

SPEED UP

While the World is Slowing Down

EBARIM GODSEND

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DEDICATION

This Masterclass is dedicated to you the reader.

All scripture references are taken from the King James Version of the Bible, unless otherwise stated.

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PART ONE

PROLOGUE

Mental Lenses and Visualization

According to ancient mysticism, the Qabalah can help you to handle rejections, failures, and adversities. The Qabalah says that everything has its source. Everyone have mental lenses which they wear per time, and that these lenses determine their perspective and visualization of life's events. A man who wears a red mental lens will see every event of life as red. Our world views are skewed by the colour of our mental lenses.

Types of Mental Lenses

There are about ten types of mental lenses which determine our visualization of life, namely:

- € **Essence/Purpose:** Essence deals with who we are. Your essence is a reflection of, and is one with God. Your essence is perfect, and sacrosanct, and valuable. It's the Core, and can't be alienated from God. It is the female dominant lens – motherhood of nature.

Meanwhile, your purpose is workaholic, self-rewarding, judgmental, and unforgiving. It is the male dominant lens. The mental lens of purpose seeks perfection and satisfaction from accomplishments.

- € **Beauty.** (1) **Arts:** the essence of arts is beauty, while the purpose of arts is memory. (2) **Music:** the essence of music is harmony, and you need both the high and low notes to strike harmony. Meanwhile, the purpose of music is performance and pleasure. The ups and downs of life are the classical composition of the Maestro to flavour human lives. For life to be harmonious, and sweet as music, there must be high and low moments just like the notes and pitch of a harmonious music. You need both to enjoy life like you enjoy music. Start seeing every event of life as orchestrated for beauty with the lens of beauty.
- € **Game/Complications/Challenge/Fun:** Live your life like a game, and live the game like it's your life. The essence of a game is playing; while the purpose of a game is winning or losing.
- € **Story/Movie:** With this lens, there's nothing that is happening around you that is actually real; but either a story, or a movie. Every great achiever has their stories. Some things need time for your break moment to arrive. Also, anything can happen to anybody.

- € **Experience:** Appreciating everything for what it is. Everything is designed to happen to give you the needed experience that life desires to bestow on you.
- € **Humour:** It is sleek, but nothing is really as serious as you might think. Life is just one big joke that is both entertaining and laughable.
- € **Lesson:** See everything as a great lesson that must be learned. Life will teach you vital lessons which you must be willing to learn. Analyze every situation or experience, and ensure that you adopt measures to decimate its recurrence. Indeed, life is a great lesson that must be learned, sometimes the hardest way. Everything happens to teach us a valuable lesson. Everything happens to teach, and not to hurt you.
- € **Gratitude:** Count your blessings, and express gratitude for them. Find the good points, and be grateful for them.
- € **Sacrifice:** Offering a sacrifice, or living a sacrificial life is the most powerful thing anyone can do. Sacrifice your pride. Endeavour to lose your ego. Remember that Jesus Christ could only be the Saviour by means of sacrifice alone.
- € **Wonders/Magic/Miracles:** See all of life as a wonder, a magic, or a miracle. Everything has its essence and purpose. Choose to live, love, and

enjoy life as it happens. The lens you choose to wear will determine what you see per time. Visualization of life as the events unfold is your sole responsibility; and the lens you choose to wear each time will determine whether you see life the way the Creator intends that you see it, or you see it your own way.

Misery Memoirs

The mien of a victim of rejection can be so glaring and conspicuous that even the blind could see. It shows in thoughts, words, and actions. All my midlife crisis were the cumulative effects of my childhood rejection by my supposed biological father.

As the fourth child of the family, I was born the third son; and the first to be so given birth to in a health facility, though preterm at about eight months and fourteen days old in the womb. Neighbours prognosticated that I'll trudge through life, a superstition they lavishly vented, which was born on the premise that I was prematurely born. However, to their greatest amazement, my growth was hypersonic, in that I was running around the neighbourhood after seven months of my birth. Suddenly my father became a real ogre when he told my mother that I wasn't his child when I was still less than five years, before my lost experience as shared in chapter three. Both of my

parents and siblings were willing and determined to keep it a secret for as long as they could, or possibly forever; not knowing that I was already aware of it. This knowledge created in me an oilskin attitude towards the family which led to my being independent, vengeful, and feeling revulsion to everything they cherished. Actually, I share my mother's physiology, apart from the broad vertically projected shoulders and a well-rounded big head which are my father's. It was an irreversible event as one can't rewind life.

I am meticulous in all my dealings with people, so much so as not to hurt them, because I know from experience that life can never be the same again when one is hurt, even though repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation took its full course later. Nothing ever remains, or continues the same again after an awful experience with someone or something. Caution becomes the driver of every gesture – that is a sterile truth you must grapple with; and only the credulous will disclaim that as a valid fact of life. Incontrovertibly, that event was supposed to inoculate me against failure in life, although it did until adolescence when incrustation became the resultant effect, since I wasn't willing to open to people in order to avoid getting hurt by them. Stealthily, the effect of rejection took its toll on me until I slipped into incoherence. I used to be valiant, but now was vaguely a vacationer in my home. Howbeit, I will always oppose my father's punitive threats since I felt I was already a strange enemy of his. What got others scared was reason for my bold actions – and things where

worsening unnoticed until I slumped into the valley of eternal despair and amoral fears, always being alack and intrusively introverted became my righteous causes, though I seem to be a natural introvert. I think it later became introversion taken too far due to the effect of my childhood rejection by my father. I became dour owing to the feeling that my father hated me so much, even as all his actions and reactions dictated by isolating me from the other eleven children, as we're so easily recognized by those who know my family as either his children, or brethren. You can't know me and fail to recognize him as my father, or my siblings as my brethren because we look so much alike.

All my cogitations failed to yield positive results as I couldn't identify the root of his rejecting me. Hence, it was both a personal asset and luxury to retaliate by also disowning him as my father, even though I still bore his name in school to sustain sponsorship, and tenancy in his house.

Finally, I degenerated into harbouring a clockwise servitude mentality with everyone I ever came into contact with, all in efforts to gain their acceptance, because of the blossomed sense of childhood rejection by the man that should lead the chart of my lovers. Serial failures will become the order of my life, because everyone I laboured to please will use, despise, and reject me. This was the regular pattern and cycle of my life until the worst form of rejection I'd ever experience happened.

"Life is like a gun, and motives are like bullets, while actions are like the trigger. You might hit or miss your target when you shoot, but you'll never miss the impact of the recoil of the gun."

Although a prodigy, I opted into slavish servitude agreement with my father during an end of year family meeting in December 1998, after I had finished secondary education at age sixteen; I served him as a servant for the period of two years, so he can sponsor my tertiary education: and he never considered the fact that I had used up only ten years and a few months to be through with both Primary and Secondary education – though I wasn't coerced to serve, but later actions proved to be fraudulent, since he never spent a dime on my tertiary studies. After three years of meritorious service under strenuous circumstances, I took to being a renegade, because of his flagrant renege on the deal; since I was never remunerated, and was constantly ill-fed during the entire period.

That's how bad rejection can be. I lived the prodigal son elder brother's kind of life in my father's house, because I lived in utter fear of imminent ubiquitous rejection. I will take his palm oil to the market in the city and will sell and bring him more money than he had anticipated when I left for the market, because of price fluctuations; and he won't even care to buy me bathroom slippers readily; even when I knew that my other siblings always short changed him when they sold. **"Let me see how you'll further your education,"** he'll always exclaim;

whenever I demanded for a better care, or provisions – once again, I will plunge into virulent labours. I felt he's being vilified by writing this piece, since I have never mentioned it publicly, but the truth has just been told for you to understand my roots as well as the crops I bear. In the past, pleasing others to my detriment just soothes my quest for acceptance, both domestically and as with foreigners. Having lived about thirty-eight years under the bondage of the fear of public rejection by either my father, or friends and suitors; I now rise to the echelon of success through self-acceptance, and self-sorting - hence, I said: you should never love with your heart, but with your lung, if your intent is a long life lived in affluence, influence, and satisfaction. You can live as you want, not as others or situations want it.

A soulless ordeal it is to be used, despised, and rejected by the woman one dearly loves: by the one person you've ultimately sacrificed everything for happiness – talking about my worst rejection experience with the woman that should be my wife. I deliberately pass this on to another page in this series. Hence, we skip the story.

"Excusing failure in life is the grandest sabotage of divine trusts."

"Cain murdered Abel because he thought that he would force God to love him as the only available worshipper; but God was looking for a useable person".

Keys to Handling Rejection

There are no graduated rules for handling rejections, even the one-off nostrums posited by gurus are sometimes onerous and despicable. The problem doesn't actually lie with the key, but your application of it. To speed up in life, the following is mandatory:

1. Love your creator wholeheartedly.
2. Love yourself unreservedly
3. Love your neighbours like you love yourself – and also as much as you wish they love you.
4. Give others exactly what they deserve – never give holy things to dogs, or pearls to swine.
5. Learn to forgive, give, and move on swiftly; but on the path of safety.
6. Go the extra mile only when it's mutually beneficial.
7. Admit the fact that you can't be accepted by all, and even today's acceptance might be tomorrow's rejection; vice versa.
8. Leave vengeance alone. Time will compensate everyone their just desserts.

9. Shock those who reject you with your overwhelming success.
10. Be willing to readily and intelligently share your wealth in both materials and experience with those who are currently where you have been.
11. Don't attempt to forget the past, as every scar reminds of a wound. It will help you to be careful next time.
12. Use your head well to stay ahead in life – Avoid malice at all cost.

"Don't depend on time alone to heal, because some wounds retrograde with time than heal."

A careful examination of my life led to the discovery that my life had been near ruin because of my habits of always going to hell in order to gain other people's acceptance. Was I ugly, sordid, dullard, too short or too thin, etc.? No. However, I dote on everyone I ever dealt with, even when I possessed unequalled advantages over them. By his grace, I am a well-bred, six-feet-tall, handsome and intelligent specie of a modern variety. I am a delight to behold and be with, but the psychology of rejection held me for so long with the manacles of retrogression until I finally broke loose by a spiritual application of the keys before mentioned: hence, I sped up. You too, can speed up. Let's treat them in detail as follows:

To be continued...

How I Conquered Rejection

I began my journey of gaining liberation from the shackles of rejection when I heard a voice speak audibly to my hearing, thus: "**deal with the spirit of rejection; your father rejected you when you were a child**". That was in the morning hours of the 12th of October, 2019; while walking out of the bathroom.

"You must know the problem, if you must solve it."

TESTIMONIES

Pius Sped up After a Failed Courtship, Business, Etc.

Pius, a devilishly pious young man feared and loved his God above all, and with an unreserved commitment, cut a covenant with Him. The term of the covenant was that he'll never engage in a sexual activity with a woman other than his wife. Pius was faithful to God, until one Monday afternoon, in August 2012, when he suddenly, like a rising moon, met with one Harmony: a classless lady of archaic variety, though from the family of a bevy of pulchritudinous angels, while in the church arena. It was a true date with destiny; they presumed, as both agreed to launch a new marriageable relationship. Although the relationship was just like travelling along a typical Nigerian road, it lavishly bestowed upon them the same wilderness experiences that the Israelis had during the exodus from Egypt to Canaan. These lovebirds will always pull through since the will, grit and gumption was summoned to surmount difficulties. Both lived readily forgiving and covering each other's misdeeds.

On a certain day, with a torrential tone transmitting a torrid tiding, though with stammering lips, like a cascade of rainwater: Harmony sheepishly tells Pius that she's a

virgin; and that she's under a covenant not to have sex out of marriage. Additionally, that she knows very well that she'll be a minstrel, and minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ — meanwhile, Pius was gladdened by the news as he was already preparing to launch a new church ministry. These long time lovebirds unanimously agreed that their meeting and union wasn't a coincidence, but was made in heaven; and that they were going to get married on purpose, and not for convenience.

Pius, now totally besotted with his fiancée, will always ensure that Harmony gets a fair share of all his earnings, since she had a broken and unreliable economic and financial leanings at the time. Three years later, Pius' proposed to go and pay for Harmony's dowry to enable them to march together to the altar and tie the nuptial knot: since Harmony was already cohabiting with Pius for over a year, in order to forestall breaking their age-long covenants. Pius was told to defer to a later date because Harmony's immediate elder sister whose name was Favour, who got pregnant recently before her wedding was deeply depressed, because her fiancé was financially broke and incapable of proceeding with the marriage as planned. She said that mentioning it to the family will be seen as mocking already depressed Favour, thereby, compounding her seemingly irremediable woes.

Five years down the line, Pius is miserably lovelorn. Favour finally got married to her fiancé, while Harmony now wants Pius to abandon his young ministry and return to active business and politics; saying that she can't marry a clergyman. Pius is left devastated and drowned in the deep sea of great despair. Reminiscing about how he gave up everything and other promising relationships in order to make Harmony comfortable — the care, goodwill, faithfulness and singularity of purpose, finances, and especially lost time, etc. The only option Pius considers better than revenge is suicide. Worse still, Pius now learns that Harmony had already introduced Randy-Casano to both of her parents and the church marriage committee after her betrothal. It's lenient to state that Pius is a depressed man who feels rejected and betrayed by the whole world, especially those he so dearly loved and laid down everything to aid their success. Seven years gone, and Pius can't tell if Harmony was actually a virgin as she claimed or not.

Today, Pius is leading an enviable life as a leading phenomenal herald of the gospel of Jesus Christ — taking the gospel of peace and the hope of eternal life to all lands and climes on the face of the earth. Pius had sped up.

How did it happen? How did Pius transform from a rejected man and seemingly failure to becoming highly successful; and the desire of most men and women today? What force aided Pius to speed up to a place of

honour, having undergone many parental, filial, and societal rejections, and business failures?

The answers rest within the secrets that Pius discovered when he got in contact with the contents of the yet unpublished version of the book: "Speeding up: Overcoming Adversities..." A joint force of this book with "incense intervention service" made it possible for him.

Gabriel Sped up After a Decade of Addiction to Smoking and Sniffing Finely Grounded Dry Human Faeces and Cow Dung.

Gabriel is a thirty-two year young man who was raised in a family of six by itinerant parents. Mary, his mother died when Gabriel was twelve years old, and Felix, his lovely and disciplined father who was a Major with the Nigerian army was always off to work, until his deployment to Sierra Leone where he eventually died in a car explosion wrecked by a rebel's mine. Before the news about Major Felix's demise got to the family, most of the moral fibres he has inculcated to his children both from his military training and background, and his vast Bible knowledge as a humble army chaplain were greatly diminished.

Most of the time, Gabriel was under the care of Solomon, the eldest son to lieutenant colonel John, Major Felix's friend and good neighbour. Solomon was a weed (marijuana) smoking addict. At a certain point, he felt utterly dissatisfied with the weed and sought after other smokeable substances of greater potency that would give him an out of the world experience. As a resident of Zaria, Kaduna State, Nigeria; Solomon started converting dry cow dung which was in ample supply into a new species of narcotics. By this time, Gabriel was fully initiated into smoking by Solomon. Hence, Gabriel's first experience with smoking was with grounded cow dung.

Eighteen years old Gabriel has been smoking cow dung for about five years with Solomon, when he goes a step further to surpass his mentor's lustful, adventurous, and insatiable drives by oven baking his faeces, and grounding and smoking the same. Later, Gabriel knew how and where to collect dry faeces for his consumption, before he began to initiate other teens and adults into smoking dry human faeces. Fagged out by the monotony of smoking alone, Gabriel attempted to sniff finely grounded human faeces for the first time, and that, he found was more alluring and tenable than smoking.

With his health ebbing away like the receding waves of a tossed sea, Gabriel was hyper-cruising on death's fast lane unhindered, and with no atom of hope for a worthy life and future. Stooping on the last rung of the ladder of moral degeneration and financial bankruptcy; ostracized by friends and lovers; without a family to turn

to: Gabriel discovers that he's been living in a self-made world of eternal suffering. With poverty of spirit and materials tearing Gabriel apart, death's throes pinning his throat, and the welcome chants awfully sung by the maestros of the land of the shadow of death bursting through the diamond curtains of the great divide: Gabriel finds respite. The undeserved reprieve was transmitted to him via an excerpt from the yet unpublished version of the book: "Speeding up: Overcoming Adversities..." with the help of "incense intervention service."

Consequently, Gabriel is a transformed man who has sped up in many phases of life, and is doing his best to get other addicted initiates reformed and transformed through the application of the contents of this epic book. Gabriel is also a married man who's leading a happy marriage so far. He's both his employer and fellow employees favourite — thanks to a transformation that just began two years ago.

Dickson Sped up From Masturbation and Sperm Licking Addiction.

Dickson received the first stroke of rejection when his mother got his father informed that her family doctor's report confirmed that she was two months pregnant with

a child. The vagabond salesman denied being responsible for Dickson's paternity, saying that his colleague was responsible for it, since they oft-times had a threesome with Beatrice, Dickson's mother. Every attempt to abort the pregnancy proved to be fatal and futile, consequently, leaving Beatrice with no other option than bear her cross through the third trimester. Upon her delivery, Dickson was dumped into a public waste receptacle by Beatrice in submission to the wishes of her family, in order to avert the shame of raising a bastard. The nadir of shame...

Angela, a barren widow found Dickson wallowing in the company of Cockroaches with blood fast dripping off his body through the untied navel; even as it grew bluish every second that ticked away, and the iron bars of the grave thrown open to receive yet another innocent and defenceless inmate. Angela, being a wealthy widow who had inherited a vast estate from her parents as the only surviving child of the family, offered the best of care for Dickson beyond that which his biological parents would have afforded. Richard, Angela's late husband was also a thriving business mogul. She had so much to bestow on Dickson who was her only foster son.

Upon Angela's death due to leukaemia, Dickson was thrown out of his dream estate by the members of Angela's extended family, unanimously labelling Dickson an awful opportunist who deserved to be long dead. Traumatized at the age of seven, with nowhere to go, Dickson ends up in the streets with a paedophile macho

man. Being constantly raped and assaulted, Dickson was forced to lick every drop of coital discharge emitted by his overlord.

Now welded to self-service by persistent masturbation, Dickson also licks his sperm until he becomes twenty years of age. On a certain Friday morning, Dickson slumped into a coma, having masturbated and licked his sperm for a record nine times in a brothel. The brothel management acted promptly by reporting to the police, and calling for the services of an ambulance which transported him to the hospital for emergency Medicare.

After his eventful and surprised resuscitation, Dickson came into contact with an excerpt from the teaching series of the unpublished version of the book "Speeding up: Overcoming Adversities..." with the help of "incense intervention service." His speedy recovery which began barely ten months ago is appallingly commendable. Dickson is already preparing for marriage with the love of his life at the time of this publication. Dickson is now an advocate against paedophilia and other juvenile delinquencies. You can also speed up.

CHAPTER ONE

Introduction

The birth of Joseph heralded the beginning of a historical epoch in the life and family of Mr. Jacob Isaac. One would have concluded that having left his rich parents at Beersheba, Jacob was out there gallivanting all of Syria unrestrained, without a thought that Jacob had actually been undergoing guided servitude in his uncle's estate.

The scripture says:

"And it came to pass, when Rachel had born Joseph, that Jacob said unto Laban, send me away, that I may go unto mine own place, and to my country. Give me my wives and my Children, for whom I have served thee, and let me go: for thou knowest my service which I have done thee. And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found Favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake. And he said; appoint me thy wages, and I will give it. And he said unto him, 'Thou knowest how I have served thee, and how thy cattle was with me...'" Genesis 30:25-30.

It will be too rash of me to lead you any further without establishing a proper and sustainable foundation for this

meditation. Permit me to rouse your muse, as well as douse your grouse, as I morph to a less grotesque scale of the gist by evoking the adversity experiences of all our subjects.

