

SPIRITUAL DAILY DIGEST FOR MAY TO AUGUST, 2021

Saturday, May 1, 2021

GLORY AND BEAUTY

EXODUS 28:1-4

“And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother for glory and beauty.” V.2

As we all know, God chose Aaron as Moses’ mouthpiece. Aaron was one of the bond men in Egypt who labored under Pharaoh’s decree of slavery. When God needed a man to assist Moses, he was considered qualified to hold that position. God also decided that Aaron should be the high priest. A high priest was a person who stood before God as a representative of the people. This implies that Aaron had a special feature that distinguished him from others.

Beloved, when God decides to honour you, He can change your situation for good within the twinkle of an eye. Do not lose hope in your labour; the eyes of the Lord beholds you. God will send divine influence to you once He is ready to elevate you. Joseph was forgotten in the prison until divine influence worked on his behalf; he was brought out to become the second in-command in Egypt. Mordecai was a gate-keeper; the enemy had decided his case and other Jews, but his story changed overnight. Regardless of what the planned work of your enemy is, the Lord will cloth you with a garment of glory and beauty to change your story.

In this month of grace, as you trust God and labour faithfully, your story will change for the better. God will remove your garment of reproach and clothe you with the garment of glory and beauty. God will change your degrading situation to dignity, and your agony to glory in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, take away every garment of reproach in my life and clothe me with heavenly glory and beauty in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “And He answered and spoke to those who stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy clothes from him. And to him He said, behold, I have caused your iniquity to pass from you, and I will clothe you with ceremonial robes.” Zechariah 3:4

Sunday, May 2, 2021

**HEAVENLY APPROVAL
MATTHEW 3:13-17**

“And suddenly a voice came from heaven saying, this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.” V.17

The submission of Jesus Christ when He was to be baptized was a clear demonstration of His preparedness to carry out the divine mandate placed on Him. It also demonstrated the consistency among the Trinity concerning Christ's assignment; hence, the reason the Holy Spirit came upon Christ to empower Him to accomplish the assignment. And then, the voice of the Father announcing His approval.

The voice from heaven is a testimony that Christ had passed a test of humility and obedience. He is now equipped with the necessary skills to accomplish His divine obligation for the redemption of mankind. If we desire God's visitation in our lives, then we must be ready to go through divine test. Your promotion cannot come until you have been tested and you passed. It is worthy of note that when heaven approves you, no man can reject you. We will be tested, and it is a major reason we should be in spirit at all times and stand firm in our faith towards God.

The heavenly approval to start our Christian journey is very important and this has made baptism obligatory to all believers in Christ. The heavenly approval to embark on all missionary journeys is also important. Many are failing in the ministry today because they not diligent to receive the approval to commence.

Prayer point: Heavenly Father, help me to wait diligently on you that I can receive the heavenly approval to fulfil my divine purpose in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “While he yet spoke, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them. And behold a voice out of the cloud which said, This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, hear Him.” Matthew 17:5

Monday, May 3, 2021

TRUE WEALTH

DEUTERONOMY 8:18-20

“But you shall remember Jehovah your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, so that He may confirm His covenant which He has sworn to your fathers, as it is today.” V.18

God is the giver of genuine wealth because He made and placed everything under the control of man that he can live a good and comfortable life. God is not against making wealth, rather He is totally against acquiring it in a fraudulent way or using it in an ungodly manner.

In today's text, God gave the Israelites the right perspective to wealth. Wealth can create in man a fake sense of security and power, such that it can replace God in his heart. The rich usually tend to relegate the importance of God leading to a poor spiritual life. As we aspire to acquire riches, we must do so in truth and righteousness without relegating God in our heart. We must not become covetous and selfish. The unhealthy pursuit of wealth has in it the danger of drawing us away from God.

What is your attitude towards getting rich? True wealth for a believer involves faith and love that is expressed in following God. Those who have true riches have confidence that God is their Father and source of wealth. Riches are God's resources in your possession. Gold and silver are of God. Seek wealth and riches in a right and legal way. I pray that God will prosper you in all our undertakings in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer Point: Blessed Father, as you grant me the power to acquire wealth, let it not draw my heart away from you in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if that was too little, I would have given to you such and such things besides.” 2 Samuel 12:8

Tuesday, May 4, 2021

**LEADERSHIP BY EXAMPLE
MATTHEW 8:2-4**

“And Jesus said to him, See that you tell no one; but go, show yourself to the priest. And offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony to them.” V.4

Jesus admonished us never to make a public show of our generosity. These were not just mere words of advice, but an act that He also practiced. The contrary is the case today wherein a lot of pastors and church leaders advertise miracles even on television stations. Church members too on the other hand like to give to impress that some even go as far as spraying money in the church.

Jesus performed a lot of miracles to the extent of bringing back the dead to life, yet he told those around to be silent about it. He wasn't interested in personal glorification, but did everything to the glory of God. In the text, Jesus healed a leper and asked him to go ahead and present himself to the priest. He would not go against the pre-existing institutions by God just to show His prowess.

This is indeed a great lesson to all Christians, especially Christian leaders, to be wary of rebelling against the authority just to prove they are better. Superiority complex brought down the devil. Therefore, we must be wary of the devices of the devil and always take the humble approach to leadership. Be ready to follow the humble leadership example of Jesus.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, help me to develop the right principles laid down by Jesus Christ in my leadership responsibilities in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Therefore the **one** teaching another, do you not teach yourself? The **one** preaching not to steal, do you steal?” Romans 2:21

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

LOSS OF TASTE

MATTHEW 5:10-13

“You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt loses its savor, with what shall it be salted? It is no longer good for anything, but to be thrown out and to be trodden underfoot by men.” V.13

Salt is used as a seasoning to enhance the taste of food. It makes bland food such as carbohydrates palatable and helps to bring out the natural flavours in other foods. For Jesus to have ascribed Christians to be the salt of the world, it means we have a similar role to perform.

As a Christian, you are responsible for adding value to your society. You should enhance those that are good, remould the life of those that are lost and be a positive influence to everyone around you. Salt is usually not seen nor does it add much physical presence to the food, but the whole meal can become useless without it because of its taste adding property. As such, when salt loses its taste adding property, it becomes useless.

You cannot afford to lose your positive influence as a Christian. If you belong to a group, community or workplace and it doesn't bring positive development, then you are not a Christian. Jesus was on earth for thirty-three years and after leaving for more than two millennia now, we can still enjoy His good works. What will people say about you when you leave? Hope you have not lost your taste?

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, give me the power to add sweetness to people's lives today and forever more in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought “Let your speech **be** always with grace, having been seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.” Colossians 4:6

Thursday, May 6, 2021

BREAKING PROTOCOLS 1
JOSHUA 10:12-15

“And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies.” V 13

I remember listening to a sermon from a famous preacher about our battle with the devil. He said we were in a boxing ring and have been knocked down. At the count of ten, the battle should be over, but the referee chose to keep counting until we stood up. We later found out that the referee is Jesus Christ. He helped us outsmart the devil because he also tried to outsmart man. This is the grace that is offered to us through Jesus Christ.

The normal weather pattern was altered just to give the Israelites victory. This is the extent God would go to sacrifice His only begotten Son to redeem us from destruction. We are more than conquerors through Christ who loves us. Protocols had to be broken that we can win.

Therefore, do not lose hope. What God cannot do does not exist. If He could create a path through the Red Sea just to put an end to the Egyptian hosts tormenting Israel, then He is able to help you overcome your present challenges. God is breaking protocols to grant you victory today in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, please break protocols to grant me the much expected victory over my adversities in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “But the sons of Israel walked upon dry land in the middle of the sea. And the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.” Exodus 14:29

Friday, May 7, 2021

BREAKING PROTOCOLS 2
GENESIS 18:11-14

“Now Abraham and Sarah were old, far gone in days, and it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.” V.11

Sarah was well past the age of menopause and the husband was already old too when it was prophesied that she will still have a son. In fact, she laughed at the prophecy because it looked totally impossible.

According to science, the female body produces about one million egg cells. By puberty only about 300,000 remain. Of these, only 300 to 400 will be ovulated during a woman's reproductive lifetime. Fertility usually drops as a woman is ageing. Most women will hit menopause between the age of 50 and 60, but here was an octogenarian being told she will have a child. It sounds totally impossible.

Protocols had to be broken. Sarah had Isaac when she was already ninety years of age. Even Sarah's unbelief did not stop the miracle. Indeed, what God cannot do does not exist. Do not lose hope on God's promise. You are still going to have that promised child, husband, job, career or house. God is breaking protocols to show you divine favour that no science of the world can explain. It is time for you to laugh and sing praises to God.

Prayer Point: Covenant-Keeping God, I hold on to your promises for my life with the firm belief that they will all be fulfilled and I can praise you in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “And she said, Who could have said to Abraham, will Sarah suckle children? For I have borne a son to him in his old age.”
Genesis 21:7

Saturday, May 8, 2021

**THE THIEF
JOHN 10:10-15**

“The thief does not come except to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come so that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.” V.10

Thieves don't burgle empty houses. There has to be something they are interested in taking away. The thief being referenced here is the devil whose intention is to take away your freedom and salvation at all cost through manipulations; and His targets are those who have life in them.

It is not every individual in the world that have life in them. Many are spiritually dead. They could be rich, famous or even be prominent leaders, but have no spiritual life in them. Since the devil has nothing to steal from them, they are not under any form of pressure. Therefore, if the devil is attacking you in any way, then you should know there is something he is after. The devil is not after any material thing, but the soul of man.

He aims to steal, kill and destroy the soul of man by sending it to hell. Many in their quest for riches and fame sell their soul to the devil and will only realise when it is too late. If your soul isn't in God, it is time to accept Jesus Christ so that you can enjoy the abundant life in Him. Every possession gotten through devilish means are just baits to steal your soul. Don't allow the devil burgle you.

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, help me to guide my soul that I may not fall victim of the destructive plans of the devil in Jesus name. Amen.

**Food for thought: “Be sensible and vigilant, because your adversary the Devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking someone he may devour.”
1 Peter 5:8**

Sunday, May 9, 2021

**ABLE MINISTERS
2 CORINTHIANS 3:1-7**

“Who also has made us able ministers of the new covenant; not of the letter, but of the spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit makes alive.” V.6

Many Christians are falling short of the interpretation of the bible because they rather interpret it through the letter rather than the spirit. One of such gross misinterpretations includes attributing vaccines to the scheme of anti-christ. They interpret vaccination as a mark of the beast because it will be injected in the arm and there are plans to restrict those who refuse vaccination from visiting certain places.

It is pathetic that many are apologetic to this belief and would even term spiritual leaders who get vaccinated as lacking faith or being an agent of the devil. This is a gross misinterpretation of the faith theory. The fact that Jesus is our healer would not mean taking medication is an act of unbelief. Else, if that were to be the case, then as Christians we should stop physical food because Jesus is the bread and water of life.

Medication is neither ungodly nor a lack of faith because medicines are produced from materials made by God to solve health challenges. Even those in the health practice acknowledge that they only care, but it is only God that heals. One of the writers of the book of the bible, Luke, was a physician and his Christian status didn't condemn his job. We may reject certain medications if we doubt its efficacy or suitability, but not on a spiritual ground. Be an able minister who interpret the word through the Spirit and not by letters.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, enlighten my heart to always interpret your word through the Holy Spirit that I can function optimally in it in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “It seemed good to me also, following all things accurately from the very first, to write to you in order, most excellent Theophilus” Luke 1:3

Monday, May 10, 2021

**HELPER
GENESIS 2:16-20**

“And Jehovah God said, it is not good that the man should be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.” V.18

Women are simply men with extra features. They are simply a better version and this is the reason they are more complex in nature. It has been proven that women are usually more intelligent than men and this is one reason the devil usually use them to manipulate. Until men understand the vital role of women in the society and accord them that level of respect, there will always be issues.

Today's text makes us understand that women were created to be a man's helper. One will only require help when he has exhausted his strength/ideas or lack certain abilities. The woman being a helper indicates that the man has shortcomings that is needed to be solved by a woman. However, the issue remains that you cannot get the needed help from someone you do not respect. Women as helpers are not slaves and shouldn't be treated as such.

Men must learn to use the help of women appropriately because a misuse will definitely bring unwarranted problems. Despite the fact that Jesus was not conceived through sexual intercourse, God still needed a woman to birth Him. Any man who maltreats women is chasing away a helper and will be justifiably punished by God because it will affect the society negatively.

Prayer point: Heavenly Father, help us love one another and treat the female gender with more respect that we may have a better society in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.” Genesis 3:20

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

**YOUR DAVID SHALL REIGN
PSALM 27:10-14**

“Deliver me not over to the will of my enemies; for false witnesses have risen up against me, and he that breathes out cruelty.” V.12

David was faced with death threats from King Saul because many women sang praises of him when he defeated Goliath. Saul should be proud of David's effort since the victory is attributed to his reign. But there must have been many in Saul's cabinet that would have convinced him that David was a threat to His kingship.

Many leaders also have this sort of Saul mentality wherein they suspect every achievement by their subordinates as a ploy to oust them. One thing they must realize is that “what will be will be” You cannot be at the top forever. You will either retire or death retires you. The important thing is to develop those coming after you that you can be respected forever. Since it was God's plan, he wasn't able to subdue David.

Have you found yourself in a similar position to David wherein God has anointed you for a position but you are still waiting for the fulfilment? Don't fret nor grow impatient. All the challenges you are facing are God's way of preparing you for the role. The acts of cruelty will only make you better if only you are spiritually discerning to understand the plans of God. I pray your David shall reign in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer Point: Faithful Father, guide me against all false accusations and help me to fulfil purpose against all odds in Jesus name. Amen.

**Food for thought “Though an army should camp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war should rise against me, in this I am trusting.”
Psalm 27:3**

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

**COVENANT-KEEPING GOD
1 CHRONICLES 17:11-15**

“I will be his Father, and he shall be my son: and I will not take my mercy away from him, as I took it from him that was before thee” v.13

With a covenant, usually come a set of promises, which binds both parties involved to keep to the terms of the covenant, else there is a breach. Humans may change, but God never changes. Whatever He has promised, He will surely fulfil it. God made a covenant with Abraham to bring his descendants to a special land but when they became perverse, He opted to wipe them out. However, Moses reminded Him of His promise and He stood by it. Though those who sinned eventually perished in the wilderness, He led their children, Joshua, and Caleb to the Promised Land.

Today's golden verse records the promise God made to David concerning his son. When Solomon erred and turned away from God, He delayed the punishment to the time of Rehoboam. God never goes back on His promise despite man's unfaithfulness.

Is there any promise God made to you that is yet to see the light of the day? Check your ways because when you don't breach your own part of the contract, He is obliged to fulfil. It appears the sun rises and sets but it is stationary; the earth rotates round it hence will experience day and night. The light of God is constantly available. When we keep our focus on Him, there will be no room for darkness.

Prayer Point: Faithful God, help me to keep my focus on you that your promises be fulfilled in my life in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “God is not a man that He should lie, neither the son of man that He should repent. Has He said, and shall He not do it? Or has He spoken, and shall He not make it good?” Numbers 23:19

Thursday, May 13, 2021
MOUNT ZION

HEBREWS 12:22-28

“But ye are come unto Mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,” v.22

Mount Zion is symbolic of spiritual strength. For this reason, Psalm 125:1 states that; “they who trust in Jehovah shall be like Mount Zion; it is not shaken, but remains forever.” God has established us on a new platform wherein we can be empowered against all the antics of the devil. This is to take our minds from the fear and anxiety that comes with the era of the law but walk confidently in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. By the law, the devil will always find accusations against us, but with grace we can be acquitted of all charges.

Today, we still observe many Christians living in fear and anxiety because they are yet to realize that the New Testament has launched us to Mount Zion, where indeed, God is ever-present with us and we also have the benefit of an innumerable company of angels. The Lord has not given us the spirit of fear, but power, love and sound mind. These are the three distinguishing characters of those who have indeed come to mount Zion.

On mount Zion, you are not afraid of the plans of the enemies against you, but operate in the fullness of the power of God. On mount Zion, you are empowered for deliverance, holiness and recovery of lost glory. God is not interested in our past misdeeds, but requires of us to put in efforts to be better.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, erase every form of fear and anxiety from my heart and grant me great confidence in Jesus name. Amen.

Food For Thought: “But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions. .” Obadiah 1:17

Friday, May 14, 2021

**POWER IN THE VOICE
PSALM 29:1-11**

“The voice of Jehovah is in power, the voice of Jehovah is in majesty.” V.4

This whole chapter (Psalm 29) of today's text explained the voice of the Lord and brings our consciousness to the importance of this voice. The Almighty God is not dumb. He speaks. God spoke everything into existence. By His voice, all things were made. Consider how mighty the ocean is. Yet, it moved and made space for land at the command of the voice of the Lord. Even the mountains as strong as they are had to flee like rams because of the voice of the Lord.

If only we will allow God to reside in us that He can begin to speak through us, then we can command many things into existence. Many have given their hearts to the devil, for this reason, their mouth is always full of immoral and cursive words. With the slightest provocation, they are already cursing and hurling insults. On social media also, you see a lot of people exchanging derogatory remarks all in the name of expressing their views on issues.

You were made in the image and likeness of God. You were made a king to rule. Henceforth, always talk like a king. Speak positively and responsibly that the power of God can rest on you and your words can be filled with His authority. Only then will everything that God has created obey your voice and the glory of God can radiate through you.

Prayer point: Glorious God, teach me to speak according to your will that through me, the power in your words can manifest greatly in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Out of the same mouth proceeds blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.” James 3:10

Saturday, May 15, 2021

DO NOT CURSE

JAMES 3:7-12

“Can the fig tree, my brothers, bear olive berries; or a vine, figs? So no fountain *can* yield both salt water and fresh.” V.12

The body of a man is made up of different parts performing different functions. It is difficult for one part of the body to work alone without the help of others. When one part is sick, the other parts feel the pain. Amongst the most important part of the body is the tongue, although small, it performs a great function. The tongue can determine the destiny of its host.

The tongues of anointed men of God are sanctified to prophecy goodness into the life of people and also destroy the power of Satan. As a child of God, be assured that your tongue has been anointed to prophecy goodness to the lives of people. This is the reason you should be ready to pronounce blessing into everything you do today.

