

Introduction

Restitution: correcting past wrong doing, where required, according to the doctrine of the Holy scripture, is not known to many in the body of Christ worldwide. This is because majority of the Christian churches are ignorant of the word of God. The true world of God is not taught in many Christian churches today because the goal of many preachers is not to lead their congregation to gospel truth, holiness and heaven, but to prosperity and wisdom of this world.

Many ancient preachers who are still living in our generation have abandoned the gospel of righteousness and holiness which they used to preach, because they discovered that their members are no more passionate about truth;

Isaiah 30:8 -11.

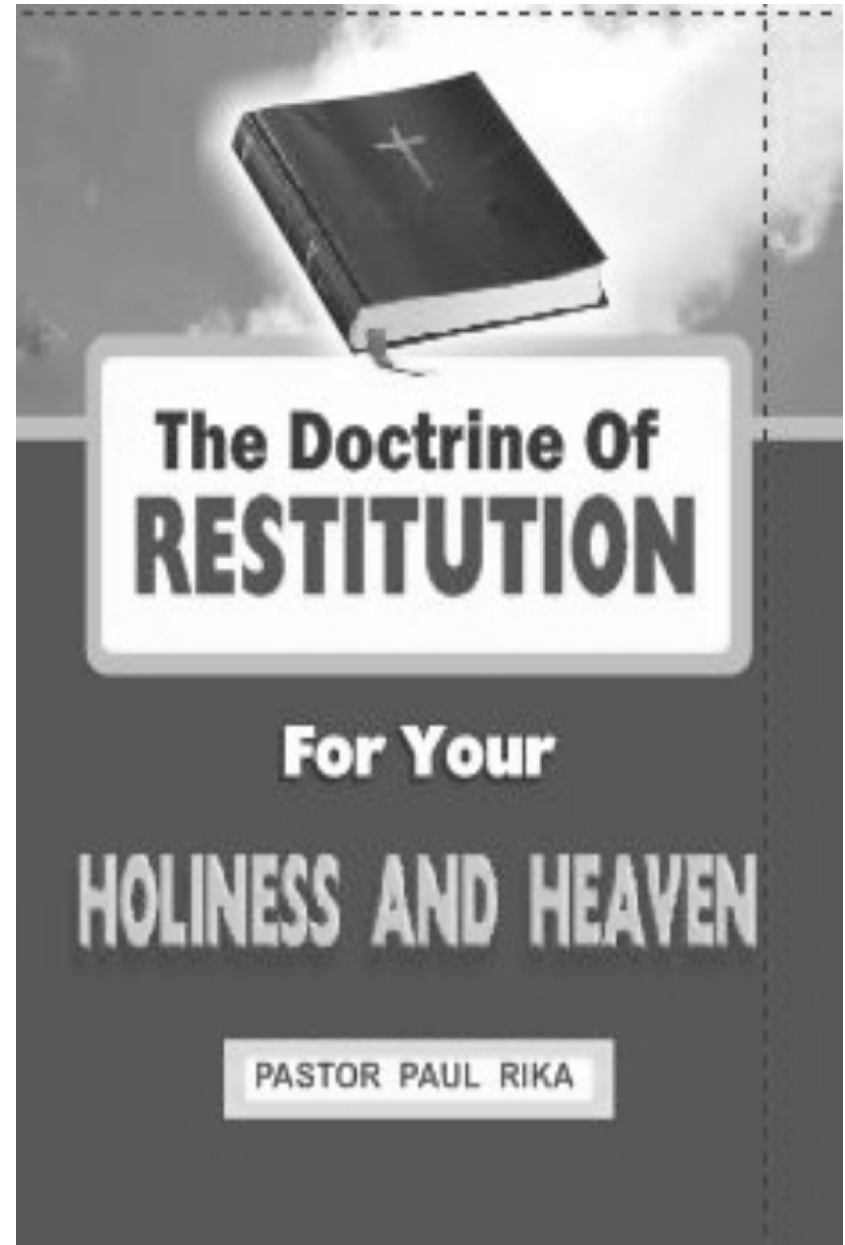
8 Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever:

9 That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD:

10 Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits:

11 Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us.

This book comes to remind the body of Christ that the word of God remains unchanging. It is the same in instruction, commandment, demand and promises



THE DOCTRINE OF CHRISTIAN RESTITUTION

Copyright © Pastor Paul Rika 2019

Published August, 2019

Published and distributed by

HOLINESS REVIVAL MINISTRY WORLDWIDE

a.k.a. HOLINESS REVIVAL MOVEMENT WORLDWIDE
(HOREMOW)

Behind Federal Government College,

Kwali, FCT, Abuja, Nigeria.

+234 (0)8136356813, +234(0)8056834323

Email:holinessrevivalmovement@gmail.com

Website: www.holinessrevivalmovementworldwide.com

Printed in Nigeria by:
HOREMOW PRESS.

Dedication

This book is dedicated to all who desire to know the truth in scripture for their holiness and heaven.

	PAGE
7.1.1 Adultery Cannot Disannul a Proper Lawful Marriage	59
7.1.2 A Departed Unbelieving Spouse is not Guaranty to Remarry	62
7.1.3 Adulterous Unlawful Marriage Must be Restituted	64
7.1.4 Implications of Marrying Somebody Else's Spouse	66
7.2 Restitution in Contract Marriage	70
 CHAPTER EIGHT	
AREAS OF RESTITUTION - PART II	
LYING, SLANDER AND THEFT	
8.1 Restitution for Lying and Falsehood	72
8.2 Restitution of False Accusation	73
8.3 Restitution of Theft/Stolen Items, Treachery and Embezzlement	79
 CHAPTER NINE	
AREAS OF RESTITUTION PART III	
MAN STEALING AND MURDER	
9.1 Restitution for Man Stealing	84
9.2 Restitution for Unlawful Killing (Murder)	86
 CHAPTER TEN	
AREAS OF RESTITUTION - PART IV	
FALSE MINISTRY, SPIRITUALISM, WITCHCRAFT AND OCCULTISM	
10.1 Restitution for Fraudulent/Corrupt Ministry	93
10.2 Restitution for Spiritism, Witchcraft and Occultism	95
10.3 Restitution for the Use of Items of Idolatry	103
 CHAPTER ELEVEN - PART V	
AREAS OF RESTITUTION	

from generation to generation. The central instruction of the word of God to all believers is:

Hebrew 12:14.

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

Holiness does not only require cleansing from inward defilement of anger, malice, pride etc; and outward cleansing of ungodly clothing and adornment, it also requires restitution of past wrong doings in the light of the Scriptures.

This book is written to perfect the believer that desires to serve in righteousness and holiness and make heaven at last.

Colossians 1:28,29.

28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

Restitution is part of the word of eternal life, believe it and practice it. Note that since only very few preachers uphold this doctrine, only very few preachers can give good counsel to those who want to carry out one restitution or the other. Seek the counsel of holy ministers before carrying out complex restitutions. You may resort to Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide (HOREMOW) for good counsel. Your holiness and Heaven is our mission.

Pastor Paul Rika.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENTS	PAGE
DEDICATION	iii
INTRODUCTION	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
CHAPTER ONE AN OVERVIEW OF RESTITUTION	1
1.1 Definition of Restitution	1
1.2 The Bible and Restitution	3
1.3 Restitution is also Applicable to New Testament Believers	8
CHAPTER TWO RESTITUTION AND PERSONAL CLEANSING FOR HOLY USE	12
2.1 Ministers are Vessels in God's House for Honourable or Dishonourable Use	12
2.2 God is the One who Classifies His Ministers as Honourable or Dishonourable	14
2.3 You are Honourable or Dishonourable By Your Own Choice	16
2.4 Life, not Service is what pleases God's Heart	18
CHAPTER THREE BECOMING AN HONOURABLE VESSEL	20
3.1 Restitution a Major Requirement for a Honourable Vessel	20

	PAGE
CHAPTER FOUR REASONS FOR RESTITUTION - PART 1 FOR A HOLY AND BLAMELESS LIFE	28
4.1 Restitution is a Commandment of God	28
4.2 Restitution is Necessary Because Nothing is Hidden from the Lord	30
4.3 Restitution is Necessary to Settle the Guilty Conscience	31
4.4 Restitution is Required to have Personal Peace with God and Man	33
4.5 Restitution is Practiced Even Among the Heathens	36
CHAPTER FIVE REASONS FOR RESTITUTION - PART II FOR BUILDING UP THE CHURCH OF CHRIST	39
5.1 Restitution Adorns the Gospel of Christ	39
5.2 Restitution is a Good Example to the Believer	41
5.3 Restitution is a means of Evangelizing others	43
CHAPTER SIX REASONS FOR RESTITUTION PART III FOR SPIRITUAL FREEDOM AND HEALING	45
6.1 Restitution puts the Devil to Shame	45
6.2 Restitution Prevents You from Committing Further Sin	46
6.3 Restitution Delivers You from the Curse, Sickness and Eternal Death	47
CHAPTER SEVEN AREAS OF RESTITUTION - PART - 1 - MARRIAGE	51
7.1 Restitution of Wrong Marriage	51

out. Very often you see a man apologizing to the other: “I am sorry”, “Please, I am sorry for what I told you the other time”, “Please, I am sorry for what I did against you”, “I am sorry for hurting you”, “I am sorry for what I did against your family”, “Please, I am sorry for the other word I spoke”, etc. That happens in the society, whether it be primitive or civilized. In the villages or wherever human beings live, they carry out restitution formally or informally, consciously or unconsciously.

In an organized society where there is government, we have the police stations, and the law courts where the Government organizes restitutions and enacts laws and decrees that will institute restitution among the citizens. We have, for example, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in Nigeria, and other institutions that ensure funds embezzled from the Government should be made good. In the courts of law, if you do something bad against someone and they discover that what you did is bad, you will be mandated to make good the bad which you have done – that is the law of society.

Restitution is practicable. It is practiced between husbands and wives. It is practiced between parents and children. Restitution in general, is a great doctrine because it beautifies human relationships; it heals people and restores broken relationships. It gives joy, confidence, and assurance to those that practice it.

CHAPTER TWELVE	
ELEMENT OF RESTITUTION	117
12.1 Realisation that You have Sinned	1171
12.2 Take a Decision to Amend Your Wrong Doings	1171
12.3 Going to the Offended to Make Confession	118
12.4 Restoring the Stolen/Misappropriated Things	119

CHAPTER THIRTEEN	
REQUIREMENTS FOR RESTITUTION	121
13.1 Know that God is Supporting You	121
13.2 Pray About it	122
13.3 Get God’s Understanding and Guidance	127
13.4 Have Faith in God	128
13.5 Be Bold and Courageous	130
13.6 Seek Counsel from True Men of God	130
13.7 Beware of the Accuser of Brethren	133

CHAPTER FOURTEEN	
HOW TO CARRY OUT RESTITUTION	135
14.1 Go back to the Person You have Offended	135
14.2 Humble Yourself before Your Creditor	138
14.3 Choose the Right word and the Right Approach	142
14.4 Request for Patience from Your Creditor	143
14.5 Sell some of your Personal Belongings to Make Payments	147

CHAPTER FIFTEEN	
BENEFITS OF RESTITUTION	149
15.1 A changed Life and a Pure Conscience	149
15.2 Constant Life of Self-Examination	153
15.3 Readiness for Rapture	153
15.4 Clear Assurance of Entering Heaven	154

PAGE

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

TESTIMONIES OF RESTITUTION 158

- 16.1 Restitution Testimonies by Senator Emmanuel Bwacha 158
- 16.2 Restitution Testimonies by Professor Mallum 162
- 16.3 Restitution Testimonies by Pastor Raymond Agbo 169
- 16.4 Restitution Testimonies by Sis. Bosede Ogwurike 170
- 16.5 Restitution Testimonies by Sis. Hope Joel 171

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES 176

OTHER BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR 180

CHAPTER

1

AN OVERVIEW OF RESTITUTION

1.1 Definition of Restitution

Restitution, in general, in human relationship, is the practice of the law of conscience, formal or informal, whereby the offender rectifies or corrects his ways by doing the following things:

1. Confessing his crimes to those he has offended in apology.
2. Seeking forgiveness from those he has offended.
3. Making good to that which has been damaged (restoring it, bringing it back).
4. Restoring stolen things to the rightful owners.
5. Confessing lies told or acted to those deceived.
6. Paying back their debts owed.
7. Relinquishing false claims, false property, false results, false certificates, etc.
8. Uncovering hidden crimes committed against men or the society.

This is done in order to appease one's conscience, the offended and to satisfy the law of the society and of God. Restitution is practicable in every sphere of human society – primitive, civilized, religious and Christian societies. It is the law of moral societal living. In general, even among the heathen, restitution is carried

your neighbour and go on as if nothing is at stake; God will not tolerate that from you. He wants diligence and carefulness in living and in relationship with others.

He wants you to know that you are dealing with a soul that can be damaged, one that can be lost, one that can be hurt eternally. The Lord says you should be careful how you relate. In everything you do, try to check out if you have hurt your neighbour. If you discover that you have hurt your neighbour, then you must do restitution; you must make good the damaged property of your neighbour; you must make necessary confession to appease the heart of your neighbour. That is what God is saying. Do not be careless in living. The careless are not godly. The Bible instructs that we observe diligently to do all the commandments of God.

Deuteronomy 28 : 1

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.

Are you rough in your attitude among men? Are you living among men in carelessness? Do you speak roughly, act roughly and do not bother about your actions? God bothers anyway, and will call you to account for your actions! You will account for all the damage you have caused to the hearts of men, as well as all the mistakes of your life which you failed to acknowledge, confess and correct. We are going to see that in the Scripture.

1.2 The Bible and Restitution

Though restitution is a general practice around the world, there is a Christian approach to it, the godly or biblical approach. The way the society may carry out restitution may not be the way the Bible may want it to be done. The way the courts of law may carry it out, instruct, and compel it may not be the way the Bible directs that you do it. How then is it done in the Bible? Be ready to know.

Christian Restitution may go beyond the demands of the court. For example, if you embezzled Government money and you are taken to the court of law and convicted, but you claim you do not have the money to pay back, the court may sentence you to jail. When you get out of prison, you may go and get the money from wherever you hid it and continue to enjoy yourself without further harassment on the same matter. But in christian restitution, you must restore that money, despite your having gone to prison. When you get out of prison, you must go back and confess that you lied that you did not have the money to pay back. Did you not build houses with that money? Is that money not in your bank account? Christian Restitution demands that after you have finished your prison term, you must go and sell those houses, go and empty your bank account and restore the embezzled money. That is Christian Restitution. You are dealing with the God of societies, the God of your soul and the God of holiness and righteousness who desires that you should be perfect in your life; **“But let patience have her perfect work, that**

ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing”
James 1 : 4.

Exodus 22 : 1 - 15:

1. If a man shall steal an ox, or a sheep, and kill it, or sell it; he shall restore five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.
2. If a thief be found breaking up, and be smitten that he die, there shall no blood be shed for him.
3. If the sun be risen upon him, there shall be blood shed for him; for he should make full restitution; if he have nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.
4. If the theft be certainly found in his hand alive, whether it be ox, or ass, or sheep; he shall restore double.
5. If a man shall cause a field or vineyard to be eaten, and shall put in his beast, and shall feed in another man's field; of the best of his own field, and of the best of his own vineyard, shall he make restitution.
6. If fire break out, and catch in thorns, so that the stacks of corn, or the standing corn, or the field, be consumed therewith; he that kindled the fire shall surely make restitution.
7. If a man shall deliver unto his neighbour money or stuff to keep, and it be stolen out of the man's house; if the thief be found, let him pay double.
8. If the thief be not found, then the master of the house shall be brought unto the judges, to see whether he have put his hand unto his neighbour's goods.

9. For all manner of trespass, whether it be for ox, for ass, for sheep, for raiment, or for any manner of lost thing, which another challengeth to be his, the cause of both parties shall come before the judges; and whom the judges shall condemn, he shall pay double unto his neighbour.

10. If a man deliver unto his neighbour an ass, or an ox, or a sheep, or any beast, to keep; and it die, or be hurt, or driven away, no man seeing it:

11. Then shall an oath of the LORD be between them both, that he hath not put his hand unto his neighbour's goods; and the owner of it shall accept thereof, and he shall not make it good.

12. And if it be stolen from him, he shall make restitution unto the owner thereof.

13. If it be torn in pieces, then let him bring it for witness, and he shall not make good that which was torn.

14. And if a man borrow ought of his neighbour, and it be hurt, or die, the owner thereof being not with it, he shall surely make it good.

15. But if the owner thereof be with it, he shall not make it good: if it be an hired thing, it came for his hire.

Can you see that God who brought human beings to stay together knows the sensitivity of the hearts of men? God knows the sensitivity of the hearts of your brethren, of the hearts of your neighbours. You do not just step on them and go your own way. Some people just step on someone and move on as if nothing happened. God does not like that. You cannot step on

of the past, the offences in human relationships in the past did not change. The stolen car is still the stolen car even after you claimed to be born again. People still see you as the same person, a brother, a neighbour, even after you said you have been born again. If you are born again, there is something you have to do to declare to the people in practical terms that you are now a new creature, you have to adorn the gospel of Christ. Think about the murmurings of the people. When Jesus was going to the house of Zacchaeus and said, "Zacchaeus, I must abide in your house."

The people murmured concerning Zacchaeus because they knew he was a sinner. Zacchaeus knew that if he did not rectify his past, they would accuse Jesus. They were already complaining against Jesus because they said He was going to the house of a man that was a known sinner. Zacchaeus stood and declared to the people and said, **The half of my goods I give to the poor, and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.** And Jesus announced to the people, **Today is salvation come to this house (Luke 19 : 1 - 10).** This was evidence that salvation had come to Zacchaeus. Restitution is the evidence that a new thing has been done in your life.

God commanded the practice of restitution among the Jewish society. It was an integral part of the Jewish law as seen in the above Scriptures. However, we must understand that the practice of restitution, by human conscience, has been existing in the human society as the will of God before the Law of Moses. It is a practice

Leviticus 6: 1-7:

1. **And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,**
2. **If a soul sin, and commit a trespass against the LORD, and lie unto his neighbour in that which was delivered him to keep, or in fellowship, or in a thing taken away by violence, or hath deceived his neighbour;**
3. **Or have found that which was lost, and lieth concerning it, and sweareth falsely; in any of all these that a man doeth, sinning therein:**
4. **Then it shall be, because he hath sinned, and is guilty, that he shall restore that which he took violently away, or the thing which he hath deceitfully gotten, or that which was delivered him to keep, or the lost thing which he found,**
5. **Or all that about which he hath sworn falsely; he shall even restore it in the principal, and shall add the fifth part more thereto, and give it unto him to whom it appertaineth, in the day of his trespass offering.**
6. **And he shall bring his trespass offering unto the LORD, a ram without blemish out of the flock, with thy estimation, for a trespass offering, unto the priest:**
7. **And the priest shall make an atonement for him before the LORD: and it shall be forgiven him for any thing of all that he hath done in trespassing therein.**

1.3 Restitution is also Applicable to New Testament Believers

Some people think that when the Bible says, **Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new 2 Corinthians 5 :17**, it means that they should not bother about the damage they have caused to people in the past, or about the money they borrowed ten years ago, or about the lies they have told which have had damaging effects on people's lives. You can see here clearly that they are very wrong. We must compare scripture with scripture. You do not just take one portion of the scripture and run with it, it has its own mates.