The intent of this eruptive and explicit work is to give you aha moment on why most people end up as failure in life - which is their inability to maximize their God given unfair Advantages. Suffice to say that the maker of all things embedded within all his creations down to the atom the ability to succeed sustainably; which are called unfair Advantages. Failure in life or whatever calling is the direct effect of failure to maximize one's unfair advantage; meanwhile, success is also the direct result of maximizing one's unfair advantage.

Such advantages are doubly unfair, since an advantage is something that helps you to be better, or more successful than other people in a competition. Moreover, prefixing it with the word "unfair" is a killer bullet in the jungle, and game of life. Any man, or an organization who predicates all their engagement on maximizing their unfair advantage will always enjoy predictable successes. To be unfair implies that such advantages negate established governing rules. I said in volume 1 of this epic book that it will amount to utter foolishness for one to adopt fair play in an unfair world whose operating system is unfair rules formulated and orchestrated to favour those who made them, or their sponsors and collaborators.

For an Aeroplane to fly and sustain itself in the air, it must violate the law of gravity by adopting its inbuilt unfair advantage called the law of thrust and lift. Now, should the Aeroplane choose to observe the laws of

gravity, it will never fly sustainably in the air, because gravity is averse to its sustainability in the air. However, gravity is orchestrated by the almighty creator of all things as a weak, but fundamental interplanetary force regulating the solar system. In the earth's atmosphere, gravity is continuously deployed to pull things down, hence, one must adopt a counter force which is governed by contrary rules to stay afloat in the atmosphere. Likewise, you must adopt and maximize the rules that will create and propagate autogenic forces that will keep you afloat in the marketplace. Such, is what is meant by maximizing your unfair advantage. Failure to heed this call will render success elusive.

Survival of the Fittest

Life is a jungle. Consequently, it's all about the survival of the fittest. Success is all about fitness. Today's successful man may become tomorrow's greatest failure. Hence, to maintain momentum you must sustain your stamina, and stamina is the function of fitness. You wouldn't accomplish great feats in life until you're able to muster great fitness. Don't get immured in the pit of facile accomplishments.

Mathematically: $\text{feat} = \text{fitness}$.

The fittest will feature more than the less fit in life. The more fit you are, the more useful functions you'll possess, and offer more useful values. Life is a game of value proposition. You can't offer values you don't have. Success is sustained by eternal value offering, and that is partly what is meant by maximizing your unfair

advantage. Whether in sport, business, ministry, politics, or marriage; the fitter the better.

"Salt is good: but if the salt has lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that has ears to hear, let him hear." Luke 14:34-35

Also, Jesus Christ said the following:

"Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is henceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men." Matthew 5:13

It is required that as the salt of the earth, you stay fit in order to remain useful and relevant. Lack of fitness will render you men's foot mat – the verse says that you'll be cast out of the company, and then trodden under foot of men. Loss of customers, members, employment, and honour are all the effects of loss of fitness – and loss of fitness implies that you've grown useless to the point that you can't even be combined with cow dung. Even cow dung despises and rejects an unfit person – that's pathetic.

"The unfit are good for nothing."

Worst still is the fact that an unfit person isn't needed by the land. So, he ends up being thrown into the river to be swept away into oblivion. Businesses that lose their fitness always get swept off by the ocean of changes and innovation. Political parties and their flag bearers get swept off of power by voters.

Understand that nothing is meant to last forever, but change. Changing your rules to maintain fitness will certainly avert your ruin. Even some of the messages preached in the church today had long become obsolete gospel, but the heralds chose to clinch to them because it is religion; and one of the most crippling points of religion is the sacred permanence of law, ideology, philosophy and doctrine. To concretize their grounds, they cheaply arrogate the following verse of scripture, among others.

"Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away." Mark 13:31

God is both dynamic in thought, words, and acts; and that is key to his Omni fitness. Nothing can box God. No one desires an object or subject of useless forms and functions. Anyone who deems God useless won't desire Him. For what purpose?

Mathematically, Lifeless = Useless.

If you've lost your place in life, you'll need to generate fitness in order to propagate useful function that will aid you to speed up.

Vital Lesson from Bees

Bees are one of creator's blessings to nature, and life in general; at least as agents of pollination. In their colony, life is defined by usefulness. To stay in the hive, a bee must be useful to the community – and I find that captivating enough to share with you on this subject.

While they spread pollen amongst flowering crops, they build a hive where they produce honey and lay eggs to generate the future. They are archetypal beacon of success where work, competition, and pleasure combine to enhance usefulness. Usefulness defines their existence, and one is cast out of the community once it outlives its usefulness.

Bees Don't Have Gratuity or Pension Scheme

Bees wax is used for candle production which is used to lighten sacred places and living homes. Honey is one of nature's greatest medicinal blessings and a natural flavour. As mentioned earlier, they pollinate crops to enhance productivity. So, their entire life cycle is premised on productivity. Workers bring food to the community, while queen bees lay eggs to produce the next generation; and drones mate with queens to fertilize them. Once a bee can no longer work to aid in communal development, the others bring it out to the surface where its wings are trimmed, and then pushed off the hive so that it won't return back to the hive. They aren't wicked or ungrateful for all the past efforts of waning bees to the community, but to avoid waste of food, space and other resources they have in the hive. In "Beedom", you don't belong if you can't produce. You're not fit to live if you're not fit to produce. You're not fit to eat if you're not fit to be useful. Hence, they clip off the wings of useless and unfit old bees irrespective of their bumbling sounds before casting them away to forestall their return to the hive to deplete

their resources. Theirs is a life devoid of pension, or welfare for the disabled. They believe that wings are a symbol of strength and beauty bestowed on them for useful purpose; and one should lose its wings should that purpose be lost. There is no accommodation or provision for the unfit in bee world.

Another appalling nature of bees is the fact that once the eggs are hatched and larva nurtured to the age of productivity: the entire parent community evicts the swarm of the offspring community out of the hive to go and build their own colony in order to start productive and generative activities. They will so buzz the air until they find a suitable place to establish a hive – and the process continues as it is their dominant trait. Bees don't recognize children for too long, because they believe that they exist to be useful; and you must be fit to be useful. A pariah bee community is constituted of the unfit and useless.

Are they wicked? No. they're just maximizing their unfair advantage in order to remain relevant in life's marketplace. Are you fit for life? You'll need to maximize your unfair advantage to remain fit for life. Life won't happen for you, if you don't happen for life. Bees bid farewell to the unfit, and not welfare.

"Bees don't value work, they value only productive work."

Bees don't allow entropy.

More on bees in the future.

CHAPTER TWO

Adversities and the Adversary

The call to live is the call to adversity. Whether you lead as a failure or success won't exempt you from having many of them. Success breeds many adversities and adversaries, and is the effect of conquering them; meanwhile, failure is the direct product of one's incapacity to conquer adversities and adversaries. Therefore, you can't be successful in life until you are successful at overcoming adversities in any area of your chosen call. To avoid being led in the marketplace, you must lead. Noteworthy is the fact that all of life is a marketplace, and all the various calls which offer opportunities for value creation and supply are its niches. Every man you'll ever meet with is your opportunity for service.

Everyone has adversities and adversaries, some have more, while others have less – including God. Satan isn't your enemy. He is first, God's enemy. You became a target for all his ills when you pitted yourself against him by being loyal to God. If God, as great as he is also has adversaries, don't, you think that it's normal to have adversaries and experience adversities? There is a misleading dominant message being heralded in the church today; that you get exempted from adversities and the adversary when you decide for the Lord Jesus

Christ. Too false. The call to following Jesus Christ is a call to adversities.

Jesus Christ said;

"He that overcome shall inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he shall be my son" Rev.21:7

Now, what is there to overcome; if there's none to contend with? There are lots of overcoming to do in life, and you don't qualify for any inheritance until you overcome – and this book is designed to help you overcome. Oh! You think that you're gentle enough to not have any adversary or suffer adversity in life? Such a decrepit thought is in utter want of truth.

When Adversity Comes

A "Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble." Job 14:1

You have just a few days to lead on this earth, and yet, they are full of trouble, not pleasure. Many days full of pleasure is every man's wish, but natures design is rightly the contrary. Stop grappling with falsehood. Grapple the truth, and you're sure to overcome. Acknowledging the scripture above as truth is your starting point to sustainable success, because you'll seek means to solve the many problems of man. All men have troubles, it's just that they vary in nature, degree, and magnitude.

That you are pursuing the right cause with God's full backing doesn't exempt you from the assaults of

assailants hurled at you in view of mitigating your chances of success. Jesus Christ said that "***in the world you shall have tribulation***" (***John 16:33***). Therefore, adversity is a basic gift the world lavishly bestows on all earth dwellers. Man's first scripturally recorded adversity was nakedness, but he would not conquer it because he was comfortable with his predicament – and that is what is meant by "***naked, and were not ashamed***" (Genesis 2:25). Not that they weren't aware of the situation, but that the means to resolve it wasn't within grasp yet. The effect of their being repugnant and repulsive to nakedness was the use of their creative imagination to invent cloth with fig leaves as raw materials (Gen. 3:7). Problems exist to be solved by you or another, but whoever solves them will be unreservedly compensated. Thus, man was able to solve the problem of nakedness in the Garden of Eden – and that's man's first invention - and of course, God's first innovative intervention for humans (Genesis 3:21). Forget not that humankind's invention of clothing was triggered and necessitated by adversity –sin (Genesis 3:1-6).

Adam and Eve where able to harness and master the opportunity that the adversity of sin tossed at them – and they quickly grabbed it. The devil lured them into sin, but they maximized their unfair advantages of creative capacities to create the first clothing industry on the earth. Hence, all fashion designers and the entire textile industry owe this to them. While you condemn them for what is popularly referred to as "the fall", appreciate them for offering humans the opportunity to be clothed. "Every adversity is an opportunity for creativity". Someone once said that God never intended that men should wear natural cloths; and I queried why

God created cotton – a natural raw material for clothing. We shall talk more about this later.

"They may have fallen morally, but were lifted mentally."

Another enthralling character according to scriptures, is Cain. As said earlier, we are poised to see the negative side of some of these great folks who garnered sustainable growth and success, without giving due attention to the other good side of their existence; because, our teachers have taught us in the past that they had nothing good and desirable in them. A man like Cain deserves to be a leading figure in developer's hall of fame. However, the first taught that comes to mind is murder, whenever Cain is mentioned. According to bible story, Cain was evicted out of God's presence (Eden) to the land of Nod (sleepers) where was no shelter for him and his family. That preachers mercilessly lampoon Cain in their messages doesn't discredit the fact that he was a great scientist who built the first city system the world ever had. The adversity of homelessness never did render Cain a lame duck, rather, he developed the faculty of his creative imagination to trigger a civilization.

Cain saw an opportunity in his adversity. The adversary knew that God will certainly revoke Cain's tenancy and render him homeless when Cain murders his brother, Abel. However, Cain converted that adversity into an opportunity to create and build the world's first city system called Enoch. Until then, men dwelt in tents and caves. Enoch means devotee or initiate. What was he initiated into? Civilization. Converting adversities into opportunities for creativity. God saw these potentials in

Cain and knew that his dastardly horrendous acts were orchestrated by the adversary to truncate the future; hence, God places a label of exemption from homicide on Cain to enable him to fulfil his purpose on the earth. Vacuity is the most human undoing. The gift of life to Cain was upbeat. Cain remained undaunted irrespective of the psychological trauma the shock waves of his sudden twist of fate cascaded on his mind. Little wonder why God preserves the wicked too – it's because they will solve some problems militating against human existence – lest you forget that Cain was also a great farmer; hence, he solved two of three humankind's major problems, being food and shelter – Genesis 4:1-17

Cain built a civilization in the midst of adversity. Yet, his progeny advanced and branched out into industrialization and music. The adversity of persistent absence from divine Edenic vaudeville in every sense of the word necessitated the invention of musical instruments; and music schools and theatres were established in order to revive the lost divine presence which was usually invoke by angelic melodies in the garden of Eden – Genesis 4:21; Psalm 22:3; 114:1-8.

"In the land of sleepers (Nod), Cain built a civilization. However, how could he sleep where he had no shelter?"

Consequently, the adversity of lost divine presence was conquered by the creation of musical instruments and music, because God's presence was always manifest whenever they gathered to play. The adversary thought that the essence of man would be lost forever, but man saw it as an opportunity for invention. Eden means

pleasure – that lost pleasure was invented through music. What about the iron and steel industry? Adversity birthed it – Genesis 4:22

I am showing these things to you in order to help you see the scripture in a different light using the prism of divine wisdom. Yes, they were all evil men, but all left sustainable legacies for the benefit of their progenies and the entire human race.

What about righteous Noah? He invented the first mobile floatable house which became a model for boat and ship building – but adversity triggered such innovative creation. It was water resistant, and completely ensuite. Noah would have possibly become the father of tourism and hospitality; because the building offered every comfort that modern day hotels and tourist sites could offer: ranging from accommodation, foods and beverages, fauna, and the mountain top situation of Ararat. The adversary thought that humans will become extinct soon, however, one man's ingenuity preserved lives; thereby, heralding the birth of a new civilization. He became the first commercial wine grower who went ahead to build the first winery.

It is fatuous to own up to believing that adversities are actual evils intended to annihilate humanity's essence and existence on the earth massively. Without the adversity of earth's total blackout, God wouldn't have invented the lights. Jacob wouldn't have genetically modified his flocks and herds, but for the hard knocks of adversity. Joseph initiated the building of the world's first silo because of adversity. What men call adversity is the inventors' actual opportunity for sustainable

success, if only he can maximize his unfair advantage – and speed up in life.

Contemporary Issues

Need I mention again that every tribulation is an occasion for innovation? Humankind is designed and programmed to conquer terminal ills always ingeniously. There would never be ground breaking inventions without the attrition of earth shaking maladies. As a Pastor, I'm not opposed to sciences and scientific advances, except some scientist who are averse to God or human existence. The field of medicine is making giant strides in research and development of cures and preventions of terminal ailments. Truth is that lots of people die after medication as much as do after prayer. I've always encouraged people to utilize both with faith in God. The medical doctors, engineers, and all service providers who better the lot of humanity on the earth are as much God's servants as the pastor is. We're all anointed to discharge our services in coded unique ways. Grapple the fact that there are no twin ministries in life even if you were a twin born. I have seen Paracetamol relieve headaches as much as prayer does, and I've also seen men die of headache after being administered Paracetamol as much as do after prayer. We are not in a competition for prominence, rather, are partners in humanity's progress and existence.

The pen, paper, computer, printing or electronic materials and equipment that made it possible to transmit this musings to you in such a pleasurable fashion are all the products of scientific and

technological inventions. Moreover, that is reason enough to make scientists the richest people on the earth in terms of materials, fame, and finance. You must either be inventing or innovatively promoting such inventions; hence, maximizing your unfair advantages to speed up in life. I am not a religious, but a scientific Christian, because God is first the Scientist before being the Creator – this has nothing to do with Christian Science or all its proponents. What I mean is that I unreservedly encourage scientific and technological pursuits that foster the realization of human essence, and fulfilment of prophecies. The supernatural is ideal and glorious, but most earth's dwellers are constantly on the natural plane: therefore, they must be affected through natural means – or by embedding the supernatural within the natural. Just as there's the spirit, there's also the body; and both must be adequately attended; for forsaking one will inevitably spell one's doom. Endeavour to strike a balance while using both.

In 1904, the Edinburg society of engineers issued a resolution based on conclusions from several findings that it was impossible for a metal object to go up in the air. However, through the adoption and application of the law of aerodynamics; the Wright brothers, though bicycle mechanics by profession, flew the first heavier than-air-metal-flying-bus. Adversity makes the inventor. They were not deterred by their academic or professional deficiencies.

Dr. Ben Carson, together with two other doctors performed a surgery on one of twin babies who had rapidly expanding head from hydrocephalus which was capable of forcing the mother into premature labour, leading to the loss of both babies. The surgery was done

successfully while the babies were still in the mother's womb – who were later born alive and well. What about the Siamese twins? Such feats were accomplished in the heat of adverse medical and surgical procedures.

"If we are to achieve results never accomplished, we must expect to employ methods never attempted." (Sir Francis Bacon 1561-1621)

Adversity will dictate that.

Fulton was mocked at when building his steamboat that he had to sneak out at night to conduct private experiments.

All adversities are actually blessings in disguise, and the following poem composed by **Angela Morgan**, titled: "**When nature wants a man**". Says it better.

When Nature Wants A Man:

*When nature wants to drill a man,
And thrill a man,
And skill a man;
When nature wants to mould a man
To play the noblest part;
When she yearns with all her heart
To create so great and bold a man*

*That all the world shall praise,
Watch her methods, watch her ways!
How she ruthlessly perfects
Whom she royally elects;
How she hammers him and hurts him,
And with mighty blows converts him
Into trial shapes of day which only nature understand.
While his tortured heart is crying
And he lifts beseeching hands,
How she bends but never breaks,
When his good she undertakes,
How she uses whom she chooses
And with every purpose infuses him,
By every art induces him
To try his splendour out,
Nature knows what she's about.*

*When nature wants to take a man,
And shake a man,
And wake a man;
When nature wants to make a man
To do the futures will;*

*When she tries with all her skill
And she yearns with all her soul
To create him large and whole.
With what cunning she prepares him!
How she goads and never spares him,
How she whets him, and she frets him,
And in poverty begets him.
How she often disappoints
Whom she sacredly anoints,
With what wisdom she will hide him.
Never minding what betide him
Though his genius sobs with slighting,
And his pride may not forget!
Bids him struggle harder yet.
Make him lonely, so that only
God's high message shall reach him,
So that she may surely teach him
What the hierarchy planned.
Though he may not understand,
Gives him passions to command.
How remorselessly she spurs him
With terrific ardour stirs him*

When she poignantly prefers him!

When nature wants to name a man,

And fame a man,

And tame a man;

When nature wants to shame a man

To do his heavenly best;

When she tries the highest test

That the reckoning may bring

When she wants a god or king!

How she reins him and restrains him

So his body scarce contains him

While she fires him

And inspire him!

Keeps him yearning, ever burning, for a tantalizing goal

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Lures and lacerates his soul.

Sets a challenge for his spirit,

Draws it high when he's near it;

Makes a jungle that he clears it;

Makes a dessert that he fears it

And subdue it if he can.

So doth nature make a man.

Then, to test his spirit's wrath

Hurls a mountain in his path,

Puts a bitter choice before him

And relentlessly stands o'er him.

"Climb, or perish!" so she says,

Watch her purpose, watch her ways!

Nature's plan is wondrous kind,

Could we understand her mind,

Fools are they who call her blind.

When his feet are torn and bleeding,

Yet his spirit mounts unheeding

All his higher power speeding,

Blazing newer paths and fine;

When the force that is divine

Leaps to challenge every failure

And his ardour still is sweet,

And love and hope are burning

In the presence of defeat.

Lo, the crisis! Lo, the shout

That must call the leader out.

When the people need salvation

Doth he come to lead the nation.

Then doth nature show her plan

When the world has found – a man!

David, Jephthah, and Abraham Lincoln, among others qualify the truism asserted by the epic poem above. Adversity produces the best in us depending on how we choose to respond to it. God would never have assumed humanity, or manifested as human, but for adversity – and in that humanity, he became truly god by adversity – Luke 24:25-26; Philip. 2:5-12.

All men of great accomplishments in life had one or tons of adversity(ies) to conquer. In suit, all developmental strides are men's positive and innovative responses to adversity. It's not all about binding in and casting out, but being innovative enough to combat and conquer adversities and the adversary. Adversity is the activator of the divine, and detonator of the human in man. Genesis chapter one is a sample book of adversity and creativity. Who the adversary is doesn't appear clearly until in-depth study of scriptures is initiated. In order to fully understand the pre-genesis chapter one creation account, read my book titled: "**Arcana and Illuminations: The Burning Earth.**"

"When war broke out in heaven, Michael and his company didn't sue for peace with the devil; rather, they fought with all their might to victory. Therefore, fight until you win."

