

In the spirit realm, a man cannot go farther than his source, or what propels him. Blessings are more potent than hard work. That was why it was the blessing that Jacob and Esau contended for. It was never a show of who was more hardworking than the other. Reason being that they both knew that laboring without the blessing will always tantamount to little or no results. The man that is more blessed than you will always get more results than you, even after you had worked harder than him.

There are a lot of people that work so hard and yet have little or nothing to show. That was why scripture says that by strength shall no man prevail (1 Samuel 2:9). Meaning that there is something that prevails more than just strength and hard work, and that is the blessing.

Let me show you how it was by the blessing that the lineage of Abraham prospered.

After God called Abraham out of the Ur of the Chaldeans, he settled in a strange land, which was not his father's land (Genesis 11:31). He was not the only one that was hardworking in the land where he dwelt, but he was the one that had the blessing working for him. And so, Abraham prospered even in a foreign land. For the blessing is not a respecter of geographical location. God is omnipresent, He is not a foreigner anywhere, implying that He can bless His people anywhere!

The same blessing was what transcended to the generation of Isaac, the descendant of Abraham. And

scripture says, "Isaac sowed in the land and reaped a hundred-fold because the LORD blessed him" (Genesis 26:12). Meaning that it was the blessing that gave him the result. There were those that owned the land, that were more hardworking than Isaac. And yet he was the one that reaped a hundred-fold of whatever he sowed, even while the owners of the land lived in drought. All because of the blessing of Abraham that was with him.

Scripture says the owners of the land dug wells and got no water, but Isaac got water from every well he dug in the same land (Genesis 29:19-20). That the Philistines also dug their own well and got no water showed that they were not lazy after all. They were as hardworking as Isaac, but they were not as blessed as he was.

Then came Jacob, the descendant of Isaac, the descendant of Abraham. Look through the scriptures and you will discover that Laban had every mechanism in place to make sure that Jacob remained empty-handed even after serving him. But the blessing of Abraham, which Jacob also inherited from his father Isaac would not allow that. That was what Jacob was making reference to when he was talking to Laban and said " If not for the God of my fathers... (Genesis 31:42). He was making reference to the same blessing on the lineage of Abraham. And so, the Jacob that should have returned emptyhanded, returned as two heavy groups! (Genesis 32:10). The blessing forbids empty-handedness. Non in the lineage of Abraham was empty-handed. All because of the blessing of Abraham.

Have you ever asked yourself why Pharaoh could not send the Israelites away empty-handed? There was a blessing on them that made it impossible for Pharaoh to send them away empty-handed. You don't give slaves your belongings, but the blessing on the Israelites pushed pharaoh and the Egyptians into doing so. For the Israelites left with the silver and gold of Egypt (Exodus 12:36). It was also the same blessing that made it impossible for Jacob to return from Laban's house empty-handed. Beloved, you are a seed of Abraham in Christ Jesus, you cannot be empty-handed on earth!

One young man started a business and he called me to come pray over it. And as I landed there, the Lord said "pronounce the blessing of Abraham over it". After I did that, the business escalated with some mighty force. To the extent that people came asking him if he got a charm from somewhere. The blessings of God are stronger than charms and human wisdom. It is the potent force of God!

There are actually diverse kinds of blessing. I hear a lot of Christians say they are already blessed in Christ Jesus which is very correct. There is the general blessing you have by the reason of being in Christ Jesus, just like we all have a measure of the Spirit of God at salvation (1 Corinthians 3.16). But that is quite different from the baptism of the Holy Spirit. You can be born again and carry a measure of the Spirit in you. But that is different from being baptized of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11), even though all of them are still one Spirit. In the same vein, there are blessings in different degrees and capacity.