Isaiah 34 : 16.

Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate.

Some people think that restitution was a doctrine practiced in the Old Testament and does not apply to the New Testament. As a moral law, it does apply except that the additives or percentage of the principal to be added stated in the time of law does not apply now. In the New Testament, the demand is to restore the principal. Any addition to the principal if the circumstances requires so, should be done in the spirit of truth and pure conscience.

If the person offended demands addition to the principal, discussion should be made to arrive at the justifiable percentage to be added. But if he is content to

have the principal sum only, then that should be done in love and appreciation.

No scripture is alone or of any private interpretation.

2 Pet. 1 : 20

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

They are intertwined. For every scriptural passage, there is one or more scriptures elsewhere to make it more clear, to show that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every matter is established.

2 Corinthians 13 : 1.

This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.

You do not come out to say that the things you did yesterday do not matter anymore, just because you have forgotten about them. You forgot, but God has not forgotten; you forgot, but the heart of the offended has not forgotten.

Ecclesiastes 3 : 15

That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.

Come to think of it, when you became born again, did your name change? Did your face change? Did your eyes change? Did the hairs of your head change? No, they did not, they remained the same. So also the acts

2.2 God is the One who Classifies His Ministers as Honourable or Dishonourable

I do not know which class God has put you. No man determines his class, it is God that does the classification. I do not know where God has put you, but one thing I know is that it is the person whom God sees as holy that He puts to honourable use. The man in truth, righteousness and holiness is the man God puts into honourable use. But, I also know, very certainly, that the corrupt, and evil ones, sinners, liars who are among the ministers, adulterers and the disobedient who are among the ministers are put into dishonourable use. When they are coming up for functions, angels do not smile. No, it is because of the forbearance of God that they are still there. The wisdom of God is playing on them. Does the Lord reward them? Does He give them food to eat? Yes. Even Satan is eating in the hand of God up till today! Satan, the father of sinners is still eating in the hand of God, how much more man. Do they ride cars? God can give them cars, they are serving a purpose. You do not know the wisdom of God that preserves the wicked.

2 Peter 2 : 9

The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.

In the Bible, God told the Israelites, *"I am taking you to a land to possess it. Actually, all the people that are there in that land are evil. I will spew them out, but not at once,*

among people, whether they are heathens, civilized or uncivilized. It is a practice in human society and goes beyond the law and the gospel era. Hence, it is the integral part of the gospel message. What may not be considered today are the specifications of the law on how restitution should be done such as, "He should pay double", "He should pay four-fold", "He should add the fifth part (20%) thereto"; these are the specifications of the law which have past. In our present dispensation, while we are not going by the law, restitution should be fully done, and satisfactorily carried out.

Restitution is a moral law which is required for the well-being of human beings, just as the principle of brotherly love is a moral law: "Love your neighbour as yourself."

CHAPTER

2

RESTITUTION AND PERSONAL CLEANSING FOR HOLY USE

2.1 Ministers are Vessels in God's House for Honourable or Dishonourable Use

2 Timothy 2: 19-21

19. Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

20. But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

21. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

If you go to a house, including your house, you will find different utensils, and plates in the house. Some plates are there to be used in honourable times, while other plates in the house are put into common use. In case you have dogs in your house, there are plates that you use for dogs' food. Any time you want to feed dogs you use them. You also have some bowls which you use for waste materials. They are being put to use, but for

dishonourable use. They are useful anyway, but you do not preserve them for honourable uses; if they get spoilt, you do not become much sorrowful losing them. But then, you have plates or dishes that are precious to you. They are kept aside for honourable use. If you have a visitor, a high personnel, a great man visiting, you will look for these plates or dishes and serve him meals in them. You desire to give the man honoured service, so you will use such plates. You normally take good care of them and keep them in a safe place (maybe in a cupboard).

In a great house, the Bible says, there are different kinds of vessels. This is speaking of the servants of God and ministers of God. It says some are put to honourable use – they are ministers who can be described as gold, silver, precious stones. Those ones, God puts them to honourable uses. But then, there are others described as wood, earth, which are put into dishonourable uses. Both are being used but God classified them. Both are in the house of God but are classified. Both are prophets but they are classified into honourable prophets and dishonourable prophets. Still, the master puts them to use. Both are preachers of the gospel, classified into honourable preachers and dishonourable preachers. Both are teachers of the gospel, classified by him into honourable teachers and dishonourable teachers. Notwithstanding, the master puts them to use.

lower level, and others as permanently higher levels. Whoever you are, once you are coming from a particular caste level from history, they grade you as such – lower level/higher level. That is how those of you who are not holy are rated – you are lower level ministers. Jesus does not smile at your service because it is not work that rejoices His heart, but life.

Job 1:8

And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?.

The godly life is a joy to Him, not the service. What is service? Even Satan is serving God. That is what you need to understand; that is what you need to know to change your ways, to change your life. Yes, that is what God is saying, “Be a vessel unto honour”. What God wants from a man to be a vessel unto honour is truth, righteousness and holiness. Whosoever desires to be a minister, a vessel unto honour, must purge himself from sin and all spiritual and physical defilements. Several things are required for this, besides giving your life to Christ. There are many people who stand on giving their life to Christ and for them that is all, but that is just the beginning of the Christian life.

In education, there is the Kindergarten level, there is the Nursery level, there is the Primary level, there is the Secondary level and there is the Tertiary level. They are

if I drive all of them out at once, the wild beasts will take over the land and hurt you, so I will drive them little by little. Their presence will be a protection to you but gradually they shall be diminishing.”

Deuteronomy 8 : 9, 12

9 A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass.

12 Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein;

Exodus 23 : 29, 30.

29 I will not drive them out from before thee in one year; lest the land become desolate, and the beast of the field multiply against thee.

30 By little and little I will drive them out from before thee, until thou be increased, and inherit the land.

That is why you find sinners still preaching, you find corrupters still pastoring. They are not for honourable use, they are for dishonourable use. The Lord will use them and discard them. That is why you are still seeing these churches praying, “Hail Mary mother of God”. They are still there because if they are all removed at once, the sinful world will fall upon the real Christians and squeeze them out. Now we can say “Christians are over three billion in the world!” But how many of them are really there for Christ? Are they all Christians, born

again, righteous? No! But why are they still there? It is by the wisdom of God.

2.3 You are Honourable or Dishonourable by Your Own Choice

If you are a corrupt minister, you are just there by the wisdom of God. You are gaining materially, yes. But what is material gain? However, there is still something you are doing that is contributing to God's eternal plan, that is of help to God's true people, which He still allows you, but you are a dishonourable minister, a dishonourable vessel. But, were you made so? No! There are things in your life to settle, which you have not yet settled. That is why you are of dishonourable use. There are things in your life to be purged, to be perfected, but you neglected and refused to do them. That is why you are still in dishonourable use. Your name is in the second register; and not in the first register (Book of Life). So, in that sense, you are like a scaffold the Lord is using. After He finishes with you He will discard you; you are not part of the building. Why? Because there are things to settle with God which you have not yet settled. That is what the scripture here is saying: **If any man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour (2 Tim 2:21a).** That means the matter lies in your hands. You are not doing spiritual cleansing, that is why you are not a vessel unto honour. You claim to be a preacher, but God and the angels know who you truly are, a vessel unto dishonour. Satan himself also knows because he is the one using you. God is patient because He knows

you are still serving a purpose. "I will drive them out little by little, If I drive them all out, wild beasts will take over". It is wisdom that allows you in God's service.

To be a vessel unto honour lies in your hands, and if today you hear the voice of the Lord and take a decision to purge yourself of those things, to repent of those things, to change your life and comply to scriptures, there shall be a transformation. Angels will do a transfer and your name will be written in the Book of life as a vessel unto honour. That matter is in your hand. If any man will purge himself from these: lying lips, abominable things and corrupt heart, the Lord shall transform him because he is not eternally predestined to corruption. It is your choice that has put you in darkness. You never took the decision to change, that is why you are where you are. And if you do not do anything you shall be discarded. Those plates you use to put the food of dogs into, do you bother about them? Do you give them much attention? Do you care too much whether they break or not? Flee, therefore, those lusts and follow righteousness that you might be a vessel unto honour.

2.4 Life, not Service is what Pleases God's Heart

All God's ministers, as I said earlier, are vessels in God's hands. Some are unto honourable uses, while some are vessels unto dishonourable uses. You are doing the same function, but it is only the grade given to you that differ. It is like those Indians who have the caste system. They just look at some people as permanently

should be exposed and destroyed. False claim made over money, land, document, and issues of life should be confessed, renounced and returned to their rightful owners, who may or may not be aware of it. Restitution is a corrective work a man practically does by himself over the errors or evils committed by him before God or before man in his past life. This rectification or correction is required for his cleansing and righteousness before God, for God requires correction in the past life of a believer.

Ecclesiastes. 3 : 15

That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.

Restitution is a moral requirement and is practiced even among the heathen or unbelieving world. Do not say it is past, those things are already written in you, in your conscience, go and erase them. They are written in the records of God, go and rectify them, get them cleansed. What about the initial salvation? Yes, you came to God and He forgave you; He forgave you in a probationary way because He believes you will cooperate and do your own part. Cooperate to get yourself cleansed – God requires it. God requires correction in the past life of a believer. I will give the example of Zacchaeus again. Zacchaeus gave his life to Christ but the people murmured against him because he had been a treacherous man. Then Zacchaeus stood up and told the Lord he was a changed man, ready to do his restitution. That is example of a man **'purging himself**

grades of learning. There are also grades of spirituality. When you get born again and stop there, it is like someone who finished from primary school and stops there. What can you contribute to your nation in matters of knowledge and understanding? If the rule is that to be a governor, one must have his secondary school education, can those who stopped at primary school become a governor? What can you then contribute meaningfully? Your educational level has limited you. You just stopped at Salvation level, and that is all. I tell you, you are far behind spiritually;

Hebrews 1:11-14

11 They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;

12 And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

13 But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?

14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

CHAPTER

3

BECOMING AN HONOURABLE VESSEL

What are the things that you are to do to come up to a vessel unto honour? What are these things you are to purge, purify, protect, and perfect yourself from to become a worthy minister in the hands of God?

3.1 Restitution a Major Requirement for a Honourable Vessel

When you see a minister who is worthy in the sight of God, he has passed through many processes. He has purged himself, he watches over himself to make sure there is no iniquity in his life. He had been a sinner. He came to God and requested to serve the Lord. Then the Spirit of God showed him the many sins he had committed, both knowingly and unknowingly. He became guilty and requested the Lord to forgive him. The Lord indeed forgave him according to His word. But there are some past evils he had done against his fellow men that required his amendment according to the following scripture.

Leviticus 6:1-7

- 1. And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,**
- 2. If a soul sin, and commit a trespass against the LORD, and lie unto his neighbour in that which was delivered him to keep, or in fellowship, or in a thing**

taken away by violence, or hath deceived his neighbour;

3. Or have found that which was lost, and lieth concerning it, and sweareth falsely; in any of all these that a man doeth, sinning therein:

4. Then it shall be, because he hath sinned, and is guilty, that he shall restore that which he took violently away, or the thing which he hath deceitfully gotten, or that which was delivered him to keep, or the lost thing which he found,

5. Or all that about which he hath sworn falsely; he shall even restore it in the principal, and shall add the fifth part more thereto, and give it unto him to whom it appertaineth, in the day of his trespass offering.

6. And he shall bring his trespass offering unto the LORD, a ram without blemish out of the flock, with thy estimation, for a trespass offering, unto the priest:

7. And the priest shall make an atonement for him before the LORD: and it shall be forgiven him for any thing of all that he hath done in trespassing therein."

In the scripture the Lord is saying the evil you did against your fellows requires your confession and apology. Lies told should be confessed and things stolen should be returned. Go and settle with people you have a quarrel with for the sake of peace. The false claim you have made should be confessed and apologised for. The false document in your possession

may still be a Christian, but unto dishonour. You have not come up to holiness. Why? Because you have not rectified your records; you have not gotten your evil records wiped out. If restitution meant nothing, would Paul be talking like this? Would he be struggling to write to appeal to Philemon with chained hands? If it meant nothing to settle with the one you have offended, would Paul be doing this? He would have kept Onesimus with him and said, "Forget about your master. Stay with me, Onesimus. You are born again now! Forget about your past life because now you are a new creature." That is what false preachers are saying today.

Certain situations may delay your restitution such as:

- (i) You have not seen the person to retribute to and are doing your best to get at him through prayer, counselling and inquiry.
- (ii) You do not have the money to pay, but have made confession and apology to the person or organisation cheated while praying and trusting God for the money to pay.
- (iii) You are seeking counselling and guidance on how to do your restitution with all earnestness.

However, if God judges that you are not careless, unconcerned and procrastinating, but seriously aiming at settling your restitution case, and maintaining a life of righteousness and holiness, God will consider you righteous and holy indeed and you will make heaven at your death or at the rapture, even if the restitution is not done.

of these' and shall be put into honourable use. And Jesus said, **Yes, today salvation has come into this house.** See it in

Luke 19:1-10:

- 1. And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho.**
- 2. And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.**
- 3. And he sought to see Jesus who He was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.**
- 4. And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see Him: for He was to pass that way.**
- 5. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at thy house.**
- 6. And he made haste, and came down, and received Him joyfully.**
- 7. And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That He was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.**
- 8. And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.**
- 9. And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation**

come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.

10. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Another example of the necessity and importance of restitution for honourable use was shown by Paul concerning Onesimus, who he sent back to his master Philemon to do restitution in

Philemon 1:10-20.

10 I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds:

11. Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me:

12. Whom I have sent again: thou therefore receive him, that is, mine own bowels:

13. Whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel:

14. But without thy mind would I do nothing; that thy benefit should not be as it were of necessity, but willingly.

15. For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for ever;

16. Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved, specially to me, but how much more unto thee, both in the flesh, and in the Lord?

17. If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself.

18. If he hath wronged thee, or oweth *thee* ought, put that on mine account;

19. I Paul have written *it* with mine own hand, I will repay *it*: albeit I do not say to thee how thou owest unto me even thine own self besides.

20. Yea, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord: refresh my bowels in the Lord."

Onesimus had been a servant under Philemon whom he offended. He probably had stolen or damaged something and escaped. Paul found him when he was in the prison and preached to him. Onesimus got converted and became very zealous in Christ and was even serving Paul. But the Scripture must be fulfilled. Paul said, "*I would have kept him to serve me in your stead (I am your pastor, your apostle, I brought the gospel to you) but not against truth and righteousness. I have sent him back for restitution. Receive him, Philemon. This man is now converted. He is more than just a servant unto you now, receive him. If he has wronged you, put it in my own account (he might not have the money to pay), I will pay*". Paul's hands were chained, so he was dictating his letter. But on this one he managed to write with his chained hands: "*I, Paul, am writing these things with my own hands, I will repay*".

Do you think that Christianity is for you to joke with? That you have debts hanging on you and you are not doing anything about it? You have done evil and you are not thinking of how to rectify it, and you are going about just like that? You will be of dishonourable use. You

4.2 Restitution is Necessary Because Nothing is Hidden from the Lord

God knows everything. Nothing is hidden from the Lord. All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of the Lord.

Hebrews 4:13

Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

When you left your room and went to touch that lady, God saw it. God has seen you. No other person may be aware. When you left your office and went to the next office and took that thing that belonged to your colleague, God saw it, although nobody might have seen you. Everything whatever we do in this world is clearly opened before the Lord. The reason why you must do restitution, whether the person is aware or not is because everything is opened before the Lord. There is nothing hidden to Him. His eyes can see the smallest thing in your life. The Bible says that hell itself is naked before the Lord.

Job 26:6

Hell is naked before Him, and destruction hath no covering.

Our brethren have been testifying and confirming the word of the Lord, that hell is a very dark place. Yet the word of the Lord says, it is naked and opened before the Lord. Beloved brothers and sisters, everything in your life is clearly opened before the Lord and you cannot

Genesis 18:25.

That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

He knows those who are sincere and true and He knows those who are fearful, procrastinating, careless, forgetful and unconcerned.

Jeremiah 17 : 10

I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

1 Peter 1 : 17

And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.

CHAPTER 4

REASONS FOR RESTITUTION – PART I FOR A HOLY AND BLAMELESS LIFE

Restitution is an important aspect of the life of a Christian who is saved and led to the Lord in true repentance and conversion. A Christian who is saved still need to examine himself for the journey to heaven. We are going to examine scriptural reasons for restitution by the Christian.

4.1 Restitution is a Commandment of God

The number one reason why restitution is necessary is because God said so. In **Genesis 20:7** God said,

Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine.

This is a commandment which the Lord gave to Abimelech and to everybody who has done wrong. If you find yourself erring or you have done wrong, or you have stolen something that is not yours, you should restore it so you will have a clear way in your relationship with God. So restitution is not a human idea, it is in the Scripture, it is God Himself that said so.

We see this again in the case of Job's friends that doing restitution is a commandment from God. Friends of Job

defamed his character, what we know in our secular laws as 'defamation of character.' When the friends of Job accused him and spoke wrongly to and of him, the Lord commanded them to retract that which they had said. The Lord commanded them to go to Job and apologise so that he would pray for them. This is similar to God's commandment to Abimelech to go to Abraham and retribute so that Abraham would pray for him to be restored.

Job 42: 7-8

7. And it was so, that after the LORD had spoken these words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of Me the thing that is right, as My servant Job hath.

8. Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept: lest I deal with you after your folly, in that ye have not spoken of Me the thing which is right, like My servant Job.

Restitution is a commandment of God. This is one of the reasons why it is required in a Christian's life. It is good we know this because it is not being taught in most of the churches. In fact, you hardly hear about it because the ministers who are supposed to teach about this are finding it difficult to do their restitutions. This is a commandment of God, and because the Lord said so, you must do it.

Hebrews 12 : 14

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

This is a warning against refusing God's conviction. You have done a bad thing in the past, which each time you remember, it takes your peace away. For instance, when you remember that there is this money you stole, or that there is a lie you told which you have not confessed, or that you are living a deceitful life. It may be that your name is Solomon but people know you as Emmanuel elsewhere, it will keep disturbing your conscience and will not let you have peace except you confess it out and rectify the error. Such change of name could be due to some frauds in your past.