{Ebarim Godsend}

Adversity isn't exclusive to the earth alone, even heaven have experienced a fair share if it too. The adversary is also in heaven rocking its dwellers with uncommon adversities – Rev.12.

The scripture says:

"...in sorrow thou shall bring forth children..." Genesis 3:16

"... in the sweat of your face shall you eat bread..." Genesis 3:17-19

Sweat = Sweet.

That is the prevalent divine formula for all Adams and Eves. Until your brain sweats, your pain shall never produce sweet. Life is divinely programmed to be a mix of night and day, darkness and light, shame and fame, adversity and prosperity; until the end of time.

James 1:2-4; 2 Cor.4:17-18; Rom. 8:18; etc.

Tribulation is a necessary flavour as the pilgrim progresses into the kingdom of God. The sweatless route is that which leads downhill.

"Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God."

Acts 14:22

Faith is light shining in darkness. Therefore, faith is given, or generated for adversity, and to conquer adverse situation you must continue in the faith that you'll succeed in the end, if you're not succeeding already.

Humankind never lost eternal life due to her fall into sin in the Garden of Eden, because she never had eternal life in him before the fall. Had Adam and Eve eaten of the fruit of the tree of life, they would never have died. However, they died because they had not been living that life already. Man's eviction from the garden of Eden by God was to prevent him from also eating of the tree of life and live forever with the knowledge of good and evil – Genesis 3:22-24.

Humans without eternal life christened all the animals, birds, fishes, trees, etc. Humans without eternal life designed the first clothing; built the first city system; built the first post-deluge-holocaust city with a tower whose top would reach heaven; built hanging gardens in Babylon; built Solomon's temple in Jerusalem; etc.

Jesus Christ didn't come to restore to humankind the life that was lost through Adam, but to give her that life which she never had, even while in Eden's garden. Man was supposed to eat of the fruit of the tree of life and live forever, but he never did. Hence, the gospel isn't about restoration, but all about revelation: and revelations are all innovative dimensions of the divine eternal spirit. Jesus Christ wasn't just forgiving men's sins, healing their diseased bodies, but was delivering to them the eternal life they never had. That is speeding up.

"Grace is given to help you scale through adversities, not just exemption."

Adversity is a basic necessity of this life, and is gratuitously bestowed on all living beings. It is a gracious luxury every mortal must enjoy while in this world without needing to pray or expect. It's God's deliberate and favourite measure for causing his creatures to speed up. Adversities are actually divinely orchestrated opportunities to promote innovative activities. Perish the evil thought that you don't have to experience adversities in life, because you'll not only have them, but deserves a fair share of adversities; if life must be meaningful and rewarding to you. Adversities, as messages, are doors of new opportunities; while the adversary is the messenger: and the man who conquers both becomes their lord.

Be it known unto you that Satan is also the son and servant of God – Job 1:6; 2:1; I kings 22:19-23 Nebuchadnezzar was also God's servant – Ezekiel. 29:18-20. Cyrus of Persia was God's anointed servant Isaiah 45.

In Isaiah 45:7; the Lord says: "**I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things.**" And in chapter 54:16 of Isaiah; the Lord says: "... **and I have created the waster to destroy**". Now, what are you created for? "... **Every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn...**" through the means of innovative activities. You're not meant to bear, but to bully adversities; and until then, you've not maximized your unfair advantage; hence, can't speed up.

"Adversity and creativity are both divine diversities, whose aim is bestowal of responsibilities on humanity."

"Faith is given to all to preserve them in times of adversity, and not to prevent them from experiencing adverse situations." Ephesians 6:16

There might never be adversity prevention mechanism, but they'll always be intervention. You can't prevent an earthquake, but you can intervene when it erupts. Even Jesus Christ had to admit death by bowing to it before conquering it.

How to Handle Adversity

- **Be ruthless**

The best possible way to handle adversity and the adversary is by being extremely ruthless, because nothing ever remains the same after a season of adversity. The following fable from Aesop's qualifies the above dictum.

The Boy and the Nettles

"A boy was stung by a nettle. He ran home and told his mother, saying, 'Although it hurts me very much, I only touched it gently!' 'That was just why it stung you', said his mother. 'The next time you touch a nettle, grasp it boldly, and it will be soft as silk to your hand, and not in the least hurt you.'"

In handling and dealing with adversity, gallantry is needed; else, you'll be living in a fool's paradise. This is revolutionary thinking on the pages of a book. Don't ever befriend the adversary or his adversity. Both are like nettles that sting when handled with a touch of friendly gentleness. It's iniquitous to do otherwise.

CHAPTER THREE

Your Omnipresent Companion

Every human, or creature, has an omnipresent partner whose aim is always to help out of distress. There is none, whether good or evil, who doesn't have this unfair advantage of an ever-present-helper. Swallow that pill of truth. Although, the difference is the variance in our individual dealings with him. He never leaves you, even though he might threaten to separate from you countless times. Great success is a function of conquering great adversities, and that is never feasible, except with the aid of our invisible helper – notwithstanding race, colour, nationality, religion, or age. He is just so rich towards all. The Jews are not the most inventive folks on the earth because of their exclusive proprietary of divinity; but because of their consciousness of his presence. The United States of America prides in her trust in the divine; hence she's a superpower. Whenever you're face to face with adversity, do remember that your invisible helper is always present and willing to help.

Let's Explore This Subject Together Using the Following Scripture: Mark 6:32-53

Jesus Christ had just innovatively fed about five thousand men, having conquered the adversity of hunger in the middle of nowhere; he bids the disciples to get into the boat and sail to Bethsaida, while he stayed back to send away the people. Obediently, the disciples boarded the boat and left for their new destination; meanwhile, Jesus Christ climbed up the mountain to pray, having discharged all his guests. In the gloom of that tumultuous night, he sees his disciples toiling under the overwhelming adversity of the sea like a male Sea Horse under the burden of pregnancy, with darkness blindfolding their sight; contrary storms drifting the boat to an unknown and unwanted direction; bolting waves rocking the boat with the impact of a torpedo; in a torpid, but tortuous torrent of gloomy tosses without a glimpse of glee; when every call for respite seems far-fetched; under the burdens of hellish despair, and lost in the middle of seeming eternity of sufferings; with no gusto to grapple life in faith, they all grovel preposterously to the will of the oppressive darkened despot without presence of mind: there comes the initiator of their journey, but not the tourney – Jesus Christ treading on the bereaved sea as though with the legs of a spider and weight of a light cork, he bids the storms good riddance as he cheers up the spirits of the blighted and bunkered disciples with the soothing touch of his revitalizing words, graciously cascading from the comforting lips of the omnipresent companion: "**Be of God cheer: it is I, be not afraid**". Mark 6:50

"Until your wealth of experience has delivered to you a weight of fortune, there is no real progress; because the natural order of alphabetical progression is the letter E before the letter F."

Their anchorage was Gennesaret, having conquered the doom of gloom the moment Jesus Christ entered into their boat. The exact location where Jesus Christ met them is unknown, but we know that it was steep, deep, and not the least genteel; as they were totally lost in the monstrous sea of adversity. The adversary fought tooth and nail to abort their journey and any chance of arriving at Bethsaida which was their commanded destination, but their omnipresent companion takes them from nowhere to Gennesaret.

What does this portend?

In a blazing hysteria, it was undoubtedly the disciples aha moment; and basking in boundless joy, the timely intervention of their omnipresent companion far exceeded their wildest conjecture. He gave them a Gennesaret experience instead of Bethsaida, took them from doom to boom, and gloom to bloom, and turned them from being destitute to beatitudes. They didn't just bounce back after wreak and racks, wham and wind, but sped up; because, instead of arriving at their initial destination, which was Bethsaida; they alighted at Gennesaret – which lay between Bethsaida and Capernaum. In the real sense of the word, Bethsaida means "**House of Fish(ing)**"; while, **Gennesaret** means "**Garden of Riches**".

Bethsaida, which means 'house of fishing' is a secluded area situated on the East of the sea of Galilee; meanwhile, Gennesaret, which means 'garden of riches',

is a plain on the North-West shore of the sea of Galilee; and **Capernaum which means the “village of Nahum** is a city on the North-West shore of the sea of Galilee, which served as the centre of Jesus' Ministry, and the place of his abode: and Nahum means comfort. Therefore, **Capernaum means village of comfort.**

The Lord's intent was to lead his disciples on the path of guided progression from the wilderness to the house of fishing, where they would have to catch fishes before eating in seclusion, after which they would proceed to the garden of riches where everything they'll ever need in life will be readily available in ample supply; before leading them to his permanent residence in the village of comforts where all sense and memory of pains, tears, death, sufferings, etc., are lost forever. However, the darkened devil won't allow them to get to the house of fishing, but regress back to the wilderness where the most they can boast of is a baby's portion of ration; hence, with tempest he fought, but with a forest of riches, Jesus comforts – and their season of nightmarish experiences was suddenly ended.

Adversities don't want you to eat fishes, but your ever present companion is giving you a garden of riches instead, and progress to your place of eternal comforts. He'll always help, only if you get Him onboard your boat. Every form of adversity you'll ever contend with is actually designed and permitted to lead you to a better place, while also revealing your innate godlike features, only if you don't cower like a snail by a slight touch.

Set Your Sails Correctly

You're a sailor, sailing the stormy sea of life, and the setting of your sails will determine the guiding of the gale.

"It isn't the besetting of the gale, but the setting of your sails that determine your direction and destination in life."

According to the immortal words of a poet,

"One ship sails east, the other west,

Impelled by the selfsame blow,

It's the set of the sails and not the gales,

That bids them where to go."

Traditions and conventions, doubt, fear, worry, closed-mindedness, ignorance, wrong beliefs, etc., are all wrong sails that will lead to the destination of poverty and mediocrity by the same blow that leads another with the right sails of curiosity, innovation, faith, courage, open-mindedness, knowledge, right beliefs, etc., to a destination of affluence and influence. It seems that the gales of life are neutral. However, they guide us along the direction of the setting of our sails. When the wind is blowing contrary to your direction, all you need to surmount it is innovation; else, you'll struggle all the time, or drown to death. An innovative man who has invented and engine to overcome the dictates of a gale will anchor at the desired haven anytime and anyhow, but the traditionalist who is opposed to innovations will be ridden by endless tempest of sufferings to eternal destruction. The engine isn't built to depend on the law of blow, like the sails; but on the **law of screw**. The

crew is sure of success once the screw gets the ship in motion. Does an engine-driven-boat sink? Yes. However, much less than a sail and paddle boat. What about duration and speed? Both are just worlds apart.

You'll be right to say that Jesus Christ didn't sail to his disciples with the aid of a boat engine. However, all I want you to grasp is the principle by which he accomplished that. He simply walked upon the stormy sea, while his disciples couldn't even sail, and it was born of innovation. He simply thought out of the box. He would not have gotten to them to help out of their predicament using another boat, except by adopting measures and standards that defy their woeful circumstances. Learn from your omnipresent companion who did nothing according to established traditions, conventions, standards and procedures of men. They call it tradition – and traditions are the greatest killers of innovation. It was innovative for Jesus Christ to walk on the stormy sea – that's just what I want you to see here. You too can be innovative in all of your life's approach. Pulpit Ministry isn't a call embedded in traditions and mediocrity. It isn't a calling into austerity and poverty. It's glistening in the mentality of Christ. The scripture say that we possess the innovative mind of the Messiah – 1 Cor. 2:16

Why too many Christians die as mediocre and useless creatures remains a mystery. Innovative thinking, believing it is achievable, and acting promptly and confrontationally; are engines of speeding up. Until you're averse to adversity, you can't conquer adversity. Your actual problem isn't hellish devil, but your lazy hazy dreary thinking. Don't be a hermit, be heuristic in your approaches to life.

How the Omnipresent Companion Led Me out of the Bush Having Been Lost for Twenty-Four Hours

About four decades ago, a child was born in Osomba Village, Akamkpa L. G. A., Cross River State, in Southern Nigeria. Being the fourth child of twelve children, I was the first and only one who was born outside our community, in fact in a health facility.

At the age of five, some phenomenal event occurred to me. One fateful morning, my Mom took me to the stream behind our house in the village. She bathed me and dressed me up. She told me she had prepared lunch (three slices of yam and fried vegetable sauce), while she proceeded to the farm which was across the stream. On getting to the house, I told my elder brother what my mom had told me concerning the meal, and added that the yams were to be shared equally: one slice of yam for each person, since we were all three. He insisted on taking two slices, giving the last one to my younger brother, leaving me with none, which I disagreed with him. After much argument, I resorted to go to the farm and report to Mother. I got to the stream, only to realize that she was gone. Before I realized what was going on, I found myself on the other side of the stream. How a five-year old crossed a stream approximately two meters deep and about ten meters wide remains a mystery to me. I headed straight to the bush in search

of my Mom in a farm I had never been to. After walking a protracted distance, reality dawned on me that I had missed my way to the farm, home, family, and friends. Not knowing what to do, which way to go, I burst into uncontrollable tears. After sobbing for a while, I decided to continue the endless journey in search for a way out of the bush. I wandered in the bush alone all day — from morning till evening, with no hope of getting out. At twilight, I got to a newly cultivated cassava farm. With some of the cassava leaves, I made a bed for myself. That night, I had a revelation that opened me up to the glory and awesomeness of The Almighty.

Still admiring the full moon, I fell asleep. In my dream, I saw a monitor lizard entering a hole not far from where I laid down. I woke up immediately; following what I saw in the dream, I tried to locate the exact spot where the hole was located in my dream, but found nothing. I decided to lie down on that very spot. Again, I dreamt the same dream a second time. I woke up, looked around, and yet, found nothing. The third time, I saw the lizard go under a giant standing tree. I woke up immediately, looked up, and noticed the tree for the first time. I walked up to the tree (thanks to the bright light of the full moon), looked around for the hole, finding none; I decided to lie down on the spot where I saw the lizard enter under the tree. That was all for the night. Three consecutive times in my dreams I saw the lizard enter into the ground in one night.

I awoken to a miracle the following day. A track had been created where there was none! Without much ado, I just discovered that I was placed on a track I cannot explain how I got on it. I simply followed the track, which eventually led to the tarred road that leads to our house.

Behind every miracle is a mystery.

The greatest miracle was how I missed crossing the river in its upper course, which would have been the only way to get home from the bush. By all human standards (geographically) and calculations, crossing the stream at that point by a five-year old would have been a huge impossibility! Secondly, I cannot tell when I woke up that morning, and how I got to the track that was just a few meters away from the tarred road. So, God in His infinite mercy and wisdom took me without my consciousness from where I slept the previous night to where I found myself that fateful morning, that I missed crossing the river. The Mighty God did a miracle which led to my dedication to serving Him without any external help right early in life.

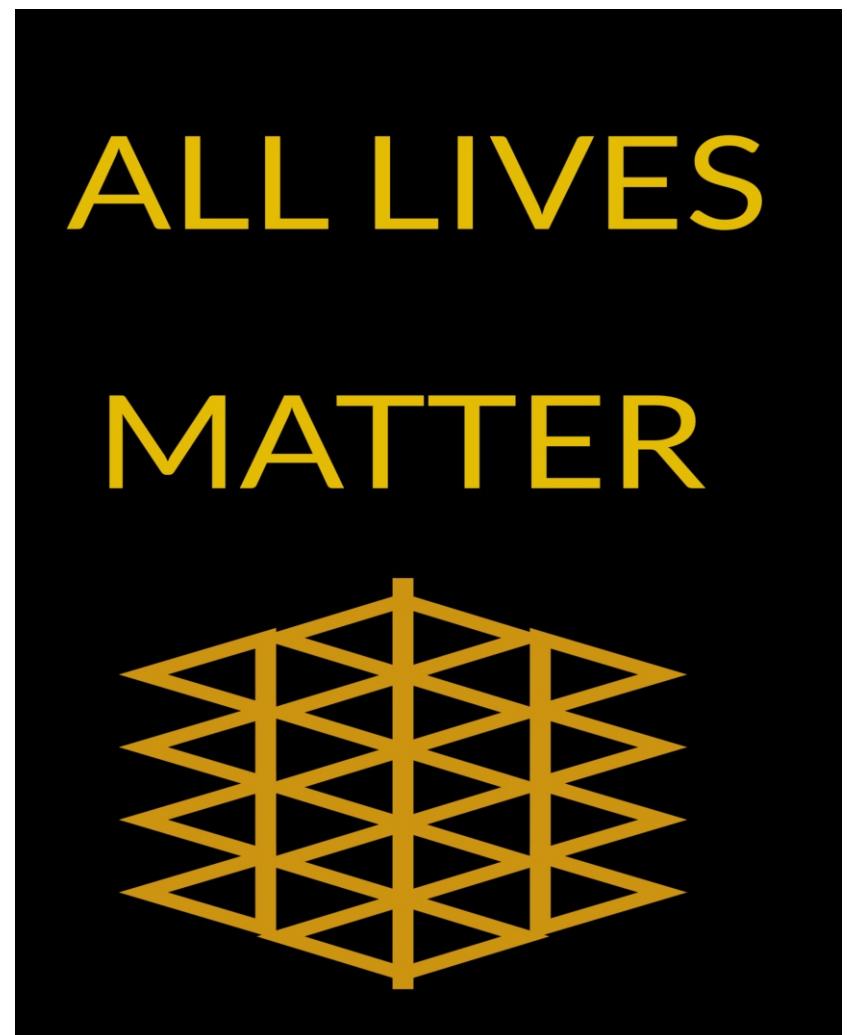
This mystery explains the power of divine guidance.

Reaching the tarred road, I contemplated which way to turn (right or left), now fully conscious of what was happening and allowed to make a choice by the force that was guiding me since the adventure began. I chose the left turn, which led me farther away from my community, but it was rather too late for me to get lost

again for the second time. As I walked about thirty meters away from the point where I came out from, I heard voices behind me exclaiming: "that is him! That is the boy! We have found him!" When I turned, behold three men coming after me. I was afraid when I saw them with machetes and guns, because I had been told about head-hunters who kill people in the bush to cut off the heads of their victims for purposes which are only suitable to them alone. I thought that they were a group of such people. I ran back to the track I came out from, only to be caught a few meters away by one of the men, who lifted me up and placed me on the shoulder, as they took me home. When we got to the entrance to the community, one of the men gave a round of gunshot to alert the people in the community that had gathered in our compound since the previous evening when I was declared missing. Just in the nick of time, I could see the beautiful landscape of my community, and her gorgeous and elegant people celebrating the return of "the missing child" who now has got this, and many more to offer his generation and posterity. I termed it: "return of the king."

Isn't that awesome? From that experience, I knew God and how He cared right at that age.

Understand that for every devil, there are two angels. That is to say that the ratio of angels to demons is 2:1 – Revelation 12:4. You can count on that. Your helpers are more than your enemies. Simply wear that lens, and watch your life scale great heights of accomplishments.



CHAPTER FOUR

Overcoming Rejection – Luke 17:25

The psychology of rejection is as lethal as death. The rejecter and the rejected have one thing in common; which is the psychology of rejection – it is toxic. Lest you forget, what you find in life is a function of your definition of life. Your mentality is such a great magnet of corresponding events and circumstances. A poor mentality will breed a poor life, effortlessly.