Many in the nation are frustrated due to economic challenges, marital failures and other issues. Some pass the frustration to their spouse, parents, children and neighbours. It should be noted that cutting off the head is never a solution to headache. Curses doesn't solve any problem, rather it complicates it. Therefore, you must completely avoid using your tongue to curse or insult come what may. Always learn to bless so that the blessing of God can fill your life.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, take control of my tongue that I can always use it to declare goodness in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking guile.” Psalm 34:13

Sunday, May 16, 2021

LABOUR TO REST

HEBREWS 4:9-11

“Therefore let us labour to enter into that rest, lest anyone fall after the same example of unbelief.” V.11

The importance of work cannot be overemphasized. God worked for six days before resting on the seventh day. Thereafter, He gave the task to man to continue with the work. As humans, we have our active years and this is a period we must work that we can enjoy rest in our old age. You have to labour to enjoy rest. When you sleep or play when you are supposed to work, then you will have to run helter-skelter when you are supposed to rest.

This clearly applies to the Christian faith. We all have one assignment or the other from God. There is a judgment seat where our works will be assessed and rewarded accordingly. Therefore, it is important to discern your assignment and begin to work on it right away. Do not follow the examples of unbelieving believers.

You must work conscientiously for God to enjoy eternal rest in His kingdom. Remember it was only those who used their talents to a profitable end that were welcomed into the joy of their Lord. What are you doing with God's gifts? Stop using you musical, prophetic, evangelistic and other gifts to please the devil anymore by hiding it. It is time to use it for God

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, please give me the strength and wisdom to labour for your kingdom that I can have eternal rest in Jesus name. Amen

Food for thought: “Each one's work shall be revealed. For the Day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try each one's work as to what kind it is.” 1 Corinthians 3:13

Monday, May 17, 2021

HANDLING PERSECUTIONS

ISAIAH 53:3-5

“Surely He has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.” V.4

Are you a disciple of Christ? Are you being persecuted or rejected because of the word of truth? Never mind, your glorification is not of this world. Face the persecution and rejection with joy because without the cross there will be no crown. If Christ had not faced His, we will not be saved and His kingdom will not have been enlarged and beautified.

I know you have the power to call on fire to consume all your persecutors but don't be like ELIJAH, but act like JESUS. Do not lament over issues of rejection and persecution because our SAVIOUR was once victimized like you. Stop justifying yourself that you are not guilty of the offence you were accused of. Why? Your LORD kept quiet during his time of affliction. Quit your defence now because He also went through pains and shame and He never defended himself even to the point of death.

The Lord JESUS was despised, rejected by His own countrymen, persecuted by His people, nailed by those He showed mercy, healed, helped, gave food, and by those He ate with. Yet; He never justified or elevated himself. Persecution is an integral part of the Christian journey and how you respond to it matters a lot. You are to bless your persecutors and not curse because they are a test of your faith.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, empower me with the wisdom to handle all forms of persecutions that come my way that I can be blessed through it in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for your reward in Heaven *is* great. For so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:12

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

STEADFASTNESS

PHILIPPIANS 2:8-11

“And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” V.8

As a young man, I often watched racers striving to get to the finish line despite realizing they do not fall into a medal receiving position. I would think that if I was in their shoes, I will just divert into the crowd and retire home. With time, I got to realize that there are other reasons they must finish the race. Even though they are competing with others, some are working on improving on their “personal best” time.

In the race of life also, you must strive to finish well irrespective of what may be happening around you. You have the responsibility to be steadfast to the end. Jesus took a path of humility and obedience. He remained steadfast even till the end. Threats from the Pharisees and Sadducees, pleasures of life and many other challenges did not change Him. It looked shameful to end his journey on the cross, but He will not be perturbed. He remained obedient to the Father.

There are many Christians who start well, but with time, they compromise like Jeshurun. Some compromise because of trials and others because of wealth. Even though life can somewhat be a competition with others, you must make up your mind to finish well because salvation is personal.

Prayer Point: Everlasting Father, grant me the grace to finish strong and well in my Christian journey in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “But he who endures to *the* end, the same shall be kept safe.” Matthew 24:13

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

NOT ALL

JOHN 13:11-14

“For He knew who would betray Him. Therefore He said, You are not all clean.” V.11

It can be rightly assumed that every professing Christian is a saint and should be a model of holiness. However, that is not the situation. In fact, there are some outrageous misdeeds that we find supposed Christians engaging in. Should this come as a surprise?

The disciples of Jesus were all supposed to be clean, but there was a betrayer amidst them. Imagine someone who had the opportunity to listen to the sermon of Jesus and saw the miracles He performed first hand still betraying Him. How much more those who only heard about Jesus, but did not have physical encounter with Him? We should expect that not all who are in church are clean.

The plan of Judas to betray Jesus did not stop His work of salvation. In fact, it hastened it. This essentially means you have no excuse not to complete the assignment of God to you. You must not be disappointed to find out not all are clean and have a mindset for things to work out well. The devil also has his agents in the church. These are people who have given their heart to covetousness. You find them still engaging in sexual immorality, stealing, backbiting and other vices.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, deliver my heart from covetousness that I may not fall victim of the devil’s manipulations in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.” Psalm 51:10

Thursday, May 20, 2021

IDOLATRY

EZEKIEL 14:2-6

“Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their hearts, and put the stumbling-block of their iniquity before their face. Should I at all be inquired of by them?” V.3

Worshiping idol does not only mean paying homage to carved images or going to the shrine for rituals; a man can indirectly engage in it. Whatever you prioritize above God becomes an idol you worship; meaning that your heart, which should be a place of abode for the Spirit of God, is now harbouring worldly things. For instance, if your heart is preoccupied with the love of money or ambitions that relegates the commandments of God, then you have entertained idolatry.

What has taken over the position of Christ in your heart and has been giving you sleepless nights? Are you at crossroads, not knowing your next line of action and about to ask God about it? You will definitely be answered according to your heart.

Therefore before coming to God for directives, purge yourself thoroughly and come clean. Be ready to listen to God rather than trying to force your selfish desires on Him. His plans for you is far better than you can imagine. Do not let the love of the world replace the love of the Father in your heart. Else, you are no different from an idolater.

Prayer Point: Omniscient Father, help me get rid of every idolatry tendencies in my heart. Renew my heart to be filled with your love and perfect will in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him” 1 John 2:15

Friday, May 21, 2021

**RESPECT TRADITIONS
PROVERBS 22:26-29**

“Do not remove the old landmark which your fathers have set.” V. 28

There are some traditions that have biblical background. They were given by God to ensure peace and prosperity in the land. When we follow them, we allow peace to reign, but when we refuse, it will only spell trouble. One of them has to do with the transfer of properties from parents to their children.

Are you a family head? What did you do to the children of your brother that had just died? Do you think you can now cheat them because of the demise of their father? Read the order from the God that owns the earth and its fullness in **Proverbs 23:10 and Proverbs 22:16**. Be contented with what you have. God is able to bless you without adding sorrows to it. Do not add bile to the sweat meat of your life.

Are you the one that has been cheated and they now seek to take your life? This is a word of comfort for you **“For their redeemer is mighty: he shall plead their cause with thee” (Proverbs 23:11)**. God shall come to your aid because He is the father for the fatherless and will plead your cause. In a miraculous way, the Lord will restore all that have been stolen from you and you will have cause to share your testimony in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, fight my battles and plead my cause that everything that have been taken from me be restored in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Cursed *is* he who removes his neighbour’s landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen.” Deuteronomy 27:17

Saturday, May 22, 2021

**MONEY AND INFLUENCE
PROVERBS 22:7**

**“The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower *is* servant to the lender.”
V.7**

With money comes influence and when it is not abused, it can be used positively. Poverty is never a proof of righteousness, as such, it is important that spiritual leaders encourage Christians to work and make money. The rich will always rule over the poor and poverty oftentimes lead to a depraved mentality. Can you imagine a man selling a child to ritualists for five thousand naira? It is simply an issue of poverty.

Many ladies are into prostitution for peanuts and males are lured into robbery, internet fraud and other crimes because they are impoverished. In fact, eradicating corruption in the nation will be impossible if the level of poverty still remains. A lot of people vote corrupt leaders because they give out some money and gifts. The electorate can easily sell out their votes because of poverty. You see people celebrating someone in power who built a road as if it was done with his personal money. When in fact, this person probably constructed the road at an inflated cost.

It is important to note that money is amoral. It only depends on who is handling it. In the hand of a good person, it can do wonders and in the hand of a corrupt person, it can destroy. As such, it is important to encourage Christians to build wealth as they remain on the path of righteousness, because money has a lot of influence.

Prayer Point: Jehovah Jireh, please provide for our needs that we may not be influenced negatively by a state of poverty in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Remove far from me vanity and a lying word; give me neither poverty or riches; tear for me my portion of bread.” Proverbs 30:8

Sunday, May 23, 2021

PRUDENT LIFE 1

PROVERBS 27:11-12

“A sensible one foresees the evil *and* hides himself, but the simple pass on *and* are punished.” V.12

Many have rushed into the battle field of life and become wounded. Sometimes, there are dangerous omen that you envisaged, but failed to hide yourself from and now you regret your actions. Do you know there are certain ugly things that can be avoided in life? Many people are in trouble just because they want to boost their egos and applied their strength in battles they should have left for the Lord.

Many have lost their soul owing to their lack of wisdom. They had the premonition of what is going to happen, but ignored it. Even in the house of God, what stops you from withdrawing from anything that can lead to segregation and trouble? Did Jesus not say, you should be wise as serpent and patient as dove? This is an advice to live a prudent life.

Be a prudent man that sees beyond his nostrils. Be a sensible man that perceives trouble and hides himself; it is not cowardice but the strength of wisdom.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, help me to live a life of wisdom that I may not stumble in ignorance in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “For wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it.” Ecclesiastes 7:12

Monday, May 24, 2021

PRUDENT LIFE 2

PROVERBS 27:11-12

“A sensible one foresees the evil *and* hides himself, but the simple pass on *and* are punished.” V.12

David was able to defeat Goliath and avoid the death plan of Saul. Thereafter, he lusted after Bathsheba and a few minutes of sexual fun brought a lot of problems into his life. The fun led to an unwanted pregnancy. He had to devise a way for the husband to come home. When that did not work, he had to find a way to kill him. Thinking it is all over, Prophet Nathan then came to expose the myriads of problems that will come to him. All these would have been avoided if only he had looked away in the first place.

There are many men also who have brought problems into their homes because they refuse to control their urge. They believe that having several women makes them smart, when it is actually the height of stupidity. Wise men don't waste their strength or resources on women (Proverbs 31:3).

Some women have also put their homes in trouble because of their unguarded tongues. The devil is so manipulative and unless we choose to be prudent in our ways, we tend to fall victim to his mechanizations. If Eve had been more careful with her words, the devil may not have found a way to convince her to eat the forbidden fruit. Indeed, wisdom is profitable to direct. Please ensure you live a prudent life.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, fill my heart with your divine wisdom that I can live a prudent life in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “If the iron is blunt, and he does not whet the edge, then he must put more strength to *it*. But wisdom *is* profitable to direct.” Ecclesiastes 10:10

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

**GODLY WISDOM
ECCLESIASTES 9:13-18**

“And I said, Wisdom *is* better than strength; but the poor man's wisdom *is* despised, and his words are not heard.” V.16

Joseph was made to go through a life of slavery and imprisonment because He has a role to help the country in a time of lack. His experience made him understand how to manage resources efficiently and effectively. Jesus was also in the wilderness because He needed to be trained on how to handle issues alone when everyone rejects Him. Oftentimes, God humbles us just to make us wise.

As a Christian, it is important to understand this fact. The earlier you learn, the quicker you can move to the next level. But many Christians are taught to rant and shout instead of picking out lessons. There are some situations in your Christian journey that strength will not be able to solve your problems. It won't be about how long you can pray or how well you can fast, but how wise you are.

Jesus had the host of angels at his beck and call, but He rebuked Peter for attempting to be violent against those who came to effect His arrest. The situation at that time required wisdom and not strength. Many reject divine wisdom because it usually comes from the unlikeliest of sources and usually defies logic. However, it is important we allow divine wisdom to rule us in order to enjoy eternal success.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, endow me with godly wisdom that I may not fall prey to the devil's deceit in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought “He will guide the feet of His saints, but the wicked shall be silent in darkness. For by strength no man shall prevail” 1 Samuel 2:9

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

DO NOT SHOW-OFF

MATTHEW 6:1-5

“So that your merciful deeds may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret Himself shall reward you openly.” V.4

You are blessed to bless others. There are people who are more intelligent, prayerful, business oriented or wiser than you are, and yet are not as rich as you are. Also, remember that no one has it all. You will need the help of others in other capacities. The race *is* not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favor to men of skill; but time and chance happens to them all.

More importantly, when you are in a position to help, do not show-off with it. You are only opportune to render the help. Do it in secret and humbly that God will reward you in abundance. When you help someone financially or otherwise, learn to keep it to yourself and not publicize it in order to boost your ego, as this will mean that you have gotten your reward already.

Do not deny those who need your help no matter how big or small. Always have it in mind that it is completely unnecessary to start broadcasting it. Know that you are doing it for God and since His eyes are everywhere, whatever is done in secret is widely open to His sight; you will indeed be spiritually blessed abundantly. Remember the parable of the sheep and the goats wherein the sheep were rewarded with everlasting treasures at a time they least expected because they chose to help others with their resources.

Prayer Point: Benevolent Father, continually bless me that I can also continue to a blessing to others in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought “And the King shall answer and say to them, Truly I say to you, Inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brothers, you have done *it* to Me.” Matthew 25:40

Thursday, May 27, 2021

SWORD OF JUSTICE

EZEKIEL 21:1-5

“And say to the land of Israel, So says Jehovah: Behold, I *am* against you, and will draw out My sword out of its sheath and will cut off from you the righteous and the wicked.” V.3

What could make a loving father turn against his own children? This is when they have set themselves on the path of destruction. There are many who have become atheists today because they perceive God to be wicked. Some claim that God is too slow to justice and others assume He is unfair.

Imagine a church setting wherein the people are unrepentant from sexual immorality. When God decides to spare them by extending a hand of grace for them to repent, some will assume God is slow and unfair. If God decides to strike such people with death or sickness, some will claim God is wicked. So what really should be done?

Be it known to you like it happened in the text that a time will come when the patience of God will be exhausted and He will bring out the sword of justice from its sheath. The Lord isn't slow about taking action, as some people think. God is patient, because He wants everyone to turn from sin and no one to be lost. But God has commanded the present heavens and earth to remain until the Day of Judgment. Then they will be set on fire, and ungodly people will be destroyed. This day will come as a surprise. Some of the act of justice we see are just warnings. So be warned and have a change of heart today.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, I confess and forsake all unrighteous acts. Grant me the grace to live uprightly in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “For the time has come for the judgment to begin from the house of God. And if it first begins from us, what will be the end of those disobeying the gospel of God?” 1 Peter 4:17

Friday, May 28, 2021

THE LIGHT

MATTHEW 5:14-16

“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.” V.14

When Jesus was born, Simeon said this about Him: “for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel” (Luke. 2:30-32). Jesus is the light and He came to the world when it was overshadowed with the darkness of sin. The light came and was not hidden; He preached the gospel of the God’s kingdom and those who believed in Him were empowered to be sons of God (John 1:12).

Jesus completed his earthly mission by telling us that “we are the light of the world”. He wants us to continue from where He stopped. In His days, He preached from one town of Israel to another. He did not hide under a bushel, but preached on mountains and hills.

As Christians who have been empowered to preach the gospel, are we beaming the light of the gospel to the world? Are we not hiding the gospel of truth because of our appetite for food? Have we not compromised our faith? Common! Let us wake up from slumbering. Let us preach the gospel as never before. The world is waiting for us to steer its course in the right direction. We have been given the power to shake kingdoms; let the light of the gospel continue to shine.

Prayer Point: May the darkness of the world never comprehend me. I shall shine forth even till eternity in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Food for thought “I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.” John 12:46

Saturday, May 29, 2021

IDOLS 1

PSALM 135:15-18

“The idols of the nations *are* silver and gold, the work of men's hands.” V.15

Money is one of the creation of man that is being idolised. In biblical context, it is often called mammon. Money in itself is amoral, it can either be used for a good cause or a bad one.

Money was created as a means of exchange. Before its creation, trade by barter was the means of exchanging goods. The introduction of money, however, made it easier to exchange goods by attaching monetary value to the goods. It therefore means that money (the paper) in itself has little or no value. The value attached to it is the purchasing power that we have all agreed to attach to it. If for instance, the government of a nation changes its currency, the initial one becomes completely useless.

This same principle applies to idolatry. Idols have no power except the value humans attach to it. People arrange a set of materials and begin to make sacrifices there. By these, they invoke an evil spirit to start operating there. People will often say, money is a spirit. It is because of our thought process around it. This is the reason the bible advised against the love of money. The love of money creates an idol that if an individual continues to worship in the heart, it creates a sense of desperation that overwhelms and leads to perilous acts.

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, rid my heart of all idolatry tendencies and let your love dominate my heart in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought “For the love of money is a root of all evils, of which some having lusted after, they were seduced from the faith and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” 1 Timothy 6:10

Sunday, May 30, 2021

IDOLS 2

PSALM 135:15-18

“The idols of the nations *are* silver and gold, the work of men's hands.” V.15

Who was the richest man in the world during the days of Jesus? Well, one could argue that record-keeping wasn't as effective then as we have it today. In fact, there are many contentions about the records in the bible. However, one thing is certain, Jesus had a lot of influence that cannot in any way be compared to whoever was the richest man in His days was.

Many believe with money, they have everything, but do you realize that Jesus spoke many times about rich fools. It therefore means one can be rich and be foolish. If the creation of man that will lose its value eventually is all that makes you fulfilled in life, then you are no different from an idol worshipper.

It is important we all live a life that will impact our world positively. Do not let the possessions you have acquired create a false sense of fulfilment in you. Remember the young rich man whom Jesus asked that he sold all his possessions and follow Him? It is simply because he had idolised his riches and assume with it, he can get anything. The purchasing power of money is limited to the earth. So no matter how rich, we need God more and anything that takes our absolute dependence away from God to men's creation is simply an idol.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, help me to remain absolutely dependent on you and not give my heart to idolatry in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Jesus said to him, If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to *the* poor, and you shall have treasure in Heaven. And come, follow Me.” Matthew 19:21

Monday, May 31, 2021

IDOLS 3

PSALM 135:15-18

“The idols of the nations *are* silver and gold, the work of men's hands.” V.15

A certain woman was having issues giving birth and after consultation with a prophet, she was asked to go and offer a sacrifice to an idol in their hometown. She was told that it is because of her refusal to worship that idol, which her parent has covenanted her with that had stopped her childbearing.

