in your spirit. It was in prayers that Prophet Isaiah saw God's glory and the beauty of His holiness. He hungered and cried to God for sanctification (Isaiah 6:1-5).

Moses stayed in God's presence and came out with the touch of God's outshining holiness (Exo.34:29-35).

Jesus walked with God in prayers and radiated the glory of His presence. He was glorified of

all. The devil's attempts to floor Him with sin could not succeed but the strength of God's presence kept Him in dominion (Luke 4:1-15).

Transfiguration is the product of Jesus' prayer walk with God. He was transfigured and He radiated the glory of the Father (Matt.17:1-6). If you must be transfigured into God's holiness, spotlessness and perfectness, then you must spend quality time with God in prayers. The force of sin recognizes the glory

of holiness on you and flees its domineering presence.

The early church was a praying church and encountered instantaneous divine judgement on sin among them (Act 2:41-42, 5:1-5).

A stable prayer walk with God, would keep you in dominion over sin and in submission to holy living.

5. FASTING

Scripture fast is a force of victory over the pressures of the sins of

the flesh. Transforming power accompanies it. It humbles the flesh and its selfish and self-seeking desires, and exalts the spiritual desires of God in you. It sharpens your spiritual antennas to pick signals from the Holy spirit. It heightens your spiritual sensitivity and alertness for spiritual communication with God.

Through inner strength by fasting, Satan's temptations on Jesus met with defeat. Jesus' sensitivity was high enough to receive the standards the Holy

Spirit was lifting up in Him against Satanic projections.

It was amidst fasting ministration to the Lord that the Apostles received vital information about the intentions of God for Paul (Saul) and Barnabas.

“ As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work where unto have called them.”

Act13:2.

It is a discipline that a believer must embark on at least, once a week. It is one of the secrets of unending holy life.

6. FAITH

A fruitful faith life would enable you live a holy life. Faith has been given by the Holy Spirit to enable you live holy. Hebrew11:6 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.”

Faith life gives you access to God's pleasure. Holy living is one of His pleasures you access. God's kind of faith was given to you in measure at the inception of the Holy Spirit in your life as you gave your life to Jesus Christ.

“... God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.” Romans 12:3.

The essence of this gift is to enable you live like God on

earth. By this faith, you can seek and believe God for effective holy living. It would enable you live a life of obedience to His commands. Quit struggling to be Holy but depend on the Holy Spirit of holiness to enable you live holy. Believe he is able to crush the overwhelming power of sin in your life. Philippians 2:13 says:

“ For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.”

The disciples of Jesus were once trapped in their weaknesses. They imagined how they could work the works of God in their weak state. They enquired of Jesus and said:

“... what shall we do that we might work the works of God?” John6:8.

He made it expressly plain to them and said:

***“ This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent
John6:9.***

Holy living is by divine enablement. You must accept His will, submit to it and do it by faith, then He will help you live out God’s holy life in you.

CHAPTER 4

LIMITATIONS TO HOLY WALK WITH GOD

Effective Holy work with God could be limited by certain factors. They include the few discussed below.

1. Absence of Hunger for Holy Living

It is impossible for you to live holy without a deep hunger in your spirit for it. Matthew 5:6 said:

“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled.”

Matthew 5:6.

Hunger for righteousness is an extreme desire to be separated to God and godliness. You need this extreme desire to live like He would live if He were to be here now. There must be extreme hunger for to do His will as commanded.

King David expressed this extreme hunger for holiness in **Psalm 27:1-2** when he said:

***“ As the hart panteth after
the water brooks, so
panteth my soul after
thee, O God. My soul
thirsteth for God, for the
living God: when shall I
come and appear before
God.”***

This is a crave for the price to be where God is. He was willing to pay whatever price to be in God's holy presence. If you do not crave for sinful living.

2. Absence of Hunger for Heaven

When you have no hunger for your heavenly home, you would not come under the pressure of holy living. You will live for self-pleasure. You would live like someone whose hope is only in this world, of which the scripture says:

***“ If in this life only we
have hope in Christ, we
are all men most
miserable.”***

1Corinthians15:19.

Let me awaken your consciousness to the fact that you are a stranger in this world.

You are passer-by. All that lived with this consciousness calleded themselves strangers and pilgrims on earth and desired a heavenly country where God had made an abode for them (Hebrew11:13-15).

Someday, we shall go home to be with the Lord Jesus Christ, who has loved us with eternal love and has given Himself for our redemption. The pressures and agonies of this life shall pass away, and we shall weep no more neither shall we sorrow anymore. We shall see Him face

to face, who was pierced for our sakes. What a joyful eternity that would be.

I am looking for the great day, when the trumpet shall sound and I shall be home to be with the Lord my Beloved Saviour. My heart is yearning and waiting in His grace and mercy. What about you? Apostle John said:

“ And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure.”

1John 3:3

Beloved, let the hunger for your heavenly home fill your heart and watch the Holy Spirit take you through life's journey in holiness and righteousness.