Rejection is one of the worst evils of life, and the evil one's greatest weapon of attack on the human race. It's such a gift that demoralizes its recipient, and serves as a radical purposeful depressant. A rejected person will end up being depressed one way or another. Rejection is degrading in all phases, and damaging in all aspects of abject existence. The psychology of a rejected man who has not yet undergone mind renewal or mental regeneration is that of utter abjection. He loses his self-worth, thus, will do anything to please others in order to be accepted. His loudest aspiration calls for acceptance; thereby, leading to basest servile conditions. Magnanimity in defeat becomes their life mantra. They may easily give up habits of personal success, but not those of serving others to their detriment. Rejection is a besetting weight that moulds its victims into benign and besotted fellows to their predators.

Signs and Symptoms of Rejection

Claustrophobia, deprivation, depression, vindictiveness, amongst others, are some of the major symptoms and signs of rejection. Analyze yourself and see if you have any of those, and see how you can rid your life of them. Worst still is the habit of always wanting to go the extra mile to please others even when you know how mean and sardonic they treat you. Always giving your all to please others in order to keep the status quo, or company. Rejected people will rather burn to please others than themselves. Volunteerism, except it's mutually beneficial, either conspicuously or stealthily, signals rejection. Always craving to be wanted by others. Don't ever permit others to use your resources and time without commensurate and congenial rewards.

All humans, including God, feel and react in the same manner when rejected. Don't ever forget that when you're not desirable, you're rejected. If they don't desire you, they have rejected you. The key to staying even is to also reject their propositions, if they aren't mutually beneficial to parties interested in the deal. Don't ever engage with their offers, because they're tailor made to suit them alone, while using your efforts without pay-offs. All humans reject others, and also suffer rejection.

Popular Myths That Encourage Rejection

1. Unconditional love

2. Permissive will
3. Self-sacrifice
4. Grace and Unconditional forgiveness

Unconditional Love

The belief that God's love is unconditional is a famous factitious claim which have led many religious adherents into a false dawn faith that is actually the harbinger of the many vicissitudes of life. This isn't gainsaying, or intended to sway the gullible, but to reveal the extent of the prevalence of manmade theologies. God craves for the love of his creatures – as expressed towards other creatures through useful functions. This isn't intended to be an argument, or to hypothesize another theology, but to show you how far you've travelled the path of falsehood. That God's love is unconditional is an augmented blarney used to blanket evil. Men will persuade you to love unconditionally, but does even God love anyone in that manner?

Let's consider some scriptures as we buttress our point which frankly negate the soulless and sordid myth. That there is no unconditional love is proven by the following scriptural excavations which renders the aphorism: "God's unconditional love" a delicate aporia with an ill-founded architectonic.

- **The apocalypse and divine judgment.**

The aphorism: "God loves unconditionally" is both archaic and barbaric – with no scriptural justification.

Claiming so doesn't put God in a better position or shape than he already occupies. Why would there ever be a destruction of the evil ones when God loves all his creatures unconditionally.

Why did God send Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden? Genesis 3

Why did God send Cain out of his presence? Genesis 4

Why did God destroy the men of Noah's day with a flood of waters, and spared only Noah's house – Genesis 6-8.

Why did God destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, and spared only Lot's family? Genesis 19.

Why did God destroy the pre-Hebraic inhabitants of Canaan? Genesis 15; Joshua 12

Why did God give laws to the Israelis? Exodus 20-34

Why did God destroy the generation of faithless folks in the Wilderness, while only Joshua and Caleb made it to the Promised Land? Numbers 14; Joshua 15:13-19

Why were the Israelis subjugated by their neighbours in Canaan Land? The Book of Judges

Why was King Saul rejected? 1 Samuel 13-16

Why did Absalom seek to dethrone David after his immoral acts with Bathsheba, and the death of about seventy thousand people after the rebellious Census? 2 Samuel 11-18; 24

Why did God divide the Kingdom of Israel under Rehoboam's rule? 1 Kings 11-12

Where was God's unconditional love, when the Assyrians sacked the Northern Kingdom, and the Babylonians raped the Southern Kingdom even to the point of demolishing Solomon's magnificent Temple? 2 Chronicles 36; 2 Kings 25; 2 Kings 12

"That is all part of the Old testament!" someone once exclaimed. "Jesus Christ hadn't died then," he retorted. Now, let's hear from the lips of Jesus Christ himself – the epitome of divine love – Matthew 23-25; Mark 13; Revelations 1-22.

Where was unconditional love when God's expression of love towards all humans prepared a whip and flogged some adults in the Temple, while also throwing away their merchandise? Some of those folks where older than he was at the time. This might not be one of the "popular demand" messages you desire to hear; nonetheless, it's the truth you've never heard, which you must now hear in order to be free from actual apostasy. The mythical doctrine of God's unconditional love has no scriptural foundation. Those who cite John 3:16 as the supporting scripture verse do so in error due to their lack of understanding of scriptures, or maybe, because of linguistic inefficiency.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life... He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believe in the

*"name of the only-begotten son of God." John 3:16-18;
1 John 1:7-9*

The verses above have definite clauses that streamline the process of salvation. In order to uncoil this myth further: unconditional, means without any conditions or limits – the last time I checked the dictionary. Moreover, condition, as in this case, means "a rule or decision that you must agree to, sometimes forming parts of a contract or an official agreement;" or "a necessary situation that must exist for something else to happen – depending on something". This lucidly confutes the idea of unconditional love. For instance, the condition for eternal salvation of the soul according to the scriptures is "believing in Jesus Christ" – hence, "**believing**" is a condition, etc., Jn. 8:24. In Mark 6:5-6; Jesus Christ could not heal some faithless folks, and the scripture has this to say:

*"And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.
And he marvelled because of their unbelief..."*

The people's unbelief was uncongenial and repugnant to the demands of the healing anointing in Christ – which means that the unhealed didn't meet with the conditions for healing. There are conditions for every event or transaction in this life; hence the need for regulations. There are rules guiding every relationship at all levels of existence. Let's see what Jesus Christ had to say of his relationship with the father.

Jesus Christ and the Father

"And he that sent me is with me: the father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him". – John 8:29

"Therefore doth my father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again" John 10:17

Jesus Christ, You, and the Father

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

"Jesus answered and said unto him, if a man love me, he will keep my words: and my father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" John 14:21-23.

What about those beatitudes in Matthew 5?

They're conditioned for those special ones who have met the conditions of the blessings – and not for all people. However, Jesus Christ said that we should love our enemies, and God is kind to the ungodly! Matthew 5:44-45. Yes. Nevertheless, why will an unconditionally kind God send some people into eternal destruction? In Matthew 25:31-46; we see the condition for admittance into eternal life and eternal damnation; while Matthew 25:1-30, shows graphically, the conditions for eternal rewards. Whichever devil formulated this myth must be a smart thinker than most church people. The psalmist has the following to say in Psalms 18:24-27:

"Therefore hath the Lord recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his eye-sight.

With the merciful thou wilt show thyself merciful; with an upright man thou wilt show thyself upright; with the pure thou wilt show thyself pure; and with the foward thou wilt show thyself foward.

For thou wilt save the afflicted people; but wilt bring down high looks."

The truth is that God is like a mirror that gives back to us whatever we put before him. It is input equals output. It's you reap what you sow. Samuel said the following to Saul:

"... Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord. He hath also rejected thee from being King ..." 1 Samuel 15:25-26

Moreover, to Eli the priest, the Lord said the following:

"Wherefore the Lord God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me forever: but now the Lord said, be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed". 1 Samuel 2:30

Additionally;

"In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end.

For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not. And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering forever." 1 Samuel 3:12-14.

Need I say much again to convince you that even God loves conditionally? God says that Eli's kind of sins can't be forgiven or purged with sacrifice, nor offering forever. I pity Pastors who overlook the sins of their churches these days just to keep the filthy multitudes in order to milk them of their filthy lucre, so they can build and make a name for themselves. Failure to rebuke sinners guarantees doom to the priest and people. There are sins that not even the blood of Jesus Christ can purge. May you never get there - Mark 8:34-38; 3:22-30; Hebrews 6:4-8; John 15:1-14; 1 John 5:16-18; etc.

Unconditional love doesn't exist even in the dreamland. It's only those who receive and believe in God's gift of eternal life that are empowered to become the children of God – John 1:12. It's also the belief in this myth that is responsible for the overwhelming poverty and failures in, and of the church. Be it known unto you that there are conditions for success in life – Joshua 1:1-9; Psalm 1:1-3; etc. I'm yet to see one lazy folk that is successful in any calling. Also, the worst dimension of laziness is mental laziness – a class where most church people belong. For want of space, I won't attempt to deliver an inexhaustible expose` on this work. I beg to shut down here until future writings.

Thank you.

Luke 13:6-9.

"There shouldn't be a relationship until the conditions are right, mutually beneficial, and observed by parties involved."

You reject the Lord when you don't live or hold unto his conditions – Luke 6:31

Permissive Will

Does God have a permissive will? I don't intend to only debunk the doctrine of permissive will, but rather, show how many folks reject God by claiming that they adopted his permissive will. They claim that God has two will which are namely: perfect will; and permissive will: and that the perfect will being God's preferred will is cumbersome to follow through. There could be no assertion more evil and misleading than claiming that God has a permissive will. That negates the truths of God's Word. The psalmist said the following in Psalm 19:7-11;

"The law of the Lord is perfect..."

It's not the Lord's, if it's not perfect; because he's a perfect God. God's law is His will.

"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your father which is in heaven is perfect." Matthew 5:48

I reiterate that it has nothing to do with God if it isn't perfect. Stop being deluded. In order to detoxify your belief system of this mentally devastating creed, I present the following to you.

My Musings with God on Permissive Will

I was fully aware of my calling to the pulpit ministry while growing up, but wasn't really willing to submit, because of the fact that I had to pioneer a new ministry, as I was content with serving under any established ministry, beginning with the Assemblies of God where I spent twenty seven years growing up as a Sunday school boy, to the Living Faith Church, and Redeemed Christian Church of God, where I later undertook some more training; only from the grand stands of a committed learner-member. In 2004, the Lord revealed that I start writing, which I did two years later; and in 2008, July 25th; the Lord revealed to me that I start my pulpit ministry as an indie Pastor/Evangelist: but I wasn't willing to undertake at the time because of the allures of the financial gains I amassed from my businesses. I had grown my timber extraction and processing business from December 2004 with a paltry sum of N13, 000.00 (Thirteen Thousand Naira) to some Millions in 2008, having failed and suffered some tragic loses in 2007. The recovery was amazing as it even exceeded my imagination within a year's period. The business was at Waterloo in January of 2009, when the Cross River State Government banned timber exploitation and extraction in the State – it means that the business died ultimately as those millions were lost in just a moment.

Finally, I told the Lord that I'll start the ministry in September 1st, 2012; which I didn't. And in August of 2014, I saw myself descending into hell fire in a vision (you can get full details of that vision from the volume 1 of this series: "**Maximize Your Unfair Advantage**"). In 2016, while having a chat with God as I walked along the Murtala Mohammed highway, Calabar; around the Army junction area, I asked the Lord to permit me to adopt his permissive will since I wasn't willing to go with the perfect will, as I was taught that God has two wills as mentioned above. I was affright when I heard the Lord's sudden response, viz:

"Since you have chosen to go along the path of permissive will, I will also permit the other things to befall you. However, don't ever forget the vision you had of your descent to hell in 2014, because you've been getting closer to it the more you delay. I will also permit your enemies to rule over you, because it is called permissive will."

But why, Lord? I have been doggedly serving you all my days, I questioned.

"You have been serving me according to your will and terms, and not mine. Therefore, you have no place in me, and I have no pleasure in you;" he posited.

"But I was taught in church, and the Bible school that you have two wills for your people, namely: the perfect will, and the permissive will; and I believed it as truth. I've been delaying, believing that you'll finally understand and permit me to go along the path of active evangelism and still be a businessman cum politician.

Lord, are you now saying that you don't have a permissive will?"

"I am not a God of double standards. I am not a God of mixtures. I am light, and in me there is no darkness at all. That I permit people to be sick, or die and go to hell when they choose to, doesn't make it my will for them, I only permitted them to have their ways as they choose, since I know that they know the consequences that shall follow their choices and actions. You can't disobey me and call it my permissive will. Is it my will that my people rebel against my authority? Ask Satan what happened when he opposed my government. Is it my will that people should perish? Be it known to you now, and do well to let others know, that I have no permissive will, and will never have one, because my will from beginning to the end shall be perfect for all my creatures. Now, there are three wills, namely:

- Divine will (Good)
- Devilish will (Evil)
- Humanistic will (mixture of divine and devilish wills)

Most of my people thrive on the third, and a careful study of all denominations will show you what a mixture of both good and evil prevails in the church. That I permit doesn't portend waiver of consequences – Matthew 7; 2 Corinthians 5:9-16; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15, etc. That I permit thistles to grow together with the wheat doesn't make it my will, but that it is the result of man's carelessness and negligence which the evil one took advantage of by sowing the evil seeds amidst my good seeds; but the end shall tell what my actual will is

- Lk. 12:42-48; Lk. 13:24-30; Matt.12:46-50; Matt.13:24-30, 36-51; etc."

Lord, I surrender to your will hundred percent; only guide me along your right path, and correct me whenever I err. By now, I was immersed in the sweat and tears that gushed from my watery eyes and trembling body, while on my knees beside my bed.

Beloved, if you still hold to the notion that God has a permissive will, ask King Saul, David, Solomon, Adam, etc. God's will is good, and it is formulated for your ultimate good: therefore, maximize the unfair advantages of adopting that alone in order to enable you to speed up in life. You don't have to follow every teachings of men, because most are hooks baited to lure the gullible into hell fire; while they plunder their materials. Not doing God's perfect will means outright rejection of him. Additionally, I started my ministry organizing worship services on Sunday mornings, which I, as well as everyone else was enjoying until the Lord asked me to quit. However, it took about seven months to implement that, since everyone was already used to it – and that's how we got our first hiatus in ministry. I regained my peace of mind, and was sure I was on course along the right path.

Grace, and Unconditional Forgiveness

The aphorism that "**we're saved by grace, and not by works**" couldn't be truer than the devil is. It's only true when understood as saved without your paying for it, because Jesus Christ did pay in full: but that good works

must follow to show the difference between being saved and unsaved. A man who steals just the same way he's been stealing before being saved couldn't be any better than Satan's assistant. The authentic proof of salvation is change of acts, which is because of changed thought life. Good works follow a changed man just the same order day follows night, and light follows darkness. It's as natural as number 2 follows after number 1. Salvation without good works is a myth satanically orchestrated to cage people in evil.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

Not of works, lest any man should boast.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

Ephesians 2:8-10

Paul, said that we're saved by the grace of God, but through our faith in God. The differentiating factor between the saved and unsaved isn't the lack of a Saviour, but one's faith in the vicarious work of the Saviour. It's believing in Christ Jesus, not observance of Moses' obsolete sacrificial functions – which Paul implied as works, because he goes right ahead to aver that we're created unto good works in Christ Jesus, and that God wants us to "**walk in them**". **Believing**, is an action word as much as "**walking in them**" is – and the true test of change is the actions that follow. Hence, our salvation is free, but not free from good works or right actions. I am yet to know a saved sinner. When a sinner

gets saved, he becomes a saint. A liar who is saved becomes truthful henceforth; and he's not saved to be a saved liar. A thief who steals after being saved has more repenting to do, since his old cronies wouldn't notice any difference in his character, other than that of church attendances and churched confessions.

Don't be in a hurry to forget too soon that Cornelius got saved because his good works were seen by God, though he wasn't a Jew – Acts 10:1-6. In verse 6, the scripture says: "... **he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.**" Additionally, Jesus Christ emphasized so much on the issues of **work** in the revelation of himself to Brother John, in his letters to the seven churches – Revelations 1-3. So in conclusion, he says: "**And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.**" Revelation 22:12

From the above scripture, we see that salvation is ultimate in good works, or the ultimate of salvation is doing good works – and in the end, eternal life becomes a reward of good works and not just a free gift of faith – Matthew 19:16-21; etc.

Saying that this is the "**dispensation of grace**" is tantamount to subjecting God to change, and that actually negates the scripture which avers that God is changeless – Malachi 3:6; Numbers 23:19; Lamentations 3:22; Hebrews 13:8; etc.

God has always been a gracious God.

Adam and Eve got their coats of skin by grace – Genesis 3:21

Cain got the mark of exemption from untimely death by grace – Genesis 4:15

Enoch was translated from the earthly into the Heavenly realms, having walked with God through faith by grace – Genesis 5:24

Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord to build the ark that preserved life on the earth after the deluge. However, he was a just and perfect man that walked with God in his generation – Genesis 6:8-9

Abraham's walk with God was by grace. What about David, Solomon, or Moses? Exodus 33:12-23

We only received the fullness of God's grace through Jesus Christ, because God himself was on the earth as man in Christ Jesus. Hear what God told Moses concerning his nature in Exodus 34:5-7

"And the Lord descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, the Lord, THE LORD God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and fourth generation."

"The Lord God, merciful and gracious" is his name even now, just as it has been ab ovo. He didn't suddenly become a gracious God, but that is who he has always been ab initio. However, he's also the God of judgment

as usual. Everyone who was ever saved got saved by God's grace – just as you are. He **said "I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious ..."** – Exodus 33:19. There's no particular epoch that God had been, or will be more gracious than the other. Understandably, most of the statutes that God gave to the Israelites in the wilderness, like sacrifice for sins, were more of a death trap than atoning. It was a debacle on the spiritual fabric of the people; hence, couldn't guarantee life to the initiates – Ezekiel 20:24-25.

However, God's grace doesn't debar or overrule his sense of justice and judgment. Factually, in a greater sense of the word, **grace**, implies gift, or supply of ability, or resources, or enablement to do the seemingly impossible. It's God helping you behind the scenes to do what you can't do alone.

Most importantly, grace and favour are both derived from the same Greek word "charis". Hence, grace and favour mean the same thing; and as such, there's no scriptural justification for defining grace as "unmerited favour". Grace is favour, and favour is grace. Saying **unmerited favour** is tantamount to saying unmerited grace, it's evasive to think that God's favour for his own image and likeness is unmerited, as it is saying that a father's bestowal of inheritance on his child is unmerited. Religion kills reasoning. I know that reasoning with facts and truths strengthens faith.

Now, Jesus Christ would have also increased in wisdom and stature, and in unmerited favour with God and man, if grace means unmerited favour – Luke. 2:52; because, the word used there as favour, also implied grace –

which is charis. Additionally, in Luke 2:40; "... **and the grace of God was upon him.**" If grace means unmerited favour, it also means that "the unmerited favour of God was upon Jesus Christ." What a derogatory claim that is triggered by the ignorance of religion. The very God of very God being unmeritedly favoured by his favour? In John 1:14, 16-17; He's full of grace (unmerited favour) and truth. That's an affront on the personhood of the Christ, initiated by hell's slanderous and sleazy lord, and propagated by holy devils in the church. No claim could be more demeaning than that.

Alternatively, someone once said that the "**unmerited**" is only attributed to men, and not the Christ, as in the case of Mary his mother, since she wasn't the only virgin in Israel at the time. Of course, my rejoinder was that she had to be a virgin for the prophecy to be fulfilled. It was as Mary met the basic condition of being a virgin, amongst other virtues like faith, that she found grace or favour in God's sight to be the mother of Jesus Christ. The same word "**charis**" is translated there as "**favour**", which also means "**grace**" as said earlier – Luke 1:28-30.

Remember that Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord; however, that was also because he was **a just man and perfect** in his generation; who walked with God (Genesis 6:8-9); that even God testified concerning Noah that: "**thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation**"; hence, we see Noah doing all he was commanded to do by God.

"Life may be a gift, but placement and rewards are earned by work."

Joseph had favour in the sight of Pharaoh and all that he ever came in contact with. However, the truth also is that he had solutions to their problems. They all favoured him because he first did them a favour.