Truly, the revelation of the prophet was true and the solution proffered can make her have a child, but she will only end up reactivating the covenant of idolatry in her life if she took such a step. The ungodly spirit that has been invoked at that shrine has been denied of its normal sacrifices and became angry. A more lasting solution is to trust in God for a child. In fact, it is better she makes up her mind that she will rather die childless than worship or make sacrifices to any idol.

The desperation to have a child has created an idolatry sense in many women. They would not care what they have to do in order to have one because of pressures from the family and society. Some women even sleep with so-called prophets, pastors and muslim clerics. Others even sleep with herbalists. It won't matter who is asking you to do so, anything that makes you contravene the laws of God to acquire material things is an introduction to idolatry. Beware and trust God for absolutely everything.

Prayer Point: Merciful Father, deliver me from every situation or circumstances that wants to push me into idolatry in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness (which is idolatry)” Colossians 3:5

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

MANIFESTATION OF THE SON

1 JOHN 3:4-10

“He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil” V.8

The Son of God was manifested to destroy the works of the devil: SIN. Christ is yet to be truly manifested in a life that continues in sinful deeds. Though we live in a sinful world, God always command us to seek after righteousness. You cannot be in Christ and be comfortable with unrighteousness.

A defect with the Old Covenant was the way people used the law as a tool to bring down others; they were happy to see offenders being stoned to death and use the righteous law for unrighteous purposes. Such people are not actually reacting to wrong doing, but fulfilling their own ulterior motives because they are guilty of even worse crimes than they are condemning others for.

However, it must be emphasized that God is never pleased with sin and that is the reason He had to sacrifice His only begotten Son. God is not pleased in the death of a sinner but wants him to repent and be saved. As a result, Christ did not come to destroy people, but the seed of sin in us. The purpose for which the Son of God was manifested must be reflected in all your ways. I pray as you begin a new month, the Son of God will manifest in your life to empower you against sin and prosper you in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, destroy every seed of the devil in my life and empower me to fulfil your righteous purpose in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “But if, while we seek to be justified in Christ, we also were found to be sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Let it not be said!” Galatians 2:17

Wednesday, June 2, 2021

TIMES

ECCLESIASTES 3:11-13

“He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also he has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end” v.11

In March 2021, we had our first most significant rain of the year and because our church has a low altitude, the water accumulation caused numerous toads to come out to mate. Their voices were heard loud, as if shouting in ecstasy and jumping around the water in pairs. Some of us wondered, where they have been hiding all these while because there were so many of them. However, one thing was certain; even the toads observe the times.

As humans, especially Christians, we must be keen observers of the times. If you observe carefully, we are in the perilous times Paul spoke about to Timothy, wherein people have become lovers of pleasure than lovers of God. It is even more appalling that Christian festivities are celebrated with sinful acts. Many have forgotten the Son of Man was manifested to destroy the works of the devil, which is sin, but take the time to please the devil.

These times when sin have become a norm is very dangerous, be observant and keep yourself pure; the judgment of God is near. Always remember that the path to destruction is usually broad and many thread it, but the path that leads to salvation is narrow and only a few are found there.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, teach me to wisely observe the times and stand firm in your ways in these perilous times in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “Go in through the narrow gate, for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and many there are who go in through it.” Matthew 7:13

Thursday, June 3, 2021

**SEEK THE TRUTH
JOHN 8:31-34**

“And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” V.32

Scripture, or the Bible, is God’s Word. God knows you need somewhere to go when you feel unsure. That place is His Word. It is unchanging and completely trustworthy. The Bible records ways God has responded in difficult times in the past. It reminds you that He is trustworthy whatever your circumstances. Many people in the Scripture even reference other parts of Scripture to encourage themselves and those around them.

The truth of the Scripture frees you from the expectations of earning your salvation. It also frees you from the unrealistic scenarios that you run to in worry. If you don’t run to the Word to remind yourself of the truth in difficult times, it is easier for you to be led into lies about your life and who God is. Many are they that have been led astray by prophets and pastors because they refuse to be a disciple of the word. They want to cut corners and end up falling for “turning stone to bread” prophecies and teachings. They redefine lust as faith and make you begin to run a vain race.

You need a strong foundation of Scripture to stand on, especially when you feel uncertain. The Bible is God’s unfailing, unchanging Word. You can cling to its truth when life throws you a curveball. As Jesus as said, man should not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. Don’t let your desires push you. Do not be moved by your physical sight, but by the word of God.

Prayer point: Everlasting Father, let your word always be my guide. Open my eyes to the truth that I may not fall victim of devilish manipulations in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: And these things were our examples, that we should not be lusters after evil, as they also lusted.” 1 Corinthians 10:6

Friday, June 4, 2021
HAKUNA MATATA 1
ECCLESIASTES 9:7-12

“Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart; for God has already accepted your works” V.7

In local parlance, they say “wahala no dey finish.” This means that there will always be issues or problems to resolve. As a result, we must always create time to relax and refresh. During creation, God will usually take time out to review the day’s work and even after six days of work, He took a prolonged rest on the seventh. You cannot solve all the world’s problem at once, it is a step at a time.

Making time to relax and rest often leads to more productivity because it provides an opportunity for review. Back then in school, whenever I find it hard comprehending what I read, I either go to sleep, take a walk or just play. By the time I return, I am refreshed to study better. You should have a way to relax regularly. For some, they like to attend parties where they socialize; it is not bad if there are no ungodly activities attached. Christianity doesn’t stop you from having a family vacation. This may give you the opportunity to discover a few things about your home and be able to resolve it.

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. Jesus also usually made out time to go to solitary places to relate with the Father. With this, He was always spiritually refreshed to perform more miracles.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, help me organise my life that I can be more effective and productive in all my endeavours in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “And further, by these, my son, be warned: The making of many books has no end, and much study *is* a weariness of the flesh.” Ecclesiastes 12:12

Saturday, June 5, 2021
HAKUNA MATATA 2
ECCLESIASTES 9:7-12

“Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart; for God has already accepted your works” V.7

A woman was worried about the behaviour of her partner and during an interview with her, she said she had decided to go into marathon fasting. I then asked, is that what the Spirit of God told you? She could not give a prompt answer because the decision has been based on desperation, frustration and anxiety rather than being led by the Spirit of God.

Fasting is good, but it is not something we just do indiscriminately. Sometimes you need to eat and be happy for God to answer your prayers. As a married woman, your body doesn't belong to you alone. You should not deny your husband when he needs it except with clear, reasonable and prior notice. A woman that needs a child, but keeps looking haggard and unattractive to her husband due to incessant fasting may just be wasting her time. The fast may even lead to her being angry and frustrated with her husband. She has already given room to the devil to destroy her home.

Hannah looked unto God for a child for a long time. By the time God answered her, she had stopped worrying. Her countenance was not sad anymore as she went on to eat. A merry heart can be an indication of belief in God. However, you have to merry in a godly way. No worries! I pray the Lord shall meet all the desires of your heart and change your sorrowful state to a joyous one.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, change my sorrowful state to a joyous one that I can always praise you in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “And she said; Let your maidservant find favour in your sight. So the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad” I Samuel 1:18

Sunday, June 6, 2021
A GOOD MODEL
TITUS 2:1-8

"In all things showing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine showing incorruptness, gravity, sincerity" v.7

A few months ago, a young boy of less than four years old pointed a piece of wood in his hands at me and made sounds like he was shooting a gun. This scene left me in a very displeasing state. I wondered if "he had learnt to shoot as a law enforcer or as a criminal". If this young boy doesn't have adults to guide him properly, he may grow to misuse guns. Some television programs are adult rated or requires parental guidance. But how many parents guide what their children watch?

In this age where there is easy access to the internet through phones, many of them watch violence, pornographic images and many corruptible things and pattern their lives after it. By the time the parent get to know, it may be too late. Many of these parents are never available to watch the kids, but expect the teachers to take all the responsibility. The result is what we have in the society today. Violence, corruption and sexual immorality all start from the home. Some parents fight and even lie to the knowledge of their children. There was a certain incidence of a child who mentioned seeing his parents having sexual intercourse in his presence.

When we don't have good models for them to follow, then they follow the ones they see. Therefore, as a parent, observe your children more closely and be a good model to them. Children are heritage of the Lord and every parent will be held responsible on how they train each child.

Prayer point: Almighty Father, help me to be a good model to my children and everyone around me that I may not lead them astray in Jesus name. Amen

Food for thought: "It will be terrible for people who cause even one of my little followers to sin. Those people would be better off thrown into the deepest part of the ocean with a heavy stone tied around their necks!"
Matthew 18:6

Monday, June 7, 2021
CONFESS TO POSSESS 1
Psalm 51:1-6

“For I confess my transgressions; and my sin *is* ever before me.” V.3

There is so much power in confession. The devil often takes strong hold of the life of believers because they choose to hide their weaknesses. Therefore, we must be honest, and constantly allow God to remind us of who He is and what His promises are, and then be honest with Him. You can tell God how you feel and in what areas of your life you are struggling to trust Him. First, it is good to acknowledge that His character is good and trustworthy. You can agree with Him that all He says is true. You can also tell Him when it is difficult for you to believe.

According to Mark 9, a man brought his demon-possessed son to Jesus for healing. He asked Jesus to heal him “if you can.” Jesus asked the man if he did not believe that Jesus could heal, and this was his reply. Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!” He believed, but it was a difficult thing to believe. So He asked for help.

It is one thing to know the truth. But it is sometimes hard to believe it when life takes unexpected turns. You’re human. You’re able to confess to God when your feelings and beliefs are not lining up with His Truth. You can ask Him to help you believe what He says is true. This helps you accept that God is bigger than you could ever understand. Confession also helps you to humble yourself and allows you to grow in trust. He hears your requests and answers them. He wants to help you grow your faith.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, help my unbelief and strengthen me to overcome every stronghold of sin in my life. Set me free completely by the grace the Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Food for thought: “And He said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore I will rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may overshadow me.” 2 Corinthians 12:9

Tuesday, June 8, 2021
CONFESS TO POSSESS 2
Psalm 51:1-6

“For I confess my transgressions; and my sin *is* ever before me.” V.3

What exactly are you struggling with? A young man once confessed how he overcame the act of masturbation. He had been struggling with it for a long time. And since it was something he could conveniently do in private, no one could have suspected him of doing it, let alone correct him. One day in his dream, he was made to know the act had been delaying some promises of God for his life and proffered a solution that he should confess.

Many are afraid to confess because of stigmatisation. This has been one of the bane of the church of today. You confess your personal struggles to some people and your issue becomes a trending topic in the church. For this young man, he prayed to God about it and the Lord directed him to a few people and he went on to confess. After the confession, he said he felt like a heavy burden was taken away from him and he also felt a particular spirit left him. He was able to control his sexual urges and things started to turn out positive for him.

I have heard people say nothing is wrong with masturbation, but in the spiritual sense, it is all shades of wrong. Similarly, there are number of things that your spirit mind has told you it is wrong, but you find yourself doing it because the society doesn't frown at it. It is important you confess to God so that he can empower you to overcome it. The devil is so manipulative and he will give examples of those who are doing wrong things yet wealthy. Do not be deceived, depart from every form of iniquity.

Prayer point: Gracious God, help my infirmity and deliver me from every form of iniquity. Lead me through the path of righteousness always in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: For Jehovah knows the way of the righteous; but the way of the ungodly shall perish.” Psalm 1:6

Wednesday, June 9, 2021
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
PSALM 90:10-12

"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" V.12

This is a part of the scriptures that is often referenced when celebrating birthdays. Birthday celebration has become part of our culture that even when some don't have enough resources, they still take pictures. And with the era of the social media, a lot of messages begin to pour in.

Some Christian sects are even against birthday celebration as they reckoned that in the places where such a celebration was recorded in the bible, it was led by unbelievers and it led to calamities. A common one was when Herodias daughter requested the head of John the Baptist after a birthday dance session.

However, the fact remains that everything in life requires moderation. We are often prone to sin when we feel fulfilled and joyous. As such, the scriptures admonish that we should be sober and vigilant. A man's happiest moment is usually his weakest moment because he will most likely just throw caution to the wind and be carried away by the joy of the moment. Rather than just make a birthday the day to rejoice, we can incline our heart to wisdom by doing a review of our lives. To number our days is to be conscious of the fact that we aren't going to remain in this corrupt earth forever. Every passing day draws us closer to our grave.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, help me to reason right, such that when numbering my days, I can apply my heart to divine wisdom in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought "He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live" Proverbs 4:4

Thursday, June 10, 2021
SHARE YOUR CONCERNS
1 JOHN 1:5-8

“But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” V.7

Like they say in local parlance; “nobody holy pass.” This statement may have often been use wrongly to support acts of unrighteousness, but its true meaning is embedded in the fact that we all have our weakness and we should find strength in unity. You are not facing these difficult times alone. The Lord is walking with you every step of the way. He also gives you other believers to walk with. Paul was a follower of Jesus and a leader in the early church. He shared this with a fellow believer as encouragement. “I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ.” (Philemon 1:6, NIV)

Paul reminded his friend that partnership is important and helps us have a greater understanding of God and His plan. When you are struggling, share those concerns with another follower of Jesus whom you trust; someone you know is pursuing a relationship with God regularly and who knows God’s Word. You do not have to share struggles with everyone, but find those people who will encourage you and share the truth with you; not just tell you what you want to hear.

Fellow believers can remind you of God’s character through encouragement and accountability. They can pray for and support you. They can remind you of the truth when you’re struggling. A godly community reminds you that you are never alone, even in hard times.

Prayer point: Heavenly Father, help us as a family of believers to provide strength, hope and encouragement to one another in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:25

Friday, June 11, 2021
RAIN IN DUE SEASON
LEVITICUS 26:3-7

“Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit” v4

God may seem late at times, but He is always on time. It is our impatience that makes us assume He is late. Instead of focusing on what to be done, we waste our time worrying. Worry solves nothing, but only compounds issues. Since God has promised you, then He is bound by His word to deliver as at when due.

He promised the Israelites rain in due season. It means there is a time for rain. I remember there was a time we were planning to plant yam seedlings. The agricultural scientist explained it must be planted during the dry season for it to dry up in the heated up soil and that has to be before the rains start. This basically means there is also a need for the dry season.

Every season can be optimally utilised when we understand the processes of God. He is obliged to keep to His words and will supply rain in due season, just go ahead with keeping to His words. The waiting time is usually hard for believers but we must trust in the unfailing word of God. I pray when it is the due time for our blessings, we shall not be found wanting in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, help me to patiently wait to the manifestation of your blessings in my life in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “To every thing, *there is* a season, and a time for every purpose under the heavens:” Ecclesiastes 3:1

Saturday, June 12, 2021

**WHO IS YOUR GOD?
EXODUS 5:1-9**

“And Pharaoh said, who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go” v.2

Situations of life will definitely ask you this question, who is your God? Will you be able to defend your faith? Lip service Christianity has become the order of the day, many cannot boldly defend their belief; they have failed to acknowledge that the doctrines of the world and that of God can never mix. Light cannot co-exist with darkness.

Those that know their God will not bow to worldly pressures and engage in pre-marital and extra-marital affairs because they will never find pleasure in sin. They would not engage in bribery and corruption because they trust God to supply their needs. They will not dress provocatively or put on excessive adornments because their beauty is not dependent on outward adornment. They would not live like an unbeliever while claiming to be a believer. They do not hold on to grace as an excuse to sin. They grow both in grace and the knowledge of Christ.

Those that know their God will go against all odds to adhere to God's will. They believe when they wait on the Lord, He will continuously renew their strength to succeed without compromising His standards. They are assured of doing all things by Christ's strength. Who is your God?

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, pray for me that I will never deny you when satan comes with his temptation, help me to grow in your knowledge in Jesus name. Amen

Food for Thought “But grow in grace and *in* knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory, both now and to *the* day of eternity. Amen.” 2 Peter 3:18

Sunday, June 13, 2021

**A MANIPULATOR
GENESIS 3:1-6**

“And the serpent said to the woman, You shall not surely die,” V.6

The secret of the devil lies in his ability to twist the word of God to befall man; it should therefore be no surprise that there are many agents of the devil manipulating the word of God to the peril of many today.

Absolute care must be taken even as we listen to acclaimed speakers; ability to memorize and quote many portions of the scripture is not a testament to being genuine. In tempting Eve, the devil only twisted the word God had spoken to them. Similarly, in the temptation of Jesus in Matthew 4:6, he asked Jesus to jump from the pinnacle of the temple with the belief that God will send His Angels to come to His rescue, the devil quoted Psalm 91:11-12. Jesus could have easily been deceived with this scriptural citation if He was not fervent in the Spirit.

Hence, this raises the need to be fervent in the Spirit, meditate on the word more often and ask for the right interpretation through the help of the Holy Spirit. Satan is a manipulator that transforms into an angel of light to deceive the elects of God. Hold firmly to the word God has spoken to you and never allow the tempter, deceiver and destroyer to take your crown from you, beware of his devices.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, strengthen my faith in your words that satan may not deceive me to forsake your ways in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “Lest satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices” II Corinthians 2:11

Monday, June 14, 2021

**KINGDOM OF GOD
REVELATION 21:1-8**

“Then I, John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband” V.2

Jesus’ sermon while on earth was always directed towards opening our eyes to the kingdom of God. He used several parables just to reveal what the kingdom entails. In one of His parables, He described the kingdom as a treasure that is worth sacrificing all of one’s possession for (**Matthew 13:44**).

The kingdom of God is a place that is worth sacrificing all to gain because in there is no crying, tears, sorrow, pain or death. It is not a kingdom for the fearful, doubtful, abominable, fornicators, idolaters and liars. A beautiful kingdom, prepared like a bride, where God will set up His tabernacle with us. Is your mind prepared to be part of this kingdom?

This is the city of God that no man can afford to miss; its beauty is incomparable. Not being there will lead to everlasting regret. Do not be carried away by the need to acquire possessions in this world, none of it can be compared to possessing the kingdom of God. Let your affection always be set on entering this kingdom.

Prayer Point: Lord Jesus, thank you for preparing a place for me in your kingdom, by your grace, do not let me lose this place. Amen

Food for Thought “For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” 2 Corinthians 5:1

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

POINT OF CONTACT 1
LUKE 8:43-48

“Came from behind and touched the border of his garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped” V.44

The ways of God are mysterious, except He reveals Himself; no one can rightly predict Him. When a man approaches God with a rigid mindset of how he would receive from Him, he might be greatly disappointed. Namaan approached Prophet Elisha assuming he would come out, pray for him and probably touch him for his leprosy to be cured, but instead, he was asked to bath himself seven times in river Jordan.

Before the event of the healing of the woman with the issue of blood; healing in such a way has not been recorded, maybe similar but not exactly. Many might have seen her action as barbaric with the opinion that her faith was in a garment; however, it was glaring that her faith was in Christ, but touching the garment was only a point of contact.