Restitution is necessary for your personal peace and for your peace with God. Unless you open up and confess it, peace will not return to you. But when you do that you will enjoy peace of heart and peace with God too. Nothing is as worrisome as not having peace. Whatever is being said, if you are guilt-ridden, your mind will be in that particular spot (that sin, that guilt, that is haunting you). For that reason, you need to do restitution so you can attain to personal peace and peace with God. The works of righteousness give peace.

Isaiah 32:7

And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.

hide it from Him. No wonder somebody sang a song saying, *'you cannot hide it from God. You cannot hide it from God, you may cover your sin so no one else may know but you cannot hide it from God.'*

4.3 Restitution is Necessary to Settle the Guilty Conscience

The third reason for restitution is because it is required to remove your guilty feeling. Guilt is something that haunts a person. If you have done something wrong, you will feel guilty. This guilt will haunt, chase, pursue and harass your conscience. If you do not get rid of it by doing restitution, you will continue to feel condemned. You will be guilt-ridden in everything you do and will begin to think, "are people aware that this is what I did?" So restitution is required to remove your feeling of guilt and condemnation.

Leviticus 6 : 1-5

- 1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,**
- 2 If a soul sin, and commit a trespass against the LORD, and lie unto his neighbour in that which was delivered him to keep, or in fellowship, or in a thing taken away by violence, or hath deceived his neighbour;**
- 3 Or have found that which was lost, and lieth concerning it, and sweareth falsely; in any of all these that a man doeth, sinning therein:**
- 4 Then it shall be, because he hath sinned, and is guilty, that he shall restore that which he took violently away, or the thing which he hath deceitfully**

gotten, or that which was delivered him to keep, or the lost thing which he found,

5 Or all that about which he hath sworn falsely; he shall even restore it in the principal, and shall add the fifth part more thereto, *and* give it unto him to whom it appertaineth, in the day of his trespass offering.

That is a scriptural command. You must return this thing so that you will be free; it will remove guilt from you.

One of our brothers said that in an attempt to do a restitution to free his conscience from guilt, he was almost made to commit another sin. According to him, he told the government sub-treasurer that he wanted to return a certain money, ill-gotten when he was in Government. The sub-treasurer told him that, he should say that the money was wrongly paid to him and that he was going to prepare a paper to submit to government treasury stating that he was overpaid. But our brother refused and said, “this is saying another lie. It is like jumping from frying pan to fire. Why can you not say that I took this money wrongly and that I am returning it, because I took it fraudulently, so that the guilt can leave me?” To the secular society, it is not necessary. What is preached in the churches outside there is “Do not worry, the grace abounds. Once you are saved there is nothing wrong, God has forgiven you; so, keep quiet and do not mention it”. But that is not true. It runs contrary to the Scripture. Please say it, confess it and remove the guilt from you.

and remove the guilt from you.

Those of you who have been used mightily by the devil in several dimensions in the past, but have obtained and enjoyed this grace of salvation, will find out that in your daily life sometimes, the Lord will bring up a conviction on you on an evil you did in the past. That is God, in His grace, telling you to go and amend your ways. Your peace will cease and a sense of condemnation and guilt will come on you once in a while from time to time. This does not point to any sin you commit now but to rectifying a wrong act done by you in your past life, known or unknown to others. Even you will acknowledge God's conviction because you know that you have done something evil that the world has not known. You ought to share it with your Pastor, you ought to confess and settle it with the person whom you have offended. So, that guilt will continue to haunt you until you settle it.

Year after year (maybe ten or twenty years now) that particular matter keeps coming up, the matter persists and is still coming up. Do your restitution, and that matter shall die forever. That is the importance of restitution. It is scriptural that you must do this so that this guilt will leave you.

4.4 Restitution is Required to have Personal Peace with God and Man

Another reason for doing restitution is that it is required for the purpose of personal peace with God and man. You require this for your peace with man and God.

sick bed, he called people and confessed that he was the one who killed Bob Marley. This goes to show that even among the heathens restitution is practiced, for the sake of personal peace of heart. He said it was one of the dirty jobs he did that kept haunting his conscience and refused to leave him and that he felt so bad about it, because the person he killed died at a tender age of 36 years. You see, restitution is so important that even the unbelievers practiced it for their peace and rest.

You have been given the instance of Government, and also the instance of an unbeliever who was about to die and felt so bad about what he did that he had to confess it, but you are a Christian who is supposed to live by example, who needs to do this thing in order to teach people how to serve God in righteousness and holiness. Go and do your own restitution;

Matthew 5 : 20

For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Restitution is very necessary but, unfortunately, it is not being taught in most of the churches. A brother told us that, it was not until the Lord brought him to Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide (HOREMOW) that he came to understand what restitution is; he never knew about it. He said that in spite of his other sins, he never knew that if one wants to be a Christian whose name is in the Book of Life, one must remove all the baggage that he is carrying, all those things he had done that are wrong. It is not just enough to say "I am now born again, I have been baptized, I have changed my ways," you must do your restitution so you can attain to this peace that is required to settle you properly in righteousness.

What stops a lot of people from doing this is pride. They peace with God than to go to hell and cry for eternity because of shame? It is better for you to suffer shame before man than to go to hell fire and cry there forever. So, as children of God, we must understand that we are not like those of them who are outside there, who are outside the covenant of God. Someone once said that, rather than for him to suffer shame in this world, that it is better for him to suffer shame in the world after, in hell. This is fearful! It makes the heart of man faint. This is great ignorance of the scripture. It is ignorance because such a person is living in darkness, yet they profess that they are serving God. Are you serving the same God with them? No! So, do your restitution that you may enjoy your peace here with man and with God, and also enjoy everlasting life.

keep thinking: “How will the world look at me? I have attained a high level in life and in Government. I am a minister; when I say I have done such a thing like this, how will I carry the shame? How will people look at me? The world will judge me and condemn me.” But is it not better for you to be free and have peace with God than to go to hell and cry for eternity because of shame? It is better for you to suffer shame before man than to go to hell fire and cry there forever. So, as children of God, we must understand that we are not like those of them who are outside there, who are outside the covenant of God. Someone once said that, rather than for him to suffer shame in this world, that it is better for him to suffer shame in the world after, in hell. This is fearful! It makes the heart of man faint. This is great ignorance of the scripture. It is ignorance because such a person is living in darkness, yet they profess that they are serving God. Are you serving the same God with them? No! So, do your restitution that you may enjoy your peace here with man and with God, and also enjoy everlasting life.

4.5 Restitution is Practiced Even among the Heathens

Matthew 5 : 46-48

46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

Restitution is practiced even among the unbelievers. For example, the operations of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in Nigeria, there is a clause (a provision) for plea bargain for those who stole public funds and are caught by this agency. If you are able to restore the stolen money to the Government, they will let you go otherwise you will be jailed. That is the concept of plea bargain in Government. There are courts of law established formally or informally to administer right behaviour and restitution among men in every society.

There is an incidence that happened in the United States of America where a former agent of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), who had worked for the Government and retired, was used to kill someone. The agent in question is Bill Oakley. As an agent of the CIA, one can be assigned to do some dirty jobs, including killing people. So he was assigned to kill the popular reggae musician, Bob Marley. He went to Kingston in one of his concerts and pretended as if he was a journalist. He went to see him to interview him and said to him, “I have brought you a gift of canvas to wear,” and gave him the footwear. Inside it, he had inserted a poisonous pin, so that when the artist wore the shoe, the pin would injure him, thereby causing him to have cancer.

There are cancers induced by humans, not the ones that occur naturally. So that was how Bob Marley died. According to Oakley, this act had been haunting him. So when he fell sick himself and was about to die on his

done by many people because pride has filled their hearts. This is one reason why many have avoided doing restitution. But restitution is what stands you out as a Christian with a difference, because it shows you have understood the teachings of God's word and are ready to serve Him in righteousness and Holiness in this present evil world.

Titus 2 : 11 - 14

11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

It is not everywhere that you will find this kind of teaching. In fact many had never heard about this until the Lord brought them to Holiness Revival Movement (HOREMOW). Many got to hear about the teaching on restitution in HOREMOW, and have realized that it is in the Bible. It is hardly taught in most churches because the ministers themselves have some restitutions to do, but would not do it because of pride. They will say, "The Lord has forgiven you, you have been baptized, forget about it, there is no problem about your past wrong." It is

CHAPTER

5

REASONS FOR RESTITUTION - PART II FOR BUILDING UP THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

5.1 Restitution Adorns the Gospel of Christ

Another reason for restitution is that it adorns the Gospel of Christ. It adds beauty to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 5 : 16

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

It is the practical way to show that you are born again, when you go back to your neighbour to apologise over what happened between you and him. It is the practical way of showing people that your confession is real. The story was told of an unbeliever who listened to an evangelist who came to preach to him. He happened to have known this evangelist that he was not living well as a Christian. Then he told the evangelist, "If it were my neighbour whose Christian life I can attest to came to preach to me, I would have believed. But you, I know your evil life and the things you did against me without apology. I will not hear you.

When you do restitution and people hear about it and

know what you did, they will glorify the name of Jesus and adorn the gospel of Christ. They will believe what you tell them about your salvation in Christ. They will want to commit themselves to Christ so they can be like you.

One of our brethren, Senator Emmanuel Bwacha, shared with us about how he went to do a restitution after he became born again. He said that, when he went to a Local Government Chairman in his community to do a restitution, the chairman said, "Aah! Distinguished senator, you know this thing can be overlooked; leave it and I can handle it." It was a matter of eternal life and the senator was doing restitution to save himself. The Chairman said, "Leave it, I can handle it", but the Senator replied, "No, I want you to put it on record that I returned this thing because I took it fraudulently from the Government. That is what the Bible requires me to do." If you are not careful someone may block you from your restitution in the name of doing you a favour. Restitution is very important because it adorns the gospel of Jesus Christ. It beautifies the gospel. It tells people much about Christianity and other people will come to believing that you are serving the living God, who has eternity for you.

Titus 2 : 9, 10

9 Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own in; masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again;

10 Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity;

that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

5.2 Restitution is a Good Example to the Believers

1 Timothy 4 : 12

Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

Restitution is a good example to the believers and that is one other reason why it is very fundamental. When you do restitution, others will learn from it. They will also do it and that will go into your own account before God, because you opened the way for them by being an example to them. It makes God to bless you. You will not be accused of being hypocritical because that which you did in the past you have made people to know about it. You have told them that you were a liar, a thief, an adulterer; you told them the dimension the devil used you before you knew Jesus Christ. People would trust in your Christianity. Many will use your case to request grace from God to do their restitutions.

Again our brother Senator Bwacha said, when the Lord opened his eyes in 2012 to the necessity of doing restitution, he knelt before his wife and told her he did not know he was hell-bound and confessed the things he did against her. These also included the adulteries he had committed as her husband.

No shame in this. It is better to feel shameful before men than to go and face eternal fire. Restitution is not

let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

You have been taught about sanctification, there are some restitutions that when they are not done will hinder sanctification in you, because they are part of the filthiness of life to be cleared away for your peace and rest in Christ. For example, if someone has ought against you and you refuse to settle with him, how can you attend to holiness?

6.2 Restitution Prevents You from Committing Further Sin

Job 34 : 31, 32

31 Surely it is meet to be said unto God, I have borne chastisement, I will not offend any more:

32 That which I see not teach thou me: if I have done iniquity, I will do no more.

Restitution makes you to be very careful not to commit another sin. When you remember the burden of restitution, you will become very careful to avoid anything that will warrant you to make restitution, because it is costly to retribute. It is a lesson to keep you in righteousness and holiness. For instance, if you are a sinner guilty of adultery and had confessed to your spouse that this is the sin you committed (which you know was not an easy thing to do), will you continue to commit the same sin when you know you will have to confess to your spouse again? This burden of having to confess to your spouse and or Christian leader to clear

a lie! It is not true. It is in conflict with the Scriptures. There are empirical evidences as exposed in the Scriptures.

5.3 Restitution Is a Means of Evangelizing Others

Hebrews 10:24

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.

It is a message to the sinners, because it is one of the gateways through which sinners can get the gospel they cannot forget. When that man you borrowed money from twenty years ago sees you again bringing back his money, he will ask, "What happened?" Then you answer, "Jesus has come into my life." That man will say, "Do you mean this is what Jesus can do in the life of a man? So you mean that Jesus can change somebody like this? How do I find Him, please?" It is a way that the Gospel can get to some sinners. Restitution is a means of evangelizing others. This is because the act itself is a testimony to others. Remember the example of a preacher whose neighbour saw that his life was opposite of what he was preaching. People are seeing how you live, how you talk and how you act in the public.

One of my brothers shared with me, how he had been stealing his wife's money without her consent. One day he counted eighty-five thousand naira and gave to his wife, and told her that it was to retribute all the money he

had been taking from her. He told her he needed to let her know because he was using her money unjustly. Who knows whether she borrowed that money, or whether someone gave it to her to keep and he was abusing his right as her husband and taking it without her consent. That was to make her know he has become a sincere and godly husband and to beautify the gospel of Christ he believed. People will want to become Christians when they see restitution carried out.

CHAPTER 6

REASONS FOR RESTITUTION – PART III FOR SPIRITUAL FREEDOM AND HEALING

6.1 Restitution puts the Devil to Shame

The confession you make, makes the devil unhappy because there is nothing he loves like you hiding your sin. Satan loves to see that he has certain things he holds against you. If there are things you have done that you have not confessed, the devil uses them to accuse you before God. He tells God, “This one is my own; he is not your own. He is just a pretender, he is a hypocrite, he is my own”, and that makes Jesus to weep everyday over you and he is encouraging you to do your restitution. Yet you allow pride to hold you back or fear such that you are delaying to do your restitution. Restitution humbles you and puts the devil to shame!

Restitution is very important because it can give you the peace that you never imagine. What worries people in the world will never worry you again. You will not have seared conscience. So restitution is very necessary for every Christian that is led to the Lord and has become born again.

2 Corinthians 7:1

Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved,

uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil;

16 He shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure.

17 Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off.

your guilt and conscience, will prevent you from committing further sin. The shame of having to go to your spouse and or Christian leader to confess again and again is enough to keep you from involving with the shameful act of adultery or fornication.

6.3 Restitution Delivers You from the Curse, Sickness and Eternal Death

Judges 17:1-4

1 And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name was Micah.

2 And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou cursedst, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver is with me; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed be thou of the LORD, my son.

3 And when he had restored the eleven hundred shekels of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a graven image and a molten image: now therefore I will restore it unto thee.

4 Yet he restored the money unto his mother; and his mother took two hundred shekels of silver, and gave them to the founder, who made thereof a graven image and a molten image: and they were in the house of Micah.

A man by name Micah stole the money of his mother, and his mother placed a curse on whoever stole her money. The curse was hanging on Micah and he needed

to retribute to be free from the curse. Micah restored that money back to the mother and the curse was removed. In Abimelech's case, a curse and eternal death was hanging upon him, if he did not restore, God said, he was a dead man. Barrenness had entered into his family and, to be healed, restitution had to be carried out.

Perhaps a curse has been issued out (which may be unknown to you), because that person has been in pain for what you did. That person whose money you stole (it maybe his rent), may be bitter and cursing. The food you stole, the clothes, shoes, phone or whatever you stole might have brought a curse on you. You have done wickedly and the Bible says,

Isaiah 57 : 21

There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.

The woman you sent away and got married to a new wife is suffering now (she built the home with you and another is eating her sweat). Now that she is suffering, she is cursing every day and crying to the God of heaven saying, "God, I suffered with this man and when it came to the time for me to sit with my husband to enjoy the children and the blessings of the family he has sent me out. Lord, I am now a harlot because my husband has rejected me and given me over to death." Do you think that the God of righteousness will be hearing all these and yet be blessing you? Will God bless your ministry, since you sent her away because you want to start a ministry? Can God tell an unjust man to start a

ministry? You have to do restitution to deliver yourself from the curse. There is blessing in restitution.

A sister testified of how her body was healed after doing her restitution. Before she had so much rashes on her skin. She had gone to several places to get herself cured but to no avail. But after her restitution all those rashes on her body were taken away. Beloved do your restitution and you will see that many problems you are having will go away. It may be because of the things you are hiding or the things you are holding that the problem is still lingering in your life. The sister said she had gone to hospitals and bought a lot of things and has spent thousands of naira but no solution. But by making an amend, by making her restitution, by doing what is lawful and right, without prayer, without casting out demons, without binding and loosing, without oil, without handkerchief, without going to prayer warriors, without disturbing the men of God around, the Lord worked out the healing. May be the sickness in your body, the torment in your soul is as a result of the problem you are holding and refusing to amend. Make amends, clear yourself of what is outstanding against you.

Isaiah 33 : 14 – 17

14 The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?

15 He that walketh righteously, and speaketh

3 And he answered and said unto them, What did Moses command you?

4 And they said, Moses suffered to write a bill of divorcement, and to put her away.

5 And Jesus answered and said unto them, For the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept.

6 But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female.

7 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife;

8 And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh.

9 What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

10 And in the house his disciples asked him again of the same matter.

11 And he saith unto them, Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her.

12 And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery.

Romans 7:2-3

2 For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband.

3 So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an

CHAPTER

7

AREAS OF RESTITUTION - PART 1 - MARRIAGE

Areas in the Bible where restitutions were carried out and should be carried out today are as follows:

7.1 Restitution of Wrong Marriage

Genesis 20:1-18

1 And Abraham journeyed from thence toward the south country, and dwelled between Kadesh and Shur, and sojourned in Gerar.

2 And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, She *is* my sister: and Abimelech king of Gerar sent, and took Sarah.

3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, Behold, thou *art but* a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she *is* a man's wife.

4 But Abimelech had not come near her: and he said, Lord, wilt thou slay also a righteous nation?

5 Said he not unto me, She *is* my sister? and she, even she herself said, He *is* my brother: in the integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands have I done this.

6 And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I

also withheld thee from sinning against me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her.

7 Now therefore restore the man *his* wife; for he *is* a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore *her* not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that *are* thine.

8 Therefore Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ears: and the men were sore afraid.

9 Then Abimelech called Abraham, and said unto him, What hast thou done unto us? And what have I offended thee, that thou hast brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? thou hast done deeds unto me that ought not to be done.

10 And Abimelech said unto Abraham, What sawest thou, that thou hast done this thing?

11 And Abraham said, Because I thought, Surely the fear of God *is* not in this place; and they will slay me for my wife's sake.

12 And yet indeed *she is* my sister; she *is* the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife.

13 And it came to pass, when God caused me to wander from my father's house, that I said unto her, This is thy kindness which thou shalt shew unto me; at every place whither we shall come, say of me, He is my brother.

14 And Abimelech took sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and womenservants, and gave them unto Abraham, and restored him Sarah his wife.

14 And Abimelech took sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and womenservants, and gave them unto Abraham, and restored him Sarah his wife.

15 And Abimelech said, Behold, my land is before thee: dwell where it pleaseth thee.

16 And unto Sarah he said, Behold, I have given thy brother a thousand pieces of silver: behold, he is to thee a covering of the eyes, unto all that are with thee, and with all other: thus she was reproved.