### **DIVERSE BLESSINGS**

## 1. THE GENERAL BLESSING IN CHRIST JESUS.

This is level where a lot Christians stop and refuse to press further. If the trumpet should sound and you are in Christ Jesus, living a just life, part of the blessings you have in Him is that you will be raptured to glory. You can also ask in the Name of Jesus and receive what you ask for in the place of prayer (Mark 11:24). But have you ever asked yourself why there are Christians that are born again and yet die of poverty even while others prosper in the same Christ Jesus. Abraham and Lazarus were all children of God, while Abraham prospered and had a bosom in

After Jacob, came the seeds of Jacob (the Israelites). the rich man, where dogs licked his sores (Luke 6:19-21).

> They were all in God, but one was more blessed than the other. That takes us to next dimension of the blessings of God, even though all in the same Christ

#### 2. CONDITIONAL BLESSINGS.

These are blessings in scriptures with conditions attached to them. It is written, "Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them" (John 13.17, NIV). That was the scriptures even in the New Testament trying to let you know that there are blessings with conditions attached to them. There are blessings in Christ Jesus that you get by meeting God's conditions in the scripture. When scripture says "Give and it shall be given unto you" (Like 6:38), simply means that there is a dimension of prosperity that can only be attained by givers. And so, the condition to get such blessings is to be a giver.

I hear people say that tithe is a thing of the Old Testament, and that the New Testament church is not meant to tithe, calling it a thing of the Old Testament law. If you go through the scripture, you will discover that the Law actually started in the days of Moses. But there was tithing even before the dispensation of the law, where Abraham offered Melchizedek a tenth of everything he had (Genesis 14:20). And in the New Testament, Jesus said it should not be neglected(Luke 11:42).

Come to think of it, if you are struggling with giving God your tithe, which is just ten percent of your income, how can you give Him something more substantial? Tithe is more than just giving God ten percent of your income; it is also a covenant of honoring God with your income. And God would always refer to His covenant people whom have kept their covenant with Him (Psalm 50:5). I am yet to see a kingdom high flyer who does not honor God with his tithe.

People are quick at saying that God rejected Cain's sacrifice, without really finding out the real reason behind it. God never complained of the quantity of Cain's sacrifice. It was just that he really did not offer it in accordance with the conditions for offering a burnt sacrifice. God doesn't reject your offering just because it is small. He said in His Word that if you sow sparingly, you will reap sparingly (2 the same God, Lazarus died a pauper at the gate of Corinthians 9:6). He never said He will reject your offering because you sowed sparingly. And God

he sowed sparingly if he ever did. Besides, there is no scripture that says Cain sowed sparingly.

God talking to Cain concerning the rejection of his sacrifice said, "Why are you sad? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted?... (Genesis 4.6). In that scripture, God was not referring to the quantity of Cain's offering, but the format and condition under which it was offered. In other words, Cain went for the blessing without meeting its condition. It was a blessing with conditions attached to it.

On the other hand, Abel offered his sacrifice based on God's given conditions. He also met with the conditions of the first fruit, for scripture says, "Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering (Genesis 4:4). Implying that Abel met with the conditions of first fruit and other conditions before his sacrifice was accepted of the Lord. And so, there are blessings with conditions attached to them. I have just showed that to you, both in the Old as well as in the New Testament.

### 3. THE PRONOUNCED BLESSING

The general blessing of Abraham that flowed in his lineage was already upon Jacob as well as Esau, but there was another dimension of it, which could only be pronounced by Isaac, their father. There are blessing that must be pronounced, they must be spoken into action. In other words, they must be activated by spoken words.

Isaac said, "bring me venison that I may eat, that my soul may bless you" (Genesis 27:7). Look at the words Isaac used, when he said "that my soul may bless you...". In other words, the blessing was to come from his soul, his inner being. How was he able to release the blessing from his inner being? By pronouncing them by the words of his mouth. He literarily spoke the blessing into Jacob's life, by the words of his mouth.