Hence, we must be wary of practicing “I too know” Christianity because no matter how much we study God, He remains a mystery. God used the red sea to save the Israelites and destroy the Egyptians. He asked Moses to cast a tree into the waters of Marah and it changed from being bitter to sweet. He selected a man from the least tribe in Israel (Saul of the tribe of Benjamin) as their first king. Never limit the Almighty God, He is able to do much more than we can ask or think.

Prayer Point: The God of great possibilities, in your mysterious way open channels of great opportunities for me today in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “But He said, the things which are impossible with men are possible with God” Luke 18:27

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

POINT OF CONTACT 2
LUKE 8:43-48

“Came from behind and touched the border of his garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped” V.44

As much as faith is all that is required to receive from God, He often uses some materials as a point of contact. I remember the days of Papa Oshoffa of the Celestial Church of Christ, he was holding a crusade and sanctified water was sprinkled. A lot of deliverance from powers of darkness was recorded but immediately rumours went round that he was using the power of water.

The words reached him and on the next day, he asked them not to sprinkle any water. He only prayed and more miracles were recorded. Someone who wasn't at the crusade ground but living in a nearby house was touched and she came to give her testimony. Do we say he is now using the power of air? Sometimes, people just condemn what they don't understand. Like the Pharisees who claimed Jesus was using the power of belzeebub to heal people.

We can pray and worship God in our homes, but we visit the church because it represents a place of contact. It is however important we don't idolize the materials and assume without them God cannot touch us. God created all things and can use any as deemed fit to perform His miraculous works. We should allow the Holy Spirit to direct us on what to use and not be stereotyped in nature. God doesn't work with formulas.

Prayer point: Glorious Father, help me to understand your ways that I can connect to your throne of grace for many testimonies in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “The Spirit breathes where He desires, and you hear His voice, but you do not know from where He comes, and where He goes; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.” John 3:8

Thursday, June 17, 2021

**SPEND TIME WITH HIM
GENESIS 3:8**

"And they heard the voice of Jehovah God walking in the garden in the cool of the day. And Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of Jehovah God in the middle of the trees of the garden." V.8

God is bigger than your circumstances. Difficult times may feel like they last forever, but they are temporary. God is present amid the bad times as well as the good. He is always faithful. God wants you to go to Him with your circumstances. He also wants you to come to Him simply to spend time with Him. You should not let your circumstances shape your relationship with God. God can shape your view of your circumstances.

Spend regular time with God. Establishing a consistent time with the Lord when times feel good will help you to continue to go to Him when things feel rough. If you have not established that, it is never too late to start. God wants to have a steady relationship with you; not the one wherein you are with Him today and frolicking with the world tomorrow. He created us for the purpose of a relationship.

Read His Word. Spend time in prayer acknowledging who He is; prayer is one of such ways we show our dependency on God and must be approached in a humble way. You should also meet with other believers and set your eyes on things that are bigger than your circumstances. Serve those around you. These simple practices will help you see God outside of difficult things, which will help you in trusting that He will move in your circumstances.

Prayer point: Loving Father, help me to build a better relationship with you that I can be a beneficiary of the goodness that comes with being in your presence in Jesus name. Amen.

**Food for thought: "Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."
Psalm 16:11**

Friday, June 18, 2021
BEWARE OF DECEIVERS
MATTHEW 24:3-7

“And Jesus answered and said to them: ‘take heed that no one deceives you” V.4

In today’s world, it is extremely difficult to find anyone to believe. For example, the recent COVID-19 outbreak has led to the development of numerous conspiracy theories; fake news are everywhere and there. Some church leaders are not left out as some will hide under the name of the Holy Spirit to sell their deluded sense of reasoning.

Jesus has long seen all these things and admonished us not to be worried. We are not to be bothered about the events of the end time. All that matters is our relationship with God. This is not a time to start running helter-skelter or paying one spiritual man money for protection. Nowhere in the world is safe. The only safe place is in God. Do not entertain rumours or conspiracies that will increase your blood pressure. Let your heart be at peace in the Lord Jesus.

More than a year ago when the pandemic started, there were predictions that many in the African continent will be wiped out, but that did not happen. This has made it pretty clear that our lives are not in the hands of anyone, but God. The end times will come with its challenges but we must hold on to our faith in God. Even if death comes, we have a better place in God’s kingdom to look forward to.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, I surrender all to you, let your peace that surpass all understanding keep and guide my heart in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “And the peace of God which passes all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:7

Saturday, June 19, 2021

**THE TRUE SHEPHERD
PSALM 23:1-6**

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want” V.1

Jesus Christ is the true shepherd who went ahead to give up His life for the redemption of the sheep (**John 10:11**). It is highly essential that we all succumb absolutely to His tutelage and mentorship. A relationship that must exist between every Christian and Christ is that of a sheep and a shepherd.

Today's text gives the characteristics expected of a sheep. A sheep is never covetous, running after vain things of life; his provision is dependent on the shepherd in which he has absolute confidence. A sheep always follows the path of righteousness laid down by his shepherd, even when things seem not to be going smooth (i.e., the valleys of life), a sheep has no fear because its safety is always assured by the good shepherd and on His words he continues to meditate to seek comfort for his soul in trying times.

A sheep does not seek the destruction of enemies, but asks that he be blessed in their presence, and then they can realize how wonderful it is to hearken to the good shepherd and be converted. A sheep does not run after goodness, on the contrary, goodness and mercy follows him. When we choose to obey God, we need not chase blessings, on the contrary blessing overtakes us and we can acquire them easily and peacefully. Quit vain-struggling and accept Jesus Christ as a shepherd.

Prayer Point: Lord Jesus, be my shepherd till eternity and never let me fall to the deceit of wolves in shepherd's clothing. Amen.

**Food for Thought “Know that Jehovah, He *is* God. He has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.”
Psalm 100:3**

Sunday, June 20, 2021

BE GRATEFUL

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

“In everything give thanks, for this *is the* will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” V.18

Difficult circumstances feel all-consuming at times. It is really hard to look beyond these difficult situations to see the good things going on. But God’s grace is in all things; in your waking up, on a sunny day, during a call from a friend, He is in all of it. But those good times often get overshadowed by other more complicated things going on. In the face of those difficulties, God shares His will for you and how you should respond to them.

God calls you to give thanks. He is always working in your life and in the world. Although it can be hard to see how the Good Father is at work at moments when everything appears to be falling apart; know that His mercy is consistent. While Joseph was heading to the prison, God was planning his way to the palace. He will later meet the chief that will recommend him to the king. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were threatened with fire heated up seven more times and God made them go through it. Sometimes, God doesn’t want to quench the fire but wants to refine you through it and make you shine better. Therefore, in every situation learn to always be grateful.

Giving thanks fights the lie that everything is horrible. Even in tragic circumstances, there will be light and grace. God is present and is making himself known. You only need to look. Trust grows as you look for God’s presence in what feels dark and heavy. He never leaves.

Prayer Point: Gracious Father, I appreciate all your works in life. I will never be ungrateful to you. May your name be praised forever in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!” Psalm 107:15

Monday, June 21, 2021

**HOLY SPIRIT
JOHN 16:7-11**

“But I tell you the truth, it is expedient for you that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Comforter will not come to you. But if I depart, I will send Him to you.” V.7

There are many who live as they please and never feel guilty when they engage in wrong deeds; such people can be regarded as empty or heartless without the fear and Spirit of God in them. They live recklessly and do not acknowledge it is a vain life, they do not know God neither do they regard His words. For those who believe in God and in His Son, Christ Jesus, He has given His Spirit to guide them against sin that they may tread the path of righteousness.

Today's text highlighted some of the functions of the Holy Spirit: to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgment. One way a person can be assured of the presence of the Holy Spirit in his life is the feeling that arise when about to engage in a sinful act. And we grow in Spirit when we meditate on the word of God because in there is Spirit and life (**John 6:63**).

This is the real comfort the Holy Spirit provides: to reveal more about God, make us abstain from sin and guide us to the place of rest that Christ has provided. Do you have the Holy Spirit in you? Without this Spirit, a man is completely empty. It is only those that are led by the Spirit that are the true Sons of God.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, baptize me with the Holy Spirit like the day of Pentecost that I can be empowered to be your Child in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God” Romans 8:14

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

SHOW MERCY

MATTHEW 12:1-7

“But if you had known what this means, I desire mercy and not sacrifice, you would not have condemned the guiltless” V.7

Christ brought relief to the oppressed and always showed compassion. The Pharisees on the other hand, were a very religious bunch who upheld the law with a view to be up to date with sacrifices, but never cared about the welfare of people. They questioned healing on a Sabbath day. Is it a day that should place burdens on people or bring relief?

Quite a number of Christians exhibit such attitude. An example will be the case of Christians working at the hospital who should resume at 8am only to start praying whilst delaying pregnant women who had come for antenatal clinic. They claim to be praying to God, but God will rather they attend to people in distress first.

Showing compassion is the most important sacrifice we can offer to God. The parable of the Good Samaritan is another example, the Priest and the Levite abandoned the man who needed help; only the Samaritan had compassion on him. Even though he was on a business trip, he suspended it just to attend to the helpless man. This is true Christianity. Going to church every day will mean nothing if you don't extend your hand of help to the needy. God requires mercy and not sacrifice, make that your watch word from today.

Prayer Point: Merciful Father, forgive my unmerciful acts and bless me with a heart which shows love to all. Amen.

Food for Thought “But whoever has this world's goods and sees his brother having need, and shuts up his bowels from him, how does the love of God dwell in him?” 1 John 3:17

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

**ARE YOU PREPARED?
COLOSSIANS 3:1-8**

“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God” v.1

Cleaning and dressing up a child for an outing with a strict warning that any stain to her apparel will mean she won't attend the party anymore. You can be sure that she will be very careful because her mind will be on the promised outing. As a Christian, you are a child that has been washed and renewed in preparedness for an everlasting fellowship with God; any stain of sin means Christ will not take you along with Him to His Father. Is your mind fixed on this eternal course?

Many have been distracted by worldly treasures, forgetting the return of the Lord is at hand and have soiled their renewed garments with sinful acts. They store up riches in the world and desire many houses forgetting they can only reside in one at a time. A day will come when you have to leave all these possessions. Let your mind always be set on this day because it draws nearer with every tick of the clock.

Christ has washed you in His blood, don't stain your garment with sin again and earnestly anticipate His glorious return. Focus on things above.

Prayer Point: Lord Jesus, help me overcome every distractions that my mind may focus on things above and prepare for your return. Amen.

Food for Thought “Do not lie to one another, having put off the old man with his deeds and having put on the new, having been renewed in knowledge according to *the* image of Him who created him.” Colossians 3:9-10

Thursday, June 24, 2021

**A KNOWN GOD
ACTS 17:22-28**

“For as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you” V.23

In the city of Athens, they were so confused about God that they set up an altar with the inscription “to the unknown God”. What a height of ignorance! How do you worship what you don’t know? God is mysterious but not unknown, He reveals Himself to everyone who is ready to know Him.

However strange this sounds, a number of Christians belong to this category. A person who on attends church on Sunday but lives the rest of the week in ungodliness does not know God. A person who is full of hatred, backbiting and envy doesn’t know God. An individual who doesn’t show love does not know God. Someone who still run to idols for help doesn’t know God.

Your knowledge of God is determined by your lifestyle. By your fruits, you can be known. Despite knowing the scriptures, Apostle Paul prosecuted Christians because he did not know God; however, a certain encounter with Jesus on the way to Damascus made the difference. I pray for every reader of this piece that is yet to know God that He will open your eyes of understanding. You shall give a testimony of salvation experience in Jesus name. Amen. You only worship the true God when His words abide in you wherever you go.

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, thank you for revealing yourself to me. Let me continue to increase in your knowledge that I can do more exploits in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “And they shall not each man teach his neighbour, and each man his brother, saying, Know the Lord, for all shall know Me, from the least to the greatest.” Hebrews 8:11

Friday, June 25, 2021

BE DILIGENT

2 TIMOTHY 2:14-19

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” V.15

Walking with God requires great diligence. You cannot maximise your relationship with God if you keep looking for quick-fix solutions. The devil has a way of manipulating such people to assume that they are hearing from God. Remember the first of the three temptations of Jesus, wherein He was advised to turn stone to bread? If Jesus wasn't diligent, He would have followed the advice, which would have negatively affected his mission.

There are numerous pretenders in the Christian fold today who only study the bible to pick up verses to support their wrong beliefs. They never take time to study in context, but only pick up verses that favour them. A Christian will not be rightly dividing the word of truth if he only believes a portion of the bible and consider some unimportant; by believing in the portion that prophesy blessing but discards the one that stipulates living a holy life.

Quick-fix solutions often take away a problem to cause bigger problems. It is like someone rushing to take hot soup. It will eventually burn his tongue and he may not be able to take or enjoy the rest of the meal. God's plan is to deliver you and ensure the affliction doesn't rise again. Be diligent to understand and wait on Him for a perfect solution.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, bestow onto me the spirit of diligence that I may maximise my relationship with you in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” Hebrews 11:6

Saturday, June 26, 2021

**BROKEN SPIRIT
PSALM 51:10-18**

**“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart –
These O God, You will not despise” V.17**

Whenever the Israelites broke the law, they make sacrifices, which usually involves slaughtering animals and sprinkling its blood. This is because there can be no remission of sins without the shedding of blood. However, in today's text David made us realize that God does not actually require animal sacrifices, but a broken and contrite heart. A heart that is sober and ready to walk in obedience to God is desirable to Him.

For example, Saul was asked to destroy everything in Amalek, but he kept the best sheep, oxen and lambs as sacrifice to God. Carnally, this can be considered as a good idea; however, it was an outright act of disobedience to God's order. Today, some still believe in making animal sacrifices as the solution to their problems even when the blood of Christ has been shed for such purpose and there remains no more blood sacrifice.

God requires a broken spirit and contrite heart that will readily accept its guilt and make a change for good. A heart that is ready to obey God irrespective of the prevailing circumstance is the only thing that is acceptable to Him. Do you have such a heart?

Prayer Point: Merciful Father, Let my heart be renewed to your obedience and absolute control today and forever in Jesus name. Amen.

**Food for Thought “The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart,
and saves such as have a contrite spirit” Psalm 34:18**

Sunday, June 27, 2021

FAITH EFFECT 1

JAMES 2:14-18

“Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead” V.17

Faith works like the wind. We cannot see the wind, but we feel and see it move things. A cyclone for instance is a large scale air mass that rotates around a strong centre of low atmospheric pressure such that when we see it we become alert because it could have devastating effects. In the same vein, faith is abstract, but its effects are very significant.

Many who lay claim to having faith have no works to show for it and have imbibed laziness under the guise of faith. They fail to carry out important tasks, and expect faith to sort all things out; hence, bringing about a mix up. By faith, the elders obtained a good report. They never had faith and went to sleep, their actions proved it.

A man who is hungry needs food, someone who is naked need clothes, and the one who is unsheltered needs a home. With these, we can truly convert them to Christ. The church needs to help the society in solving its problem; missionary schools and hospitals (affordable and accessible to the poor), orphanage homes or supporting existing ones with food and other items are some of the works of faith. Faith isn't just about fasting and prayer, but taking actions that will benefit others.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, grant me that ability to exercise my faith in a way that will be pleasing to you and benefit my society in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “I was a stranger and you did not take Me in; I was naked, and you did not clothe Me; I was sick, and in prison, and you did not visit me.” Matthew 25:43

Monday, June 28, 2021

**FAITH EFFECT 2
JAMES 2:14-18**

“Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead” V.17

Jesus had a mission to preach the gospel. However, there were instances where He needed to feed His congregation with physical food to fulfil that mission. Also, in the early days of the church, it was recorded that the resources were shared. When some certain widows complained, the apostles had to appoint seven men to handle it. They were not directly involved, but ensured things were done properly.

Today we have more Christians, but they create less impact. The Christian faith today is largely concentrated on building big auditoriums, disturbing the neighbourhood in the name of prayers and revivals, dancing shamelessly in the name of David's dance and many other irrelevances. Whatever happened to impacting our society positively? I don't know! We are supposed to be the salt and light of the world, but where is our impact?

If we are truly practicing faith, then our nation will not be like this. We have Christians as major stakeholders in politics, governance, education, health, security and others, yet this is all we have to show for it. Where is our work of faith? Faith may be abstract, but the effect of faith is usually obvious as indicated by our actions and the results.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, help the church to use her faith rightly that we can truly be salt and light to our society in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “For we are *His* workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to good works, which God has before ordained that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10

Tuesday, June 29, 2021

FAITH EFFECT 3
JAMES 2:14-18

“Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead” V.17

In all honesty, there are a number of churches and Christians contributing positively to the society. Due to the advice against public show of giving, many churches do not publicize the good deeds they do in the society. However, the church still needs to do more. The end time strategy of the devil is to take advantage of chaotic situations to lure people into sin. The devil is just like many of the politicians that buy votes with money. The electorates at that time will be concerned about the money than their conscience. Some of them will say whether they collect the money or not, they will still loot the treasury.

It is easy to lure a hungry man into robbery or a hungry lady into prostitution because they are desperate to survive. So, it is not enough to only preach against vices without providing alternatives. However, although some people are lured by covetousness, several others are just struggling to survive. Therefore, our works of evangelism must go beyond words, and should include actions that will make life more meaningful.

The church must invest in her people. For example, when someone with no source of income is made to keep the Church's money, the temptation to steal becomes higher. The approach should not be to condemn sin alone but to also encourage righteousness so that the effect of faith can become more visible.

Prayer Point: Benevolent Father, provide for our needs that poverty may not drive us into selling our birth-right to the devil in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point of dying, and what profit shall this birth-right be to me?” Genesis 25:32

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

**SCIENCE STUDENTS
PROVERBS 23:29-33**

“Who *has* woe? Who has sorrow? Who *has* fighting? Who *has* babbling? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes?” V.29

Today, many youths indulge in consuming several mixtures of drinks to get high. They are referred to as science students. How much has the devil taken over their lives? Science students should come up with inventions to make life better rather than getting high. Science students develop drugs to cure diseases and solve many challenges; however, these so-called science students only know about mixtures to become intoxicated.

The text today states that those who are good at mixing drinks are doomed. For example, some of them suffer serious mental challenges as a result and also become addicted. More pathetic is the fact that a lot of them just do it to boost their ego. They want to be seen as being strong enough to take alcoholic drinks without misbehaving. This stupid act of theirs is usually also accompanied by sexual immorality.