17 So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children.

18 For the LORD had fast closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah Abraham's wife.

Can you see that? Jesus revealed that the original intention of God is that marriage should be between a man and a woman, and that when marriage is contracted, there should be no divorce until the death of one of the parties in the marriage union. This has been clearly specified as the will of God.

Mark 10:1-12

1 And he arose from thence, and cometh into the coasts of Judaea by the farther side of Jordan: and the people resort unto him again; and, as he was wont, he taught them again.

2 And the Pharisees came to him, and asked him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife? tempting him.

happened to be found in immorality, that person is considered unfaithful and the other partner is free to break from that relationship. That is in the Jewish tradition. Even in Christ (New Testament), however bound you are to a man or woman, if you want to marry, or you are engaged to be married and your partner commits immorality (fornication), are you going to continue with that marriage? The culprit ceases to be a believer, or has become a backslider at that point and the word of God says in **2 Corinthians 6:14a**

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers.

At that point such a relationship has to stop else you are disobeying God. Other interpretation for, “except for fornication”, is the sin of fornication committed by an unmarried person. When such unmarried person gets married to a married person, he or she is committing fornication. On realisation of this, repentance requires divorce from his or her marriage partner. The divorce of unscriptural marriage partner is right in God's sight. A man should divorce his second, or third wife and keep his first wife only. The woman in second or third marriage when the husband is still alive should do the same.

In the Jewish tradition, fornicators would be stoned to death.

Deut. 22: 20-21

20 But if this thing be true, and the tokens of virginity be not found for the damsel:

adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.

Luke 16:18

Whosoever puteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery.

You got married to a woman lawfully according to the legal terms of marriage – your wife was properly released to you and you became one flesh. Then you now put her away and got married to another; you are in adultery. Marriage is for life. Once you are married to a man or a woman there is no possibility, as long as your marriage partner is alive, that you can get married to another person. There is no possibility as a man, that you get married to another woman as long as your wife is alive, whether she has children for you or not. No matter the sickness (including madness) or accusation, as long as the earth remains and both of you are still alive, you have ceased to be separate entities; you are one flesh. You are no more two but one, until one of you is dead. That is the Biblical Law of marriage. The law binding a man to his wife and a woman to her husband is for life; and this only applies to the first lawful wife or the first lawful husband. Polygamy is a sin.

Malachi 2 : 14-16

14. Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously:

yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.

15. And did not He make one? Yet had He the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That He might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

16. For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that He hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.

Do not be looking for reasons to put away the first wife or husband you married – poverty, ill health, offences (including marital unfaithfulness) or whatever.

Whatever your reason is, it is not tenable before God. The Bible says, God “is witness” to that vow you made to your covenant wife or husband. God says, “Let your yea be yea; let your nay be nay.” As you have said “yea” to your spouse during your marriage vow, let that your “yea” be yea, because the Bible says, “whatever cometh apart from this is sin”.

Matthew 5 : 37

But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

James. 5:12

But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by

any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

Whatever reason that comes after you have consented, yielded yourselves and have been sealed by the God of covenant with all authenticity, with the consent of parents; with or without wedding you are now staying together, enjoying your intimacy without disturbed conscience, having sought the woman's full parental consent, whether dowry is fully paid or not, you are married and everything that has been done to show that marriage is done by the living God, you do not break that relationship. That is the word of God.

But some people would say that the Bible says, “Except it be for fornication.”

Matthew 19:9

And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

Yes, except it be for “fornication” and not “adultery”. Do not forget that fornication is a sin committed by the unmarried, not the married. In the time Jesus was saying this, He was basing it on the Law. That time the Law was still in effect. The reason being that in Jewish betrothal, when you come to agree and the people all know that you are engaged to be married, the relationship is so strong and binding that you do not break it. Once you have given your promise of engagement you do not break it. But if one of you

The Bible tells us that if God has forgiven you, you should forgive others also because you enjoyed forgiveness. Now we emphasize this to point out that the Scriptures reveal to us that wrong marriages must be restituted. Paul the apostle also confirms that a husband should not put away his wife and that a wife should not leave her husband. But if it becomes so tough that she withdraws, after a while they could come together again or remain unmarried. That is the word of God.

7.1.2 A Departed Unbelieving Spouse is not a Guaranty to Remarry

Concerning where Paul said “By the command of the Lord”, neither should a man put away his wife nor a wife depart from her husband, and that if for any reason they separate, that they should remain unmarried or be reconciled to each other. He also advised, not by commandment, but an advice, that if you have a marriage partner who is an unbeliever and wants to leave, or is disturbing you to leave, you should allow him or her to leave.

1 Corinthians. 7 : 12 – 16

12 But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away.

13 And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him.

14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by

21 Then they shall bring out the damsel to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her with stones that she die: because she hath wrought folly in Israel, to play the whore in her father's house: so shalt thou put evil away from among you.

7.1.1 Adultery Cannot Disannul a Proper or Lawful Marriage.

On the issue of adultery, when a woman was caught “in the very act”, the Jewish Leaders brought her to Jesus to know his reaction. According to the Law of Moses, they said, she was supposed to have been stoned, but that they decided to bring her to Jesus to know what He had to say, tempting Him.

John 8 : 3-11

3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst,

4 They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.

5 Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?

6 This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not.

7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground.

9 And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

10 When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?

11 She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.

In response, Jesus said, "He that is without sin among you, - he that has never told a lie, is not a thief, does not have anger or malice against anyone, is not a drunkard among you, has never been involved in witchcraft etc., - let him first cast a stone at her". They felt guilty and started to withdraw one after the other because they themselves were sinners. That shows that Jesus equated adultery with lying, stealing and every other sin. If therefore, adultery could be used as a reason to separate a marriage or effect a divorce, then lying should qualify as a reason to do that also. If for adultery a marriage should be terminated, then a marriage should also be terminated for stealing. But if stealing cannot qualify as a reason to justify a divorce, then adultery should not qualify as well. In the time of grace every sin condemns, every sin sends people to hell. Jesus died for every sinner to forgive every sinner and justify every sinner that believes.

Jesus looked at the woman and said, "Woman, where are your accusers? Has no one condemned you?" "No my Lord", she answered. Then Jesus responded, "Neither do I condemn you". Jesus did not condemn her; the God of life did not condemn her. Who then will condemn whom the Lord has not condemned? Can anybody do that? Jesus then said to her, "Go and sin no more". At that moment a brand new garment of righteousness enveloped her. Wonderful transformation came upon her and she became a new creature and more than a thousand times better than what she was when her husband at first married her. Her husband married her when she was not born again, when she had not encountered the Lord. Now she has become born again.

2 Corinthians 5:17.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

If the man could manage an old creature, would he reject the new? That is why adultery does not separate marriage; it does not qualify as a reason to separate a marriage or effect a divorce.

1 Corinthians 7: 10,11

10 And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband:

11 But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.

servants, and gave them unto Abraham and restored him Sarah his wife. Marriage is for life, there is no divorce and there is no remarriage. Today is a day of mercy. This message is difficult, but it is God's mercy at work. What if you did not know you are in a wrong relationship and you did not hear a message like this, and no one told you? Then you would die in sin ignorantly. Someone may claim ignorance and still go to hell. Will he not blame God eternally and say, "God why did you not tell me?" That is why God is warning you now through this message of His love and mercy over you.

7.1.4 Implications of Marrying Somebody Else's Spouse

We can see from the passage in Genesis 20 where Abimelech sent and took Sarah, Abraham's wife, the implications of marrying somebody else's wife or husband:

1. The plan of God that brought that man and woman together in marriage is in danger of distortion -

Abraham and Sarah were contracted together and God was a witness. God had an everlasting plan for that family. For somebody to come and snatch that woman out of Abraham's hand shows the eternal plan of God has been affected. There is an eternal plan that God has for that union. Do not say, "We got married when we were not born again". Abraham and Sarah were not born again when they got married. But the eternal God showed them mercy because He had an eternal plan

the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy.

15 But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.

16 For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?

But that does not mean you should remarry, because Paul was speaking not by the commandment of God. But he was speaking as one who had obtained grace from God. This is the reason you cannot remarry because she may become converted tomorrow and return to you in obedience to scriptures in **1 Corinthians 7: 10, 11**

10 And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband:

11 But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.

and

Romans 7: 2, 3

2 For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband.

3 So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free

from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.

7.1.3 Adulterous Unlawful Marriage Must be Restituted

When you take away someone else's wife or husband, that is also adultery.

Genesis 20:3b,

For the woman which thou hast taken; for she is a man's wife.

In the same manner, “The man whom you are married to, is a woman's husband”, therefore you are in adultery. It further says, “Thou art but a dead man”, but you are still in use as a Christian leader. You are into dishonourable use. You are keeping the church busy, but note that your name is not in the Book of Life. That is what God is saying here; “Thou art but a dead man”. But Abimelech had not come near her, and he said: **Lord, will thou also slay a righteous nation?** You are a “righteous man”, but you have been beguiled into iniquity and you are not aware. It is like a righteous man carrying a snake in his bag unaware, he kept his bag and a snake entered inside it and yet he was not aware. It is dangerous and unfortunate. You might not have been taught about restitution in your denomination, but ignorance is not an excuse before the law. You might have a sincere heart, and with all sincerity you want to serve God. Then you joined yourself to a wrong man, a wrong pastor, who does not tell you what is correct and true; now you are carrying a snake around for wife or husband, that is dangerous! As the snake struggles

inside in discomfort, it will hit you back in revenge; it is only God that can deliver you in such case.

“Then, what do I do?”, asked Abimelech, “This woman has stayed with me for the past few years !” Sarah stayed with Abimelech long enough for it to be noticed that all the women in that palace had been stricken with barrenness. She stayed there long enough for the barrenness phenomenon to have become very apparent in Abimelech's palace that all the women there were barren. And God said to him in response “I showed you mercy” (**Genesis 20:6**). The Lord said, “I showed you mercy, Abimelech; I preserved you for all these years up till now, you did not die. Abimelech, it was by My mercy I kept you from that woman all these years.

Genesis 20:7.

Now therefore, restore the man his wife, for he is a prophet and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live. And if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou and all that are thine.

Be careful which minister you associate with. Some of them are under the curse of God, and this curse will transfer to your life. Be careful! God said “Thou and all that are thine”. God would count them all guilty because they knew the truth but never told him, they never left him, but kept serving under him.

In verse 14, the Bible tells us, **And Abimelech took sheep, and oxen and menservants, and women**

7.2 Restitution in Contract Marriage

Marriage in biblical setting requires formal parental consent and dowry settlement. These can be done in physical gathering where all parties are present. It can also be done by proxy. In African tradition, marriage often goes along with Biblical setting. In this case, court marriage has no binding effect on a married couple when the parents of the lady are not in consent.

If a man intending to marry a woman contacts her parents and requests formally and solemnly that he has no money to pay all the dowry or to pay any part of it now, but will do so later, and the parents understand the request and grant him their daughter for marriage, the marriage is binding and cannot be separated. The dowry however is a debt to be settled by the man. The wife may help him in settling the debt.

In the western culture, a woman is considered independent of her parents at the age of 18 years. At this age she is entitled to her decision on marriage and can enter into a contract of marriage by herself without the involvement of her parents. Since there is no dowry payment, any single man who enters into marriage with her and the court solemnizes it, should know that the marriage is authentic and binding for life. If the man intends to marry her for document only, she must be clearly told this for her to decide to accept or not to accept the contract marriage. If a man who has never married before gets into marriage with her deceitfully, he may never come out of that marriage for another,

concerning them. That is why that marriage union must not be dissolved. A properly conducted marriage when the couple were not born again is as binding as when they were born again.

2. The judgement of God goes against such transgression to afflict those involved with plagues

The Bible says all the wives of those related with Abimelech in the palace had their wombs shut up by the Lord. If you have married somebody else's wife or husband, you have got an accursed thing in your hand. Something wrong has come into you and the plague of God has also come among you! You do not know what you suffer when you are in a man's house who is not supposed to be your own. You do not know what you suffer when you are keeping a woman that is not yours!

3. Eternal death is the final end of those in the wrong marriage who do not do restitution

The Lord told Abimelech **Thou art but a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she is a man's wife.**

Genesis 20:3

But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, Behold, thou art but a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she is a man's wife.

Having got the sense of the severity of God's Judgement on Sodom and Gomorrah with fire and brimstone in **Genesis 19**, Abimelech was keen over his

own city and nation. They had repented and were walking with God in righteousness lest what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah would befall them. Then suddenly this Sarah's matter came up, and out of fear he cried out: **Lord, wilt thou slay also a righteous nation? Said he not unto me, she is my sister? And she, even she herself said, he is my brother: in the integrity of my heart and innocence of my hands have I done this.** But God made him understand that what was at stake here was neither the integrity of his heart nor the innocence of his hands, but his very life – death was hanging over his head! Abimelech had got something in his hands that was not his and was about to distort the eternal plan of God concerning Abraham and Sarah. That is why God commanded him to **Restore the man his wife... and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine, Genesis 20:7.**

Despite the gospel and warnings you have heard, you have been living with another person's wife or husband for many years now and you hardened your heart as if nothing is at stake? The Lord gave Abimelech the opportunity to harden his heart if he chose to. You too have the choice either to harden your heart, die and go to hell, or repent, do restitution and get to heaven at last. The choice is yours.

God told Abimelech, **If thou restore her not know thou that thou shalt surely die.** The Lord is saying, *"You will die and that woman or man will eventually leave you. I will kill you and punish you in hell. Forget*

about the innocence you are talking about. Yes, I know about that claim of innocence that is why I showed you mercy and did not allow you to touch her by frustrating all your attempts to lie with her. But now, I caused barrenness in your family so that you should know that something is wrong; but you did not perceive it. Now I have come through a dream, Abimelech can you hear now? This is your last warning!" Abimelech woke up from the dream, gathered his people and told them the encounter he had with God in a dream, and then went to Abraham and said "Why did you do such a thing to me?"

Do you think it is a small thing to keep somebody's wife, to distort divine plan over a couple? Do you think it is a small thing that God brought you in contact with your spouse in marriage? He told Abraham who was married to Sarah, **I will make of you a great nation, kings of people shall come out of you.** Do you know what the Lord will use your grandchildren to do? The God of plan, the God of Knowledge, the God that sees into the future, although you said you made a mistake, God allowed it because His wisdom is playing out in your marriage. God allowed that mistake in your life for a purpose, nevertheless He can change your circumstance. God demanded restitution to be done and repentance in Abimelech because that was the only way his sins could be forgiven. Do not lose eternal blessed future for a foolish divorce and remarriage!

without violating God's law of marriage. Restitution must be carried out where such a woman is divorced for marriage to another woman.

CHAPTER 8

AREAS OF RESTITUTION – PART II LYING, SLANDER AND THEFT

8.1 Restitution for Lying and Falsehood

Leviticus 6: 1 – 4

1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

2 If a soul sin, and commit a trespass against the LORD, and lie unto his neighbour in that which was delivered him to keep, or in fellowship, or in a thing taken away by violence, or hath deceived his neighbour;

3 Or have found that which was lost, and lieth concerning it, and sweareth falsely; in any of all these that a man doeth, sinning therein:

4 Then it shall be, because he hath sinned, and is guilty, that he shall restore that which he took violently away, or the thing which he hath deceitfully gotten, or that which was delivered him to keep, or the lost thing which he found.

Restitution is required in all manner of lying and falsehood. The lie told should be uncovered and the truth should be made known. Lying to procure documents, results, certificates and such like should be repented of and revealed and the use or possession of them should be discontinued. This should be done to individuals, institutions, families or the Government.

Be careful and prayerful, if necessary, receive enough counsel so that you do not go to use lies to rectify old lies. Let your lips speak the truth. There are people who lie concerning their age or name. If you did that and became convicted later, go and confess the truth to appropriate authority. They may not be able to effect change in their system, hence may remain with what is already written. It is no more sin since you have confessed it. However, you will need to give explanation from time to time where required.

8.2 Restitution of False Accusation

Psalm 12: 2 – 4

2 They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.

3 The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things:

4 Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?

Any false accusation you have made requires amendments for the sake of peace and holiness. Follow peace with all men, including unbelievers, witches and wizards. Now you are living in a broken relationship with people whom you accused without verifying it. You are not in talking terms with them and you say, "I do not bother, she is a witch." Who told you she is a witch? Have you proved it? Do you have witnesses? Can you make God one of your witnesses?

Go and apologize and settle that matter; follow peace with all men and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

A very good example of false accusation is the case of Job in **Job 42: 7-10**.

7. And it was so, that after the LORD had spoken these words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of Me the thing that is right, as My servant Job hath.

8. Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept: lest I deal with you after your folly, in that ye have not spoken of Me the thing which is right, like My servant Job.

9. So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went, and did according as the LORD commanded them: the LORD also accepted Job.

10. And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

Job had some friends who all claimed to be righteous. Some mysteries came upon Job, he was afflicted. Neither they nor Job knew the challenge between God and Satan. They did not know the things happening behind the scene. What you know, the Bible says, you know in part.

1 Corinthians 13: 9,12

9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

Therefore, be very careful how you treat what you think you know. Be careful how you handle what you think you know, because you may not have a full knowledge, you may know only in part.

Those people came to Job and looked at him and said, "We have searched it out. Nobody goes through this type of trouble who has never sinned against God. You have sinned. That is why we have been saying it all along that hypocrisy is a terrible thing, that one day your sins shall find you out. Job, your sins have found you out!" Job said, "No, I have not sinned. I cannot explain, my friends and brethren, why these things happened like that. I do not understand. I take care of my children and offer sacrifices for them regularly to cover them before God and to maintain righteousness before Him. I cannot tell why these things happened". They said to Job, "Look at you, we are telling you what will help you and you are there making noise and adding multitude of sins by your words." They troubled Job until Job said, "Miserable comforters you are! By the way, who told you to come here? Did I invite you to come here? Did I tell you I was looking for your counsel or comfort? If it were you that is going through this trouble I know what I would have told you, I know how I would have comforted

your lives, I know what I would have done to pour cool water upon your hearts. But see, you are miserable comforters, physicians of no value!" These people were so tough. They said, "Look at you again! We are telling you to repent so the Lord shall visit you again, and you are still making noise?"

That was how it went, and there is a God in heaven who was listening to their conversation. Know for sure that for every matter, every transaction, every communication of words that goes between you and another, there is a God that keeps record in heaven. There is a God that judges. He is a God of truth, a God of Knowledge, and by Him actions are weighed.