Most times, God only favours the qualified - those who have met his conditions; as doing otherwise will be unjust of him; and a discouragement to the faithful. Also, with all these, it follows that there is no unconditional forgiveness. Forgiveness is pre-conditioned on repentance, confession, and plea - Luke 17:1-3. One must acknowledge his faults, repent, and ask for forgiveness; in order to be forgiven.

Howbeit, that doesn't imply you should go on hating whoever has offended you, because hate will keep you groping in darkness - 1 John 2:9-11. What you should do is release your offenders from your heart, and move on with your life, pending when they repent and call for reconciliation. John Baptist, Jesus Christ, and Peter on the day of Pentecost, preached repentance in order to gain forgiveness of sins, and not otherwise - Matt 3:1-20; 4:17, Mark 6:12; Acts 2:37-38.

If your cogitations still serves you right, you'll remember that those who used, despised, and rejected you also demanded that you love and forgive them unconditionally, after all. They wanted you to tolerate their toxic character just anyhow - a thing that they can't get even from God himself - Luke 6:31; 12:8-9.

Tendentiously, and yet, tenably; I seem to debunk the tepid tenet of Christianity which posits that salvation of the soul is a free gift - that is, that it is offered gratis; such knowledge is exiguous to foster salvation since the

exegesis of the eternal exemplar conspicuously negates such claims, vis: Matthew 18:1-9; 19:12; 28:30; 24:13-25.

To save your soul, you must lose your self – Mark 8:34-38; Philippians 3:7-21.

There's so much to forsake for the sake of the kingdom. Eternal life also comes at a personal cost – and Jesus Christ mentioned counting the cost the other time I heard him speak. There must be a giving up before a taking up. Eternal life is a prize that is given at a price; and you pay for it, because salvation is personal. Sin is the wildest pleasure the flesh enjoys, and forsaking it is a great price you pay in order to gain eternal life. It is true that God has subsidized it, but the counterpart funding requires that you maintain certain standards and conditions - Hebrew 12:14; Matthew 5:8.

"A pure heart isn't a gift of nature, it's a lift of nurture."

Romans 12:1-2; Philippians 4:8-9; Matthew 18:10.

In real life, the idea of "**something for nothing, or something from nothing**" isn't a truism. It obliterates creative vibes. Those who speed up are those who pay the required price to get whatever they want. Give up every false life, if you truly desire to live a forward bouncing life. Pay the price. The marketplace of life doesn't recognize these myths – they exist only on the minds of uninitiated holy dogs. The common belief amongst Christians that everything about them is powered by grace is the reason for lacklustre living by many, because they also want God to do the work for them, or throw down success on them like ripped

cherries. As said earlier, grace is given to enhance work; hence, Jesus Christ had the following to say: John 5:17, 35; 9:4

"But Jesus answered them, my father works hitherto, and I work." John 5:17

Don't ever forget that **gifts are free, but rewards are earned**. Besides, the gifts of God are given to us according to our abilities to work – Matt. 25:14-30. The grace the Lord gives us is the talents, while our work with the grace (talents) is trading. Everyone created by God has their own graces, but the people of the world know how best to trade with their talents; hence, are leading in virtually every industry: while the church people idle around confessing grace all day.

Paul said the following:

"But by the grace of God I am what I am: and His grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." 1 Corinthians 15:10

Everyone has grace, but only few win prizes; because many don't run the race. Grace is given for the race, and not for rest. Only those who run, win. You can't reject work and expect rewards. Idleness is an unforgivable sin, because it destroys talents: and God is in those talents. Do you still remember the story of the bees at the beginning of this work? You can't bury your talents and not be buried in shame, because burying your talents means burying God in you. Your talents are actually God in you. Many people are graveyards of God.

Life is for workers who create and serve useful functions to better the community. Most folks hide behind the cloak of certain scriptures to wreak their lives in idleness. For instance:

"I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happen to them all." Ecclesiastes 9:11

However, what if one fails to maximize his "**times and chances**?" It's not true that Usain Bolt won gold medals as well as other athletes because they were the slowest runners. The problem lies on our misinterpretation, misappropriation, and misapplication of scriptures. Had Bathsheba and Prophet Nathan not acted fast, Adonijah would have been affirmed and upheld as King. Will you even run fast enough? Will you fight strong enough? Will you be wise enough? Will you even think of gaining a better understanding of your calling? Will you acquire or develop new innovative skills? Are you prepared to maximize your unfair advantage now in order to speed up? The preceding scripture outrightly treats the subject of maximizing one's opportunities. Sensitivity in discerning opportunities, and maximizing them is key to success, but an unprepared mind won't avail anything.

Handling Rejections

Aptness in handling rejections is mandatory for the one who speeding up is idée fixe. In your quest for greatness, you'll be rejected by many who will later

become your inclined patrons or guerilla followers. For you to become someone's idol, you must ideate how to deal with rejections more ideally; else, vengeance will be your next call – and a vindictive person can be dastardly wasteful. I'll like to share this view from the vantage ground of my own experiences with rejection, because I've suffered a lot of them; beginning from my childhood, and even until now.

To proceed, I will share the following piece of advice with you:

"Don't ever love with your heart, love with your lungs; because you'll die when you love with your heart, and your heart is broken: but when you love with your lung, and your lung is broken; you'll slip into coma, while your heart will still be pumping blood until you are remedied and revived."

It's lunacy to allow yourself to love with your heart. Never permit anything to lull you into vulnerability. Only lunkheads fall into devious lupine demands for a heart originated love. It is idiotic. I have seen too many, who sometimes ago professed heartfelt love, now heartsick; because of failed love affair triggered by rejection. When you love God with all your heart as commanded, you won't have any space left to love any man or thing in it. The reason for being traumatized after suffering rejection is because you gave out your heart to it. The lung is the right locale for any love affair involving humans – I know that it sounds loony and loopy, but it's worth more than you can consume in a lifetime. One can survive a lung busting relationship than a heart-rending affair. This sounds ludicrous, but it's not a magic realism; it might never be my Magnum Opus: but it

should aid in your speeding up, having maximized your unfair advantage unreservedly.

"Holy things should never be given to dogs, but should be given to gods. You must know the difference to be the difference."

Rejection is a form of adversity, which if improperly managed, will lead to misery. The difference between both is that adversity is simply a difficult or unpleasant situation; while, misery is great suffering of the mind or body, distress; abysmal living conditions – poverty; unhappiness. Misery affects your body and mind, and that can't be avoided adventitiously, but by conscious pre-emptive measures. Misery isn't a simulacrum of adversity, because the latter needs more efforts to understand or overcome, while the former demands total overhaul of the enabling structures and system. Misery is that distressing feeling you have in your body or mind due to an adverse situation. It is now a personal luxury. However, you permitted it.

Misery Memoirs

The mien of a victim of rejection can be so glaring and conspicuous that even the blind could see. It shows in thoughts, words, and actions. All my midlife crisis were the cumulative effects of my childhood rejection by my supposed biological father.

As the fourth child of the family, I was born the third son; and the first to be so given birth to in a health facility, though preterm at about eight months and

fourteen days old in the womb. Neighbours prognosticated that I'll trudge through life, a superstition they lavishly vented, which was born on the premise that I was prematurely born. However, to their greatest amazement, my growth was hypersonic, in that I was running around the neighbourhood after seven months of my birth. Suddenly my father became a real ogre when he told my mother that I wasn't his child when I was still less than five years, before my lost experience as shared in chapter three. Both of my parents and siblings were willing and determined to keep it a secret for as long as they could, or possibly forever; not knowing that I was already aware of it. This knowledge created in me an oilskin attitude towards the family which led to my being independent, vengeful, and feeling revulsion to everything they cherished. Actually, I share my mother's physiology, apart from the broad vertically projected shoulders and a well-rounded big head which are my father's. It was an irreversible event as one can't rewind life.

I am meticulous in all my dealings with people, so much so as not to hurt them, because I know from experience that life can never be the same again when one is hurt, even though repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation took its full course later. Nothing ever remains, or continues the same again after an awful experience with someone or something. Caution becomes the driver of every gesture – that is a sterile truth you must grapple with; and only the credulous will disclaim that as a valid fact of life. Incontrovertibly, that event was supposed to inoculate me against failure in life, although it did until adolescence when incrustation became the resultant effect, since I wasn't willing to open to people in order to avoid getting hurt by them. Stealthily, the effect of

rejection took its toll on me until I slipped into incoherence. I used to be valiant, but now was vaguely a vacationer in my home. Howbeit, I will always oppose my father's punitive threats since I felt I was already a strange enemy of his. What got others scared was reason for my bold actions – and things where worsening unnoticed until I slumped into the valley of eternal despair and amoral fears, always being alack and intrusively introverted became my righteous causes, though I seem to be a natural introvert. I think it later became introversion taken too far due to the effect of my childhood rejection by my father. I became dour owing to the feeling that my father hated me so much, even as all his actions and reactions dictated by isolating me from the other eleven children, as we're so easily recognized by those who know my family as either his children, or brethren. You can't know me and fail to recognize him as my father, or my siblings as my brethren because we look so much alike.

All my cogitations failed to yield positive results as I couldn't identify the root of his rejecting me. Hence, it was both a personal asset and luxury to retaliate by also disowning him as my father, even though I still bore his name in school to sustain sponsorship, and tenancy in his house.

Finally, I degenerated into harbouring a clockwise service mentality with everyone I ever came into contact with, all in efforts to gain their acceptance, because of the blossomed sense of childhood rejection by the man that should lead the chart of my lovers. Serial failures will become the order of my life, because everyone I laboured to please will use, despise, and reject me. This

was the regular pattern and cycle of my life until the worst form of rejection I'd ever experience happened.

"Life is like a gun, and motives are like bullets, while actions are like the trigger. You might hit or miss your target when you shoot, but you'll never miss the impact of the recoil of the gun."

Although a prodigy, I opted into slavish servitude agreement with my father during an end of year family meeting in December, 1998, after I had finished secondary education at age sixteen; I served him as a servant for the period of two years, so he can sponsor my tertiary education: and he never considered the fact that I had used up only ten years and a few months to be through with both Primary and Secondary education – though I wasn't coerced to serve, but later actions proved to be fraudulent, since he never spent a dime on my tertiary studies. After three years of meritorious service under strenuous circumstances, I took to being a renegade, because of his flagrant renege on the deal; since I was never remunerated, and was constantly ill-fed during the entire period.

That's how bad rejection can be. I lived the prodigal son elder brother's kind of life in my father's house, because I lived in utter fear of imminent ubiquitous rejection. I will take his palm oil to the market in the city and will sell and bring him more money than he had anticipated when I left for the market, because of price fluctuations; and he won't even care to buy me bathroom slippers readily; even when I knew that my other siblings always short changed him when they sold. "**Let me see how you'll further your education,**" he'll always exclaim; whenever I demanded for a better care, or provisions –

once again, I will plunge into virulent labours. I felt he's being vilified by writing this piece, since I have never mentioned it publicly, but the truth has just been told for you to understand my roots as well as the crops I bear. In the past, pleasing others to my detriment just soothes my quest for acceptance, both domestically and as with foreigners. Having lived about thirty-eight years under the bondage of the fear of public rejection by either my father, or friends and suitors; I now rise to the echelon of success through self-acceptance, and self-sorting - hence, I said: you should never love with your heart, but with your lung, if your intent is a long life lived in affluence, influence, and satisfaction. You can live as you want, not as others or situations want it.

A soulless ordeal it is to be used, despised, and rejected by the woman one dearly loves: by the one person you've ultimately sacrificed everything for happiness – talking about my worst rejection experience with the woman that should be my wife. I deliberately pass this on to another page in this series. Hence, we skip the story.

"Excusing failure in life is the grandest sabotage of divine trusts."

"Cain murdered Abel because he thought that he would force God to love him as the only available worshipper; but God was looking for a useable person."

Keys to Handling Rejection

There are no graduated rules for handling rejections, even the one-off nostrums posited by gurus are sometimes onerous and despicable. The problem doesn't actually lie with the key, but your application of it. To speed up in life, the following is mandatory:

1. Love your creator wholeheartedly.
2. Love yourself unreservedly
3. Love your neighbours like you love yourself – and also as much as you wish they love you.
4. Give others exactly what they deserve – never give holy things to dogs, or pearls to swine.
5. Learn to forgive, give, and move on swiftly; but on the path of safety.
6. Go the extra mile only when it's mutually beneficial.
7. Admit the fact that you can't be accepted by all, and even today's acceptance might be tomorrow's rejection; vice versa.
8. Leave vengeance alone. Time will compensate everyone their just desserts.
9. Shock those who reject you with your overwhelming success.
10. Be willing to readily and intelligently share your wealth in both materials and experience with those who are currently where you have been.

11. Don't attempt to forget the past as every scar reminds of a wound. It will help you to be careful next time.
12. Use your head well to stay ahead in life – Avoid malice at all cost.

"Don't depend on time alone to heal, because some wounds retrograde with time than heal."

How I Conquered Rejections

I began my journey of gaining liberation from the shackles of rejection when I heard a voice speak audibly to my hearing, thus: **"deal with the spirit of rejection; your father rejected you when you were a child."** That was in the morning hours of the 12th of October, 2019; while walking out of the bathroom.

"You must know the problem, if you must solve it."

A careful examination of my life led to the discovery that my life had been near ruin because of my habits of always going to hell in order to gain other people's acceptance. Was I ugly, sordid, dullard, too short or too thin, etc.? No. However, I dote on everyone I ever dealt with, even when I possessed unequalled advantages over them. By his grace, I am a well-bred, six-feet-tall, handsome, and intelligent specie of a modern variety. I am a delight to behold and be with, but the psychology of rejection held me for so long with the manacles of retrogression until I finally broke loose by a spiritual

application of the keys before mentioned: hence, I sped up. You too, can speed up. Let's treat them in detail as follows:

1. **Whole Hearted Love for your Creator:** A heart full of love for the creator leaves no space for the love of things. This helps ameliorate the effects of rejection, as the focus is always on God. If there's anyone you should always earn His acceptance, it should be God. It will aid you to discover your hidden abilities, thereby, being the best you can be. You'll appreciate yourself more. A heart full of love for God is a life full of God. Hence, anything is possible. Those who love God with all their hearts become people after God's heart.
2. **Unreservedly Love Yourself:** You can't truly love your creator and hate yourself. Jesus Christ's talk on hating yourself implied that you forsake lustful grandeur which seeks every good for self-interest alone. He who loves God also loves himself as much. Withhold nothing good from yourself. Invest more than you can exhaust on yourself, for that is the only way you can affect others without exhaustion. Give yourself the best things of life first, before you learn how to give to others. Meanwhile, don't ever forget that you're God's copy in clay – it's what you give to yourself today that you'll have with you to give to others tomorrow.
3. **Love Your Neighbours As Yourself - and as Much as You Want to be Loved:** Jesus Christ never said that you should love your neighbour more than you love yourself, neither did he say

that you should love God more than yourself, nor did he say that you should love things more than yourself. However, he said that you love your neighbour as much as you love yourself; and to treat others the same way you'll like to be treated. Give to others as much as you will like to get from them. I don't give old wares to people, neither do I accept used items from others, except the person in question desired and demanded for it first. That's my rule. It's maddening and extremely disappointing to love others more than you love yourself. If you desire the best, also give the best that you have – Also, give the best that you give to others to yourself. Don't be reckless, or miserly with love.

4. **Give to People Exactly What They Deserve – Give not Holy Things to Dogs, or Pearls to Swine:** This key is worth more than a million dollar in value. Dogs will always go back to eat their vomits, and the swine will trample upon pearls not minding their worth, because their nature abhors pearls. Endeavour to evaluate people's preferences before offering your value to them. Stop being foolish thinking that you're a kind heart. I lived in that mental slump for years before I realized how foolish I was. I always felt that everyone I met with deserves the best, just the same way I did: but I was wrong all the time, because they always proved to me that nature supersedes nurture. A dog is a dog, no matter how much is invested in to its training, hence, will eat its vomit when the chips are down. Therefore, balance key number three with number four.
Matthew 25:15

5. **Readily Forgive, Give, and Move on swiftly; but on the Path of Safety:** Readily forgive repentant offenders, give those who ask of your substance what they deserve, and ride on to the pinnacle of greatness at a lightning speed. Don't dwell in hurtsVille, just move on. Jesus Christ admonished us to give to our enemies, but that doesn't imply that you should equip them to hurt you the more, rather, for mere subsistence. It's foolishness to give a gun to a man who wants to kill you, or offer a thief the post of a security in your store. A prostitute hired as a house help will end up being the house domina with time. What if Mr. Joseph Jacob was Mr. Reuben Jacob? All Potiphar's children right from the day he went into that house would have borne the imprints of his DNA. Jesus Christ always left when he was rejected to the places he was accepted. Do same.
6. **Go the Extra Mile Only When it is Mutually Beneficial:** Don't stick out your neck if there's nothing to eat out there for you. That your counterpart eats salt doesn't mean that you should eat salt if you're a snail, because you'll die, while he abounds with all the bounties. Jesus Christ went extra mile for his own personal interest too - Luke 24:25-26; Hebrews 12:1-2. Don't lay down for those who won't lay down for you. I used to think that selfless love actually existed until I discovered the scriptures just mentioned above. **If there's no profit, don't prove it.** Engage only with ventures that are mutually beneficial to all.

7. **Admit the Fact that You Won't be loved and Accepted by all, Because Today's Acceptance Might be Tomorrow's Rejection; and Vice Versa:** One of my favourite TV series is "**Everyone Hates Chris**". The cognizance makes Chris live his life doing only the best he can per time, since people will never change their minds on him, no matter what he did. Everyone can't just love you, and today's love or acceptance can be tomorrow's greatest hate and rejection. Only change is constant, and that is where the creator finds his opportunities: hence, have no permanent friends or enemies, because even God has none – Jeremiah 18:1-6, Ezekiel 18:1-32; Deuteronomy 28. God loves those who love him per time. The worst mistake I ever made is making some people my permanent friends and beneficiaries. Your friends and family should be only those who align, appreciate, and support your causes – Luke 8:19-21; Matthew 12:46-50. Yes! We are all global neighbours, but we're not all friends.
8. **Leave Vengeance Alone and Allow Time to Compensate Every Man Their Just Desserts:** Life is a compensator of every deed of men, but does so in full only with time. Seed time and harvest shall never cease to be while the earth remains – Genesis 8:22. Everyone will certainly reap what they sow; as well as receive from men all that they give to men. Jesus Christ said that men shall give back into their bosom in a pressed down, shaken together, and overflowing measure. Don't be a fool that sows wild oats all week-long and prays for a harvest of wheat on

Saturday, because there are no such miracles. When vengeance will take its course, another wicked being is out there to execute it – Jeremiah 44:30; 46:25-26.

9. **Shock all those who Rejected you with Overwhelming Success:** They'll always be naysayers as well as they'll always be yea-sayers. I believe that the best revenge in life is success. The voice of success is louder than that of vengeful engagements. Joseph shocked his hateful brothers with his golden success in Egypt. Even your enemies might also be forced to join your praise team when they see you succeeding. Ask all those who have made it in life already. Jephthah shocked his half-brethren with his outstanding success; ergo, became their lord.
10. **Be willing to readily and Intelligently Share Your Wealth in both Materials and Experience with Those Who are Currently Where You Have Been:** Whatever you share with others intelligently will always appreciate in value. Give a helping hand to today's distressed folks, while also showing them the way out of such situations. Note that the keyword here is "**sharing intelligently.**"
11. **Don't Attempt To Forget The Past As Every Scar Reminds Of A Wound. It Will Help You To Be Careful Next Time:** They say that experience is the best teacher, because only it, teaches us with living examples. People will urge you to forget the past, but that is feasible only if you don't have memory. Even a fool doesn't

forget his foolish past, nor does a madman forget his past. I once saw a lunatic from my village elsewhere, and I demanded that he should tell me my name, since he's been mad for over twenty years as at the time of the enquiry; and to my greatest amazement, he didn't just mention my name alone, but also those of my parents and siblings including the ones that were born after he'd already been mad. The Holy Spirit also help to remind us of the past which means that the past is vital, else, we won't be where we are today. When you see the scar, you'll remember the wound that left it behind, and how it was inflicted, in order to trigger caution against recurrence of same past events. Without the remembrance of the past, God can't reward us according to our works. However, don't live in your past, whether good or evil; because it can be a lethal mental rut. If you fail to remember your past, and where it now places you, you won't be able to navigate through both the present and future spaces. Remember the past for correctional purposes, and not as a prison – John 14:26; Numbers 14:22.