It is important to make a change and do something more meaningful with your life. There are young people out there becoming the best in their fields. Instead of allowing the devil manipulate you to use your brain for things that will destroy you, it is better to allow God use it for achievements that will bring glory to Him. Taking numerous drinks and sleeping with countless women are not achievements, but carefully designed paths of the devil to destruction.

Prayer point: Glorious Father, deliver me from every manipulation of the devil and set my heart to live a life that glorifies you in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Wine *is* a mocker, strong drink *is* raging, and whoever goes astray by it *is* not wise.” Proverbs 20:1

Thursday, July 1, 2021

HALLELUJAH!
PSALM 7:10-17

“I will praise the Lord according to His righteousness, And will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High” V.17

This day is dedicated wholly to praise the living God; the King of kings and Lord of lords. He has been our defence in the times of uprising, our stronghold in battle and our fortress in times of tribulation. Who deserves praise other than the Almighty God that preserved our life till this moment? We are in the second half of the year already.

Many are afflicted and oppressed in the world, but the Lord has delivered us from them all. Many are the pits that the enemy have dug, numerous are the stumbling stones they placed before us but overcoming these traps have been a cause for us to testify to the greatness of God.

What else have we to do than to praise the name of the Most High, the Omnipotent, Omniscient and Omnipresent God? When the world made a stamp that it is all over, God reversed it and said this is just the beginning of our greatness. When people said there is absolutely no way, the Lord miraculously opened numerous ways for us to choose from. What a wonderful Father we have, praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, I praise your name because you have been good, kind, wonderful, marvellous and excellent in my life and my family. Glory to your name forever. Amen.

Food For thought “Saying; ‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honour and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen’” Revelation 7:12

Friday, July 2, 2021

ALLOW HIM

GENESIS 28:16-22

“Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it” V.16

God is omnipresent, but doesn't manifest Himself everywhere. He will often manifest only in a place that has been dedicated to Him. In **2 Chronicles 3:1**, Solomon built the house of the Lord on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem; this was a place where God had appeared to David his father at the threshing floor of Ornan, the Jebusite. The land had been dedicated to God's use; hence, the building was erected there.

A building in which God is to be worshipped must be completely dedicated to Him. It is not proper to buy and sell in the church especially during service periods as it constitutes distraction. The church is not a place to start spraying money or singing to praise people, but only to serve God with all due reverence.

Brethren, let the fear of God reign in your heart. Do not defile a place that has been dedicated to Him. He stands at the door of your heart to knock, if only you open your heart; then you have dedicated it to Him and He will dwell with you. A place where God dwells is always full of wonders. Why don't you allow Him in your life that He can perfect all that concerns you in this month of perfection?

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, I open my heart to you. Dwell and manifest yourself always in my life in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “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

Saturday, July 3, 2021

**PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE 1
1 SAMUEL 13:10-14**

“And it happened as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came. And Saul went out to meet him and to kneel to him.” V.10

King Saul was very close to having his kingdom established forever in Israel, but impatience cost him dearly. It was just a matter of waiting for a few minutes more because not long after he finished with the sacrifice, Samuel came around. Many falter at the point of breakthrough because they cannot wait anymore. Provided you are waiting on God, please continue to exercise patience because He is never late. He does not delay without a purpose.

What have you been seeking from God? What promise has He made that is yet to materialize? Are you barren and family pressure is bearing down on you? Your job search is taking too long and making you contemplate going fraudulent? Desperate to get married and has considered going fetish or compromising godly standards in a bid to hook down a man? Waiting on God is no more an option to you and planning to join the fast lane? Hold on a minute because there is a great advice for you today.

Exercise a little more patience because God’s time is always perfect, He makes everything beautiful in His time (**Ecclesiastes 3:11**). Have more patience and let God perfect all that concerns you.

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, bestow on me the spirit of patience that I may be able to wait for your perfect time in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing” James 1:4

Sunday, July 4, 2021

PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE 2
1 SAMUEL 13:10-14

“And he waited seven days, according to the set time with Samuel. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal. And the people were scattered from him.”
V.8

One of the things that make people impatient is pressure. Many young people today get into different vices because of peer pressure. Some of them now drink different mixtures to get high because their peers are doing so. Young ladies also want to feel among, so they have to sleep with men called aristos.

King Saul was also pressured by the people that were scattered. He must have felt they were losing hope in him and came up with an alternative that pleased men, but offended God. How many times have you also grown impatient because you want to please people? Some ladies today are regretting because they grew impatient and committed fornication because of pressure from their boyfriend. Now she is pregnant and the boy is asking her to abort it.

Patience is indeed a virtue. Do not bow to pressure anymore, but be willing to wait on God. He will surely come through when the time is right. If the boy leaves you, God will provide you with a better partner. With the abortion, he may still eventually leave and then you have to nursing both physical and emotional pains. Why not wait and be very patient?

Prayer point: Almighty Father, help me to be very patient that impatience will not lead me into taking regrettable actions in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.” Lamentations 3:26

Monday, July 5, 2021

**FIVE MINISTRIES 1
EPHESIANS 4:11-15**

“And truly He gave some *to be* apostles, and some *to be* prophets, and some *to be* evangelists, and some *to be* pastors and teachers.” V.11

As Jesus Christ completed His earthly mission, He gave spiritual gifts to men and founded the church upon five major ministries. These ministries have a great responsibility to ensure the church keeps growing to perfection as the body of Christ. The first of them is the apostolic ministry.

Apostles come up with new ideas and inventions. The likes of Apostle Peter and Apostle John started the church, but they remained within the borders of Israel. Apostle Paul however, took his apostolic ministry beyond the shores of Israel and went to reach the gentiles. His writings as addressed to the churches at Corinth, Ephesus, Thessalonica, etc are churches he founded to the glory of God.

Those who have been blessed with the apostolic gift will be seen coming up with a new denomination of parish. They have the gift to start from the scratch and grow sporadically. They are founders of new ideas to move the church forward. Like Apostle Paul, apostles may need to move around more. They plant and allow others to grow it, while they move on to plant more. There are apostles who don't understand this and God will purposely create a situation that will force them to move from their present comfort zone just in a bid to make them plan their new ideas on other grounds.

Prayer point: Almighty Father, help me to identify and use my apostolic gift to your purpose that I can receive everlasting rewards in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:” Romans 11:13

Tuesday, July 6, 2021

**FIVE MINISTRIES 2
EPHESIANS 4:11-15**

“And truly He gave some *to be* apostles, and some *to be* prophets, and some *to be* evangelists, and some *to be* pastors and teachers.” V.11

The prophetic ministry is the second of the ministries Jesus established at His ascension and together with the apostolic ministry, it is foundational. A new idea will have a lot of uncertainties around it and it takes an individual with a vision to pursue it. The vision provides a road map to follow and gives an assurance even when things seem implausible.

Moses had a mission to lead the Israelites to the Promised Land, but would not have passed through the Red Sea if there was no vision to guide him. Abraham would not have left his father's house to follow God if he had not seen any vision. The prophetic ministry has a responsibility to guide people through visions. They also help to encourage people to remain in faith as they await the promises of God. It is really pathetic that the ministry has been bastardized today and reduced to seeking vanities. The true prophets of old were concerned with salvation (1 Peter 1:10-12)

If you have been gifted with prophetic gift, please use it as a guide to salvation. Don't be misled like Balaam who due to the offer he got started using his gift to please people and displease God. Those using powers of darkness also see accurate visions, but what differentiates you from them as a prophet of God is that you are concerned with salvation. Your prophecies should make people stand in faith and not lead them away. Beware of all these bread and butter prophecies that do not edify the body of Christ. Remember, you shall give account before your Creator at the end.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, help me to identify and use my prophetic gift to your purpose that I can receive everlasting rewards in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace *that should come* unto you:” 1 Peter 1:10

Wednesday, July 7, 2021
FIVE MINISTRIES 3
EPHESIANS 4:11-15

“And truly He gave some *to be* apostles, and some *to be* prophets, and some *to be* evangelists, and some *to be* pastors and teachers.” V.11

Evangelism is central to the church and involves every member more than other gifts. However, it is a core office to some people. Like in a team of football players, it is the responsibility of everyone to score, but some have goal scoring as their core position. After the apostles and the prophets must have laid the foundation, it becomes the responsibility of evangelists to proclaim the good news and bring in more people to be disciples. A continuous announcement and reminder is important for the growth of the church.

It is rather pathetic that today, we are having to evangelize to people in the church rather than those that are outside of it. The church seem to be full of partially and non-converted people. You cannot evangelise if you have not first been transformed. Evangelism would come from your salvation experience like the woman Jesus met at the well. The Samaritan woman had marital issues; initially had five husbands and the sixth one wasn't assured. Jesus was yet to give her any husband, but she realised she had met the Messiah. There was a transformation in her that made her go to town to proclaim the good news.

Many preachers today attribute evangelism to possession of material things, but it is about knowing and accepting Christ. The realisation that having Christ is more than enough and creating joy in us is the salvation experience. If your knowledge of Christ is still based on material things, you are yet to be converted and cannot evangelize.

Prayer point: Almighty Father, empower me to be a great evangelist to bring more people into your kingdom in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15

Thursday, July 8, 2021

**FIVE MINISTRIES 4
EPHESIANS 4:11-15**

“And truly He gave some *to be* apostles, and some *to be* prophets, and some *to be* evangelists, and some *to be* pastors and teachers.” V.11

Pastors which can also be referred to as shepherds are another important part of the five ministries. They perform the role of a captain in a team by coordinating and leading to guide the flock of God. A shepherd is usually the link between the evangelist and the teacher. As the evangelist calls them in, the shepherd would be the set of people to tender the flock with knowledge and understanding about Christ to help them grow.

Do shepherds/pastors really recognize their roles? Some want to see themselves as the owners and controllers of the church and by so doing derail from the purpose. A captain of a team doesn't own the team but coordinates and leads from the inside while the manager leads from the outside. As such, the shepherd/pastor will usually be the first to be instructed of tactical changes in the team. The shepherd/pastor mustn't hijack the team from the manager and impose his own style, it will only lead to chaos and misdirection. This is exactly what is happening in many churches today and many are being led astray.

For selfish reasons, many have derailed from the five-fold ministry pattern and this has stunted the growth and progress of the body of Christ. I pray for a revival of God's purpose in our hearts in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer point: Loving Father, help us to understand and follow your roadmap for the church that we can fulfil your perfect will in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.” Jeremiah 3:15

Friday, July 9, 2021

**FIVE MINISTRIES 5
EPHESIANS 4:11-15**

“And truly He gave some *to be* apostles, and some *to be* prophets, and some *to be* evangelists, and some *to be* pastors and teachers.” V.11

The teaching ministry caps the five ministries and helps to perfect the work of all other ministries. After an individual must have been converted and tended by the shepherd, there is need for continuous teaching. In fact, other ministries need teachers. It won't matter the department we belong in the church, we must continue to grow in the knowledge of the word of God.

Any church that doesn't take the teaching ministry seriously dies a gradual death. They may be hosting revivals all the time, but I want to ask, what revives better than the word of God? The perfection of believers is found in understanding. The physical salvation is actuated at conversion, but the salvation of the soul needs knowledge and understanding. This is a reason even Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are teachers (John 14:26). It is by knowing the truth that we can really be set free.

The church needs to invest more in the teaching ministry. The congregation must not be miracle seekers only, they must be disciple in the word of God, so that they can function optimally in any part of the body of Christ they are called. Just as every profession needs a teacher, every member of the body of Christ also needs a teacher.

Prayer point: Almighty Father, help us both as teachers and student of the word to be led by the Holy Spirit to uphold sound doctrines for great spiritual growth in Jesus name. Amen

Food for thought: “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. Amen.” Matthew 28:20

Saturday, July 10, 2021

PERILOUS SIGNS

2 TIMOTHY 3:1-7

“Having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away” V.5

Statistics of evil acts is on the increase despite an increase in the number of churches and religious sects. The atrocities committed by many supposed believers is nothing to write home about. More pathetic is the fact that they always find a way to use the bible to defend their atrocities. They have a form of godliness, but only for an ulterior motive and not relying absolutely on the power of God.

Some keep learning the word but never practice the truth in it. They just acquire the knowledge to boast but it hasn't transformed their heart. Organize any church activity, they will always be there but in their community and work place, people hardly find the seed of Christ in them.

However, in the midst of this widespread falsehood, there are a few standing by the truth and still on the narrow path that leads to eternal life. What path are you on? Feeling disturbed by the events of this perilous time will only be a waste of time. Make up your mind to tread the path of truth and encourage others to do so.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, let me not be swayed away in this perilous time and bestow on me the power to stand in your word in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death” Proverbs 16:25

Sunday, July 11, 2021

**ANGEL MICHAEL
DANIEL 12:1-4**

“At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book” V.1

Michael means “who is like unto God?” This is indeed a statement of defence for all who believe in God. As such, angel Michael has a role to fight for the cause of the saints. The books of Daniel and John attest to this fact. The book of Jude also wrote about Archangel Michael contending for the body of Moses with the devil (**Jude 1:9**).

Jude records that Michael is an archangel and **Revelation 12:7** also made us know that he has his angels. In all, it is important for us to understand that angels are ministering spirits that have the task of helping the children of God to salvation (**Hebrews 1:13-14**).

Michael is always at war with the devil and surely overcomes by the blood of Jesus Christ, words of testimony and selfless service (**Revelation 12:11**). Today’s text reveals that an unprecedented time of trouble will come, and in that time, Michael will stand up for all whose name is found written in the book of life. Those who had previously died will either awake to everlasting life or to shame and everlasting contempt. The time beckons, has your name been written in this book of life?

Prayer Point: Eternal Father, write my name in the book of life that I may awake to everlasting life on the last day in Jesus name. Amen.

**Food for Thought “And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragons and his angels fought”
Revelation 12:7**

Monday, July 12, 2021

**NOT ESTRANGED ANYMORE
EPHESIANS 2:13-19**

“Now therefore you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God,” V.19

God manifested Himself in the flesh as Jesus Christ and sent the Holy Spirit to give us direct access to Him. Gone are the days when you have to wait for a particular priest or prophet to communicate with God. The veil of the temple was rent into two, indicating nothing is hidden anymore. It is not wrong to entertain spiritual guidance from prophets, pastors and other Christians, but this should be complimentary and not an absolute means to connect with God.

In **Joel 2:28**, God declared He would pour out His spirit on ALL flesh, meaning we all have a direct access through the spirit to speak to our Heavenly Father by faith in Jesus Christ. When you depend too much on people, they are bound to disappoint either deliberately or unknowingly. Sometimes, they exhaust their capacity to help. A direct access is what you need.

Jesus Christ being the author and finisher of our faith came to break the wall of partition between us and God. This is not a time to wait for a priest to take your prayer to an inner altar before it is answered; with Christ in your life and His words in your heart, you have direct access to the Father. No network failure nor any uncanny terms and conditions, just go on your knees, make your request and the Lord who is neither deaf nor dumb will set you on the right path.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, I put my whole trust in you, be my guide now and forevermore in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “Thus says the Lord: ‘Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the Lord’
Jeremiah 17:5

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

HOLINESS

EXODUS 39:30-32

**“Then they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote on it an inscription like the engraving of a signet: HOLINESS TO THE LORD”
V.30**

Moses was asked to engrave the words “HOLINESS TO THE LORD” on a plate of gold. Similarly, every Christian must engrave these words in his heart. God called us to holiness, even though as flesh, we are often subjected to unclean acts but the scripture always encourages us to strive for perfection.

Holiness must be the watchword. Many spiritual leaders may have relegated preaching about holiness to the background but it doesn't take away the importance. Prosperity, breakthrough and miracles are more pronounced because it is what people are itching to hear. Prosperity will end with the world, breakthroughs will sooner or later be forgotten, miracles will matter no more after death, but the criteria that would be required to see God will be holiness.

“Seek ye first the kingdom of heaven...” (Matthew 6:33). A Christian cannot be seeking the Kingdom whilst living an unholy life. Holiness will mean we should not be conformed to the world, but in all things: by speech, mode of dressing and character, we must be completely different. Holiness must be engraved in gold in our hearts and made to be of utmost priority.

Prayer Point: Holy Father, purge away all filthiness from my life and renew my mind to live in holiness henceforth in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought! “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service” Romans 12:1

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

**REVERENCE GOD
HEBREWS 12:22-29**

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear” V.28

Many take God with levity because He is slow to anger and very merciful. If God will deal with us according to our iniquities, then no one would be able to stand; but for His loving kindness and tender mercies, He gives us opportunities to make positive change.

The fear of God is the beginning of every good achievement. Does the fear of God reign in your heart? There comes a time when there won't be the opportunity to repent; a time when God will be justified that He gave you more than enough chances to come to repentance. The kingdom of the world is full of injustice and oppression because there is no fear of God. However, God has prepared a kingdom that cannot be shaken, where all who want to serve Him with due reverence and fear will be. If you do not reverence and fear God on earth, you cannot be part of that kingdom.

Everything a man acquires without the fear of God will only lead to everlasting destruction. The rich man who had many possessions on earth was begging for just a drop of water in hades because he did not fear God while on earth **(Luke 16:24)**. There is ample opportunity to make a change today.

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, help me live a life that reverence and fear you that I can be part of your everlasting kingdom in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “But I will show you whom you should fear: fear Him who, after He has killed has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!” Luke 12:5

Thursday, July 15, 2021

**BELLY PASTORS
ROMANS 16:17-20**

“For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple” V.18

In Paul’s letter to the Romans, he acknowledged that some sought to fill their belly instead of serving the Lord Jesus Christ. Such people will come with sweet and well-articulated words of deceit. They see the church as a money-making venture instead of winning souls for Christ. They are happy when the church is filled up because of the potential to raise more money, but not concerned with the number of members that are truly saved.

How do you explain a pastor who engages in ritual practices to draw people to his church? He is not even saved and will not be concerned with salvation of the church members, but salivates at revenue from their pockets. We have many of such pastors in our society today causing blasphemy to the church. The words of Apostle Paul have clearly shown it is not new, hence that must not negatively affect our faith.

As an individual, are you in church to serve Christ or your belly? Eli’s sons were in the altar for their belly and their end was disastrous. Belly service always ends in regrets. Serve the Lord in truth and righteousness and His grace shall always be upon your life.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, I want to serve you in truth and righteousness and not for my belly, let your grace abound in my life in Jesus name. Amen.

**Food for Thought: “Whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame – who set their mind on earthly things”
Philippians 3:19**

Friday, July 16, 2021

GODLY HELP 1
2 KINGS 4:8-11

“And she said to her husband, Behold now, I see that this *is* a holy man of God who passes by us continually.” V.9

The Shunem woman perceived Elisha was a true man of God and provided an accommodation for him to help his ministerial work and her reward was a child at old age. She had lost all hope of having a child and even when Elisha prophesied that she will have one, she could not believe it.