1 Samuel 2:3.

Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

At the end, the Lord went to those three people and addressed the chief man, the ring leader and said, "*My anger is kindled against you and your two friends. You were boasting that you were righteous people and you were accusing my innocent servant Job. Did you know what was behind the scene? Were you there when Satan came to challenge Me? Did you know the wisdom I exercised to allow him? And you wanted to damage My servant Job, you wanted to kill him. Were*

you not seeking to destroy the ministry that the Lord has given to him? My wrath is kindled against you, therefore take a lamb and go to my servant Job and confess and appease him. Go and repent before him, then he shall pray for you and I shall answer him and heal you. I will deliver you and forgive you. Do not say you are going to fast to appease me. Your fasting is vanity, I have revealed My will to you, therefore go and do My will”.

Then they went to Job to plead with him. When Job saw those people humble themselves before him, you can imagine what a healing, what a divine power that flooded his soul and healed his wounded heart! His heart had been wounded with words. His heart was marred, affected and pierced through by the words of men through tongues that were as sharp as arrows.

Psalms 57:4

My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

The Lord sent them back to heal Job. When Job got healed with their apology, those people came to rejoice. Job got strengthened. He must have said, “Praise God! The God of heaven recognized my righteousness, He recognized my sincerity. The God of heaven recognized the innocency of my hands”. He prayed for his friends and then the Lord forgave them. Afterwards the Lord visited Job with double prosperity. Amen. Learn to forgive others that God may bless you.

You speak anyhow. You challenge people anyhow. You give report anyhow concerning your brother, concerning even the ministers of the Gospel. You are accusing people anyhow, spoiling their names before others, assassinating their character. Go and apologize. My brother, my sister, do something about those words before you stand at the judgment, because the Bible says He that shall speak careless words shall stand at the judgment for his words.

Matthew 12 : 36 - 37.

36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Therefore, examine yourself. If the Lord convicts you, do not manifest pride. Do not show the pride of Nebuchadnezzar. Daniel advised him to humble himself but he would not, until he became an animal in the bush. Beware that your pride does not destroy you!.

All those words spoken: lying words, words of falsehood, words calculated to damage and assassinate character, when you repent of them, you will go back and apologize. You scattered families, you are the reason why the marriage between a man and his wife was destroyed, because of the evil report you gave, you will have to go and confess that you told lies and ask for

forgiveness – that is restitution of false accusation. The other party maybe tough and hard, but the believer must seek peace and pursue it, until it is either done or it is clearly known that the other party is the one responsible because of rejecting your peace.

Romans 12:18.

If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

You may need to employ the help of others and the church in this area.

8.3 Restitution for Theft/Stolen Items, Treachery and Embezzlement

Judges 17:1-4

1. And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name was Micah.

2. And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou cursedst, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver is with me; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed be thou of the LORD, my son.

3. And when he had restored the eleven hundred shekels of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a graven image and a molten image: now therefore I will restore it unto thee.

4. Yet he restored the money unto his mother; and his mother took two hundred shekels of silver, and gave them to the founder, who made thereof a graven image and a molten image: and they were in the house of Micah.

Micah stole the money of his mother, eleven hundred shekels of silver, a heavy sum of money! For how long he kept it, we are not aware, but one thing was clear: the mother's curse. She probably lifted up her hands to the sun and said, "There is a God in the sky, there is a God that knows. Whoever it was that took this money, God make him blind in the day: God make him cripple, not only himself, also his children shall be vagabonds in the earth; God take away sleep from the eyes of that person; God, that money shall become stomach ulcer for him." Micah must have heard the cursing and seen that there is danger in stealing. The money will finish but the judgment or the curses will remain.

2 Kings 5:27

For the leprosy of Naaman shall cleave unto thee and to thy seed forever.

The judgment for that was so great, and Micah said, (I do not know how he did it, whether he appealed to other people to come and help him plead with his mother, or he knelt down and pleaded), "Mother, the eleven hundred shekels of silver that was stolen of which I heard you cursing, I stole it". If it was shameful to confess this, he would bear the shame to save his life.

The mother turned the curse to blessing for Micah. She said, "Oh blessed be thou of the Lord! My son, do you know, I had consecrated that money to the Lord?"

That money you stole from that person; do you know, it is the Lord's money? Those things you people are stealing from the Government, do you know it is the Lord's money meant to build hospitals, provide drugs, construct roads, build schools and do many things that will bring peace and progress to the society of God? It is the Lord's money, therefore, Micah restored that money. It is people's salary but you embezzled it. As Micah restored that money back to the mother, do likewise! And do you know that Micah's mother gave the money back to him because of the Lord? Which means there is blessing in restitution. In Abimelech's case, if he did not restore Abraham's wife, God said, he was a dead man. Barrenness had entered into his family and, to be healed, restitution had to be carried out. The curse was hanging on Micah and he needed to retribute to be free from the curse.

Ezekiel 33:14-16

14. Again, when I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; if he turn from his sin, and do that which is lawful and right;

15. If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die.

16. None of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him: he hath done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely live.

The Bible says that if God says to a man that he is going to die because of a sin he has committed or because of that which was stolen by him and that if he lives onward in righteousness, he shall live and not die. God is detailed about the steps the man must take to reverse the death sentence. As Zacchaeus did, theft of money or material things needs confession, repentance and restitution to individuals, institutions or the Government. Treachery, cheating, "419", embezzlement, requires confession, repentance and restitution. The person cheated may choose to receive his money or material possession back, or may decide to forgive and not require payment. It is acceptable. In that case the person making restitution is relieved.

God is not in a haste about anybody; He is not political. He means to take people who are pure to heaven. He means to take, even if it is only one person who qualifies among men, to heaven and abandon the rest. Therefore, you who want to go to Heaven, God would want to help you and to support you to make it. But He wants to be thorough with you so that when you get there you will not become another Lucifer in heaven who will cause another havoc for God. So He wants a thorough work in you. Co-operate with God for a thorough work of righteousness in your life. He is going to give you grace to do a thorough work of personal righteousness, He will make a way for you to achieve the task.

You do not just steal and tell God you are sorry; sorry is not enough. If you are truly sorry, then return what you have stolen and God will know you are really sorry, because forgiveness of sins is a practical thing. Forgiveness of sin is cancelation of sin. It is cleansing of bad records of sin. Then if that record has to be cleaned, it has to be restituted.

CHAPTER 9

AREAS OF RESTITUTION - PART III - MAN STEALING AND MURDER

9.1 Restitution for Man Stealing

1 Kings 3 : 16 – 27

16 Then came there two women, that were harlots, unto the king, and stood before him.

17 And the one woman said, O my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house.

18 And it came to pass the third day after that I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also: and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house.

19 And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it.

20 And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, while thine handmaid slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom.

21 And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead: but when I had considered it in the morning, behold, it was not my son, which I did bear.

22 And the other woman said, Nay; but the living

is my son, and the dead is thy son. And this said, No; but the dead is thy son, and the living is my son. Thus they spake before the king.

23 Then said the king, The one saith, This is my son that liveth, and thy son is the dead: and the other saith, Nay; but thy son is the dead, and my son is the living.

24 And the king said, Bring me a sword. And they brought a sword before the king.

25 And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other.

26 Then spake the woman whose the living child was unto the king, for her bowels yearned upon her son, and she said, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. But the other said, Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it.

27 Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof.

The story is told about two harlots who were in a place, a maternity room, where they gave birth each to her child. One of them slept on her child and he died. Then she went and stole the living child of the other woman, her roommate. Eventually, the case came to Solomon. When it was discovered who the original owner was, he said they should restore the living child back to the owner. You stole that child, restore that child back to the owner.

This is different from adoption where the process is just

and clean and there is no iniquity there. Child stealing is quite different from adoption. If you snatched a child from the parents, or sneaked into a hospital and stole a child, or you arranged with some people to go and kidnap a person, but now you have come to your senses and realized you have sinned, go and restore that child or person; that is the word of God. Seek proper counselling to be directed on how to carry out this.

9.2 Restitution for Unlawful Killing (Murder)

2 Samuel 21 :1 – 9

1. Then there was a famine in the days of David three years, year after year; and David enquired of the LORD. And the LORD answered, It is for Saul, and for his bloody house, because he slew the Gibeonites.

2. And the king called the Gibeonites, and said unto them; (now the Gibeonites were not of the children of Israel, but of the remnant of the Amorites; and the children of Israel had sworn unto them: and Saul sought to slay them in his zeal to the children of Israel and Judah.)

3. Wherefore David said unto the Gibeonites, What shall I do for you? and wherewith shall I make the atonement, that ye may bless the inheritance of the LORD?

4. And the Gibeonites said unto him, We will have no silver nor gold of Saul, nor of his house; neither for us shalt thou kill any man in Israel. And he said, What ye shall say, that will I do for you.

5. And they answered the king, The man that consumed us, and that devised against us that we should be destroyed from remaining in any of the coasts of Israel,

6. Let seven men of his sons be delivered unto us, and we will hang them up unto the LORD in Gibeah of Saul, whom the LORD did choose. And the king said, I will give them.

7. But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan the son of Saul, because of the LORD'S oath that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul.

8. But the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bare unto Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth; and the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul, whom she brought up for Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite:

9. And he delivered them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they hanged them in the hill before the LORD: and they fell all seven together, and were put to death in the days of harvest, in the first days, in the beginning of barley harvest.

The story in the above passage is a complex case; to retribute, David had to appease the Gibeonites, but it just shows how insistent God is that right must be done. It is as serious as that.

When Joshua was going with the children of Israel to fight against the Canaanites, the Gibeonites came to Joshua with tricks and convinced him that they were

from a far country and that they would want to enter into a peace pact with Israel so they should not be killed. Joshua swore unto them. When later they discovered that they were just close by, there was no going back because they had sworn unto them. Be careful before you make any promise. They decided to preserve the Gibeonites and just use them as slaves, fetchers of wood and fetchers of water. But when Saul became a king in Israel he wanted to demonstrate religious zeal and went against the Gibeonites and began to kill them.

There is a God of Justice. Do you think you are serving a careless God? You behave carelessly like that and think you will prosper? That is why people heap up preachers after their carelessness who will always say, "Be blessed, I am seeing blessing on your face". It is danger he is seeing on your face, my friend. God saw that injustice had been done against the Gibeonites by Saul who was king over Israel, and the Lord shut up the heavens that there should be no rain. In the first year, they did not know that it was a plague already begun; they thought that it was by chance, at the mouth of one witness one does not conclude a matter, so they waited. At the second year there was famine again, they began to wonder what was actually happening, at the mouth of two witnesses one may conclude a matter, but sometimes it may require a third witness to confirm it. Then in the third year there was famine again, a third witness, then they concluded that something had gone wrong, the matter was established.

Then David went to the Lord to ask what had gone wrong.

God responded: *“That I am called the God of Israel does not mean I will reject other people, it does not mean I will do injustice to other people. It does not mean I will support your oppression against other people. It does not mean I will support your cheating other people. Then I would not be a just God, I would not be a righteous God. It is Saul and what he did against the Gibeonites. Go and settle with the Gibeonites”.* Then David went to the Gibeonites and said, “Come, the Lord has revealed to me that He is the God of all flesh, all men can trust in Him because He is the God that protects all those that trust in Him. You were ill-treated, what can we do?” The people answered, “Yes, we were ill-treated, but we would not want anyone to die in Israel for us.

That man who ill-treated us, if he were alive, we would have demanded for him, but since he has died and the law of God says 'I will visit iniquity even to the fourth generation', his generation must suffer for his life.

Exodus 20:5

Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

And according to the word of God, he that sheds blood his blood must also be shed, blood-for-blood.

Genesis 9:6

Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

Then the blood of his generation must also go for it. Bring seven sons from his generation and we will hang them before the Lord”.

So they brought seven people from Saul's lineage because blood must go for blood, that was the law, (but not in this period of grace), and they hung those people.

That is why you must be praying for your parents that they do not go and borrow iniquity for you to suffer. Pray for your people. Then, pray for yourself very well and stand with the righteousness of God, “For the sin of the father shall not be required from the son.”

Jeremiah 31:29,30

29 In those days they shall say no more, The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge.

30 But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge.

31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

So after the seven people had been hanged the rain started coming down from heaven. That shows there is a God of justice who sits in heaven and judges between

man and man, between a man and a woman, between husbands and wives, between parents and children, between kings and the subjects. Yes, be careful with this God! He is a dreadful God. He is a terrible God who will not bypass iniquity. He will not spare your iniquity, He will not spare your injustice against your brother, He will not spare your injustice against your sister; therefore, beware! This kind of justice David carried out was acceptable in the Old Testament during the law.

Leviticus 24:19-21

19 And if a man cause a blemish in his neighbour; as he hath done, so shall it be done to him;

20 Breach for breach, eye for eye, tooth for tooth: as he hath caused a blemish in a man, so shall it be done to him again.

21 And he that killeth a beast, he shall restore it: and he that killeth a man, he shall be put to death.

Deuteronomy 19:21

And thine eye shall not pity; but life shall go for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

But it cannot happen this way now in the New Testament in Christ.

Matthew 5:38,39

38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

In the New Testament, good apology and proper settlement will be required to appease the heart of the offended.

CHAPTER 10

AREAS OF RESTITUTION - PART IV - FALSE MINISTRY, SPIRITISM, WITCHCRAFT AND OCCULTISM

10.1 Restitution for Fraudulent/Corrupt Ministry

1 Samuel 12:1-5

1. And Samuel said unto all Israel, Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you.

2. And now, behold, the king walketh before you: and I am old and grayheaded; and, behold, my sons are with you: and I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day.

3. Behold, here I am: witness against me before the LORD, and before his anointed: whose ox have I taken? Or whose ass have I taken? Or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? Or of whose hand have I received any bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? And I will restore it you.

4. And they said, Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken ought of any man's hand.

5. And he said unto them, The LORD is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that ye have not found ought in my hand. And they answered, He is witness.

It is expected, as a ruler among the people of God, as a

minister, a pastor in the Church of God, that your ways should be perfect; that your ways should be pure in all issues of finances, in all manner of relationships; that your acts should be just before God. Samuel said, "I have walked with you from my childhood until this old age.... Witness against me before the Lord and before His anointed"

Luke 1:74, 75.

74 That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear,

75 In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

As you have started the ministry in righteousness, so it should remain, but you became corrupt and fraudulent as a pastor and embezzled the money of the church. You borrowed money from your members and refused to pay back, you frustrated the cases of marriage of some people, you committed adultery with some of those women in your church. In your own ministerial life, you have done terribly. It could be in the church where you were before and now you are in another church. What should you do? Samuel said, "The Lord is witness...witness against me, if I have done anything I will apologize. If I have embezzled your money, I will restore it back. If I have taken bribe or taken something in a fraudulent way from any man, if I have done mischief in my ministry among you, I will seek forgiveness. If it is to meet with people offended one by one, I will do that to have a good conscience". That is

the word of God. That is the teaching of grace and the grace of God is sufficient.

10.2 Restitution for Spiritism, Witchcraft and Occultism

Deuteronomy 18: 9-14

9. When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations.

10. There shall not be found among you *any one* that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, *or* that useth divination, *or* an observer of times, *or* an enchanter, *or* a witch,

11. *Or* a charmer, *or* a consulter with familiar spirits, *or* a wizard, *or* a necromancer.

12. For all that do these things *are* an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee.

13. Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.

14. For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do.

Do not practice witchcraft. Do not go to herbalists to collect charms for protection. When you do that it makes you defiled before God. But you may say, "But I do not go out of my body in witchcraft." But you have the property of Satan in your house and in your possession.

Do not do those things for they bring God's judgement on you.

Leviticus 19:31

Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.

This is God talking. Do not take things from Satan to protect yourself, it is spiritual defilement. The moment you do that, your faith turns from God and rests on Satan. Satan then becomes the one who delivers you, but can Satan deliver you from himself?. It is all tricks and deceit.

Acts 8: 9-13, 18, 19

9. But there was a certain man, called Simon, which before time in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

10. To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

11. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

12. But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13. Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

18. And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

19. Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

What are we saying? You have been bewitching your congregation. There are some things you buried at the door or at the altar of your church. They are defilement to you. Now that you say you have come to Jesus, go and dig out all those things. Dig them out and confess them. The ministry started by witchcraft, so abandon it and go and learn Christianity properly. If you truly have a ministry and God has called you, He will call again. Samuel, go and lie down, that voice will call again.

1 Samuel 3:9,10.

9 Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

If the Lord is the one who has called you, He will come again, otherwise abandon that ministry. You started it out of witchcraft, you bewitched the people, you received power from somewhere, not from God. It is a defilement and you cannot continue like that. Such

ministries have their root in Satanism. If you come out from thee do not start a ministry. You said you have repented and keep quiet saying, "I will simply dig those things out and throw them away". That is not enough, you must confess and abandon that ministry because it is not from God. The foundation is "out of course". You sat down on fabricated testimony that you went to heaven and hell, which is a lie! And the people have believed you, then you say you have a ministry? That is a demonic ministry, wicked ministry, ministry from the pit of hell! Abandon those things and go and learn Christianity. If there is any ministry for you, the Lord will bring it later. "Samuel, go and lie down; He will call again". If the one calling you is the Lord, He will call again. That is what I am saying because you have gone off the track, the foundation is out of course. Abandon those things you started wrongly which you call ministry.

Psalms 82 : 5

They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course.

You used "419" and treachery to start that ministry business because you are looking for money. If the foundation is out of course, what is the hope of the righteous? Get those things wiped out and be clean, then the Lord shall lay hands upon you as a vessel unto honour. All those witchcraft materials you have collected must be confessed and destroyed. All kinds of

witchcraft and spiritism must be confessed, repented of and destroyed. Proper deliverance must be carried out for thorough cleansing.

Acts 19: 18 – 20

18. And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds.

19. Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.

20. So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.

You who feel too big to show your deeds should be ready to go to hell. For mixing the word of Jesus with lies, and saying you are doing ministry, you will go to hell! He that hideth the devil shall not prosper. Do you know that by your open confession you will deliver many people who are also there in darkness? You will give them boldness to come out and it will be to your credit. But because you are hiding the devil you will be judged. He that hideth the devil shall not prosper, but he that confesses, exposes him and reveals his property shall obtain mercy.

Proverbs 28:13

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

That so called anointed man of God introduced you to witchcraft and you are still there. Come out of that

witchcraft! Come out and reveal that man that others might escape from him, because he is already increasing in rank with the devil through the number of people he is initiating. But God has opened your eyes, maybe you have even come out now and you are still keeping quiet about him. Infact you have not been saved yet, because you are hiding the devil, you are allowing that man to continue in wickedness because he said he will kill you. You are dead already because you fear man!

Matthew 10:28

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

You are hiding that wicked Apostle, that wicked Bishop, you are shielding him and he is continuing to do damage in the Church of God. You and he are the same, you have not yet come out, you are still in occultism and darkness. Judgment is waiting for the two of you. Other souls would have been saved if you had confessed openly. Those other souls whom that man is mutilating and destroying would have been saved. Confess, you woman, with whom that so called “Man of God” is sleeping. You struggled and escaped and you are still keeping quiet? You are a dead woman because you are hiding a sinner. Confess!