That you are blessed in Christ Jesus does not mean that a higher vessel cannot pronounce more blessings upon your life. Someone once told me a story of how one man died and left his son as an orphan. The little boy who was now an orphan was picked by his uncle who also did not have enough money to fund the boy's education. What the uncle did was to keep placing his hands on the boy and pronouncing words of blessing on him. The same boy kept gaining scholarships until he ended up as

couldn't have rejected Cain's offering just because one of the best doctors in the United State of America.

> I hear a lot of Christians, when someone says "God bless you ", they respond by saying "I am already blessed". That is a very wrong way to respond to spoken blessings. When Isaac was pronouncing the blessing on Jacob, he never responded by saying "I already have the blessing of Abraham". He would have missed out of what was been poured into him as the spoken blessing.

Be quick to receive blessings especially when they are coming from higher vessels. For it is written, "The lesser shall be blessed by the greater" (Hebrew 7:7)

I place my hands on my kids and I pronounce blessings on them. I do that a minimum of once a week, and I know how much it has been of tremendous help to them. They come out with flying colors in whatever they do, including their academics. I caught that revelation from the scripture that says "the seed of the righteous shall be mighty in the land" (Psalm 112:2). Implying that my kids have no option than to be mighty in the land. I activate that blessing in their lives by pronouncing it with the words of my mouth. That they shall be mighty in the land simply means that they shall be highly prosperous. That is the dividend of the blessing.

The pastor that understands this mystery will also pastor a prosperous congregation. For by pronouncing blessings on them from the depth of his soul, they are bound to be blessed. Scripture calls it the priestly blessing as recorded in the scripture as follows "The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace." "So shall you put my Name upon the children of Israel and I will bless them (Numbers 6:24-26). In other words, the priest was to put the blessing upon the people and God was to confirm the blessing.

## ACTIVATING THE BLESSING.

When Isaac was talking in the scripture, he said "give me venison that I might eat that my soul might bless you" (Genesis 27:7). The venison was actually the seed. In other words, Jacob got the blessing after he offered Isaac the seed. Seeds are activators of blessings. The blessing was domicile

in Isaac, it was to be activated by a seed. Every seed sower understands this mystery.

Look through life and the scripture as well, and you will discover that any one that gives to a man of God, is bound to be blessed by the blessing that the man of God carries. That was why scripture says that he that receives a prophet because he is a prophet shall receive the prophet's reward (Matthew 10:41-42). That "prophet's reward" that the scripture talks about is the blessing upon the prophet.

The blessing upon a prophet can save you many years of toiling and suffering. That was exactly what happened in the case of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath. The widow was to eat the little flour in her house and die thereafter because of starvation (1 Kings 17:12). But she sowed the same little flour into Elijah's life, and activated the blessing upon the prophet to work in her favour. And scripture says the same little flour and jar of oil was never exhausted for the three and half years that the famine lasted.

A lot of people don't understand what really happened there. It was not as if some people kept bringing more flour and oil to the widow of Zarephath. It was actually the same hand full of flour that they were fetching from, and as they kept fetching from it, whatever they fetched was

divinely replaced from the storeroom of heaven. They were fetching from the same handful of flour, and yet it would not reduce in size, it would not be exhausted!

The first one million naira we ever got as a ministry came after we sowed whatever entered our offering box to bishop Oyedopo's ministry for four consecutive weeks. In other words, we activated the blessing upon his life to work in our favor, by seed sowing.

The Lord said to me "Don't carry your father's meat in your pocket". Jacob did not carry the meat that was due Isaac in his pocket. He placed it on Isaac's table. A lot of people are carrying the meat meant for their spiritual fathers in their pockets, and that is the reason why a lot of them are struggling with what they don't know. Jacob would have struggled in Laban's house if he had gone there with the meat meant for Isaac in his pocket. He rather presented the meat to Isaac and collected the blessing.

My mentor, pastor David Ogbueli once said that any one that does not bless his spiritual head with material things is actually owing in the spirit realm. No wonder scripture says you should bless them that bless you with spiritual things with material things (1 Corinthians 9:11)

# **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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