God will not come physically to help you, He will always send someone to you. The ministerial work of Elisha would have continued whether the woman helped him or not, but God provided a helper for her unknowingly. If she had not been spiritually discerning to know whom Elisha was, she could have been barren forever. One would have thought she wanted to help Elisha, but on the contrary, Elisha was her helper.

Many have sent their helper away unknowingly because they refuse to help such a person. Like the woman at the well of Jacob, she thought Jesus really needed help, whereas she was the one that needed the help of Jesus. That person you have the opportunity to help may just be your helper. Don't miss the opportunity to help the person, so you don't miss your much needed help.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, help me to be spiritually discerning that I don't miss my helper. I ask in the gracious name of Jesus. Amen.

Food for Thought: “The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself” Proverbs 11:25

Saturday, July 17, 2021

GODLY HELP 2
2 KINGS 4:8-11

“And she said to her husband, Behold now, I see that this *is* a holy man of God who passes by us continually.” V.9

Importantly, as a Christian, you must learn to help ministers of God. By doing so, you are indirectly helping yourself. You only deny yourself certain blessings if you are in a church and the ministers there are suffering. You should be able to make life easier for them that they can be more effective in their ministerial duties. Many like to bemoan and criticize ministers but before you do so, what have you done to help?

You can set up scholarship for one of their children, provide them with health insurance or just have a monthly commitment to support with funds. Identify a teacher, evangelist, prophet or pastor/shepherd that you are convinced is committed to the work of God and help in any way possible. Do not do it for a reason of instant rewards, but as a form of appreciation to God. It can be an answer to a much-needed request of yours.

The woman in today's text had lost all hope of having a child. She wasn't even praying about it again. Your prayers will be quickly answered when you become the answer to another person's prayer. The woman was an answer to Elisha's prayer of making his ministerial work more effective and he also became a solution to her barrenness.

Prayer point: Almighty Father, help me to meet the need of others so that my needs can also be met in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you, that in everything, always having all self-sufficiency, you may abound to every good work.” 2 Corinthians 9:8

Sunday, July 18, 2021

GODLY HELP 3
2 KINGS 4:8-11

“And she said to her husband, Behold now, I see that this *is* a holy man of God who passes by us continually.” V.9

Success revolves around being a solution and not just a discussant of problems. Many like to complain, but complaints hardly solve the problem. The solution is in taking necessary actions. In today's text, the woman could have been running from one church to another complaining about her childlessness, but instead she was thinking about solving another man's problem. She could have thought; “what is my business with the Holy man of God since God didn't give me a child?”

Many fall into the trap of always complaining even in their prayers. God knows what you need more than you. Instead of complaining, why not concentrate your strength in helping the church grow? Look for an assignment and commit yourself to it. Help an orphan. Help a widow. Help others even when you also need help. It is a show of faith that you have cast your burden to God to solve it. Anxiety, complaints and sorrowfulness are negative vibes before God.

When you allow your problems dominate your mind, it becomes a god you worship and gives room for devilish manipulations. A lady once confessed how a pastor slept with her because she was looking for a child. Her desperation had made her lose her sense of reasoning so much that she will accept anything as the solution. Please give your heart to God's service that He can help you in His own righteous way.

Prayer point: Almighty Father, help me to take worries off my heart and be a solution to problems that I can also receive my joy in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?” Matthew 6:25

Monday, July 19 2021

STAY ALERT

MATTHEW 24:42-51

**“Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming”
V.42**

Stay alert, remain fervent in prayers and do not reduce your commitment to the work of God. Rather, increase it because no one knows when the bridegroom shall return to take the worthy brides to where they would live happily ever after. Blessed are the servants whom when their master returns will find them committed to the duties he has given them. You may assume this may take a long time but also remember death is imminent. Jesus was not on earth for so long, but in that little time, He fulfilled His mission on earth. He never did anything according to His volition but to the will of God.

Do you still have the same mindset as Christ? Remember your commitments from the early days after accepting Christ: filled with the fear of God, very responsive to church duties, always evangelizing the word, a prophet who gave undiluted messages, a teacher who rightly divide the word of truth or shepherd who was concerned with the safety of the sheep. What has happened to your level of commitment, have you not become like Jeshurun who waxed fat, grew thick and forsook his God?

You were called by the grace of God into His fold; don't ignore the duties He assigned to you because He's coming back with His reward.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, I rededicate my life to your duties; strengthen me spiritually to work without blemish unto salvation in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked; you grew fat, you grew thick, you are obese! Then he forsook God who made him, and scornfully esteemed the rock of his salvation” Deuteronomy 32:15

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

PEACE OF GOD

PHILIPPIANS 4:1-8

“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” V.7

One of those things in life that money can't buy is peace of mind. It has been an age long fallacy in the mind of many that peace of mind comes with more riches, but the reverse has always been the case. Peace of mind only comes with abiding by the word of God. Riches or poverty does not translate to peace of mind, but rather, trusting in God.

Many after fraudulently acquiring riches lose their sleep for fear of robbers and the likes. Men of God now move around with many security guards forgetting that when the Lord has not kept the city, guards only keep watch in vain. The peace of God surpasses all understanding and will surely guard the hearts of true sons of God no matter how turbulent the situation. Jesus showed us an example, He was sleeping in the middle of storm and when He was awakened, He just calmed it.

As Christians, it is unnecessary to be wary because of challenges or be downcast due to our needs. Instead, communicate your desires to God in thanksgiving and He will surely meet you at the point of your need.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, cast my mind off weariness and let your peace rule my life in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble” Matthew 6:34

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

**SEEK GOD'S GLORY
1 THESSALONIANS 2:1-6**

“Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ” V.6

There is a difference between showing love to people and trying to please them. God loves us, His commandments may not be pleasing to our flesh, but eventually we will discover they are the best. The true gospel of Christ is not to please men.

Excusing your child from going to school because of the stress involved may be pleasing at the moment, but eventually there would be regrets and will mean you never loved him. Likewise, the chastening of the Lord may not be joyous at the moment, but in the end produces great results **(Job 5:17)**

The true gospel is not based on what people will like to hear, but what God is saying; they are not words to flatter, but from the altar. It is not a cloak of covetousness, but of contentment and never to receive glory from men. Many today have focused on prosperity gospel because they so much desire wealth. Others deceitfully claim to perform miracles just that they can pull a crowd. Some boast of praying for the government all in a bid to get financial support; they give their complete backing to such government irrespective of being aware of its corrupt practices. It is completely uncalled for to come to the public or receive funds before assisting the government in prayers. They should encourage the government to utilize such monies to develop the community.

Prayer Point: Glorious Father, strengthen me to preach your true gospel in all spheres of my life in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bond servant of Christ” Galatians 1:10

Thursday, July 22, 2021

**MAKE HAY
LAMENTATIONS 3:22-27**

“It is good for a man to bear the yoke in his youth” V.27

Make hay while the sun shines refers to maximizing opportunities. In life, some things really can't wait; there is a thin line between life and death. An unhealthy person may live long and a healthy person may die untimely, some grow old and others die young. An evil person could live long while a righteous person dies earlier. You never know what criteria God uses; we can only pray that God grants us long life.

A fraudster could have a lot of money, while a honest person is struggling to make ends meet. God's sentence against evil is not executed speedily; the heart of men continues to do more evil. However, a warning comes today with a call to repentance. It is because of the Lord's mercy that you have not been consumed, He wants a change and this may just be the last opportunity. There is nothing God does that is not for a good cause, the righteous man that has left is for good; leaving the suffering of the world to enjoy the peace of God.

Today's text admonishes us to take up our yoke while we are still young. Take the yoke of Christ upon you and let His words rule your heart. For those who backslide because ungodly people seem to be acquiring more of the treasures of the world, note that the suffering or enjoyment on earth is only for a while, an eternity without end beckons.

Prayer Point: Gracious Father, I forsake all my ungodly ways and turn to you. Hold me firmly with your gracious hand. Amen.

Food for Thought: “The righteous perishes, and no man takes it to heart; merciful men are taken away, while no one considers that the righteous is taken away from evil. He shall enter into peace, they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness” Isaiah 57:1-2

Friday, July 23, 2021

**OBSERVE YOUR CALL
1 CORINTHIANS 1:22-26**

“For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called” V.26

Of the twelve tribes of Israel, Saul belonged to the last of them (the tribe of Benjamin), yet he was anointed to become the first king. David was the youngest of all the sons of Jesse, yet he was selected above all his brethren to become king. Moses was not very eloquent yet was chosen to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Rahab was a prostitute but became a tool for God's use.

Today's text reveals that not many wise, mighty and noble have been called to serve God. If we were to interpret the bible using carnal wisdom, many of those who were called did not deserve to be, but the wisdom of God completely transcends that of man.

When Jesus chose His disciples, there were vast teachers of the law available, He never chose them, but opted for common fishermen and tax collectors. Apostle Paul used to be a persecutor of the church, but was called. Hence, as someone who has been called to Christendom, observe your calling, it is not because you are wise, mighty or noble, but according to grace. Therefore, God has called you by grace, discharging your duties can not also be by wisdom or strength, but grace. Please, do not let this grace be in vain; be humble and diligent to this call.

Prayer Point: Gracious God, I thank you for calling me into your marvelous light. By your grace make me humble and diligent to this call in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God” Ephesians 2:8

Saturday, July 24, 2021

**HEAVENLY CULTURE
REVELATION 8:1-5**

“Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne” V.3

A student anticipating admission to the university will usually inquire about how things are done there. He may start to buy university notebooks and read study materials that relates to his course of choice. Likewise, heavenly candidates should anticipate living in heaven. The heavenly culture must be seen in you already.

One of the cultures in heaven is praying. An angel was given a task to burn incense and the smoke ascends with the prayer of saints to the throne of God. A prayer-less Christian must indeed be a powerless one. Why would saints in heaven pray? It is not because they have problems. As a Christian, you don't only pray when you have problems. Will you be happy if your child only talks to you when he has problems? The saints are in constant communication with God and you can easily guess it is a prayer of thanksgiving and praise.

Be in constant communication with God especially in the form of thanksgiving and praise. This is a sweet aroma that ensures our other requests are taken to God. Do not let your prayers be full of complaints, but thanksgiving and honour to your Creator as it is done in heaven.

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, I thank you for revealing the deep mysteries of heaven to me. Let me be part of the saints that will praise and offer thanks to you till eternity in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “You are worthy O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created” Revelation 4:11

Sunday, July 25, 2021

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

EPHESIANS 6:11-15

“Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” V.13

There are different warfare and they are fought using different types of weapons. We have heard of wars between nations with the use of dangerous and sophisticated weapons like atomic bombs, guns, swords and other artilleries. There could also be physical combats between two or more individuals in a house or community; this may also require the use of physical weapons.

There is a peculiar type of warfare which is not physical; it is a spiritual warfare. It involves principalities and powers in the high places. This warfare can only be fought with spiritual weapons in line with the word of God. In some circumstances, physical materials are needed like Jesus Christ did in **John 9:6-7**, but importantly, it must be led by the Holy Spirit.

As Christians, we are involved in a spiritual warfare with the devil and it is important we allow the wisdom of God direct us in our daily activities. It is therefore important to be spiritually fortified ahead of the evil days by studying the word of God. You don't learn to use a weapon in a battle, it is already too late. I pray that God shall fight all your battles today and the victory that Christ has assured us shall be our portion in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, arise in your mightiness to grant me victory over every powers and principalities assigned to torment my life in Jesus name. Amen.

**Food for thought: “And the dragon was enraged over the woman, and went to make war with the rest of her seed, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”
Revelation 12:17**

Monday, July 26, 2021

PURPOSEFUL GOD

REVELATION 4:8-11

“O Lord, You are worthy to receive glory and honor and power, because You created all things, and for Your will they are and were created.” V.11

Whatever God does is strictly for a purpose. He worked for six days and rested on the seventh for a purpose. He created all things for a purpose. He created man in a special way for a purpose. He created you and I for a purpose. Have you realized the purpose for which God created you?

The Elders around the throne had a responsibility to continually worship and praise God for His greatness and mightiness. God equally created man to worship and praise Him through his actions. He is the image and likeness of God for that reason. This is the reason you cannot give Him any material thing except praise and worship. He only demands gratitude, praise and worship from the heart.

When you live in sin, your life will not give glory to God. Sin means you have submitted to someone else apart from God. It means you have created a god for yourself to worship and such a life has gone out of the purpose of God. As stated in 1 John 3:8, anyone who commits sin is of the devil because the devil is the originator of sin and it is for that reason the Son of God manifested to destroy our unholy relationship with sin/devil. As a Christian, you have a responsibility to destroy ties with sin and the devil. A holy life is the best way to praise and worship God.

Prayer Point: Loving Father, thank you for allowing me to know the purpose of my existence, endow me with the strength to continue praising, honouring and working for your glory in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such to worship Him.” John 4:23

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

FRIENDSHIP WITH LIMITS 1

MICAH 7:4-7

“Put no trust in a friend; put no hope in a guide; keep the door of your mouth from her who lies *in* your bosom.” V.5

There is a limit to which you can trust people. Today's text warned that friends should not be trusted, because human minds can be flexible and easily manipulated. When you are disappointed or rejected, you should know these are expected human attributes. Relations, friends and even your parents can oppress, reject or disappoint you.

As a Christian, do you hold them as enemies? The answer is an emphatic NO. The brothers of Joseph sold him out just because he chose to confide in them with his dreams. They plotted against him so that his dream will not come to pass, alas, they even helped it. All things work together for good to them that love and trust in God. People will always disappoint, but God never disappoints.

Many have not risen on the ladder of wealth because they trust their friends and relations to help them out. Traders can bare me witness, friends and family are the ones that usually kill business. Many of them will take goods without paying, when they even pay more when buying from strangers. So sometimes, you must break out of your comfort zone to achieve success. Jesus couldn't achieve much in his hometown and had to go out. Friends may intentionally or unconsciously destroy your dreams. Always put a limit to friendship that it won't harm you.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, let your power energize me to have trust in you for all my needs in this world and till eternity. Amen

Food for thought: “And they were offended in Him. But Jesus said to them, A prophet is not without honour, except in his own country and in his own house. And He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.” Matthew 13:57-58

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

FRIENDSHIP WITH LIMITS 2

MICAH 7:4-7

“Put no trust in a friend; put no hope in a guide; keep the door of your mouth from her who lies *in* your bosom.” V.5

In Matthew 16, Peter was able to confirm that Jesus wasn't like any other prophet, but the Messiah and the son Of God. Peter was about the closest disciple to Jesus. The devil having realised this, tried to use Peter against Jesus by forbidding His journey to the cross. Jesus was quick to realise this manipulation and rebuked the devil.

It is not every advice that comes from a friend that you have to take. You must be spiritually discerning. Many have been led to untimely death and some have made actions they'd spend the rest of their lives regretting because they chose to trust a friend completely. You must put a limit to every friendship else it becomes an opportunity for enemies to penetrate.

There is a particular lady who was told to stay away from her mum for a while. She was told that it wasn't that the woman is evil, but they were using her to monitor and frustrate her life. In the same way, a friend may be used against you. The only friend you can completely trust is Jesus. I pray today that in every way a confidant is being used against you, the Lord shall expose them and deliver you in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, every weapon fashioned against me shall never prosper. I shall live to fulfil purpose in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “But He turned and said to Peter, Go, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you do not savor the things that are of God, but those that are of men.” Matthew 16:23

Thursday, July 29, 2021

INTERCESSORY PRAYER 1

EXODUS 32:11-14

“And Moses prayed to Jehovah his God, and said, Jehovah, why does Your wrath become hot against Your people whom You have brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?” V.11

The Israelites were to be destroyed for their misconduct of apostasy and God had decided to raise another generation through Moses. Moses could have seen it as an opportunity to start his own movement, but on the contrary, he pleaded and interceded for the people.

Many in the society today are happy at the downfall of others because they see it as an opportunity to be in charge. This is the major problem bedevilling our nation. The opposition party keep coming with different plans to undermine the activities of the ruling party. Both parties easily forget that the country belongs to all and will rather seek selfish interests to the detriment of the nation as a whole.

Can we not intercede on each other's behalf? What goes around comes around. If you bring someone down for you to get into position, you will also fail woefully when you get there. This does not mean we cannot express our displeasure at things that are wrong but it shouldn't be with a motive to spite. Christ interceded for us with God despite our unfaithfulness, therefore as Christians, we must learn to intercede for others.

Prayer Point: Great God, help me develop a heart that intercede for others and not rejoice at their downfall in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought “First of all, then, I exhort *that* supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men” 1 Timothy 2:1

Friday, July 30, 2021

INTERCESSORY PRAYER 2

EXODUS 32:11-14

“And Moses prayed to Jehovah his God, and said, Jehovah, why does Your wrath become hot against Your people whom You have brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?” V.11

True Men of faith are intercessors. Abraham interceded on behalf of Sodom and Gomorrah, Daniel interceded on behalf of the Israelites taken as slaves to Babylon and even the Holy Spirit intercedes on our behalf (Romans 8:26-27).

You may not have the opportunity to visit prisoners but when was the last time you interceded on their behalf? How about those in the hospital that are sick? When was the last time you interceded for your nation? Instead, your prayers are always selfish. It is always about you. You always want to destroy one enemy or the other.

I remember there was a time God instructed me to pray for orphans, widows, the sick and prisoners. He then said, anyone without God as a father is a spiritual orphan, spiritual widow, spiritually sick and spiritually imprisoned. It therefore means I should also intercede for lost souls to find Christ.

Intercessory prayers are greatly appreciated by God because it means you are unselfish. God wants those who He can bless to bless others. When you are selfish even with prayers then what can you give?

Prayer point: Everlasting Father, I use this moment to commit all those who need your help in one way or the other. Come to their aid in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “But if they *are* prophets, and if the Word of Jehovah is with them, let them now pray to Jehovah of Hosts, that the vessels which are left in the house of Jehovah, and *in* the house of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem, may not go to Babylon.” Jeremiah 27:18

Saturday, July 31, 2021

JEALOUSY AND ENVY

NAHUM 1:1-5

“God *is* jealous, and Jehovah revenges; Jehovah revenges and is a possessor of wrath. Jehovah takes vengeance against His foes, and He keeps *wrath* against His enemies.” V.2

Jealousy is defined as a feeling of unhappiness or anger because someone has something or someone that you want. Envy is the feeling of wanting something that the other person has. The two words have very similar meanings and may be used interchangeably, but they mean two very different things.