If it is a coordinator in HOREMOW that is sleeping with you and you keep quiet, may the fire of God fall upon your life, because you allowed him to be among the people, among leaders of righteousness and holiness

in hypocrisy. He is spoiling the work and you are a witness. God has not revealed it to us yet, but He has revealed it to you by allowing you to be a partaker who escaped, and you are hiding him. The judgment of God will overtake you. Do you think we are joking here? Anyone who has left righteousness must leave this place. He shall leave his seat as a coordinator. I am telling you the truth, he will leave. Let Achan go that Israel might be spared! Why should we die because of one man? Why should the salvation of others be hindered because of one man, and you know it and hiding it?

Maybe you are a coordinator and you are into immorality, witchcraft, the wisdom of God has allowed you here; God has not taken action on you yet by wisdom. That is in the realm of God, but when the Lord shall reveal it, when the Lord shall show us and say, "See him now, go and arrest him", I am telling you, we shall behave like the servants of King Ahasuerus over Haman. We shall carry you immediately and say, "Behold he has made gallows in his house for Mordecai, hang him on it!" You want to hinder the salvation of other people? You are a hypocrite? You are a sinner, and you are looking for position in the church, you are looking for position here in HOREMOW while you are still a sinner? Is this a place of sin? Is Christ a minister of sin? Save yourself from your sin. The Bible says, "If any man that calls himself a believer be a fornicator, an adulterer, idolater, a witch or wizard, a drunkard; do not have anything to do with him; do not have fellowship with him; do not eat together with him."

1 Corinthians 5:11

But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

Do it as the Lord has told you, do not respect persons.

James 2:1

Have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.

Pity, for poor congregations, who do not know Bible truth! We are standing on Bible truth.

Numbers 16:41

But on the morrow all the congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron, saying, Ye have killed the people of the LORD.

Dothan, Korah, and Abiram, stubborn people! They were so rebellious that God Himself had to judge them, yet human beings were accusing Moses and Aaron and calling the rebellious, "**The Lord's people!**" People that were hindering them from getting to the Promised Land and the Lord meted out judgment over them. But the foolish congregation was angry at God's judgement. True Christian leaders do not submit to the

voice of the congregation but to the voice of God. What he tells them is what they do. Whoever in the congregation wants to follow should do so, but whoever does not want to follow can stay away. There is no respect of person, but of Jesus. However, leaders must be loving, gentle and caring. They must deal boldly to take the souls of many to heaven.

God said to Moses,

Exodus 7:1

And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.

Before Pharaoh, Moses spoke without respect. He never went to humble himself before Pharaoh, No! He spoke with authority! God has given church leaders authority to deal with stubborn sinners and hypocrites that want to abuse His Name.

10.3 Restitution for the Use of Items of Idolatry.

What we are saying is that, you should cleanse yourself from all these strange materials used in ministry for signs and wonders.

Exodus 7: 10-13

10 And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent.

11 Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.

12 For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.

13 And he hardened Pharaoh's heart, that he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.

These materials that you are using in performing miracles, do you think that it is God that is using them - the handkerchiefs, the aprons, the anointing oil, sand, salt, calendar, stickers, etc.? Moses and Aaron used the rod to perform miracle and the magicians of Egypt also used the rod to perform the same sign, but their miracle was not from the power of God. Hence, those who use anointing oil, handkerchiefs, aprons, sand, water, salt, soap, comb etc. to perform miracles today should not be seen as doing so by the Spirit of God. The use of these material substances for miracles do not have common place in Scriptures; they were rarely used. The same should be so today. In the Scriptures they could appear rarely, sometimes once, and it did not become a doctrine. For instance, the jawbone of an ass gave water to Samson once; it did not give water to Samson any other time, nor to any other person anywhere else. It just showed the omnipotence of God who can do all things, but did not turn human faith to it. It would have become an idol if it did. The serpent on the pole healed people for a specified time and ceased. Nine hundred years after, human beings started worshipping the serpent of brass.

2 Kings 18:4

He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.

Because of this, God does not allow material substances lest human beings will worship them. They will turn their faith away from Jesus to them. But these are what have filled the church today. You are using handkerchiefs and other items gotten from your evil masters, evil mentors, people whose names are not in the Book of Life, people who knew the truth before like Balaam but now have corrupted themselves. You are learning Christianity from them, you are carrying those substances from them to go and perform miracles. You are an accomplice with them, they are your masters of iniquity. Those things are evil!.

Similarly, it is strange to Scripture to pray naked or maintain a portion of the house for prayer. These things defile the minister before God and must be stopped! Anointing oil can only be used in Biblical sense. Stop it there, do not carry it to another level. Yet its use is not mandatory. Stop all those ungodly things and uses, because they defile your ministry and make you a vessel unto dishonour. Cleanse yourself from these if you want to be a vessel unto honour. That is the word.

Mark 10: 17 – 21

17 And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?

18 And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

19 Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother.

20 And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth.

21 Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

Jesus, when asked by someone, *“What must I do to have eternal life?”*, said, *“Have you heard the commandments? Thou shall not kill, thou shall not steal, thou shall not commit adultery, obey thy father and mother.”* The man answered, *“Yes, I have observed it from my youth”*. Then Jesus continued, *“There is one thing in your life, go and remove it, then come and follow Me”*. That is what the Lord is saying. Of course from your youth there were many sins you were not committing,

but there are things you are now doing that you need to get rid of. To become a vessel unto honour, go and cleanse these things out of your life.

CHAPTER 11

AREAS OF RESTITUTION – PART V RELATIONSHIPS AND OUTER CLEANSING

11.1 Making Peace in Human Relationship

Hebrews 12:14

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

Make peace with your opponents before giving your offering. If your brother offends you, settle the matter between him and you. If he would not hear, take another person with you to meet him; if he still would not hear, take the matter to the Church. That is what Jesus says. But if he still refuses to hear the Church, then leave the matter to God. God knows the effort you have made. He has seen how you disciplined yourself to follow this truth. God will not hold you responsible, but do not hold that man in your heart. Similarly, if you offended a man and you went to him to apologize and he said he would not hear, then you called another person and went with him to apologize to him and yet he said he would not hear, you have made all efforts to make peace but the man would not listen, you are discharged and acquitted by the God of heaven.

Matthew 5:23-24

23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought

against thee;

24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

Matthew 18:15-17

15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Be careful with the words that you speak. Be careful with your heart attitude towards your brother so that you do not hate your brother, so that you do not grow angry unnecessarily without a cause. Even if it is with a cause, your anger should not last till the setting of the sun that is what the Lord is saying.

Ephesians 4:26

Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

Matthew 5:22

But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the

judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

Be careful with words. "Whosoever shall say to his brother 'You are useless' Useless? God has made somebody and you say he is useless? Even the devil is still useful to God and you are calling a whole man, a human being that God has made in his image and likeness, useless? You stand in the danger of judgment! "And whosoever shall say to his brother, Thou fool ..." What? Your brother is a fool? This your tongue is a little member, but it boasts of great things, the tongue is set on fire of hell.

James 3:6

And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

Luke 16:24

And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

The rich man, called for water to cool his tongue; he did not mind the burning of the hand, the burning of the eyes, the burning of the head and other parts, it was the tongue he was so mindful of. Be careful with the tongue. Whoever calls his brother, "Thou fool!" shall be in

danger of hell fire

Have you called your brother a fool already? Have you oppressed your brother already? Have you transgressed against your brother already and what matters in your heart now is to serve the Lord? What matters in your heart now is to sing for God? What matters now to you is to come and just give offering to God? Damn that offering! God will not respect it, it is not coming from a pure heart, it is not coming from a justified mind. God says, leave there thy gift before the altar, do not bring it to the altar, leave it before the altar and go and make peace with your brother, go and make peace with your father, with your mother, with your wife, with your husband. Go and make peace with your friend, with your boss in the office, with your workers. Go and make peace, and after you have made peace, then come and offer your gift or service unto God and it shall be accepted.

Please do not delay. There is a matter between you and someone and you are delaying? Do you know that once you die, that is all? Do you know that when you die that is the end? When the period of grace the Lord has given you is over, that is all. Therefore, agree with your adversary quickly when there is opportunity, when you are still alive and the situation has not been complicated, otherwise you will suffer eternal judgment for it. That is restitution. That is what God is saying you should do, make peace with people.

Matthew 18:15-17

15. Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against

thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

16. But if he will not hear *thee*, *then* take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

17. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell *it* unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

What is the Lord saying here? This is the case of someone offending you, someone who wants to destroy this good mind God has given you, someone who wants to affect your eternal life. You know there are some things that are small enough that you can forgive them easily, but there are some other things you will want to turn off but God would say “No, you must deal with this matter well, else it shall become a stumbling block on your way. If you do not deal with this matter now, I, God that see to eternity and see your future, know that you will stumble by this matter; others will stumble by this matter also. Please, I want to show mercy to that person too. I want to examine that person whether he will qualify for My mercy.” Therefore, if your brother shall trespass against you and there is no peace, no goodwill existing between the two of you, go to him and discuss the matter with him. Maybe he is a tough man, some people are tough and stuffy, then take one or two more persons with you, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses a matter should be established. If he refuses to hear them, take the matter to the Church.

Can you see? You do not have to be hasty in finishing up a matter; eternal life is inside that matter; the doom of some people is inside that matter, therefore do whatever you can do to rescue people from eternal death. Do what you can to, report it to the Church. If it becomes so tough to the Church, that is alright, you have also gotten up to three witnesses; first you went to him, that is one witness, secondly you went with two more persons, that is the second witness, then you tried the third one by carrying him to the Church. You have tried, be at peace. **If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, as much as it is in your own ability, live peaceably with all men.**

Romans 12:18

If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

But sometimes it does not lie in you, some men are so wicked that it cannot work. In that case, you have done everything, you have used all means and you cannot make peace; then be at peace, God knows your efforts. That matter is not on you anymore. Be at peace; let him be unto you as a publican, as an unbeliever. Relate with him in the same way you relate with unbelievers in the society.

11.2 Cleansing from outward filthiness

Isaiah 3: 16-24

16. Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with

stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet:

17. Therefore the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts.

18. In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of their tinkling ornaments about their feet, and their cauls, and their round tires like the moon,

19. The chains, and the bracelets, and the mufflers,

20. The bonnets, and the ornaments of the legs, and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings,

21. The rings, and nose jewels,

22. The changeable suits of apparel, and the mantles, and the wimples, and the crisping pins,

23. The glasses, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the vails.

24. And it shall come to pass, that instead of sweet smell there shall be stink; and instead of a girdle a rent; and instead of well-set hair baldness; and instead of a stomacher a girding of sackcloth; and burning instead of beauty.

Here the Bible tells us that the Lord wants you to be clean in heart and be clean in body too. All those evil things you use for beauty and pride, go and cleanse them out, all those forbidden items, get them cleansed if you want to be a vessel unto honour. Go and remove the earrings, rings, including wedding rings and all those beads you put upon your body. The devil deceived

deceived you and told you that because you are a king they should give you beads, that because you are married they should give you rings – all those things are demonic deceptions blocking your name from entering into the Book of Life. Go and cleanse yourself from those things so that you can become a vessel unto honour, otherwise all that you are doing in the house of God is of no eternal benefit to you.

You are doing God's business now, but you are not clean, you are not required actually. Go and cleanse those things out of your body. All those evil clothing you put on, the powder you rub on yourself to look “fine”; those clothes you put on that expose your sensitive parts, “show breast”, “show back”, “show stomach”, “show laps”, etc. You open your skirt at the back, you, a woman, put on pants (trousers)!, cleanse away those things. All those artificial hair, perming, Jerry curling, attachments, weave-ons, get rid of them. All those bleaching, changing your skin colour, are defilement. You appear this way because others do so in the house of God, but such are vessels unto dishonour. **Whosoever purgeth himself from these shall be a vessel unto honour.** Please obey without argument and you will be used as a vessel unto honour. Otherwise, for now, you are a vessel unto dishonourable use with these filthiness on you.

Go and cleanse those things out so that Satan shall have no part in your life. All about you should be of God, the Lord will be happy with you. May the Lord make you new, different, holy, perfect and honourable!

The Lord expects those who work for Him must be holy and clean

Isaiah 52:11.

Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean *thing*; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD.

CHAPTER 12

ELEMENTS OF RESTITUTION

There are basically four rudiments/elements that make up restitution and they are as follows:

12.1 Realisation that You Have Sinned

Before you can actually do restitution and really do it in a way that God will be happy with you, there must be personal realisation. You need to realise the heavy weight of your sins and how it affected God and your fellow men. If you have not come to this realisation and seen how weighty and greatly you have hurt God and your fellow men, you will neither be able to apologise nor amend your way. It is this realization that must bring you to that acknowledgement in your heart. David said, "I acknowledge my transgression and my sin is ever before thee." You must come to that realisation, "Ah! Look at what I have done against my God, look at the evil I have done against my neighbour!". When you come to that consciousness in your mind, as it happens with many people, tears may roll out of your eyes. You will be so sorrowful and sad that you have done this wickedness against God and your fellow human being.

12.2 Taking Decision to Amend Your Wrong Doings

After you have realised your wrong doing, you should make up your mind to do the right thing before God and

the offended person. Make up your mind to do it, for many people have done that. May be you have done it many times, yet you may still have to do it again. Restitution is not once in a life time, it is a regular exercise of heavenly minded Christians. Tell yourself, "I am going to amend my way, no matter what it will cost me, no matter the pain, no matter the shame and the reproach that will come on me in this world, I prefer to suffer that shame and reproach in this world than to suffer eternally in hell."

12.3 Going to the Offended to make Confession

After you have realised your fault and taken decision, the next step is to go to the offended - your brother, sister, husband, wife, children or whosoever and confess. If the person is far away, pick up your mobile phone and call to tell him/her, "Beloved, I have done this or that against you, I have hurt you. I am indeed sorry, please, forgive me". You humble yourself and apologise. You are not going to that person to justify yourself saying, "It is because of you, you did this or that, if you had not done like this, I would not have revenged in this way". No! You are not there to justify yourself, you are there to make confession and apology. Therefore tell the person, "Look at what I have done to you, please I am sorry, forgive me". You must make confession and apology to the offended and the slandered so that you will have 'a conscience void of offence toward God and toward men.'

12.4 Restore the Stolen/Misappropriated Things

Restoration involves returning those stolen or misappropriated properties you took away, the person you kidnapped, or whatever items of your neighbour that is in your possession. Pick it up and return it. Do not just make confession, the bible says, you should restore. Restore! Restore that money you have borrowed for years and you have not paid back. What are you doing with it? The goods you bought on credit and the person has been pleading with you “please pay this money.” Why have you not paid it? We read of a person in hell, whom the Lord was revealing to one of the people He took to hell, that the man in hell saw Jesus and was pleading for mercy. And Jesus looked at him and said *“Man, remember that debt that you refused to pay.”* The man said “I did not have”. The Lord replied, *“If you did not have, why did you not talk to me about it? I would have helped you to settle it”*. Beloved this debt you are owing, when are you going to settle it? When are you going to pay it back? That money you borrowed, when are you going to pay it to the owner? What about the goods you bought on credit for many days or weeks or months, or years and the owner has been pleading with you to pay and you remained adamant? You said you did not have, have you prayed about it? Have you talked to the Lord Jesus about it? Have you asked Him to help you and He did not? You have time to pray for healing when you are sick, you have time to pray for other things but this one that is closing the door of heaven against you when are you going to pray and ask the Lord to help you.

If you are going to make a restitution that will be acceptable to God, you are not just going to stop at decision making alone; saying, “Well God knows I want to pay, God knows I want to settle this restitution.” God knows! It is not a matter of God knows, get up and do it, settle it lest it be too late for you, because if you get to hell, you will pray to settle it and the only answer you will get is this, 'it is too late!' 'It is too late!!' 'It is too late!!!' May it not be too late for you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER 13

REQUIREMENTS FOR RESTITUTION

The following are basic requirements that you need to arm yourself with, to help you, when doing your restitution.

13.1 Know that God is Supporting You

The awareness that God is with you, will give you confidence in what you are about to do. Will God leave you alone? No! He said, *“I will never leave thee nor forsake thee. I will go before thee. I will give thee peace. My presence shall go with you and I shall give you success. I shall help you. Do not mind what you shall suffer for Me, I shall give you a Crown of Life. I shall bless you and My Name shall be exalted in you. My grace shall be sufficient for you. Do not mind shame, for he that believes in the Name of the Lord shall not be ashamed. I shall not allow you to be ashamed. Fear thou not, I am with you and I will help you. I will strengthen you. I will support you. I, the Lord, shall give you favour before man. I shall give you favour before your husband. I shall give you favour before your wife. I will give you favour before authorities. Do not fear, none of the hairs of your head shall fall to the ground except I permit it. If I allow you to suffer a little thing for Me, it is because no suffering of the present time is worthy to be compared with the glory that shall follow; no suffering is worthy of the great glory that is coming. If I allow you to*

suffer, it is because I want to promote your life. Yes, just be peaceful and go on and do whatsoever I said to you. Go and do it and you shall find that my grace shall be sufficient for you, because in God's commands are His enabling grace.”

His grace will be sufficient for you. Do not fear, the miracle will be done. Do not fear, the provision will be given to you and the Lord will help you.

13.2 Pray About It

So many times we run into problems, when we do our restitution. One of our sisters cheated on her husband, and when she got converted, she jumped out and said that she was going to tell her husband. Her pastor, one of the pastors in HOREMOW, pleaded with her to hold on a little bit so that they would take time to pray, but she said, “No, oh, I know my husband”. You do not know your husband when it comes to this matter of restitution. You do not know what your neighbour can do and therefore, beloved brothers and sisters, do it prayerfully. Do it after much prayer. Talk to God. Plead for the help of God. Plead for the presence of God to be with you while you are doing that restitution. This sister insisted that it was her husband and she knew her husband. Infact, she said, “Pastor, he is my husband, you do not know him like I know him”. The pastor advised her to wait and not to do it yet, until after they had sought for God's intervention prayerfully on the matter, but she refused. So when her husband came back, they had good time together in the night, then early in the morning she said, “My husband, I am born

again, I have just given my life to Christ, see I cheated on you". Hey! It was a terrible thing, her husband could not bear that. He said, "What have you just said? You did what? Out of this house!" And that was the end. Why? Beloved, there are restitutions that are not simple to do, not like marching to your neighbour and saying "sorry."