12. **Use Your Head to Stay Ahead in Life – Avoid Malice at all Cost:** Malice, if it doesn't breed vengeance, will ultimately self-destruct its host. It is both debilitating and cancerous. To get ahead, and stay ahead; you must use your big head - that's if it's as big as mine is. A wise man once said that **God gave us a head so we can be ahead in life.** A man who has gone ahead doesn't pray for followers, because everyone going that same route naturally follows him. Men

will always crave to be your head, or they'll behead you - why don't you get ahead to be their head? Sometime ago, I said that "**a people's wealth isn't determined by their gold mines, but by their mind mines.**" A man with a rich gold mine can end up poor, while the one without a gold mine, but with a rich mind mine will end up wealthy in life. The extracts of a mind mine are of inestimable value. It has been said that "**ideas** **don't have definite prices.** Use your head and speed up today.

"A rejected man is like an elastic band when stretched to its elastic limit, it fears breaking; and recoils back to the stretcher with an unforgettable boomerang impact."

Only you can make the difference. However, will you? Let's speed up.

PART TWO

CHAPTER FIVE

Maximizing Your Training and Skills Advantage

"There's a vein to follow if gold mining is your idée fixe."

The condition for prosperity is give, and it shall be given back to you. When you give yourself to training, skills will be given back to you by the masters. When you give yourself to learning, knowledge will be given back to you. However, the difference between learning and training is the same between knowledge and skill. Knowledge is in principle, while skill is in both principles and practice. Knowledge is power, but that is to the degree which it is applicable to effect a change. The aphorism doesn't always guarantee success, because the content of one's knowledge can be either destructive or constructive.

I have software programming and cloud computing skill sets, but lack good knowledge of computer science, and those were gained on grounds of training. A skill is acquired by both learning and training; and that means

that a skilled man is also a knowledgeable one. They vary on grounds of hands-on experience.

The actual difference between the rich and the poor, the successful and the failure, isn't knowledge, but skills. Every failure, or poor man you know knows something, even more than the rich and successful know, but they lack the requisite skills to implement their knowledge stock. To be skilful, you must be trained; and training isn't done in classrooms, but in the laboratory. When you train, you hone your potential into marketable skills.

"It's not enough to be available in the market, but to be usable at work."

Are you available, or usable; or both? Most folks dread training because it is draining. Lack of training trammels your employability. Training isn't validated by the certificate, but by the skillfulness of the trained. One might be a savant, and yet, not be savvy. Training affects every strata of your being, viz: soul, spirit, and body.

"Until you're trained, you can't lead the train."

Training Fundamentals

1. Durability
2. Scalability
3. Specificity
4. Ubiquity

5. Usability

1. **Durability:** To undertake training, you must determine the duration of the training, and the durability of the skill to be acquired. Atrophy of enthusiasm is the effect of a training with a longer duration; and uber-boredom is domiciled in this locale. The longer it takes, the more interest is lost. A longer duration of training doesn't guarantee success, because every skill acquired today soon becomes obsolete in a highly innovative and competitive community such as ours. The nub of the matter is minimalism with composite lustres. How long do I need to undergo the training, and how long will the skill acquired be in vogue, are questions you must answer satisfactorily before engaging with the scheme. What really counts in the end isn't duration of the training, but the durability of the skill set acquired, and ability to improve it. Ensure that your desired skill set has a living standard, and backward compatibility.
2. **Scalability:** How adaptable and backward compatible is the skill set to other situations or projects? Can the skill be deployed to contain future demands? If it's intended for the small pictures, will it also fit the frame of the big picture? What is the range of the skills set? Your training must be such that delivers you some scalable skills in order to maximize limited resources. If it's not scalable, it should never be attainable. Vogue skills are good, but can they be

deployed for future use? A scalable skill set is that with **"Vogue Value"**, and future value; though there should always be room for improvement. Desirability should be a function of scalability.

3. **Specificity:** What specific purpose will the training achieve? What specific use will the acquired skill set be deployed for? Who needs my skills, and to what degree? Though it's required to be scalable, it must also be directed to meet specific needs. Training to be an auto mechanic isn't enough, but training to be a specific brand and class auto-mechanic like Toyota SUV is what makes a professional. Scalability dictates that you should also be able to effect repairs on a Toyota Sedan or truck, but specificity demands that you should be a master of a minivan. Sedulous workers are of a breed of cardinal values. Specificity of purpose in training is the starting point of professionalism. Hence, if your goal is to be a professional in your sphere of work, specify which skill sets are needed, and attend the required training.
4. **Ubiquity:** How limited are your intended skill sets? Specificity isn't, and shouldn't be an excuse for limiting skill set acquisition. You have every right to gain universal knowledge and skills that are required in your chosen industry. Versatility is key to success. Possession of ubiquitous skill sets will help you to be scalable in the market/work place. The idea is branching. You fork your relevance when you possess webbed skills. That you're a Toyota brand's mechanic shouldn't impede your capacity to gain skills on Ford

brands. That's what it means to create streams that empties into the river. Many skills imply many streams of usefulness. Be specific, but always have the extra with you.

5. **Usability:** Availability of skills doesn't count as much as usability. Once the skill set meets the preceding four criteria, they're surely usable. It's a waste of investment to engage with training that won't equip you with usable skills. For you to speed up, your skill set must possess durable uses; scalable uses; specific uses; ubiquitous uses; and **useful** in solving the ills which bedevil humans. The usefulness of the skills should determine the training, as much as it will establish your relevance. The more usable you or a skill is, the more preferred you'll be in both the work and marketplaces of life; thereby fast-racking your chances for speeding up. **Don't just be available, be usable.** If they can use you, they'll desire you - always.

Those folks who got early employment in the parable of the **"great employer"** mentioned in Matthew 20:1-16; were usable as at the time of their employment. It's true that all received the same pay, but the early employees must have enjoyed some fringe benefits that the late folks didn't. For instance, feeding during the work day, their families must have enjoyed the corporate health insurance scheme, etc. The employer could only employ them when they were mostly usable. Hence, usability defines employability. Every employer will seem to be frosty when you are not usable. I've heard people say that God uses the available, but that too is a mortal myth.

The truth is that God uses the usable per time – 2 Timothy 2:19-21. God won't use you until you are ready.

Employers' demands for you increases when you make yourself hyper-useable. David was in the wilderness tending his father's flocks when Saul sent for him to go and play tones that soothed his evil possessions – 1 Samuel 16:15 – 23.

Jephthah wasn't available at Gilead when his clansmen sent for him to come and help defend them against their enemies – Judges 11:1-11.

Joseph wasn't in the palace when Pharaoh demanded for the interpretation of his nightmares – Genesis 41.

Jesus Christ didn't send Matthew the tax officer to take his fishing hook to the river and catch the fish with a gold coin in its mouth, he sent a fisherman called Peter – Matthew 17:24-27.

Moses wasn't in Egypt with the Israelis when God sent him to go and deliver them from Egypt's oppressive gestures, he was in the wilderness – Numbers 12:3; Exodus 3, etc.

Huran was in faraway Tyre when his employment to build Solomon's Magnificent Temple in Jerusalem was offered to him, thereby defying the great numbers available in Israel at the time – 2 Chronicles 2:7-14.

Distance is never a barrier for the usable. Availability, devoid of usability will forge decay. You won't speed up banking on men's goodwill alone, it must be by their "**need will**", make yourself, products, or services indispensable to their needs, and you're surely speeding

up already. **Indispensability is a function of the combined algorithms of availability and usability:** and want of either of these qualities is the albatross of success.

Training and Character Formation

Charisma without character is inanimate, and will yield failure every time. The incarnation of ideas demands a formidable character as its foundation. The soul of any form of training should have character formation as its primary objective, and not skills acquisition. Profligacy and poverty are near kin.

"He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster." Proverbs 18:9

"By much slothfulness the building decays; and through idleness of the hands the house drops through."
Ecclesiastes 10:18

Whatever is built by charisma in ten years can be destroyed within ten days by a toxic character. Unfettered success becomes inevitable to the one who has character development as the prime mover of his training. Train your human relation skills to bolster your sustainability as you keep speeding up.

Satan is the devil because of his character, not lack of charisma. As a Pastor, I know that charisma will gather great multitudes in no time, but character is what will keep them for a long time after their needs are fully met. You need healthy relationships to survive healthily, and

character will build it. Charisma is like the fuel that starts a fire, but character is the firewood that either sustains or diminishes it, if not extinguished. Hence, train your character as much as you hone your skills – both should sync in real time. While training, you shackle your employability and, or retainability, if you're skilled with lethal character. In the end, your employer will always vote for enterprise growth and sustainability even to the detriment of its staff. Having a good character without charisma, and vice versa is like riding a monocycle. Acquiring both is great wisdom, and an asset of incalculable value.

"Invective and inverse character will defeat quantum success induced by inventive charisma."

Are you suffering from Character Deficiency Syndrome (CDS)?

"Integrity without creativity is a time bomb prepared to detonate future failures."

Be charismatic in character.



CHAPTER SIX

Maximizing Your Negotiation Advantage

I have said before that "**promotion doesn't come by examination alone, it also comes by negotiation.**" Negotiation is the fulcrum upon which much of your promotions in life pivot. You will certainly be a man of power and influence on the earth when you maximize your negotiation advantage. To speed up you must maximize this particular advantage.

God is a great negotiator, and not a dictator. You dictate when you fail to negotiate. Most church leaders are dictators, as much as their counterparts leading in politics and industry. They use "**thus says the Lord**" to sway the freewill of their followers. Every covenant of God made with people are the terms of negotiation with humankind. Failure isn't synonymous with **negritude**; but one's inability to negotiate properly and favourably for a space in the arena of success.

Old Nick is one of the greatest negotiators there is, and he always seems to have his way in every transaction he's involved with.

The essence of negotiation is to seek the mutual good of parties involved depending on the degree of sincerity or whims. A whimsical negotiator isn't to be trusted – as all

employers seem to be. Avarice will kill any deal no matter how alluring it seemed to be ad interim, because the disadvantaged party will soon realize that it has been swindled. Hence, you must maximize your unfair advantage of negotiation in order to speed up. This piece isn't intended to teach you how to be a successful negotiator, rather, it is meant to help you to realize that you can negotiate yourself into the infinite space of sustainable success.

Cain negotiated with God until he was free from premature death. Vengeance was suspended by placing a label of life on him – Genesis 4:1-17.

Abraham saved Lot from a holocausts, and advocated for a divine blessing on Ishmael, all courtesy of negotiation – Genesis 17:1-22; 18; 19:29.

Jacob wins my heart when it comes to being a successful negotiator of all scriptural characters. Lost in the labyrinth of hunger and myopic consciousness, Esau sold his birthright to Jacob very cheaply, and that led to a lachrymose ending for Esau, while Jacob smiled through life to the top. The lad was so prolific – and we never find God blame him for any of it. Laden with servile ordeals for fourteen years just to secure two wives, he sped up having corrected his past mistakes on the negotiation table with Laban the second time. You may have lost in the past, but you aren't permitted to remain a loser forever: and to speed up, you must maximize your negotiation advantage. Again, watch carefully how Jacob negotiates himself back into peaceful coexistence with Esau.

Levi and Simeon negotiated themselves into an advantaged position where they were able to execute their nefarious acts.

The people of Gibeon negotiated their way out of extinction during the Israelis invasion of Palestine under the leadership of Joshua.

Jephthah negotiated his way back, to not just the headship of his family, but the entire clan.

Delilah negotiated Samson into destruction.

Rehab negotiated herself and family into salvation when the entire city was massacred.

Little David secured tax relief for his family, and also won the royal right of becoming the King's son in-law – I Samuel 17:20-31.

Even avaricious Judas Iscariot had to negotiate for the sale of Jesus Christ with the elders of Israel before leading them to where he would be captured without rancour.

Moses also negotiated with God before moving to Egypt to effect the emancipation of Israel from over four hundred years of slavery.

*"Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord
..." Isaiah 1:18*

Negotiation implies reasoning with someone for a common good, and it's pivotal to lasting success. God doesn't impose orders on people, rather, He seeks their

conscious and conscientious consent to have dealings with them, which we term as the covenant.

Essentials for Negotiation

1. Goal
2. Clarity – Details
3. Self-interest
4. Mutual benefit
5. Clauses – Exit routes
6. Duration
7. Rights, and Transfer of Rights
8. Language

1. **Goal:** What is to be achieved; or reason for the negotiation? Why is the negotiation necessary? The goal of a thing is hinge. Aimlessness is the curse of a man devoid of a goal. One beauty of having a goal is that it engraves its possessor with focus. Living without a goal is living without clue. A man that has no goal is as good as being blind. Having a goal will give direction during negotiation proceedings. The goal will determine and set limits for the entire process. Have a goal before you show up for a negotiation.

2. **Clarity:** Be detailed enough, but with utmost clarity. Once the goal is set, it should be communicable. Being able to have a clear goal is the starting point of sustainable success, and being able to express it intelligibly is the foundation for a rewarding negotiation exercise. Let your goal be clear and simply understandable. Complexity will trigger entropy; thereby, truncating your goal. Don't forget that the goal is speeding up. Be reservedly detailed, and loosely concise. Just be clear enough! Planning is key.
3. **Self-Interest:** What is your personal gain in the deal? Every negotiation that doesn't align with your goal should be proscribed and deemed unconducive and inconclusive. Until your personal interest is captured, don't give in. Don't forget that your goal should be the goal. Make it a habitual priority to always ensure that your self-interest is captured in the picture. You're also important. However, that shouldn't override and overrule mutual or corporate interests.
4. **Mutual Benefit:** The outcome of every negotiation must be such that is mutually beneficial to all parties. Don't permit others to use you to your own disadvantage, because they'll always want to, given a leeway. Be vigilant enough to detect manipulations, and also leery of insincere offers. Slavery is doing what is not mutually beneficial to parties involved.
5. **Clauses:** They must be exit routes in the event of one party's failure. It won't be to the best of your interest to be subjected to unholy continuity

when the other party is flouting the terms and conditions of the deal. Don't forget your self-interest at every point of execution. Spell out exit routes once there's a flagrant disregard for other party's wellbeing. Fixity of terms, or annulment of pact must be clearly stated. Don't enslave yourself, because you've been redeemed.

6. **Duration:** Time is key to success. It is the wheel of life. Every life runs on time – failure or success is graded with time. What is the shelf life of the pact? Remember that it should never last longer than it is beneficial to you. You're not a slave, except you make yourself one. Every agreement that's born of negotiation should be as durable as it continues to uphold the mutual interests of parties. That's the only way to sustain gains.
7. **Rights:** You must be able to possess the right to achieve your set goal after an agreement is reached. Also, transfer of rights in the event that a party becomes incapacitated to act, or continue with the pact, must be duly considered and etched on the agreement. In the event of death, who inherits your lot must be captured – that is key to trans-generational success. It will be a tragic error to overlook the issue of rights and transfer of rights, because it's the foundation for inheritance. It's prosaic to negotiate without spelling out rights and their transference. Don't be a fool. Even God is very clear on the issues of rights and transference.
8. **Language:** You were taught that God confused men in the tower of Babel, hence, languages

became his wining tool. From that story, we know that every language we find men using is a product of confusion, ill-will, and frustration. The cheapest way to confuse or frustrate a man is use a language he doesn't understand. Although the Babel story seems to be a myth when viewed from both literal and logical angles, because it puts God on a reactionary mode, and as foreshadowing language to be an afterthought of a failed project. But when viewed from the vantage ground of spiritual arcana, it's uplifting. Use language that both parties would understand. Without understanding, there shouldn't be a deal. Employ the services of an amanuensis, interpreter or translator when necessary. For more on the story of Babel, read my upcoming book, titled: "**Arcana and Illuminations: The Burning Earth**".

Once, I entered into a business with a friend whose lingua franca was Portuguese, while mine is English, and we agreed that it was a partnership. However, he claimed that the business was solely his when it began to flourish on grounds that he didn't study business in school to understand the difference between partnership and sole proprietorship: and since English language was still new to him. He was right, though a deliberate dubious move. Actually, he repented later and asked for forgiveness, but that's after an irreparable damage had been done. Language is power.

"As a rule, let the adopted resolutions be eponymous with the corporate goals."

The major cause of most men's failure, especially the Christian folks, is their deficiency in negotiation skills. Jesus Christ taught a striking lesson on negotiation in his phenomenal parable **of "the prodigal son"**, and **"the wise servant"** whom some call **"unjust"**. These two lucidly depict the people of the world. Both found themselves in messy situations, but used their minds to fashion out means to not just bounce back, but speed up. Looking deeply, the prodigal son fashioned out plans to negotiate with the father for at least the post of a servant in his estate, than die of hunger and deprivation in a strange land – he got more than he cared and asked for, having acted on his plan. The wise servant also thought his way into solutions by negotiating wisely with his indebted clients. In the end, he got commendation from his previously disenchanted employer. You'll see how they incorporated all eight essentials for negotiation listed above in Luke 15:11-32; 16:1-13.

Every negotiation exercise must produce a win-win resolution, or be boycotted; else a slave is in the making.

Satan negotiated the adversities of Job with God in the cozy court of Heaven – Job 1:6-7; 2:1-7.

The legions negotiation with Jesus Christ to be allowed to stay in the area, and got their way – Mathew 8:31-32.

You can negotiate with God too.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Maximizing Your Professionalism Advantage

Be **"the professional"** in all that you do. The forgoing statement is what the scripture implies by **do all you do with all your might, mind, and being**. Be the best in your sphere – there's nothing wrong with that. God isn't ashamed of being God, and your God; so, don't be ashamed of being a **god** which is a miniature God – Hebrews 11:16.

God is proud of, and also recommends the professional, Viz:

- Job was a professional servant
- Bezaleel was a professional designer and builder
- David was a professional shepherd
- Noah was a professional husbandman and ship builder.
- Jesus Christ recruited professionals in their chosen fields of endeavour.

Even today's Church also needs professionals.

God chose a professional lying spirit to execute his plan concerning the life of Ahab – 1 Kings 22:19-23.

Not many employers are willing to fill up the vacancies in their organizations with amateurs, because of the cost of training involved: not just of money, but also other resources like time. While training, do so to be a self-made professional, at least at a non-regrettable employment level. Train to be employable. Professionals can't be jobless for long if they ever get to be.

Nebuchadnezzar and Cyrus where all professionals. You can only speed up and be sustainably successful when you begin to maximize your professionalism advantages. Jacob could only speed up when he became a professional genetic engineer. Joseph became the Prime Minister of Egypt when he mastered the art of business management and public administration – it wasn't just about his ability to interpret dreams, but also effectiveness, efficiency, and professionalism in business. Joseph didn't stop at interpreting pharaoh's dreams, but also offered a seasoned and well favoured business solution which triggered his immediate employment. By now, Joseph had learned to keep some secrets like reporting evils done by others to the authority – the major reason for his siblings offering him for sale as a slave –Genesis 37:2-3.

Some positions require secrecy to thrive: be professional at keeping secrets too.