Envy is a feeling that occurs when you don't have something another person has. Jealousy, on the other hand has to do with something that you have, this thing or attribute is being threatened by a third party. God made us and we belong to Him and the third party trying to take us away is the devil. This is the jealousy that God has for us. He doesn't want to lose us.

The devil on the other hand is envious of our important position with God and seeks to destroy it. It is now important that we understand the love of God to us. When you love someone, there will be a feeling of jealousy if another person tries to take it away and this is completely normal but when you unhealthily covet the possession of another person, then you have the seed of envy that is of the devil in you which you must try to subdue because it leads to sin.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, help me get rid of every seed of envy in me that I may not fall victim of the devil's deceptions in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “A sound heart *is* the life of the flesh, but envy the rottenness of the bones.” Proverbs 14:30

Sunday, August 1, 2021

PRESERVED FOR GLORY

ECCLESIASTES 12:1-7

“Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it” V.7

The body of man shall return to the dust where it was taken while the spirit will go back to God to give account of stewardship. You should be delighted that you are still alive today. This is simply because God chose to preserve you. Those that were not preserved are gone already and no one can question God. Some of them are younger, richer, more prayerful or better in other ways than you are.

You will not die but live to declare God’s glorious works in your life in Jesus name. Amen. Can you recall many important dignitaries that have gone to the great beyond this year? But here you are still alive by His grace. Praise and adore the Almighty God for giving you another opportunity at life because it is under His absolute control.

For the remaining months in the year and all days, we must reflect over the reason God has preserved us. Many in the world are heading for destruction and have been preserved that they may have the opportunity to repent but rather than do so, they continue in their wicked ways. Some have been preserved for the glory of the Almighty Father. Why has God preserved you?

Prayer point: Almighty Father, I thank you for preserving me till today. Let my life continue to be a reflection of your glory in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “*The* Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation, and to reserve the unjust for a day of judgment, to be punished” 2 Peter 2:9

Monday, August 2, 2021

TAKE CORRECTION 1
JOB 5:17-19

“Behold, happy is the man whom God corrects; therefore do not despise the chastening of the Almighty” V.17

No one is above corrections. The perfect life that Christ recommended to us is not that which is devoid of mistakes but one that is willing to accept errors, make necessary corrections and strive to avoid further ones. It is pathetic that many are unwilling to accept their mistakes let alone seek corrections.

There are two popular bible verses that is often quoted to avoid corrections. First is “Do not judge...” This is not a statement to discourage correction, but condemnation. It is only a corrective analysis that you must put your house in order before correcting others. It is never to encourage the man with the speck in his eye to let it remain. The second is; “he that is without sin let him cast the first stone...”; the impression Jesus changed was also that of condemnation not correction. In the end He asked the woman to go but charged her to SIN NO MORE.

Correction has been an age long means by which God returns us to the right track. It is different from condemnation or judgment. When you make a mistake and get the opportunity to be corrected, be happy to take it. The town of Nineveh had the opportunity of being corrected for their excesses and took to it. Many plunge so deep into troubled waters because they refuse to heed corrections, but the wise open their ears wide to it.

Prayer Point: Gracious Father, thank you for directing me to the path of life with your corrective rod. Let not my heart be hardened to your words of correction in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten; therefore be zealous and repent.” Revelation 3:19

Tuesday, August 3, 2021

TAKE CORRECTION 2
JOB 5:17-19

“Behold, happy is the man whom God corrects; therefore do not despise the chastening of the Almighty” V.17

The bible in itself is filled with words of correction. It was written for our admonition that we may not live a fruitless life like some before us lived. If everything was perfect with humans, then there wouldn't have been a need for the compilation of the scriptures.

When sermons are being rendered, many have formed the habit of recognizing who the pastor is speaking against without trying to understand the error the sermon is pointing out in them. Imagine a sermon condemning stealing. Many would assume they don't steal yet they rob God in tithes and offering. Which is worse; one who robs human or one who robs God? In a similar way, there are many things that we do to offend God and it takes continuous mediation in the word of God to realise it.

Each time you listen to a sermon or study your bible, always seek that it brings out your error. This is one way to mature spiritually and grow to perfection. The bible is inspired to teach, correct, rebuke and instruct us in righteousness. If your bible doesn't do that to you at every word encounter then you have developed a conscience malfunction which needs to be addressed immediately, as this may pose grave consequences.

Prayer point: Almighty Father, let my heart be opened to corrections that I may not fall into a path of destruction in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought “Poverty and shame will come to him who disdains correction, but he who regards a rebuke will be honoured” Proverbs 13:18

Wednesday, August 4, 2021

EASY YOKE

MATTHEW 11:28-30

“For My yoke *is* easy, and My burden is light.” V.30

Jesus said this; “for my yoke is easy and my burden is light” This definitely means that there is a yoke and burden that comes with being a Christian. All of us will agree that the Christian life is not devoid of many sacrifices. As a Christian, one will not be able to “enjoy life” like many others. You cannot womanise, party, get drunk, cheat, or indulge in many sinful practices.

However, what makes this yoke easy? Every enjoyment in life is terminal. In fact, anything you enjoy in excess becomes a problem. Eat too much and you suffer constipation. Solomon loved women a lot and had a thousand of them, yet in the end, he discovered it is meaningless and that his appetite cannot be satisfied. If there was an end to the chase in life, the world’s richest men should not be working anymore, but you discover they still have a lot to chase. There is no contentment in the world. Yet, in the end, it all amounts to a waste if such a person doesn’t make the kingdom of God.

The yoke of Christianity being easy is that it takes your heart away from anxiety and sets your mind to seek that which is eternal. The sufferings you have to experience is nothing compared to the glory that will be revealed in you.

Prayer point: Gracious Father, help me to take up the yoke and burden of Christianity that I can enjoy rest for my soul in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “But rejoice according as you are partakers of Christ's suffering, so that when His glory shall be revealed, you may be glad also with exceeding joy” 1 Peter 4:13

Thursday, August 5, 2021

SUFFICIENT GRACE

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9-10

“And He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness,’ Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me” V.9

God will usually come through when all human wisdom has been exhausted. When a lot of human effort is still in action, God will hold back, but when God is ready, He will put all human efforts to stop. When God was ready to deliver the Israelites completely from the host of Egypt, He told them to stand still and see His hand of salvation in action.

God usually works through our weakness to show His strength. The weakness here doesn't mean we should remain in our sins. Your weakness may be women, alcohol, anger, etc, when you are ready to submit it to God, He will empower you to overcome it. “Ten ways” to overcome anger may not work for you, but God's way to overcome it will surely work.

The problem is that many are not quick to submit to God as they keep designing different methods. Grace is what you need: Grace is information. The information you need to overcome that weakness of yours shall be provided to you. The power of Christ will rest on you to overcome your weakness in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer Point: Gracious God, endow me with your sufficient grace that I can be perfect in all my ways and be a partaker of your eternal glory in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Jehovah will perfect *His work* in me; Your mercy, O Jehovah, *endures* forever; do not forsake the work of Your own hands.”
Psalms 138:8

Friday, August 6, 2021

PROSPER IN ALL THINGS 1

3 JOHN 1:2-8

“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers” V.2

Being a Christian doesn't stop you from having ambitions. You can be successful in your choice of career and reach enviable heights. Nothing stops you as Christian from becoming the president of the country or governor of your state. That we don't belong to the world doesn't mean we should not prosper in the world.

Daniel and Joseph are such examples in the bible who ruled even in foreign lands without having to bribe their way or do corruptible things. Both were recommended by people that saw the glory of God in them. We are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. No one lights a candle and puts it under a bushel but on top so that the light can shine to everyone around.

The issue is that we do not have many Christians that are truly shining the light of Christ. Jesus Christ today is one of the most known personalities in the world despite leaving over two thousand years ago. What impact are you making in your sphere of existence? Are you shining the light of Christ. Your prosperity is not limited to the spiritual, you are expected to prosper in all things even as your soul prospers.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, help us to prosper in our careers that we can through it proclaim your glory to the world in Jesus name. Amen

Food for Thought “And Jehovah was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man. And he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.” Genesis 39:2

Saturday, August 7, 2021

PROSPER IN ALL THINGS 2

3 JOHN 1:2-8

“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers” V.2

It leaves a sour taste in my mouth hearing Christians condemn vaccination claiming it an antichrist scheme. Some said HIV has been out for forty years and there was no vaccine for it, but a vaccine has been developed for COVID in less than a year, therefore, there is an evil scheme to it. When did we leave our spiritual reasoning to begin to fuel conspiracy theories?

When we should have Christians that should be doing fantastic in the health sector, we lay claim to faith and condemn things that deals with medicine. Some faith even see medication as lack of faith. The only way to condemn something is to come up with something better. We have people dying and some scientists came up with a solution based on their analysis and all we can do is to condemn it. What solution have we provided that is better than what is on ground?

What impact is Christianity having on technology, medicine, education and other spheres of human life to make things comfortable for people? Many just attribute everything to the devil. Joseph came up with a preservative mechanism that ensured people will not starve to death in his days. Today's Christian would have said he planned the famine. God's wisdom in him ensured he could find a solution to a national problem and by so doing, he prospered.

Prayer point: Everlasting Father, grant me the wisdom to be a problem solver that I can prosper in all I do in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “And this Daniel was blessed in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.” Daniel 6:28

Sunday, August 8, 2021

PROSPER IN ALL THINGS 3

3 JOHN 1:2-8

“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers” V.2

If as a Christian, you use latest things but condemn latest medical invention, then something is definitely wrong. I remember there was a faith movement that condemned the use of television calling it the devil's box. Many members had to discard their television set. Today, the same movement televises its services. How long do we take the opinion of people as a message from God? Where is our discerning spirit?

As Christians, we are to pray for health practitioners for more inspiration because God is using them to save a lot of lives. Maternal deaths have been greatly reduced with advancement in health practices. Polio used to be a major health challenge, but is now almost a thing of the past. As Christians, we should pray regularly that more health problems can be solved similarly. Medicine is not in a competition with faith, but a compliment. They only try their best based on the ability God has given to them.

Indeed, it has become important that we understand the essence of faith and stop using it wrongly. When you can feed yourself, will you still have to pray that food enters your mouth automatically? God will not answer such a prayer because it is a waste of spiritual energy. It is those things that the physical cannot achieve that we push to the spiritual. We must encourage Christians to prosper in the health sector and all other sectors of the society.

Prayer point: Jehovah Rapha, we pray for all our doctors, nurses, pharmacists and all those in the health sector that you will use them to save lives and heal the sick in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “In the midst of its street, and of the river, from here and from there, *was* the Tree of Life, which bore twelve fruits, each yielding its fruit according to one month. And the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.” Revelation 22:2

Monday, August 9, 2021

**JEHOVAH JIREH
1 KINGS 17:2-6**

“The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook” V.6

Jehovah Jireh is His name; He is the great provider that never forsakes His own people. He never fails to supply the needs of those who trust in Him even in the most precarious of circumstances. There was famine everywhere, Alas! God sent the raven to provide Elijah with food.

Many are not usually satisfied with God’s provision because they want to meet their greed and not needs. Such greed will not make them live according to God’s will. They become desperate and fall victim of the devil’s manipulations. God never speaks with both sides of the mouth, His words stand forever and there is no unfaithfulness with Him; what He says, He will surely do.

What are your needs that you keep wondering how to meet? No need to despair, the word of faith that should come out of your mouth today is this, “God shall provide.” Jehovah Jireh will meet you at the point of your need and bless you abundantly. He will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus.

Prayer Point: Jehovah Jireh, you are the great provider. Provide for me and meet me at every point of my need in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “I have been young, and am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, or his seed begging bread.” Psalm 37:25

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

CONTENTMENT IS PRICELESS

LUKE 3:9-14

“Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, ‘And what shall we do?’ So he said to them, ‘Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages’” V.14

“The axe has been laid to the root of the trees and every tree that fails to produce fruits will be cut down and thrown into fire” These words of John the Baptist really touched the heart of his listeners and they began to ask questions. The people, publicans and Soldiers all asked him, what shall we do? His advice was centred on contentment.

Anyone who has not learnt the art of contentment will easily fall to the deceit of the world. When a man is driven by greed, there is no way he won't become a liar, an oppressor and filled with various form of unrighteousness. The teaching of contentment is not to discourage us from aspiring for great achievements, but stipulates it must be done justly. When you have to kill, maim, cheat, defraud or lie to achieve your aims, then it's all wrong. You may end up achieving your aim dubiously, but know that the punishment that comes as a result of the consequences of your actions will not be commensurable.

A young woman who hasn't learnt contentment will chase after sugar daddies and end up destroying her life. Young men have also started going after sugar mummies just to acquire vain luxuries of life, what a shame! Some cannot control their appetite for food and end up eating their way to trouble. Be contented with what God has done for you, labour righteously for your needs because contentment with Godliness is great gain.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, expunge every spirit of covetousness from my life and teach me to be contented with all you have done for me in Jesus name. Amen

Food for thought: “Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content” Philippians 4:11

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

FOOLISH THOUGHT
PSALM 14:1-7

“The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God’ they are corrupt, They have done abominable works, there is none who does good” V.1

One would think the golden verse is directed to atheists alone, but do you realise that they are many acclaimed believers who have such thought dominate their hearts. When you are full of corruption and abominable works, then you deny the existence of God.

In a meeting of Christians gathering, they pray to call the presence of God to the meeting yet they lie, backbite, fight, argue bitterly, deceive one another and do all sorts of abominable things. If truly they believed God was in their midst, you would agree that they will never try such. When your life as a Christian is full of ungodly conduct, then you deny the existence of God, which can even be considered worse than that of an atheist.

The thought pattern you develop determines if you believe in God or not. Joseph chose not to have intercourse with Potiphar’s wife because he did not want to sin against God. Even in his situation, he acknowledged the presence of God and God blessed him eventually. What is the position of God in your heart?

Prayer Point: Omnipresent Father, I acknowledge your existence; you are my God, King and Redeemer. I will praise you all the days of my life in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought **“There is none greater in this house than I. Neither has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?”** Genesis 39:9

Thursday, August 12, 2021

**FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT
GALATIANS 5:22-26**

“But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness” V.22

Oftentimes, people misinterpret being in spirit as only when you can jump around or begin to recite some unknown language, and hence, become easily deceived by people who falsely engage in such acts. While the gift of the spirit may manifest itself in a similar manner, there is a lot more to walking in the spirit.

The attributes to identify one who walks in the spirit are listed in today's text; they include, the ability to love, exhibit joy, seek peace, endure, be gentle, have faith, be meek and temperance. Without these characters, the bible records that there are no laws.

The ability to prophecy, speak in tongues, pray, fast, attend church programmes' regularly and consistently carry out other religious activities will translate to nothing if such life is not producing the fruit of the spirit. A tree is identified by its fruit; a true Christian is identified by character. A bad tree cannot produce good fruits, likewise, a good tree will not produce bad fruits. What sort of fruit are you producing? What opinions have people formed about you based on your character? Check your ways and begin to truly walk in the spirit.

Prayer Point: Heavenly Father, let the Holy Spirit take absolute control of my life that I can walk in the spirit and my life produce fruit of the spirit in Jesus name. Amen.

**Food for thought: “Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit”
Matthew 12:33**

Friday, August 13, 2021

ARISE

PSALM 20:1-9

**“They are brought down and fallen; but we are risen, and stand upright”
V.8**

Can the righteous fall? Undoubtedly, yes. Joseph fell to the prison, Daniel fell to the lions' den and Jesus fell to the grave, but characteristically, they all rose to enviable heights from there. The righteous can fall but the bible says even if he falls seven times yet he will rise again (Proverbs 24:16). Any man that falls and does not rise again has lost hope in his God.

Job was a righteous man who fell, but made the joy of the Lord his strength. He cried unto the Lord and his voice was heard. When his problems were over, he was blessed seven folds. No matter your condition when you are of the Lord, He will never let you be moved. The reason some cannot rise again is that they trust in chariots and horses (V.7). No one can ultimately win the battle of life with chariots and horses representing charms and physical might.

Are you downcast because you have been forsaken by friends and relatives? Summon courage in the God that never fails. You will soon become the cornerstone because of this rejection. Your situation shall change and people will say “this is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes”. You shall rise again. Amen.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, strengthen me to be steadfast in times of adversity that my test may turn to testimony. Amen.

Food for thought “Cast your burden on Jehovah, and He will keep you; He will never allow the righteous to waver.” Psalm 55:22

Saturday, August 14, 2021

MOST IMPORANT MARRIAGE

REVELATION 19:1-7

“Let us be glad and rejoice and we will give glory to Him. For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has prepared herself.” V.7

Wedding ceremony is something many people look forward to, particularly ladies. We already have many ideas on how we expect it to go. The kind of clothing, the venue of the event, the attendees, food to eat and many other things are planned out for the day in order to make it glamorous. I pray for everyone waiting on the Lord for such a day that it shall be fulfilled. For those that have set a day already, it will not turn out a sorrowful day in Jesus name. Amen.

As much as we prepare for the earthly marriage, let it be known that it all ends in this world. There is a more important marriage we need to prepare for and that is the marriage of the lamb. Quoting the golden text; “His wife has prepared herself”, it is on earth we prepare ourselves for heaven.

Your preparation for the marriage of the lamb starts the day you accept Christ and become part of His body. Since you believe on His name (faith), it was accounted to you for righteousness. Your life has become transformed by being clothed in white linen, it is left for you to keep it clean as you await His return. By doing this, you can rejoice with the lamb at the everlasting marriage.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, direct my ways that my garment of righteousness will not be stained and I can rejoice with the lamb in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “And he said to him, Friend, how did you come in here without having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.” Matthew 22:12

Sunday, August 15, 2021

REDEMPTION SONGS

REVELATION 14:1-6

“And they sang as it were a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. And no one could learn that song except the hundred *and* forty-four thousands who were redeemed from the earth.” V.3

John heard the voices of believers (first fruits) who were redeemed from among men as they sang before the throne. Others who were not redeemed could not sing the song. Do you sing redemption or worldly songs? What kind of songs makes your heart merry?

I want to see a Christian community wherein we celebrate true gospel singers. In a newspaper article I read some weeks back, it was mentioned that a number of those making waves in secular music today started their career from the church. Since we have not made their songs lucrative, they opted for the world. Music is one of the viable tools the devil is using to destroy the world, and we must wake up to this reality and convert the heart of people to God through music. The church must invest in redemptive music.

If truly we are redeemed, we must erase worldly songs from our heart and sing to glorify the Lord always. We are in the world, but not of the world, so our focus must be heavenly. We must emulate the customs of heaven which entails holiness and love in our songs. We are in the world as a light, though our body is still in the world, our souls are already with Christ; hence we are already sitting together with Him in heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6).