Please take time to pray on those that are not simple to do. Do not be in a hurry. Do not think that you know the person. You do not know the person. You do not know anybody as much as you think you do. The enemy can take over and turn it around to another thing. Therefore, before you do it pray much. Fast if need be and where necessary, go for counselling. Any restitution that has to do with immorality, murder, assassination and killing, please do not think you know the people. Take time to plead for the help of God and seek counselling. Not only that, do it under the influence or the leading of the Holy Spirit. Do you know what the bible say? "As many as are led by the Spirit of God they are the sons of God." Let the Spirit of God lead you. Let Him guide you. Let Him give you the time. There is another of our beloved sister, when she realised the evil she did and knew not what to do, she ran to her pastor (the same pastor) and said, "Pastor, look at what I did", the pastor told her that she needed to go and retribute for it. She said, I have done a lot of restitution in my life. The pastor asked her, "What about this restitution you are telling me?" She said, "Pastor am I going to do it? I am finished". The pastor

encouraged her and told her not to say she is finished. She should stop saying negative things about herself. She was so troubled saying, "My husband will... my husband will..." But the pastor told her, "Do not worry, God is on the throne." They prayed together on the matter. After much prayers, she called her husband (he had travelled) and confessed her sin. Infact, she had started clearing her belongings in her husband's house, ready to pack out, because she just believed if her husband heard of it, that would be the end of their marriage. But after that restitution, God beautified her home. The Lord glorified Himself. The man was even the one that was apologising to her and saying, "I caused you to fall into this sin. You would not have fallen into this temptation if I did the right thing." The restitution united the family more. When her husband came back, he called the pastor, and thanked him so much. If you have any restitution to do, do it prayerfully. You can see here the great evil a man or a woman can cause through the sin of adultery; what bondage a person suffers when he or she falls into immorality.

If you allow yourself to commit immorality with a married woman or induced a married woman to commit immorality with you, you have caused her to break her marital vow of being for her husband only. You need to apologise to her for that. She too will need to prayerfully and humbly apologise to her husband for allowing herself to be defiled by another man. The issue is not on who did it but on her for yielding herself, except she was truly raped. The same thing applies to a woman who allowed herself or induced a married

man to sleep with her. It is advisable that the aggrieved husband or wife should not insist on mentioning the name of the sin partner, so as not to expose themselves to more pains and the sin of unforgiveness.

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Proverbs 2:9 – 11

9 Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path.

10 When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;

11 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:

However, if the woman a man slept with is a whore, a harlot, a prostitute he may apologise to his wife alone. The prostitute will not value apology. “Give not that which is holy to dogs.”

Matthew 7:6

Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

In case the immorality committed with a man's wife is scandalous, the circumstance may require confession and apology to those concerned, including the woman's husband.

A believer who falls into immorality or any grievous sin will need to make the church authority know of his or her unfaithfulness for spiritual care, counselling and church discipline if required.

James 5:16

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Gen 32:11-12

11. Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children.

12. And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.

We see the example of Jacob in the Bible. The circumstance that set them, Esau and Jacob, apart was such that, in the secular society, the offended would not want to see the offender at all. Fear alone would have made Jacob to stay away, but he prayed fervently before going to meet his brother and God gave him the courage to do it and you see how the matter ended peacefully. If you pray about it, God will take control. But if you allow fear to take over you and you decide to withdraw from doing that which would have cleansed you and given you peace with man and God, you are doomed.

13.3 Get God's Understanding and Guidance

Get proper understanding of the matter in question.

Mark 2:24

And the Pharisees said unto Him, behold why do they on the Sabbath day that which is not lawful?

Gain understanding of that which is supposed to be done so that you may not do it wrongly. This is a requirement for restitution, pray properly for understanding and God's guidance because it is something that can be used against you, especially when you are dealing with unbelievers. Pray properly that you may not get it all wrong. Restitution is a matter that requires understanding of the people involved.

Proverbs 2:10-11

When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee.

This second sister sought counsel and took time to pray. She and her pastor prayed much about it. And one day the Holy Spirit ministered and said, "Call your husband. He was not at home, but travelled very far away to another state. The Holy Ghost said "Call him". According to her, she called him, as instructed by the Holy Ghost and with wisdom said, "Dear, when are you coming?" He said, "What happened?" She told him, "I have something to settle". Her husband asked, "What is it?" She replied, "I just have something to settle". He replied, "Tell me". She said, "I wish you are around", he

insisted, "Tell me. Okay I command you to tell me in the name of the Lord". Then our sister said, "Well I am sorry, I cheated on you". Oh, the man was devastated but right there, because it was done under the influence of the Holy Spirit, as the Spirit of God was helping our sister, when she said that, according to her, she broke down and began to cry and cried and cried. While her husband was hearing her crying, the Spirit of God was working on him and God settled everything. The home is beautiful today. Blessed be the name of the Lord. Therefore, beloved brothers and sisters, before you do it, let the Spirit of the Lord lead you after you have prayed. Brothers and sisters, do not commit fornication or adultery with one another. It is devastating. The restitution is terrible!

13.4 Have Faith in God

Do your restitution with faith and not with fear. Job said, "The things I feared came upon me." God is by your side. You are not obeying yourself, you are not obeying a denomination, you are not obeying man. When you are doing your restitution consider it that you are obeying God and God is with you and He will help you and see you through. So carry the consciousness of God with you every time. Know it that what you are doing is the will of God, and He is there by your side. Throw away fear. Let the faith of God radiate in your heart over the matter.

Romans. 14:23

And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because

he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

The word of the Lord says, anything that is not of faith is a sin. If you are a civil servant and you used a wrong certificate to gain your promotion, or you did examination malpractice before getting your certificate and you want to do your restitution, when you get to the school or the authorities concerned, they may decide to withdraw the certificate or promotion. Fear of things like this has stopped so many people from doing restitution. That is because you do not have faith in God. You have allowed fear and worldly things to take over your heart such that you are beginning to think, "Oh, if I do this I am going to lose my job, I am going to starve. How am I going to go about paying my children's school fees? How am I going to do this and that?" Is it better for you to amend your way with God or to be thinking about how you will live in this world?

Do not do it in fear. If you do that you will go into sin again, because you will do it in a wrong way and it will generate into another problem. Have faith in God and do it with all your heart; and if God is involved, you can be rest assured that there will be nothing to fear. The Spirit of the Lord will walk with you. As you are making up your mind to do what is right before the Lord, the Lord will walk with you. The Lord will assist you. And as you do it your life and soul will be beautifully glorious for heaven, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ..

13.5 Be Bold and Courageous

In doing restitution, also you must be bold and courageous. Boldness of the righteous is expected in the process of doing restitution

Joshua 1:9

Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God *is* with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Be bold and courageous and do not be afraid of what they might do to you, "they are going to withdraw my promotion, or I may even lose my job!" Do not bother, you are following scriptural command. That is the greatest Commandment, the greatest Law. Do not fear, be courageous. Do it with the boldness of the righteous and God will give you victory over that, in Jesus' Name.

13.6 Seek Counsel from True Men of God

In complicated matters like immorality, murder, assassination, killing, restitutions need wisdom.

Proverbs 4:7

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore, get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

Ecclesiastes 10:10.

If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to direct.

James 1:5

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Ask how it can be done. Maybe you need counsel. Seek counsel so that in trying to find solution for one thing, you do not end up creating more problems, especially when you are dealing with unbelievers. This is an important requirement that we must be very conscious of.

Proverbs 11:14

Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Seek counsel that you may gain wisdom.

Prov. 15:22

Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established

Here you can see the importance of seeking counsel. Seek counsel from your minister or your pastor, because it is a spiritual matter. It is a matter that concerns your soul, do not play with it. Seek counsel always and get wisdom on how and when to do restitution. If you do not seek counsel, a lot of issues may arise and you will find yourself worsening some circumstances. When you pray, God will be involved. The Lord will give you a counsel of peace. Fear not, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom

Luke 12:32

Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Fear not for the Lord shall go before you, He shall help you. Ye shall hear a voice from behind you saying; "This is the way", and ye shall follow it.

Isaiah 30:21

And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

Not every pastor or Christian leader will be helpful in this matter, because many do not know this scriptural truth and requirement.

Isaiah 29:10 – 12

10 For the LORD hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes: the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered.

11 And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed:

12 And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.

Matthew 15:14

Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

13.7 Beware of the Accuser of Brethren

As important as restitution is, in the life of every Christian who has been led to Christ in conversion and true repentance, there are warnings on restitution. Remember that the devil is very deceitful, so we must be very careful in handling restitution. It is not all things that require restitution. Sometimes the devil will begin to fill your mind with guilt about something that does not need any restitution, or something that is not even a sin in the first place.

I remember, in mid 1980 as a growing Christian, I went to a friend's house and in the process of using his wash hand basin, I rinsed my mouth and poured it into it and flushed it. When I left, I kept thinking, "Could it be that I have released so much germs into his kitchen sink that can harm him? Maybe I have to go and confess to my host that I poured water from my mouth into his kitchen sink. That consciousness of sin and self-examination was hijacked by the devil, and he kept hunting me with guilt such that I had to go to my host to report myself. When I did, my host said to me, "There is nothing wrong with that. I do the same almost every day." The devil has a way of bombarding you with guilt and giving you the impression that you have committed sin when you have not. I learned a good lesson on issues of restitution from this experience.

There are some disposable wares they use in serving people in hotels. A friend of mine who took it home got

worried that he had stolen. As he travelled outside the country and came back, he went to the hotel to return it. When he got there, they told him not to worry that it was disposable, and that any guest who wished to go with it was free to do so.

So it is not everything that requires restitution, because Satan can also oppress a believer on this. He is a chief accuser. If he has no reason or finds no fault for which to accuse you, he will want to torment your conscience. He will put it to you and say you are wrong. What you are supposed to do is to seek counsel. Go to your pastor and share with him whether the issue requires restitution actually.

CHAPTER 14

HOW TO CARRY OUT RESTITUTION

Acts 24:16

And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

Having got yourself acquainted with the requirements for making restitution, you are now ready for the actual act. The following steps should be applied as you go into it.

14.1 Go back to the person you have offended

Make confession and apology to the offended and the slandered so that you will have “a conscience void of offence toward God and toward men”. After you have realised your fault and taken decision, go to the offended - your brother, sister, husband, wife, children or whosoever, or if he is far away, pick up your mobile phone and call to tell him, “Beloved, I have done this or that against you, I have hurt you. I am indeed sorry, please, forgive me”. You humble yourself and apologise. You are not going to that person to justify yourself saying, “It is because of you, you did this or that, if you had not done like this, I would not have revenged in this way”. No! You are not there to justify yourself, you are there to make confession and apology.

Therefore tell the person, “Look at what I have done to you, please I am sorry, forgive me”.

Philemon was a godly man and Onesimus was a servant under him. Onesimus stole some things from his master (Philemon) and ran away. When he ran away, he came across Paul the apostle in Rome where he was in prison and got converted under his ministry. He became very useful to Paul who was in chain. But Paul knew that if he kept Onesimus he would transgress the principles of righteousness and holiness. So he wrote a letter to Philemon and gave it to Onesimus to deliver it.

In the letter he stated, “I have heard of your good works. Now I have confidence in you. You have heard my Gospel and got born again through my ministry. Now I am sending Onesimus, who offended you, back to you to settle with you. I know he stole from you and does not have the money to pay you. I, Paul, who want the cause of righteousness to prosper, will pay it if you so demand.”

You are playing with issues of righteousness. You are playing with having people's money with you. You are playing with the issue of restitution. The saints of God took it so seriously, Jesus took it so seriously, do not play with it. God will not spare you in the day of vengeance, therefore take it very seriously and the Almighty shall help you.

Sometimes, the offended person may not even be aware of the offence. For example, it may be that you

went and messed up yourself with another man. Obviously your husband was not there. If he were there, you would not have been able to do that. So your husband was ignorant of it. But now that you are converted, if the door of heaven will not be closed against you, you will need to go back to your husband and make an apology for cheating on him. Beloved brother, it may be while your wife was not around, you slept with your housemaid or another woman. If your wife was there, you would not have done that, your wife did not know of it. Beloved brother and sister, whether the offended person knows of it or not, you must make this apology. The reason for restitution to your marriage partner is because the marriage vow has in it the mutual promise that neither of you shall sleep with any other person except your marriage partner. To fail to keep this promise is an offense to the other partner and that requires apology. Besides a great guilt is registered in your heart for committing adultery. This guilt is cleared only when confession is made and forgiveness is sought from your marriage partner. God demands this to be done. Sin brings judgement upon the sinner and sometimes upon the family. You need to treat the sin properly for God's forgiveness.

James 5:16

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

14.2 Humble yourself before your Creditor

Do not go carnally or in pride to do restitution. You are the one guilty, when you are coming before somebody whom you have offended, you are supposed to show humility. That is because if the person offended refuses to forgive you, you may be prosecuted. So pride should have no place in this matter at all. If you are coming before God and man to correct that which you have done wrong, do so with humility.

Genesis 33 : 3

And he passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

Here we note that Jacob bowed seven times before his brother. That was the first time they were meeting since the event that brought them against each other. Jacob bowed seven times, and you know that seven is the number of perfection, which showed complete humility.

Matthew 18:23-25

23. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

24. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

25. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his Lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

26. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

The Bible tells us that when that king commanded that his servant be sold, the servant fell down, and worshipped him saying, "Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all". That is humility. During restitution when you come before someone you are restituting to, humble yourself. That humility can give you favour.

Proverbs. 15:1.

A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

In case you are coming before your husband to apologize for a wrong you have done, be humble and use soft language. In Jacob's case, when he wanted to do restitution to Esau, he sent gifts before him batch by batch. Wisdom is required in restitution. Then when Jacob saw his brother, Esau coming, he bowed seven times to demonstrate perfect humility and submission, that delivered him.

Proverbs 4:5-10

5 Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

6 Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee:

love her, and she shall keep thee.

7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

8 Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.

9 She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

10 Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many.

You have offended somebody and you know you are wrong and instead of you to show humility, you are coming with pride to mutter some words with arrogant confidence. You know you have done wrong, you are a criminal and should display a feeling of remorse. Jacob bowed down seven times before Esau. In so doing, the person offended would have seen that you have shown sufficient repentance. That also down played Esau's anger and what followed was a fantastic reunion. Pride was not there. Everything was done with joy, they exchanged pleasantries and never felt like enemies again. Therefore, if you want to do restitution, you must remove pride from your life. Put on humility and gentleness in doing restitution.

Infact, some people go ahead to condemn those who want to do restitution that it is not necessary since they had been forgiven after confessing Jesus and so they should not bother themselves again. This doctrine of eternal security which they preach has confused many in the church, from this clear scriptural explanations let

clear scriptural explanations let every heavenly minded person reject the doctrine of eternal security that states that once a person is born again he can no longer miss heaven.

In the secular society, they say that until you are proven guilty, the said offence remains an allegation. But in this case of restitution you already know that you committed the offense and beyond what happens in the secular society, this is a matter between you and God. You already know you are guilty and need not wait for anybody's proof.

In the secular world, you can see a criminal who has actually committed an offence stand before the Court of Law and plead not guilty. But in your own case, you are before the court of God. If you want to go to heaven, if you want to see God, you need to have this peace within you and peace with God. You need to have the guilt cleared from your life so that you can have peace of heart and life. You are not in a society where you are competing for position, fame or recognition that you will say, "No! I will not do it, so that it will not smear my name". No, you are seeking for a clean record with God, you are seeking for a record that will take you to heaven, a record that will give you peace. So, be humble, that you can attain the height that is required for heaven, the standard for heaven. God is a holy God, He cannot compromise His standard. Once you know this standard and desire to attain to it, He will help you to attain to it.

Do not allow somebody to put pride in you and make you think and worry about what people will say about it, because of your position in the society, may be you are a Permanent Secretary, a Minister, a Senator, a Governor or even a President. Do not bring pride of your position to this matter.

It is possible also to involve other people where a matter is so serious and controversial. If you are going to somebody you are not sure of what his response will be, you can go with somebody who knows him very well. Maybe if he sees him he will mellow down. Although some people who are hardened and doomed for hell may not respond positively, when you have sought the presence of God in the matter you have no cause to fear at all. Do it with boldness and meekness. Every person has somebody he respects, so go with such a person to whom he could give audience. If you are going to do restitution to an unbeliever who does not know this truth, do it with wisdom.

14.3 Choose the Right Word and the Right Approach

Ecclesiastes 12:10-11

10 The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth.

11 The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd.

If you are talking to someone you have offended, search for the right words to talk to him. We see this even in Jacob's encounter with his brother, Esau. If you are dealing with an unbeliever in the secular society, plead with him, confess that which you have done, tell him that you are at his mercy, let him know that he has the final say on you. For instance, as a civil servant, you want to do restitution in your office and you are to meet your superior in the office, you may put it this way: "I have come because I have offended the Government and I am not having peace ..."

When you are to do restitution, seek for guidance and get understanding on how to do all the things that will follow.

14.4 Request for Patience from your Creditor

If you do not have the money, seek his patience. Do not say, "I have restitution to do, but that will be when I have the money". No, it is not so. Do not wait till you have the money because you do not know when you will die. Go and uncover yourself and plead for forgiveness and patience. When God gives you the money, go and pay.

Matthew 18:23-27

23 Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

25 But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

26 The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

The man did not have the money, he was just pleading for patience. Your pride is the reason why you will suffer destruction because

Proverbs 16:18.

Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

If that servant spoke or behaved arrogantly, his master would have sold him off without mercy at the first instance. But, because he humbled himself and the words of his mouth were gentle his master listened to him. He owned up and the mannerism he exhibited drew compassion from his master and he forgave him all the debts. So, it is possible the Lord can give you favour and the person you are going to pay back, will forgive you and tell you not to pay him back. If he says, you should pay him back, then rejoice and thank God. The matter has come to an end. If the right authority you go to retribute declares you forgiven, then be at peace.

John 20:23.

Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained

When the man requested for patience, saying, "Have patience with me, I will repay", and the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt, he did two things:

I. He loosed him - Instead of torturing him because he was bitter against him, he loosed him and set him free, and became peaceful with him. Follow peace with all men, with your creditors, with your offenders. For you to ensure they are at peace with you, go and plead for more time. Although the money is yet to be paid, when they are at peace with you, it is not a sin against you anymore. Your creditor will not be angry with you anymore, as you have appeased his heart. So you should follow peace with all men. Because you have made peace with that man, if the rapture takes place you are going to heaven. You may not have paid the money, but you have made peace. You have spoken the truth, you are actually willing to pay but it is only that you have not got the money. You have made peace with him, you are not wicked anymore. The wicked is the person who borrows and does not pay and does not bother to appease the creditor. But your own case is that you are not wicked because you have gone to plead with your creditor, you have gone to say, 'It is not that I hardened my heart, but I do not have the money to pay'. The man has understood you, he is not angry with you anymore, he is not bitter against you any longer.

anymore, he is not bitter against you any longer. That is what God expects of you. If you owe any man anything, settle with him, plead with him to give you time. In the above story, the creditor went beyond the offender's request.

ii. He forgave him - he asked him not to pay any more, he forgave his debt of ten thousand talents of silver. A good man can do that. If your creditor can tell you this, what a good thing! When you do not have the money to pay, can you take the man you are owing to God in prayer that He may touch his heart to forgive you? If you do not have, can you meet him and tell him the reality and plead for forgiveness? At least he has lived for many years without that money. Plead with him in humility, if he is a good man, he will forgive you the debt. You are a creditor, people owe you for as long as ten years and cannot pay you because of their condition, are you not sympathetic? What does it take to forgive when you know your debtor does not really have? Must you insist that he should pay when you know the misery of his family and the misery of his life? Do you have godly pity? Are you being reasonable? Do you have compassion at all? Is there any iota of love in your heart for your neighbour? Whenever the man sees you he is afraid. Have you not lived your life all these years without that thing? As you look at that man's condition is it not enough to show him mercy and forgive him that debt? Will God not be happy with you if you do that? You have put the man in high tension, because of that he tells lies, because of that tension, hypocrisy covers him out and his heart has even departed from

departed from God; he is even cursing God because of you! Does God not forgive you? Has God not forgiven you? Why can you not forgive another man? Forgive another fellow, show mercy to your brother in Christ. What does God expect of you, but to live righteously, and to walk humbly and show mercy? God is merciful, join Him to show mercy and human beings shall rejoice. Let mercy temper with judgment. That is the word of God.