Daniel was such a professional in both business and politics that he became the Kings favourite – his appointment was to enable forestall losses in the kingdom's businesses, he being a good negotiator too – Daniel 6:1-3.

As an expert shepherd boy, David could kill Goliath with just a sling stone, but needed to be a professional soldier to be the king of Israel: hence the need for his subsequent training in the art of war. You never find how David killed another giant with a sling stone, or a shepherd's rod – 1 Sam 22.

"David learned the use of sword with the sword of Goliath – 1 Sam 22:10."

Professionalism is key to speeding up; hence, maximize that advantage. You proclude your employability by choosing to remain amateur in your vocation. Additionally, it may interest you to know that it's a bunch of hokum to treat your interests as a hobby. You can't speed up as a hobbyist; therefore, professionalize.

Professionals seek for corporate or mutual good - that's the spirit. When you become a professional in what you do, with God; the sky will be your launch pad. At least, Peter was an expert fisherman before experiencing a nightlong failure, and having met with Jesus Christ, he launched into the deep as an expert to command the net-breaking and boats sinking miracle. David may have killed Goliath not as a professional soldier, but as a professional slinger. If he could kill a Lion, he could kill any man. Killing a lion is a great feat not many hunters have achieved or can dare, and those who have done so have been treated specially by the society with peculiar tittles awarded to them: and David already belonged to that class before chopping off the head of Goliath. It cost his exceptional skills to achieve it: and that's the essence of possessing diverse skills, because none of the trained Israeli soldiers who wielded the sword was able to confront Goliath – not even the great Saul. What

about being a professional musician? David was. The lad was one of the most versatile and employable folk in the land. Also, endeavour to be a professional negotiator. A lot of success depends on it.

Being a Professional Negotiator Pays

"This wisdom have I seen also under the sun, and it seemed great unto me: There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it: Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man." Eccl. 9:13-15

By his wisdom the poor wise man delivered his beloved city from alien forces, however, his good deed were soon forgotten. Why? I once heard someone say that it was his lack of favour - which Joseph did same to Egypt and was favoured by Pharaoh! That's partial truth. This poor man depicts the situation many people find themselves in. It was unprofessional for Joseph to offer ideas to Pharaoh freely. Same was the case with this poor wise man. I believe this is the very reason for poverty of many wise ones. Conversely, under the same circumstances, Jephthah and David struck a deal before engagement.

"And Jephthah said unto the Elders of Gilead, if ye bring me home again to fight against the children of Ammon, and the Lord deliver them before me, shall I be your head?" Judges 11:9

"And David spoke to the men that stood by him, saying. What shall be done to the man that kills this Philistine, and takes away the reproach from Israel?

And the people answered him after this manner, saying, so shall it be done to the man that kills him. And he turned from him toward another, and spoke after the same manner: and the people answered him after the former manner." 1 Samuel 17:26-27, 30

What was actually the soldiers' response that is said to be after the former manner?

"And the men of Israel said, have ye seen this man that is come up? Surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who kills him, the King will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel."

1 Samuel 17:25

David was doubly sure of his benefit, because he doubly confirmed before engaging. Receive good sense. Had the wise man also negotiated with the inhabitants of his city, he would have been either their leader like Jephthah became of Gilead after the deliverance, or like David and his family after his victory over Goliath. The poor wise man was a hobbyist, and not a professional.

"In all labor there is profit..." Proverbs 14:23

"... I am the Lord thy God which teaches you to profit..." Isaiah 48:17

Hence, if there's no profit, it either signifies God's absence, or your unprofessionalism. Use your head well to start living well.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Maximizing Your Leadership Advantage

You're either a follower, or a leader per time. If you can't lead, you'll certainly follow others. Is it possible for everyone to be a leader? Yes, and No! Yes, if everyone will maximize their unfair advantages; No, because not everyone will maximize their unfair advantages: However, every leader is still a follower in a way. A political leader can be a religious or spiritual follower. We have both natures and capacities in us, but only a few maximize their leadership advantage, while others in the state of static docile mentality confine themselves to followership.

The proof that you're speeding up in life is when others are following you. You might not be your best right now, but you'll certainly get there if you keep long at it. The man that must be sustainably successful must be able to sustain his leadership position, or burn out. Leadership is the essence of existence. If you are a follower today, follow to lead tomorrow. **Leadership isn't a gift, but a lift.** To lead is to lift oneself from mediocrity and oblivion to high pedestals of glory and fame. As a leader, your responsibility is to lift the life and statuses of your followers to higher echelons of accomplishments, because you'll end up being either the cumulative failure or success of your leadership. The beauties and joys of being a follower is in the

preparation for future leadership, because today's leader was yesterday's follower, and today's follower will be tomorrow's leader.

Demands of Leadership

Vision

Knowledge

Grit and Gumption

Innovation

Consolidation

Succession Planning

Impact

Power.

1. **Vision:** Vision is mental sight, spiritual dreams, and physical imagery. Every vision must cover and affect the three planes of human existence, otherwise it should be disregarded. Any vision that doesn't have a direct impact on your soul (spirit and body) isn't for you. You must have a vision to assume leadership, because people follow who or what they see mentally, spiritually, and physically. **Every goal is vision oriented and passion driven.** The leader must be a man

of vision, because the blind can't lead, else all will be immured in a cul-de-sac.

What is your vision? **You belong to the division if you have no vision.** There is no meaningful traction without a useful vision, and leadership is that traction.

Traction = Attraction

Vision is a force that pulls followers to a particular leadership, and poor vision implies poor followership. Men follow what they can see in either concrete or abstract terms. Hence, your degree of traction determines your attraction in life. **When a vision is inspiring, men will aspire to pursue with the visionary, else will expire into oblivion with time.** People are said to perish where there is no vision – Proverbs 18:1; therefore, you must create a vision for yourself or ask God for one in order to escape being one of the perishable ones. Securing a vision is what will make you a leader, and maximizing your process of speeding up. Your vision can be that idea, and you must have a vision to be a leader.

2. **Knowledge:** I am using knowledge in this context not comparatively or specifically, but generically. It connotes what you know, and what you can do with what you know. If you know anything; it should be your vision, and how to pursue and accomplish it. The vision you don't

know is your greatest undoing in life, because visionless people are perishable folks. There can't be effective and efficient leadership where there is want of knowledge of vision. A leader is one who knows the destination and how to take the lead. Until you know how to lead, you won't know how to speed up in life. **A leader must know the way.** Fools aren't leaders, because they know not how to get to their destinations – hence, they get obliterated – Ecclesiastes 10:15.

The nob of the matter is that all leadership patterns are knowledge architected, and arduous pursuit is coherent with it. Formidable planning and programming hinges on knowledgability of the vision, and this is **atavistic** instinct. Knowledge enriches, as well as destroys; depending on the content; because it empowers you to either be constructive or destructive. The crux of the matter lies in what one knows, and not just knowing. **Content is key.** You must know your vision in order to avert aimlessness in thinking, talking, and acting, so as to enable you maximize your undaunted leadership advantage: thereby, speeding up in life. Know your origin, past, present, and future. Know the people you are dealing with. Know your environment, industry, niche, spouse, terms of references, etc. Know your vision, if you must undertake the right mission in life. Know how to speed up in life. Know how to lead.

To know more on this, get the volume one of this series, titled: "**Maximize Your Unfair**

Advantage: Your Content Determines Your Contention or Contentment".

Acquisition of usable knowledge shouldn't be limited to official schooling, as there are many reliable sources of enlightenment out there.

3. **Grit and Gumption:** A leader must be full of grit and gumption in the pursuit of his vision in order to foster attainment. Temerity is fundamental to sustainable success, because the one who will be a leader must undoubtedly confront and conquer adversity. One isn't a leader until he or she leads a conquest – and grit is key. This is the defining factor of would be leaders. There are bound to be occasional infiltration of one's life with fear and doubt, however, only the gritty folk will persist until victory is won. That exceptional courage and determination to continue doing the impossible and unpleasant task until the defined goal is achieved is the difference between the leader and follower, success and failure, etc.

Even Jesus Christ experienced and expressed doubt and fear in the pursuit of his vision, however, grit and gumption sustained the pursuit until he said "**it is finished**" – Hebrews 5:7; Mathew 26:38-39. A grouch is one who lacks grit, hence, is such an unpardonable failure. Adversities, fears, and doubts are the crucibles of every successful leader in any calling or chosen career, but grit and gumption is the sustaining ingredient. Before I ever made my first Million

Naira, I had failed severally in thousands, tens of thousands, and hundreds of thousands; but grit and gumption sustained me that within a year of my last loss of about seven hundred thousand naira, I recovered all with zero naira: and with the goodwill of my clients, I raked about four million Naira – that is speeding up. Growing a business that has fallen flat to zero naira up to millions within twelve months is highly commendable. Grit and gumption made it both possible and achievable. The gutless are the gullible, and gullibility is the greatest undoing of failures or eternal followers.

When vision ignites passion via knowledge, speeding up is imminent. Leadership is more than charisma, a gutsy character is unstoppable.

4. **Innovation:** Pragmatism is the soul of the leader, however, fixity of purpose and pursuit must be uncompromised. The leader must be an innovator, and vice versa. Kodak is a leading example of lack of innovation in business and life. Sustainable success demands that you soar on the wings of innovative strides. It's innovation that makes the leader. Silos were never built in Egypt until Joseph emerged. It takes innovative thinking to interpret dreams and visions. Doing things differently is key to getting different results and experiences, and innovation is that difference. Jesus Christ was an innovative thinker, preacher, healer, and leader – he varied in much every way from the leading religion of his time;

hence, we have more Christians today than the proselytes of Judaism. Get out of that box now. Creating wine from water is innovative. Think and live innovation.

5. **Consolidation:** The strength of a leader is tied to his ability to build a solid and ever expanding base. A formidable structure has a guaranteed future. Consolidation is the pulchritude of sustainable success; because the future holds nothing, but failure for the man who won't consolidate his leadership position. To consolidate effectively, one must intelligently strengthen his downlink. Until your followership has pukka reasons to be loyal to you, you have no future in the world of leaders. Empowering those who follow you to aid you to accomplish your purpose is a sure way to consolidate as a leader. Clearly define and determine your inner and outer circles. Jesus Christ had the three, twelve, and seventy, etc. David had the three, thirty, and others. Leadership without consolidation is evanescent, and will assuredly produce a social eunuch out of the leader. You must consolidate all your strides if you truly want to be speeding up. Through consolidation, you maximize your leadership advantage; thereby, speeding up.
6. **Succession Planning:** A good leader doesn't just consolidate his leadership base, but also has a reliable succession plan. Institutions and organizations who thrive to become ubiquitous are the only ones with a trusted succession

planning mechanism. Jesus Christ had a good succession plan – he passed the baton to His Apostles. David's succession plan made it possible for the enthronement of Solomon, even when Adonijah attempted to usurp power. Joshua took over leadership from Moses because of a good succession plan, but Joshua had no reliable successor due to lack of a succession plan. Gideon didn't have a succession plan, hence he lost his entire family due to power tussle. The beauty of a succession plan is that it forestalls infighting due to power tussle, which is inimical to the growth and sustainability of any organization. Alexander's Grecian empire disintegrated immediately after his demise due to lack of succession planning. Every piece of item on this list is very important: however, succession planning is the centerpiece of sustainable success. This is cephalic when speeding up is the quest. One of the aggregators of pseudo success is a lack of a formidable succession planning.

"Scalability is a key feature of succession planning."

Succession planning takes care of preparing future leaders for the task of leadership in a gripping format. I admire the Roman Catholic institution for her quality succession claims and planning which has been responsible for her survival in almost two thousand years amidst several hiccups. Their claims of papal succession which began with the Apostle Peter might be grotesque, but they have one thing going good for them. Apostle John was still alive when Peter

died, how then was it possible for another folk to take over the leadership of the universal church? That shouldn't incite a grinding gripe on this piece of work. Rather, one should note that the claims hinges on the **Church of Rome** which Peter is said to have headed before his execution by the roman authorities, and not the **Church of Jerusalem** which had a reliable council of elders who made seasoned decisions on issues affecting the church. Quality succession planning is the reason for the **Roman** Catholic Church being the oldest organized institution on the earth, and they keep thriving on that.

"Leadership without succession planning is like raising a castrated dog – it has no future."

7. **Impact:** People will follow you out of sentiments held about you – part of which are your impact on their lives. This is very vital if you must speed up in life. How you affect others determines how they respond to you. A grotty leadership will certainly breed a grouchy leader and followers. The impact you invest on people through your leadership will determine how readily they'll follow you, or deterred to follow you. And to have a lasting impact on people, let your charisma and character be synchronously exuded per time in the discharge of your leadership, because impact is driven by charisma, but sustained by character.
The quality of one's character is what preserves the value of his charisma. Charisma is a bait, while character is the hook.

Baiting isn't enough, hooking must be reliable and sustainable. As a leader you must use your charisma to bait and attract, while you use your character to hook and keep for as long as is required - that's the demand for speeding up for a sustainable success. Therefore, maximize your unfair advantage in this area of impact. **Everyone who follows me does so for a reason – impact. David, Jephthah, and Jesus Christ all had vain men converted to main men by impactful leadership.**

8. **Power:** it can both create and destroy; hence, great caution is needed here: though not as much needed as power itself. You can't do anything without power. One's ability to lead, and do so successfully is power based. The degree of power you command will determine your level of control, and the space you occupy. The glaring difference between a tenant and a landlord is the control over the property. Whoever has power controls those who do not have it. Articulating the other seven points is fundamental for cumulative power. People won't have a penchant for your leadership unless there's a power display; and real power resonates, attracts, and sustains. **Compliance is a key feature of power.**

The Devils bowed to Jesus Christ, Sickesses, Diseases, Death, and Nature complied with the demands of Jesus Christ because of the degree of power he wielded. When negotiations fail, power becomes the available and usable option a leader must deploy. Jesus Christ will

never reign literally on the earth unless He exhibits His sovereign power over all His detractors – revelations 11:15-18. God rules by His power – psalm 66:3-7; 62:11; therefore, you can't rule without power. Vision power; knowledge power; Determination power; Innovation power; Consolidation power; Succession Planning power; and Impact power: when combined together, gives the leader an unfair advantage that will bring every competition to their knees. The beauty of power is that it generates success, while more success will also produce more power.

Power is Bugaboo! Go for power, and get it at all cost. Jesus Christ died as a lamb, but He reigns as a Lion. Learn, and be wise. Every conscious step taken from the beginning of this meditation and the entire series will make you an indisputable powerhouse. Power is the difference between the leader and the follower.

CHAPTER NINE

Converting Your Adversities to Opportunities

Don't think speeding up without adversities. Success is the process of scaling upwards on the radar of adversities. Until adversity bows to you, don't bow. My personal mantra is "**I rather burn than bow!**" Every adversity you conquer leaves a scar on you which will radiate with time for others to capture as a star. Where you are now pictures how much you've conquered so far.

"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief..." Isaiah 53:3.

Jesus Christ is Lord of Adversities. They were his good neighbours all the days of his ministry on the earth.

Converting adversities to life changing opportunities is actual success, and not mere egotistic or lustful accumulation of things. **To be great in life, you must be great at surmounting adversities.** When adversities strike, it is a call to greater human service. It's that moment of creation when the God in you rises to command light to shine out of darkness. It's in darkness that stars find their brilliance. God being The Sun of Life deliberately withdraws his luminance so that his cherished stars and moon will radiate their splendor.

To convert adversities to opportunities, one must be ready to feel awkward and clumsy.

A leader is one who sees opportunities in every adversity. The innovator always calls for adverse situations to create another wonder the world has never known. One is a pukka relic of a bygone era who doesn't see opportunities in every adversity.

The Immortal Jellyfish

"The good news is that you can be immortal. The bad news is that you have to become a floating blob of jelly to do so. Scientist have discovered a jellyfish which can live forever.

Torritopsis Dohrnii is now officially known as the only immortal creature. The secret to eternal life, as it turns out, is not just living a really, really long time. It's all about maturity, or rather, the lack of it. The immortal jellyfish (as it is better known popularly) propagate and then, faced with the normal career path of dying, then opt instead to revert to sexually immature stage.

*It turns out that once the adult form of the 4.5mm - wide species Torritopsis Dohrnii have reproduced, they don't die but transform themselves back into their juvenile polyp state. Their tentacles retract, their bodies shrink, and they sink to the ocean floor and start the cycle all over again. Among laboratory samples, all the adult Torritopsis observed regularly undergo this change. And not just once: "**they can do it over and over again..."** - Immortal Jellyfish.com*

Adversity is the Jellyfish's opportunity to become younger cyclically; just as it is the Salamander's to regrow its lost limbs and organs. The latter can hibernate during some adverse seasons in order to survive. Likewise, you have inbuilt mechanisms to survive every adverse situations life hurls at you – see them as opportunities for transformation. You must be able to convert adverse circumstance into opportunities for growth and advancement to be a leader. The true proof and cachet of a leader is his ability to transmute adversity into opportunities – and this is where grit and gumption comes in: as it is the sustaining factor against opposition. Where other birds see an opponent, the eagle sees an opportunity to soar to its destination effortlessly. You can't avoid adversities, but you can demerge yourself from its adverse effects by converting them into opportunities. What the follower and failure see as a problem, the successful leader see as a chance for improvement.

True leaders don't pray to avoid ordeals, they ask for wisdom to translate them into tangible worthy ideals that others will emulate. David saw an opportunity for advancement where Saul and his entire army of soldiers saw imminent death – and when he dared to convert it, he emerged the strangest and greatest leader the Kingdom had ever known. Jephthah converted his disadvantages into advantages by transforming vain men into army generals. Joseph saw opportunities where Pharaoh saw famine and scarcity leading to death – and when he had successfully translated them, the whole world bowed at his feet; thereby, patronizing him unreservedly. Jesus Christ saw an opportunity to manifest his glory where others saw adversity: hence, he turned water into wine, brought life out of death. Etc.

Don't just believe in God while doubting yourself, believe also in yourself; because you have a measure of God in you waiting to manifest through you. You can command explosive success only if you'll begin to convert your adversities into opportunities.

Baker's Experience

"Another parable spake he unto them; 'The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal till the whole was leavened'" Mathew 13:33

Leaven is yeast, just as yeast is a leaving agent. The NET Version puts it this way:

"He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of flour until all the dough had risen.'"

God intends to make you a risen dough; and to do so, he puts his Kingdom inside of you just like a baker mixes his flour with baker's yeast. The effect of yeast as a leaving agent in a dough is to cause it to rise, which is attained by expanding and becoming lighter and softer: by converting the fermentable sugars present in the dough into carbon dioxide and ethanol. When the yeast reacts with the fermentable sugars, the yeast causes the sugars to ferment, thereby producing those two gases which want to escape the dough. The carbonated gases bubbles within the dough seeking for escape, but finds none: hence, cause the dough to rise like a balloon through the bubbling fumes. Fermentation ceases when

the yeast is denatured by excess heat, while the dough fully sets. Such is the mystery of life in the kingdom.

You are meant to rise high in life like a fermented dough; but as by fire. The yeasted dough needs fire to fully rise and set. They Holy Spirit in you is the yeast; adversity is the fire; while you are the dough that divinity is baking. You must bubble to expand, or rise in life: but to do so, you must possess fermentable sugars to react with the yeast of God. Most folks lack fermentable sugars in their lives, and how to regain them is by adopting and deploying the contents of this text in order to speed up in life. The dough speeds up sustainably only when the fermentation is taking place within, while it's in the oven. Absence of fermentable sugars will repress the growth of the yeast in the dough. God doesn't determine your growth; your growth is your own responsibility. God supplies his yeast liberally, but you must maximize it to speed up in life. I used to think that it was solely the responsibility of the yeast to cause the cake or bread to rise; but that is not true, because the flour must possess some fermentable sugars for it to leaven; lack of which will cause the dough to fall instead of rising, no matter the quantity of yeast that's applied to it. And to regain your fermentable sugars, you must voraciously and unreservedly apply everything you've learnt from this work.