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, thank you for redeeming me. Help me to uphold and celebrate redemptive songs in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” Colossians 3:16

Monday, August 16, 2021

**CHRISTIAN SUFFERRING
1 PETER 4:12-19**

“Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter” V.16

You don't glorify God only when things are smooth, but also when the times are rough. Persecutions are an integral part of a Christian's life and form a test of our endurance and faith in God.

A Christian should not deny Christ in the face of persecution. In the text, it was written, “If anyone suffers as a Christian....” Meaning a Christian must be ready to endure sufferings that the name of God may not be blasphemed. When passing through trying periods, you should also glorify God because there is a reward. If a man commits an offence and is punished, he has suffered as a consequence of his wrong action. However, a man that is persecuted for being righteous will be blessed by God (**Matthew 5:11**).

Jesus was persecuted, yet like a lamb being led to the slaughter lab, He kept quiet because He had to fulfil the will of God. Let your life be centred on fulfilling God's will irrespective of the persecution you may face. The society is extremely corrupt, so your decision to stand by the truth will be questioned, but keep your focus on the words of Christ and you shall laugh in the end.

Prayer Point: Everlasting Father, endow me with a spirit that will continually glorify you in all circumstances in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials” James 1:2

Tuesday, August 17, 2021
WONDERFUL CREATOR
GENESIS 1:26-31

“Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning was the sixth day” V.31

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. He gave us eyes to see them and lips that we might tell, how great is the Almighty God; who has done all things well.

Nature reveals the greatness in the creative power of God because He turned an earth that was without form and void into the cynosure of all eyes. Everything God created was perfect and good, He made nature so balanced that it works in cycles. The water cycle determines rainfall and natural watering for vegetation. The nitrogen and carbon cycle ensure we have the right proportion of compounds/elements in the soil. The oxygen cycle maintains the right proportion of Oxygen in the air. Plants take in carbon dioxide and releases oxygen, Animals do the opposite, thus establishing a mutual relationship that ensures nature is balanced.

Man has a creative nature like God, but rarely uses it positively. The issues bedevilling the society today are from man's creation, pollutants being emitted into the air are depleting the Ozone layer leading to more heat. Some in a bid to get sexual satisfaction sleep with animals and introduced strange diseases to humanity. Many thoughts and inventions of man are evil. The earth has been corrupted by the activities of man and will be destroyed someday; Christians can only look forward to the new heaven and earth prepared for us by the magnificent Creator

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, recreate my life and perfect every imperfection in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “And Jehovah saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.” Genesis 6:5

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

HONOUR YOUR PARENTS

MARK 7:1-7

“And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men” V.7

A certain man of God was offered a car gift, he asked if the parents of the man had a car and when he answered no, the man of God told him to take the car to them. How many ministers will take such decision? The word of God clearly stated that a man should honour his Parents, but the Pharisees preached that Men should bring gifts to God first knowing they will be the beneficiary.

Do not be a religious bigot. The things you give to your parents is also a form of giving to God. Your parents are the first gods in your life. When you become a parent and understand the stress involved in raising a child, then you realise the important sacrifice they made. It is after they have raised you that you have now become useful to the church. Do not abandon your parents and assume you are pleasing God by gifting your pastor first. It is part of the Ten Commandments that you must honour your parents.

It has become a common phenomenon that man imposes self-adduced rules on others all in the name of God. They call it faith but is indeed gross foolishness. You must learn to apportion your resources prudently. A certain portion God demands is your tithe. Although you may decide to give more but it should not be to the detriment of other important responsibilities.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, teach me to always prioritize your commandments in all my ways in Jesus name. Amen.

**Food for Thought “Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you”
Exodus 20:12**

Thursday, August 19, 2021

**HOLIER THAN THOU
DEUTERONOMY 9:1-6**

“Therefore understand that the Lord your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stiff-necked people” V.6

God informed the Israelites that He has not given the land to them because of their righteousness, but that He may fulfil His promise to their fathers. They were no better than the nations being sent out, but were only enjoying the grace of the covenant.

As Children of God therefore, we must exhibit caution. Many of us are only enjoying the grace of Jesus Christ. If God treated us according to our sins, then we will all be wiped out already. So keep out that “holier than thou” attitude and be ready to forgive and love others irrespective of their religion. You should rather examine yourself always and work towards perfection.

For instance, God may not withdraw the gift of an anointed prophet who continues to walk contrary to His commandments because of His covenant. But the “holier than thou” attitude of such person may stop them from realising in time. Saul did not lose his kingship role instantly, but David was already prepared to replace him. Performing exploits is not a testament to being righteous as established in Matthew 7:21-23.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, I acknowledge my unrighteousness. Forgive me and teach me to be humble and obedient to your words. Amen.

Food for Thought: “Many will say to Me in that day, Lord! Lord! Did we not prophesy in Your name, and through Your name throw out demons, and through Your name do many wonderful works?” Matthew 7:22

Friday, August 20, 2021

**WORSHIPPING CREATURES
EXODUS 32:1-6**

**“And Aaron said to them, Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me”
V.2**

How can someone make a thing and then call it his saviour? The people with Aaron as they awaited Moses grew impatient and donated their gold material to build a golden calf, which they thereafter started worshipping. It makes no sense that they decided to worship something that they witnessed its creation.

What makes God God is that, no one knows how He came to existence. Anything that you know its origin cannot be a god over you because you will also know how to end it. Nothing on earth created by man deserves to take your heart away from God because they cannot save you. As important as money is, there are countless situations that it is useless. If money was that powerful, then the rich should be able to pay death off, but they still die.

Stop worshipping material things. God is the only one who deserves to be worshipped. Waiting on God should not make you grow impatient to seek ungodly alternatives. He has done some miraculous works in your life and can even do much more. He is secretly preparing the best for you. Learn to trust and wait on Him patiently.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, open my eyes of understanding that I may not be blinded into worshipping creatures instead of you the Creator in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “For they changed the truth of God into a lie, and they worshiped and served the created thing more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.” Romans 1:25

Saturday, August 21, 2021

PEP TALK

EPHESIANS 6:10-18

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might” V.10

Moments before the commencement of a competition final match, managers employ different means to motivate their players. Some go to the extent of bringing psychologists to prepare them for the game. In the same vein, Apostle Paul encouraged the Ephesians in view of the task ahead in the text.

In a spiritual warfare, physical materials are not necessarily required, spiritual weapons are the most important. Many Christians try to apply their physical strength to fight spiritual battles; this will always result in continuous defeats. David may have defeated Goliath with a sling and a stone but that would never have worked if not for his determination and complete belief in the power of God.

In defeating Satan and dark powers, what is really necessary is not your ability to shout and disturb the neighbourhood with your prayers, but being truthful, righteous, faithful and studying the word of God. Don't abandon these qualities and think you can stand the devil in a battle. Some in their spiritual ignorance want to kill the devil. Spirits don't die, you can only overcome them by spiritual knowledge. When the devil tempted Jesus, He never sought to kill him, but attacked him with His knowledge of the word. Your spiritual strength is found in the knowledge and understanding of the word of God.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, empower me with your word of truth that I may overcome and live in liberty in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” John 8:32

Sunday, August 22, 2021

**MARRIAGE IS HONOURABLE
HEBREWS 13:1-4**

“Marriage is honourable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge” V.4

Sexual immorality is one of the issues in our society today. We have prevailing cases of rape, paternity fraud, fornication and adultery. An act that should be practiced within the confines of marriage has been seriously abused and having its adverse effect. How can we resolve this problem?

There is need for serious education. Many hold a very wrong orientation and it has given room to a lot of manipulations. One of them is to establish the fact that marriage is honourable for men too. Many parents are only concerned with the chastity of their female children and leave the male to do as they like. We forget that “what goes around comes around”

In a society where we frown at a lady with many boyfriends, but close our eyes to a guy with many girlfriends, something is terribly wrong. This has always been the issue. In John 8, when a woman was caught in the act of adultery, she was brought before Jesus to be stoned. But I want to ask, where was the man she committed the act with? We need to condemn sexual immorality wholly and preserve the honour and sanctity of marriage. Both males and females must be taught to be responsible.

Prayer Point: Holy Father, forgive me for every sexually immoral act I have engaged in, cleanse me and keep me sanctified for your glory in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “Nevertheless because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband” 1 Corinthians 7:2

Monday, August 23, 2021

TEST OF FAITH

JOB 1:6-9

“And Jehovah said to Satan, from where do you come? Then Satan answered Jehovah and said, from going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.” V.7

Satan did not report Job to God, rather God called him to ask if he had considered His servant, Job. Afterwards, many evil befell Job and only his soul was kept safe. Job lost all that he had in one day and his wife also rejected him yet He stood firm in His faith in God.

What tests have you faced to warrant denying your faith in God? A key lesson from the experience of Job is that as a Christian, the only thing you cannot afford to lose is God. Material possessions should not make our faith shake.

As Apostle Paul said in Philippians 3:7-10; “But all those things that I might count as profit I now reckon as loss for Christ's sake. Not only those things; I reckon everything as complete loss for the sake of what is so much more valuable, the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have thrown everything away; I consider it all as mere garbage, so that I may gain Christ and be completely united with him. I no longer have a righteousness of my own, the kind that is gained by obeying the Law. I now have the righteousness that is given through faith in Christ, the righteousness that comes from God and is based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection, to share in his sufferings and become like him in his death.” This is the perfect Christian mentality.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, I know you love me and always have the best plan for me, help me to stand every test of faith in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “My Brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience”
James 1:2-3

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

**MAKE GOD PROUD 1
PROVERBS 27:10-15**

“My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, so that I may answer him who shames me.” V.11

Every parent want a child they can be proud of. While some parents invest in their children and expect returns when they grow, all parents simply want their children to be a source of pride. Are you making you parents proud?

I remember many years ago when I had to write an exam. The vice principal of the school who happens to be a friend of my father brought some answers for me to copy, but I rejected it. He was dejected and went ahead to report me to my father who told him to just leave me. I eventually passed the subject so well that it made my father very proud.

Many children of God are not making God proud. Instead, they bring shame and reproach to His name by engaging in worldly activities. My knowledge in that subject gave me confidence that I could pass it without having to cheat. I was more confident in myself than any note being passed to me. How many of us exhibit such confidence in God?

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, help me to be your beloved child in whom you will be very pleased with in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “And lo, a voice from Heaven, saying, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” Matthew 3:17

Wednesday, August 25, 2021

**MAKE GOD PROUD 2
PROVERBS 27:10-15**

“My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, so that I may answer him who shames me.” V.11

The authority of God in our lives is manifested when God can be proud of us. A child you are proud of will easily command your resources because you have that assurance that he/she will use it judiciously.

With the way some Christians command fire and call for the death of their enemies, if God empowers them so much, they will destroy everyone. No matter how much you love your one year old son, you cannot give him a thousand naira note. This is not because you don't love him but he is still immature to handle it. Many Christians have failed to mature and it is affecting the plan of God to empower or bless them more.

You must grow to become a child God can be proud of so that he can bequeath resources that will make you better. Live in divine wisdom just like Jesus that everything can become subject to your authority. Your authority as a child of God is unlimited, but caution must be exhibited. Jesus had the ability to call on legions of angels especially when He was angered, but instead subjected his powers to control. In the end He was given a name above all names.

Prayer point: Heavenly Father, help me to live a life that will make you proud and bestow more power to me in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “While he yet spoke, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them. And behold a voice out of the cloud which said, This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, hear Him.” Matthew 17:5

Thursday, August 26, 2021

UNWORTHY EXAMPLES

1 TIMOTHY 3:1-5

“Not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous;” V.3

Majority in Christendom no more consent to the wisdom of God in selecting leaders and placing people in positions of authority in the church; rather, they are concerned about how rich people will not leave for another church. They now seek money and influences than they seek God. It is no more a spiritually led anointing, but an appointment based on wealth.

They appoint deceitfully in the name of “God says”, placing the hands of anointing on a member who remains an adulterer or a stranger who goes against the doctrines of the church. They appoint a carnally minded man of questionable character as a church leader, or a nagging and disrespectful woman as women leader. They appoint liars and deceitful members as teachers who tell people “do as I say but not as I do”.

Pastors, Shepherds, Bishops, Deacons, Evangelists, Leaders and Elders are now more concerned about money than the kingdom of God. Retrace your steps today because when you fail to lay the right examples and cause others to fall, it is a grievous sin. This is the time to think.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, forgive me of all my misdeeds; help me from now henceforth to take the right decisions and actions in all situations in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Nor as lording it over those allotted to you by God, but becoming examples to the flock.” 1 Peter 5:3

Friday, August 27, 2021

**PAY BACK
EPHESIANS 6:1-8**

“Knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free” V.8

A child who dishonours the parents will also be dishonoured by his child. Parents who provoke their children should note that the more they do so and he reacts negatively, the more you bring curses on him. Eventually when you should rest and enjoy the fruit of your labour, such child will not give them rest.

As a Master who treats his servants badly, know that God is the master of all and will pay you in your own coins. When you treat the people in your custody callously, your reward is earnestly awaiting you. Do you harass your junior workers who are older than you just because you are fortunate to have been well-read, rich and occupy a higher position? No condition is permanent, a slave today can become a king tomorrow and you never know whom God will use to save you from a future unpleasant situation you may find yourself.

Finally, servants know that your current position is not the end of life. You will surely be aspiring to also become a master someday and others will serve you, if you haven't served your master diligently and faithfully, then be expecting a payback in many folds. God repays all our deeds.

Prayer Point: Faithful Father, thank you for opening my eyes today to acknowledge my shortcomings, make me change for good from today, in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap” Galatians 6:7

Saturday, August 28, 2021

SAVING NAME

PSALM 83:15-18

“So that *men* may know that Your name is JEHOVAH, that You alone *are* the Most High over all the earth.” V.18

The name “JEHOVAH” is peculiar. God revealed this name to Moses. He described himself as the “God of all” to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, but unto Moses He revealed Himself as “Jehovah”. The mysterious nature of God made people to attribute him to different things and to solve this dilemma, God, the Father has revealed himself as Jehovah (**Exodus 6:3**).

God told Moses of His covenant with Abraham and that He is ready to fulfil His promises with his descendants. Brethren, the name JEHOVAH is the name that set people out of bondage and takes one to the promise land. It is a saving name to those who have been given. We no longer have the spirit of fear, but can now call on the Father through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Are you facing any challenge? Call the name Jehovah and He will surely deliver you. Jehovah is God’s name, Jehovah Nissi is our banner for victory, Jehovah Jireh is our great provider, Jehovah Shalom is our peace and Jehovah Rapha is our great healer. Jehovah is the great deliverer from all battles of life, call on Him today He will deliver you from all afflictions of the world.

Prayer Point: Our Lord God, Jehovah, come to my aid today and deliver me from all afflictions of the world in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “And I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob *as* God Almighty. But I was not known to them *by* the name JEHOVAH.” Exodus 6:3

Sunday, August 29, 2021

POWER OF LOVE

1 CORINTHIANS 13:10-13

“And now abide faith, hope, love, these three: but the greatest of these is love” V.13

Something that amazes about love is the power that resides in it. Do you know that God is love; He gave us Jesus Christ, His Son as a ransom for our sins and Christ died for us while we are yet sinners? As a Christian, Christ demands that we have faith even if it will be as little as a mustard seed and also we must continue to hope in His greatness; but love overshadows all.

Love requires you to love not only those who love you alone but also those who hate you. Anyone who lives in love will never live in fear of what enemies may do to him. Perfect love casts out fear and conquers evil with good. And until the power of love overshadows the love of power in any setting, there cannot be peace and progress. Families today are filled with fight for supremacy between the husband and wife. For this reason, many homes are suffering.

Spiritual gifts are nothing when there is no love, hence we must show love to everyone and forgive easily. Who knows, God may not have provided you with those things you need because you have failed to show love and forgive those that have hurt you so much. Remember in the Lord's Prayer we always say, forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Show some love today and you will be richly blessed.

Prayer Point: Loving Father, let your spirit of love dominate my life henceforth that I may be prosperous in all my ways in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for thought: “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and everyone who loves has been born of God, and knows God.” 1 John 4:7

Monday, August, 30, 2021

**BEST TEACHER
ACTS 8:29-35**

“The Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this scripture, preached Jesus to him” V.35

It is often said that experience is the best teacher; but I tell you that there is even a better teacher; the Holy Spirit. The eunuch struggled to understand the passage he was reading. He was a learned man and could literally read the words, but came short of the interpretation. The Spirit led Philip to help him out and his life was transformed.

Many Christians are just church-goers like the Eunuch before this salvation experience because their eyes of understanding are yet to be opened. The position you occupy doesn't matter, you may even be the church's major financier and not be saved because there are couple of things you do not understand yet.

I observe the way many Christians mis-apply the scriptures and it becomes pretty clear that they are only interpreting by the letter and not the Spirit. No one can search and understand the deep things of God except by the Spirit of God. If a theologian like Nicodemus lack understanding, then don't be puffed up with knowledge. Seek the Holy Spirit to help you out.

Prayer Point: Almighty God, open my eyes of understanding to your words by the help of the Holy Spirit that my life can be transformed for greatness in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought: “But the Comforter, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said to you.” John 14:26

Tuesday, August 31, 2021

**SPIRITUAL STRENGTH
ISAIAH 40:27-31**

“But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint” V.31

Imagine a situation where youths are fainting and young men are falling? A precarious situation where physical strength, wisdom, knowledge and techniques have all been applied, and yet there is no solution in sight.

Have you been struggling with a certain ailment that has defied medicine? As a married woman, you have tried many doctors and yet have not been able to conceive. As a young man, you have many certificates and yet can't get a means of livelihood. As a business owner, you have employed all business tactics in your bag, but still remain static. What are those goals in your life that even after devoting so much effort, you still aren't making any headway? The word of God comes to you today that you should wait on Him and He will renew your strength. Success in life is not achieved only by efforts, but the grace of God (**Ecclesiastes 9:11**).

Believe in God and let Him transform your life for greatness. The strength to perform exploits will be bestowed on you. Divine wisdom and understanding will be your portion. Your sadness shall be erased with the elapsing month and changed to joy as your mockery will turn to glory. The Lord will inspire you to greatness as you begin to soar like eagles and your joy shall know no bounds in Jesus name. Simply wait on the Lord.

Prayer Point: Almighty Father, as I wait upon you, renew my strength. Let my life be transformed and inspired to greatness in Jesus name. Amen.

Food for Thought “Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord” Psalm 27:14