3. Absence of love for God

Absence of love for God would limit you. It would also mean absence of love for holy living. You cannot desire to be like a person you do not love. You cannot keep His commandments if you do not love Him. Jesus said:

***“ If a man love me, he will keep my words...”
John 14:23.***

Your love for God can be assessed by your level of commitment to His Word, His commands. It would reflect in your obedience to His Word you hear. A disobedient regular church goer, would meet with disappointments. He would struggle to live holy, because the Word of God is an agent of holiness.

Reappraise your commitment to His Word and ask the Holy Spirit

to set your heart on love-fire for God. Ask Him to baptize you with fresh love for Him.

4. Absence of Hunger for Divine Presence

Hunger for divine presence would make you covet holy living. Since God is only found where holiness is life-style, He would always be with you. His presence would accompany your presence anywhere.

You would be limited in your walk with God in the absence of holiness. Isaiah 59:1-2 said:

“ Behold, the LORD’S hands 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.”

When you crave for holiness, you would find divine help and grace to live in that realm. Jesus said:

***“Blessed are they which
do hunger and thirst after
righteousness. For they
shall be filled.”***

Matthew 5:6.

May you receive the outpouring
of hunger for holiness. As you
hunger may you be filled. In
Jesus Name! Amen!!!

CHAPTER 5

BLESSING OF HOLINESS

An aspect of the beauty of God's holiness on you is the blessing that accompanies it. The sinless nature of God reflects on the beauty of His holiness. When you treasure it, then God's glory that accompanies it would trail your life.

Outstandingly, the holy shall see God (Matthew 5:8, ebrews 12:14). You will have privilege of God's glorious presence. You will witness the

manifestations of His presence. King David pursued holy living with the quest of seeing the beauty of God's presence. He said:

“ One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in His temple.”

Psalms 27:4

He had the expectation of beholding the beauty of the

LORD, therefore kept himself positioned in God's holiness.

Holiness gives you boldness to approach God. It attracts you to Him. When Adam and Eve fell from the glory of God's holiness, they hid themselves from His holy presence (Genesis 3:8).

Holiness bridges the gap between you and God as created by sin (Isaiah 59:2). The true state of every unbeliever is that sin has kept him away from the beautiful fellowship that should exist between him and God. However, when he receives Jesus as

personal Lord and Saviour, the Holy Spirit of holiness comes into his heart and bridges the gap through the atoning blood for Jesus Christ. He imparts the holiness of Christ into your heart and makes you accept able to God (2Cointhians 6:14-18).

Holiness attracts divine exaltation. God would always promote the holy to positions of divine importance and relevance. **Psalm 37:34** said:

“ Wait on the LORD, and keep His way, and He shall exalt thee to inherit

the land. When the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.”

All adverse situations would be to your advantage because the Holy God would make sure that you are favoured by what oppresses others. **Romans 8:28** says:

“ All things work together for good to them that love God, to them, who are the called according to His purpose.”

Holiness would clothe you with God's glorious power. It is the secret of ever increasing supernatural power for exploits. We are in the days of God's greater power. Holiness precedes the great outpouring of His glorious power. He said to me sometimes ago, ***"you will never lack spiritual power if you walk in sanctification."*** Hebrew1:9 says:

"Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath

anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows."

God's greater power on the holy includes power for greater manifestation of the Holy Spirit for signs and wonders, wealth, supernatural breakthrough, salvation of souls, spiritual enlargement and victorious exploits. Holiness is the key.

The children of the holy shall be mighty upon the earth (Psalm112:1-2).

Wealth and riches have been divinely programmed for those in pursuit of holiness (Psalm 112:1-3).

Amidst gross darkness; spiritual, physical, material, political, economic and financial obscurity, the Lord shall cause the light of manifold blessings to shine upon you (Psalm 112:1-4).

The holy is preserved in blessing and kept from the evil attacks of the wicked. Amidst the wicked and wickedness, he shall be kept prosperous and be lifted in honour (Psalm 112:9-10).

CHAPTER 6

DESTINED TO BE HOLY

God created and predestined you to be holy. Romans 8:29 says:

“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his son, that he might be the first born among many brethren.”

Holiness is God’s heartbeat for you. Since He has desired to be with you and relate with you,

He made every provision for you to live holy and walk with Him in His own realm. He says to you:

“ Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”

2Corinthians 6:17-18

Your call to salvation is the call to a holy walk with God. You can live in dominion over sin by divine help. You can be kept from the force of iniquity by your strong commitment to God and His Word. He has assured you and said:

“ For sin shall not have dominion over you; for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”

Romans 6:14.

He chose you to holiness because you are peculiar to Him. You are His special possession.

You are His treasure, created for His pleasure and fellowship (1Peter2:9). What privilege and honour to be called His. This should drive you to a committed submission to His will. The pursuit of His pleasure should become your assignment.

Beloved, it would take extreme love for the Lord Jesus Christ, to live all for Him. Living for His pleasure will drive your fears and pressures of life away. In the light of His pressure that comes by committed love for Him, the pressure of submitting to

temptations of the enemy departs, and the beauty of holiness becomes an overshadowing glory.

As you walk with God, may the Holy Spirit give you victory over every force of sin that seemed to overcome you and supernaturally empower you to live in complete dominion over its manipulations.