From our opening scriptures, it was adversity that made Jacob to speed up after an abysmal outing for fourteen whole years: hence, the science of genetic engineering was born, even though it's written in arcane language. You too can, and will bounce back, if only you'll be, and do as required.

"Life won't give you what you claim prophetically, wish for, or deserve; it will give you only that which you produce, both consciously and subconsciously."

EPILOGUE

Speeding Up: Recovery or Discovery?

To speed up, one must recover his losses in order to bounce back to the lost position. Hence, recovery is the starting point for speeding up. You bounce back whenever you recover your losses, but speed up whenever a new discovery is made: because a new discovery is that which will put you ahead of the competition. Jacob could only speed up when he'd discovered how to alter the genetic code of the flocks and herds. In bouncing back, you regain what was lost; but in speeding up you get excess of what was lost. You must endeavour to discover new ways of doing things in order to speed up. **In recovery, you might not discover; but in discovery, you'll certainly recover.**

Use Your Mind

"The lion has a paralyzing roar to protect itself. The cheetah has its blinding speed. The tiger has its sharp claws. The rhino has its huge imposing size. Man has none of those things. Why didn't God give us any of these attributes? It's because he gave us a creative mind! That mind has created buildings, telephones, engines, airplanes, etc. The most superior trait of humanity is the mind. If you don't use it, you're

defenseless in this jungle called life. Therefore, it's dangerous to form blind allegiance to any group, gang, or herd, if the cost of admission is the dismissal of your mind"

Bishop T. D. Jakes.

The right use of the mind is your only guarantee to speeding up. The advocates of Christianity had for too long implore their followers to suspend the use of their minds. They say how weak and lustful the mind is, without ever considering that the mind functions along the path of the man's intents. The mind is simply the laboratory of the soul. And whatever happens inside there is as orchestrated by the man. It's what you put into the mind that it processes, and gives back to you. The right use of your mind implies the right use of your time; which also equals a right life. The mind functions by thinking. Or, thinking is your minds major raw material. Hence, you can think and speed up in life.

The Imagination

You are limited or limitless by your imagination. Even God acknowledges that as a truth; hence, he said:

"... and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do."

Genesis 11:6

It takes creative imagination to speed up in any calling. Most times, what people attribute to God is inanely ungodly; and yet, they muster the guts to claim that it's

God's order. Only you can limit yourself by the wrong use of your imagination. Even God avows to not stop the man who uses his imagination. If your mind can capture the image, the spirit will bring it to manifestation, while you get to work. Your imaginative faculty is invincible; however, the thought materials you feed it with determines the image it will create. Therefore, your imagination depends on your thought. And to speed up, you must feed your imagination with speeding up thoughts for it to create a module or template that will ultimately deliver whatever is intended. **A fritz mind will produce a frigid life.**

The Force of Faith

Faith is the capacity for a human to enforce the attainment of worthy ideals. It's not enough to ideate, but ruggedness and doggedness in pursuit is key to success. No matter how worthy a cause may be, pursuit is fundamental to accomplishment; and faith is all it takes to pursue until success is achieved. However, faith begins with knowledge. Having followed through on the whole course, you need to apply your faith now in order to foster the realization of your ultimate purpose. **Faith is the only force that humiliates fate. When faith rises, fate bows.** Every human accomplishments in the fields of religion, sciences, industry, etc., are products of men's faith.

God doesn't give faith, he only gives his spirit – which is energy: but you must step out in faith believing that you'll succeed with the aid of the divine energy. The Holy Spirit is synonymous with power, or he's the persona of

power – Acts 1:8; 6:3, 8. Both the Holy Spirit and power are used interchangeably in those scriptures, but you need more than power, because God wants your active and conscious engagement, which comes only by faith.

Faith is wisdom, as it is the application of knowledge. In Mark 11:23; Jesus Christ said that your faith will move a mountain of troubles.

And in Job 28:9; Wisdom is said to overturn the mountain by its roots. Additionally, both are used interchangeably in Acts 6:3, 5, and verse 8. Hence, it's wisdom to act in faith. Step out when everyone is threatening with failures. You can only, and always conquer by faith; thereby, speeding up in life. To be full of faith is to be full of wisdom! And to be full of wisdom is to be full of life. Knowledge won't profit anything without acting on what is known. Faith isn't calling for, or seeking the known: rather, it's pursuing the attainment of the proceeds of knowledge. You must have a vivid picture of your intents before you set your sails of pursuit. Faith knows no limitations, and it's advisable to start at your own level and grow along with the process or venture.

There might be temporary setbacks or failures, but they are true to the word "**temporary**". Faith will always pull through in the end. Faith is a universal force which answers to all races alike. The results depends on what is intended, or where and what it's applied to. Have faith in God! Have faith in yourself, because you are a miniature God – John 10:34-35. Faith in Jesus Christ saves from sin and eternal death, while faith in that business or career engagement can lead you to outstanding success arena.

"... All things are possible for the one who believes."
Mark 9:23 (NET)

Seizing Opportunities

Seizing opportunities as they come is a sure guarantee for speeding up. The man who maximizes his unfair advantages by seizing opportunities as they are tossed before him will certainly advance his causes in life; and that is what is meant by speeding up. A careful study of successful folks alludes to this fact with credence. The man who always trashes opportunities is bound to be a serial failure, no matter how educated or endowed he might be. Every single opportunity that comes to you is an additional rung ordained for your lifting; and you'll miss the promotion when you misstep the rung.

Like I said earlier, darkness is God's deliberate blessing given to his stars to help them shine. The beauty of stars and the moon is appreciated in darkness. Stars are always shining, but they become visible to the human eye when darkness prevails. Hence, the night is the only season that stars could shine appreciably, because they're lost in the luminance of the sun's light during the day. "**Darkness isn't a curse, but a true blessing for the stars of this world. The darker the night, the brighter stars shine.**" Consequently, every star seizes the opportunity of the night to express their brilliance. They receive much light from the sun during the day to beam at night; the process continues as the sun never stops shining.

The ants seize the opportunity of the summer to store food for their winter banquet, while non-saving grasshoppers die. Ants know when to gather, and they always do so instinctively. **Saving more while your earning power is high is one art that every human must learn from the ants – Proverbs 6:6-8.** This lesson from the ant teaches us that there is no insignificant creature. I think that it was common for Joseph to proffer solutions to Pharaoh's problems by just studying the ants alone. Saving twenty percent of earnings when earning high is actually commendable – Genesis 41:34-36. You can't live otherwise and expect the same result when adversity rocks – there won't be such a miracle. The Bible is also a book of principles. You'll get the same result when you practice the same principles, like the ants – it's just common sense.

Jacob seized his opportunity, hence he used it to speed up instead of whining and complaining like he did in the past.

David seized his opportunity to bring down Goliath; hence he speed up.

Jephthah has been preparing, planning, and praying until the day his opportunity presented itself; and he never sought it twice, but seized it at the first instance to speed up.

Apostle Paul seized the opportunity of a miraculous deliverance to save the warder's household once the opportunity presented itself amidst adversity – Acts 16:16-33

"To speed up, you must seize opportunities, but they often present themselves clothed in adversities."

Adam and Eve had every opportunity to advance their lives to eternity, but forfeited it to a wrong choice which also led to a wrong course of action.

Right now, you have an opportunity to speed up. You have the same opportunity that Adam and Eve forfeited. You have an opportunity to admit Jesus Christ who is eternal life into your life – 1 John 5:20; John 17:3; etc.

God isn't Pleased When We Squander Opportunities.

"In a wild vision on the 22nd of January, 2017; I was introduced and celebrated as a young millionaire at thirty, and should be worth even much more now. One of my friends' wife confronted me, demanding that God requires accountability for my stewardship and accomplishments for the past years ... and my candid response was that I haven't been on a permanent financial schedule, and my earnings have been epileptic since 2009; but she argued that that wasn't very true, and that God wasn't pleased with me for loosing many life advancement opportunities which was responsible for my lack-luster life at the time – I felt very pitiful and downcast with the expression of contrition on my face; and finally woke up with a heavy heart stemming from that sense of displeasure."

That vision opened in me a new vista of caution and intimation in handling every given opportunity. You should understand that God encapsulates himself within every opportunity He brings our way. **Opportunities are actually divine vehicles designed to foster our lifting, advancement, prosperity and success in life. Hence, missing them is missing the success that comes with them.** Seize every opportunity that comes to you to speed up in life, or drown in the ocean of divine displeasure. You create a virtuous circle by seizing every opportunity, and a vicious circle by squandering them.

Now if you're willing to get that life; say the following:

*"Lord Jesus Christ, come into my life, now! Live in me, and with me. Teach me to love you wholeheartedly, live in you, and walk with you every day of my life.
Thank you Lord! It is done."*

Avoid Pseudo-Success

Pseudo-success stems from quick success syndrome. Wanting to succeed faster than is necessary will give rise to a false outcome which will invariably have lasting negative effects. "**Easy come, easy go**", they say. However, not every stressful engagements guarantees sustainable success. Remember "**Jonah's Gourd!**" It sprang up in the evening and vanished the following morning. Jonah 4:6-7.

Sometimes, speed isn't progress. It doesn't cost much to hit the bottom of the pit. Try climbing to

the top, and you'll know the difference. That you're as slow as a snail doesn't guarantee safety and success either; it might be an indication of unfitness. **However, it takes time to build.**

"... a sower went forth to sow... some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: and when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away"
Mathew 13:3-6

Germination and growth tends to be easier where there's scanty soil covering the seed – but the true test is when the scorching sun arises. Luke's account renders it thus:

"And some fell upon a rock: and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, because it lacked moisture" Luke 8:6

The deeper the roots sink, the higher the trunk rises; and the more durable the tree will be. Easy and speedy growth might also portend a short life span. It is said that the bamboo tree grows a foot tall per day at infancy, but how many feet tall does it grow overall? Sometimes, the fastest aren't the most successful: and some things take time to get established. Take your time where and when necessary.

The Hybrid Cock and the Native Hen

On a New Year's Eve, a hybrid cock saw a native hen and said to it: "my mother told me that you're her age

mate, and look how I've grown bigger than you have in a very short time. Why have you refused to grow? "

The native hen laughingly retorted: "how is your mother doing?"

"My mother died during the Christmas party celebration" was the hybrid cock's riposte.

"Just the two of us are alive now — I'll tell you why I grow organically after New Year's celebration party; the native hen replied."

Until then! What are they feeding you for? You might just be growing fast to also die fast. Don't mock others because you don't know what will soon befall you.

Seek Expert's Services

Except you know it all, then you'll do it all alone. No matter how much you know about your field of endeavour, you'll need expert's services to succeed on a sustainable scale. Moses had been leading his father-in-law's flock and herds in the wilderness for about four decades, and God was also guiding them (Israelis) every step of the journey: however, he still needed the help of his brother in-law to maneuver the wilderness when en route Canaan land with the Israelis – Numbers 10:29-31

Secondly, Moses would have died under the administrative weight of his exalted office, but for the expert counsel of his father in-law – Exodus 18:1-27.

Wise King Solomon employed the services of an expert builder to build the temple and his city. Even Jesus Christ used the services of experts in all departments of his ministry on the earth. Peter, not Mathew, did he send to the river to go and catch the fish with a gold coin in its mouth. Judas Iscariot that served as a treasurer was a frugal accountant who also knew how to doctor the balance sheet after embezzlement, which is a characteristic of almost all financial accountants – John 12:1-6.

Information

You must be adequately informed to speed up and succeed sustainably. **Transformation and deformation are both functions of information, depending on its content.** Adam and Eve were both deformed because of the content of the information they've gotten from the perverted devil – Genesis 3. Gideon was transformed by the content of the information that the angel delivered to him – Judges 6. The bleeding woman was transformed after her personal contact with the fringes of Jesus' garment by the content of the information she heard concerning Jesus Christ, which characterized her strategy and actions – mark 5:27. The scriptures were written to get you informed about God... Luke 1:1-4. Jacob imported food from Egypt to avert the peril of the famine that ravaged the entire Middle East via the promptings of information

"... And he said, Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt..." – Genesis 42:1-2; 31:1-2.

Information is key to investment. **Every opportunity is transmitted via information.** The rich get richer because wealth enhancement information circulates around their circle. You must be privy to certain pieces of information like Mary, for you to birth her kind of success. She kept laying things to her heart until she provoked the creation of miracle wine at the marriage at Cana – Luke 2:19, 33, 35; John 2:1–11. Those who either justified or condemned Jesus Christ did so based on the kind of information they had gathered on him – Even the witnesses were based on what he said, or didn't say – John 18: 33–35; etc.

"Information transforms or deforms depending on its content."

"Cease my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge." Pro. 19:27"

Strategy

You must have a plan on how to speed up on a consistent basis, thereby becoming sustainably successful in life. Now, that process of planning to the point of execution in a skillful way is what is called strategy. There can never be success without a strategy. It's what makes the difference in life. Wars are won or lost on strategy.

Humanity's salvation from both sin, death, and the darkened devil was skillfully planned and executed through and through by the Saviour, who himself is said to be "The Extraordinary Strategist."

"For a child has been born to us, a son has been given to us. He shoulders responsibility and is called: Extraordinary Strategist, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6 (NET)

Living without strategy will amount to living in tragedy. The Mighty God, who is also the Everlasting father, is also the Extraordinary Strategist; who skillfully planned and came into the world as a child – which left the devil in total ignorance of what he was up against. Had the Devil known that he was actually dealing with the very God of very God, he (Satan) would have disengaged midway into the execution of the Christ. If the Almighty One could adopt such a strategy to enforce your redemption, you need a strategy to speed up in life, and be sustainably successful. You'll need expert's services if you can't create one yourself. Every successful man or organization have a scalable strategy that is responsible for the magnitude of success they have gained so far in the pursuit of their purpose. Jacob had a strategy that when maximized led to his speeding up – Genesis 30; etc.

Maximize Your Strengths

It is pertinent to dwell on your core strengths, while also working on building, or converting your weaknesses into strengths. One fatal mistake you should avoid is that of

allowing your strengths to wane into weaknesses due to negligence triggered by passionate quest for mastering weaknesses. Appreciate your strengths and work smart and hard to improve on them. Everyone have core strengths, and that is what is called unfair advantage. The creator gave you something that can aid in your success and preservation anytime, and anywhere.

The Whale, being the largest mammal, can't withstand tiny ants on the land, because the land isn't its place of strength. The ant's core strength is savings. They save during summer to consume during winter. The Lion doesn't save, because it only eats fresh preys that it kills. The eagle is the King of the air, and not of the land or sea. The Lion is the King of the jungle, and not of the sky or waters. No matter how wild and deadly the Shark can be, it can only be as dangerous as it swims the blue sea. Put it on the land, and it becomes useless. Don't compete with people in the areas of their core strengths – you'll be a fool to do so, because they'll beat you black and blue. You don't stand a chance of sustainable success – it's called dereliction of purpose, and every purpose has inbuilt strength mechanisms.

David could only kill the giant called Goliath by maximizing his strength – the sling. Solomon maximized his strength to have four decades of a peaceful reign – diplomacy, and political and economic alliances. Moses' strength lay in hearing God, and not men; hence would have died under the weight of judging the people, but for the timely advice of his father-in-law. Fishes don't breathe on the land, and even the few that breathe onshore do so far a limited time. We're all different people with differences in strengths. The bees' strength lies in honey production – and it's said that a bee travels

about two million miles to gather enough nectar to aid in its production of about half a table-spoonful of honey in a life time. That might be insignificant compared to the effort needed. However, it contributes to the overall health and production capacity of the community. Each contributes its quota by maximizing its strength.

Don't be a Jack of all... be master at something, and build to consistently improve on that. Maximizing your strengths enables you to succeed on a sustainable scale, platform, and capacity.

Accountability

There's always a time of reckoning in this life, and everyone is expected to render account for every deed of life both to God, and fellow humans: and every reward is determined by the quality of work that was done by the individual – Lk.12:47-48; Lk.16:1-13; Eccl.7:10; Jn.21:10; Lk.19:12-23

"And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, where art thou?" Genesis 3:9

You should be able to know where you are per time. Are you still where you used to be, or have shifted to another point? Is the shift retrogressive or progressive? You must be accountable to yourself, your employer, and your creator. You can as well be accountable to your spouse...

Where are you? Where is your business and career? Where is your marriage? Etc. **Self-assessment and**

evaluation is key to personal accountability, and accountability, is the corporate showcase of integrity. At least, almost everyone will want to deal with a man of integrity; hence, aiding him to speed up in life – Jn.3:27.

Rest

Don't overwork yourself to early grave. You may have been told that those who sleep or take a good rest don't succeed in life: that is so misleading. Working for longer hours isn't the only essential for resounding success. Work when you should, and also rest when you should. It is during rest that your body systems rejuvenates and prepare for future use. Even God rested on the seventh day after six committed days of periodic work. He didn't even work all through the one hundred and forty eight hours of those six days of creation; God worked for twelve hours of the day and rested twelve hours of the night. He knows your build and makeup. God knows to what extent your body can effectively withstand the pressure of work; hence he also made the night. Factually, the night is one of man's greatest blessing from his creator – Genesis 1; 2:1-3.

Rest is a channel of refreshment for the body –
Exo.31:15-17; Isa. 30:15.

Jesus Christ also taught his disciples how to rest after a day's work – Mark 6:30-32

Rest! Rest!! Rest!!!

Celebrate Your Successes

Every good outcome in any endeavour deserves being celebrated. It's all worth it. It's a measure of appreciating goodnesses. The joy you derive from celebrating your success will also encourage you to achieve more successes in order to sustain the moments of joy. It is ironic how people think it vain glorying when people celebrate their successes.

The disciples of Jesus Christ had just witnessed some exhilarating moment out there during their Kingdom gospel campaign experience because devils bowed to their authority; and when they had returned to their master, they were unreservedly exultant, while also exhibiting exuberance as they reported to Jesus Christ how even the devils were also subject to them through his name – Luke 10:17. Jesus gives them even more authority having heard their good report, however, stunned their imagination with what follows:

"Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven." Luke 10:20

The reason for such a twist was because celebrating their victory over devils was both short term and temporal. He wanted them to build on eternal celebration foundation, which is that their names are written in heaven; or **put differently, that they should celebrate their heavenly citizenship.**

These were all sinners heading for eternal damnation. Suddenly, their names are delisted from the Book of Death, and enlisted on the Lamb's Book of Life. That's the greatest of all human accomplishments. Hence, Jesus Christ questioned what a man will benefit from gaining the whole world's goods having lost his own soul. Jesus gave them a more valid reason to celebrate; therefore, celebrate your successes, and that not to the detriment of future successes. You must endeavour to make celebrating your successes a motivating factor for future pursuits, because that's a functional way of rewarding yourself and others with memorable moments and experiences. After Michael and his team had successfully dislodged Satan and his cohorts from heaven, they celebrated their success. Rev. 12:7-12a

Having already been registered as a citizen of heaven, you have every right to celebrate that. In case you skipped that part in our meditation on seizing opportunities, you're worth every right to commanding our repeating it here.

Now, if you're willing and ready to gain your heavenly citizenship, say the following:

"Lord Jesus Christ, come into my life, now! Live in me, and be with me always. Teach me, and help me to love and obey you wholeheartedly, and live in you, and walk with you every day of my life, henceforth. Thank you Lord, because I know that I am now a bona-fide citizen of Heaven. It is done!"

The goal of this volume is to get your story of how you sped up in any endeavour after reading it. Be free to share your experience with us at:
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Thanks, for meeting here!

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You just sped up ...

Congratulations.

Proof