14.5 Sell some of your Personal Belongings to Make Payments

We need to know that personal belongings may be sold for the purpose of carrying out restitution. Did you say you do not have money to do restitution? Do you have something to sell to do that?

Matthew 18:22-25

19. Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

20. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

21. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

22. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

Can you see what is in the mind of God? That God could say, "Inconvenience a man, take away his liberty, his family that restitution should be done; take away the convenience of his family that restitution should be done"? If God sees it to that point, do you still play with the issue of restitution? You who say you do not have money, but you have property; you have cheated and you say you do not have money, but you have car, you have land, sell those things and make your payment.

In those days, human trafficking was prevalent, slaves were being sold and a man can sell himself, wife and, or children to offset a debt. Jesus was speaking in the time of the law when slaves could be bought in the market and God allowed it at that time.

For you, something is blocking your way and you have possessions, sell them to save your soul. But You can sell your land, house and, or car to settle your restitution. Why do you say there is no money? You are just relaxing, you do not know the value of your soul. You are risking your soul! Do you know that you can die any time and these things will show up before you immediately? One minute after you die, reality will dawn upon you and you will regret forever. If the matter of restitution could be seen by Jesus like that, are you playing with it? You borrowed money from somebody, even from the bank, for a long time and you are not paying. Are you waiting for Jesus to come before you make that payment? He will say you should be sold! You will be sold to hell because of your restitution. Please, do your restitutions now.

CHAPTER

15

BENEFITS OF RESTITUTION**15.1 A Changed Life and a Pure Conscience****Acts 24:16**

And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

Conscience is stated in the Bible as one of our essential weapons for a successful spiritual life and ministry. Do you know what will give you this clear conscience? It is this restitution. When you do what is right and lawful your conscience will be so clear, and peaceful. Beloved brothers and sisters, if you hurt or offended somebody, if you stole somebody's property, if you have restitution to make and you have not made it, your conscience will not be clear especially after hearing or reading about restitution. Your conscience will be pricking you like a needle piercing your soul. When you offend somebody and you see the person coming your way, your heart will jump because there is something to be settled between you and that person and you have not yet done that. And as long as you are holding that thing in your heart, you are hurting yourself. You are not helping yourself. Clear conscience is a weapon for successful spiritual life. If you do not make use of this weapon, if you do not retribute, if you do not make amend, you cannot have a smooth spiritual life.

Luke 19: 1 – 9

- 1 And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho.**
- 2 And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.**
- 3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.**
- 4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way.**
- 5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house.**
- 6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.**
- 7 And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.**
- 8 And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.**
- 9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.**

Zacchaeus made a public promise to carry out restitution. If he did not do so, his Christianity would

have been questionable; they would not have agreed with him and Jesus Christ would have been accused. You cheated people, now you are born again and even proclaim holiness, have you been able to tell your sinful partners that you are now born again and are sorry for those sins you committed together with them? Have you apologised to those you had incest with and abused the body? Do you know that they still remember and feel hurt. Some are still mourning or shocked for the damages you inflicted on them in their youth or childhood. Appease them through a word of apology, an act of restitution. Tell them you are sorry for what you did with them, that it was a wrong thing you did. That person you borrowed money from, and you even cheated, have you contacted him to settle with him? You need to tell them you are now a child of God, that you are apologising and settling with him so that you can serve God with a clear conscience. That is what Zacchaeus did to adorn the gospel of Christ before men

Again Paul the apostle did restitution. When he spoke against the High Priest and said, **“God shall smite thee, thou whited wall: for sittest thou to judge me after the Law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the Law?” (Act 23:3)**. Then someone said to him, “Are you reviling the Lord's High Priest?” Then Paul responded, “Oh, really? **I did not know that He is a High Priest, for it is written, thou shall not revile the ruler of thy people**”. This is an unbeliever on a seat of religious rulership. Have you ever mistreated a man of God? You need to go to him for apology. Paul, an apostle of Christianity apologised before an unbelieving

ruler, as an example to you who speak evil or challenged the anointed of God. The fear of God was not in you that was why you had no reverence for a man of God and treat him with contempt. Now that you are saved, go and apologise to him.

1 Samuel 24:5,6,11

5 And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt.

6 And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD'S anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD.

11 Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it.

When David cut the skirt of King Saul, he had to apologize. He said, “Oh, even when I cut your skirt it smote my heart because you are the Lord's anointed”. Be careful because God will defend His anointed. If God could defend Saul, even in his backslidden state, He will defend a just king, He will defend a just ruler, He will defend a just preacher; therefore, fear God. If you have done something like that seek, apology.

I am talking about restitution because I desire to bring you to the fabrics of Christianity. It is the Father God that is restoring the true doctrines of holiness in these last

days to prepare the bride of Christ for His soon coming to rapture the saints from the earth. Awake to holiness and righteousness, both in life and in doctrine. May the Lord find you worthy at His coming.

15.2 Constant Life of Self-Examination

1 Corinthians 11:31

For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

He who judges himself shall not be judged. Consciously live a life of self-examination. It will reduce the load of work ahead because it will save you from doing something that will warrant you doing restitution. Determine not to allow sin into your life. If you are convicted of any wrong said or done, ask God for the appropriate action and take it immediately.

Psalms 119:60

I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments.

15.3 Readiness for Rapture

The day President Trump announced that the Embassy of the US in Israel should be moved to Jerusalem, some people looked at it as a normal news. But, if you are reading the Bible, you will understand that it is more than the normal news. It is the fulfilment of Bible prophecy and an indication that rapture is closer than before.

If you are living in darkness please come out of it. That thing which you did, is putting you in conflict with God, therefore, renounce it. Do not be ashamed to do so. Even if you are into witchcraft, come out of it and confess it for your deliverance; there is nothing to fear about it. I tell you that what we are expecting soonest is the rapture of the saints. Do not be left out!

What is that thing that is against you which shame has stopped you from confessing? What is that thing that you are holding within you that pride has stopped you from confessing? What are you waiting for? How long are you going to wait? Life is short.

Hebrews 12:14

Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord

15.4 Clear Assurance of Entering Heaven

Many of us are rejoicing that we are going to heaven. Many people feel that because they are born again, their hearts are purified, they are going to heaven, nothing will prevent them from entering heaven, but you need to know that if you refuse or neglect to do restitution, it will hinder your entrance into heaven. Yes! Your entrance into heaven will be hindered because of this very important thing, restitution. Restitution is something which many people are harbouring. They have not made their restitutions yet they say they are going to heaven.

Matthew 4:4.

But he answered and said, it is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

When you sin against man you equally sin against God in the same act. Why? Because one of God's commandments has been broken. "Love your neighbour as you love yourself." It is God's commandment. When you do not love your neighbor, you have broken the commandment of God. If you hurt your neighbour you have broken the commandment of the Lord. So when you sin against your neighbour you have automatically sinned against God. We are told that God willingly forgives the sins you committed against Him when you repent and forsake all those sins. But beloved, take note of this, God requires that you make amendment to any person that you have injured or wronged, as a mark, among other things, that your repentance is genuine:

1 John 4:20,21

20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

To show that you have indeed genuinely repented, you must go back to the people you have offended. Your

brother, your sister, your husband or wife and apologise to them in humility, how you have hurt them. You apologise to them and ask them to forgive you. When you have done this, then you have complete salvation before the Lord. The Lord said expressly in

Ezekiel 33:14-16

14 Again, when I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; if he turn from his sin, and do that which is lawful and right;

15 If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die.

16 None of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him: he hath done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely live.

It is an instruction that will give you the total package of salvation. Restitution, making amendments of our wrong doings, will give you peace of heart and assurance of faith in Christ.

1 John 5: 3, 4

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

Restitution is something that appears fearful for people,

but the Lord is saying in,

Hebrews 12: 14

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

We may be born again, but we may not be following peace with all men.

Psalms 24: 3-4

3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?

4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Revelation 21: 27

And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

When we say holiness of life we are talking about three aspects of holiness as follows:

1. That your heart should be sanctified, purified and made holy.
2. That you shall be holy in your outward dressing and adornment.
3. That you should obey all the word of God in your daily life.

These three make up what is called true holiness. So when you have these three things in your life, you have true holiness and can make heaven.

CHAPTER 16

TESTIMONIES OF RESTITUTION

The following testimonies are documented here to let you know that restitution is possible and to encourage you to do your own.

16.1 Restitution Testimonies by Senator Emmanuel Bwacha

Until the Lord brought me to this ministry, Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide (HOREMOW) and I came to understand what restitution is, I never knew about it, neither heard about it. When I got to hear about the teachings on restitution, I also read about it and realized that it is in the Bible. I never knew that if one wants to be a good Christian whose name is in the Book of Life, he must confess all the baggages that he is carrying, all those things he has done that are wrong. It is not just enough to say "I am now born again, I have been baptized, I have changed my ways"; you must confess them so you can attain this peace that is required to give you a proper life.

When the Lord opened my eyes in 2012, I knelt before my wife and told her I did not know I was hell-bound and that I did such and such things against her. There is no shame in it. It is better I feel shameful before men than to go and face eternal fire.

In an attempt to do a restitution, a brother almost caused

me to commit another sin. To the nominal church society, it is not necessary; what is preached outside there is “Do not worry, the grace of God abounds; once you are saved there is nothing more, God has forgiven you; resist your conscience and do not mention it”. But that is not true. It runs contrary to the Scripture. Confess it and retribute and remove guilt from you. In sharing with my brother that I wanted to go and return a certain amount of money ill-gotten when I was in Government, he said he was going to say that the money was wrongly paid to me; that he was going to prepare a paper to submit to government treasury that I was overpaid. I said, “This is saying another lie. It is like jumping from frying pan to fire. Why can you not say that I took this money wrongly and that I am returning it because I took it falsely; I acquired it deceitfully, so that the guilt can leave me?”

Another restitution I did was with a Local Government Chairman in my community. When I went to him to do a restitution, he said: “Aah! Distinguished senator (because I am a serving senator, he addressed me like that), you know this thing can be overlooked; leave it and I can handle it”. It has now become a matter of integrity when I am running to save my life. He said, “Leave it, I can handle it.” But I said, “No, I want you to put it on record that I returned this thing because I took it fraudulently from the Government. That is what the Bible requires me to do.”

There was this very serious restitution I did. I was once the Chairman of the Committee on Police Affairs of the House of Representatives, and I remembered the things that transpired when I was in office - the bribes, the monies that exchanged hands before one could do anything for them, etc. So when I remembered all those things, I decided to go and meet the Inspector General of Police some years ago. When I met him in his house and he saw me (of course when I was serving he was quite a junior officer, and now he has risen to become the Inspector General of Police and he is very familiar with me), he said, “Oga, is there anything, my Chairman?” I said, “I have come to you on a different matter”. Then he sat to listen to me. I said to him, “Do you remember this and that event that happened while I was serving as Chairman?” Incidentally he knows some of those things.

Then I said, “Now my eyes have opened, and you are the Inspector General of Police. This is what happened, and that was what happened. I have come to seek for forgiveness because it was a crime against the Government. I seek for your official forgiveness and I ask this because you are in the position to forgive me, otherwise you can prosecute me. I ask that you forgive me because I know that I did wrong”. He was surprised and said, “Ah-ah! But chairman you know you were helping your people”. And I said, “No, but it was wrong”. He was surprised because it was very strange to him. He would even have thought I was mad. Then he said, “This thing has already passed, why are you bothering

about it?" I said, "No, it is in my record before God". So he looked at me and said, "In that case, I have forgiven you", and I was very happy.

When I walked out from there, I was just thanking God because he could simply have asked one of his aides to take me into the cell and have me prosecuted. Of course I could have gone in willingly. But I prayed before going to him and the Lord helped me and granted me favour before him and he forgave me. I enjoyed my peace – that is what will give you, peace, permanent peace! I was very happy, and it also gave me a guide on what I will do next.

In anything I am doing, I am being careful so that tomorrow I would not have to go back to do another restitution again. That which is not my own, I stay away from it. If you are coming to appreciate me, that is a different matter and I will receive it with thanksgiving. Those things that I used to do, I do them no more because I am now wiser. I once went to my leader and said, "Somebody gave me a gift, do I ask him where he got the money from?" He said, "No. The onus of restitution lies on the person who gave you the gift". This is so because, for instance, you are working in an office and as a junior officer, your superior calls you and gives you a gift and says, "Take this, I am giving it to you". That is okay, it is allowed.

16.2 Restitution Testimonies by Professor Jane Mallum

After I gave my life to Christ on 7th February 1988 in Deeper Life Bible Church, and I heard the message on restitution I began to do my restitutions. The following are some of them.

(a) Submission of all my money and Resources to my Husband

As I joined Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide after I heard Pastor Rika's DVD "Life Cry of Damned Souls in Hell Fire" and repented afresh, the Lord began to talk to me much. It was then the Lord told me that I was not submissive to my husband. The Lord told me I was not submissive and as the Lord convicted me I prayed sufficiently; I went to my husband and told him, "My husband the Lord wants me to submit all I have to you." And that was what I did. Though he was a bit careful, he could not understand. Initially he said "Let me go and think about it." After some time I went again and said, "Daddy, this thing I told you, should I pay all my money into your account?" Because the Lord had told me that it was not right for my husband to come to me and ask for money. Before then, if he had no money he would come to me, because I kept my money. The Lord said, "It is not right. The man is the head. You are the one to come to him in your need."

So as I talked to my husband, eventually, he agreed and said, it was okay, I should be keeping the money as a

treasurer so that any time we wanted to use the money, we would come together and discuss. Until his death, that was what we were doing, my money was no more mine, but ours. I made amend of what I used to do before. God helped me and I did it. This restitution changed my husband and gave me total peace in my home, and my husband began to follow me to everywhere, including HOREMOW meetings. Sometimes it used to be a wonder to myself and I would say, 'Is this my home?' Peace was everywhere in my home, after I did the submission. Praise God! Many wives in various countries who have heard of my submission, have done the same and through this, many homes have been enjoying peace and harmony. Praise the Lord!

(b) Stolen Money Restituted:

When my husband was the principal of School of Preliminary studies, (SPS) Keffi, I used to take money from his pocket. I was not born again. I did that many times and could not remember how much. I confessed to him after I joined HOREMOW and asked for his forgiveness, and he did forgive me.

(c) Money and Property Returned to Government:

Some of these restitution appeared very difficult and shameful, but I did all with the grace of God after I was born again.

I. When I was a principal of a school in Plateau State, some of my colleagues advised me on how to

make money in that office and I followed their advice. Whenever we had some contract jobs to be done in the school I would add some money to the contract sum to inflate the amount, so that when the contractors collected the money from the government they would give me my share. Ah, unbeliever's life! I really would not remember how much or how many times I did it but I remember that I did that before I gave my life to Christ. When I joined HOREMOW and I remembered this, I called our International Director, Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide (HOREMOW) and told him my dilemma.

That I could not remember how much I had collected, so how could I pay back? Then he told me to pray about it and settle with God and whatever the Lord laid on my heart I should return to the Government and I did that. I prayed, wrote to the Ministry of Education and parceled the money and went to them. When I went to the Ministry, I requested for the Ministry's bank account from them so that I could pay the money into it. They were all looking at me and said, "Eh madam, this is strange, we have not seen such a thing before, we will imitate this your act." Others said, "We cannot do this thing!" They gave me the account number and I paid in the money. I wrote a letter and attached the bank teller to it and sent it to them.

Also as a principal, I carried the typewriter and other things away from the school. But again when I became born again I took all those things back to the ministry and apologised to them. After that I noticed that I had

plenty table knives (over 50 of them) with me that were not my own. I remembered that we brought them from Keffi, when my husband was the principal of SPS. I think they had a party or so in our house and when we were leaving I carried everything with us. I had to look for how to send them back. I took them to the Ministry of Education who in turn sent them to Nassarawa State. They said SPS was defunct and was not under the Plateau State Ministry of Education anymore and I told them to send it to wherever it belonged.

ii. When I went for my Master's Degree in ABU, Zaria, the Plateau State Ministry of Education first of all gave me a scholarship, then they later gave me in-service. I collected both money and used it, that was a normal thing with people of the world, but I later learnt that it was not normal with the Government. The procedure with the Government is that the scholarship is given to the recipient first, then when the in-service comes out the recipient should stop collecting the scholarship. But as unbelievers, we used the two. When I got born again, after I heard about restitution I went to my pastor and told him about what I did and He prayed with me and said I should write to the Ministry of Education Plateau State and confess what I did and wait for what they would say. If they would want me to pay back, then I will go to them.

Eventually they wrote two letters to me; one congratulating and commending me, saying they had not seen this kind of thing, for someone to voluntarily

return ill-gotten money to Government. Their second letter requested that I should pay back the scholarship money and leave that of in-service since that was a bigger amount. My pastor then, advised me to go to them and get a schedule on how I would pay back, because the money was much and that was what I did. We scheduled how to pay it and every month from my salary, I paid the money into the sub-treasury until I completed the payment. Then I wrote a letter and attached all the receipts and sent it to them. What a great grace God gave me, praise the Lord!

i. When we left SPS Keffi, I carried one tray with which they brought food from the Government Guesthouse to our house and some other things (equipment and books) from the home economics lab. I was then head of the home economics unit in Teachers' College. After many years, infact that time my husband had become the Vice Chancellor of the University of Jos and I had become born again then. I said, "God, these things have to be taken back, how do I do this?" So I went and asked my husband to give me a car, then I carried the guesthouse tray, all the home economics books, and equipment and bundled them back to Keffi. The workers there were new, the former people were no longer there, all the same I took the tray to the Government Rest House and told them, "I took away this thing, you were not here then, but I am very sorry, I want to return it now." Then I went to Government Teachers' College, Keffi and returned the home economics property.

(d) Restitution on Ph.D Desertion:

This was a very difficult one, but I did it to the glory of God.

When I was doing my Ph.D Desertion, I did not follow my sampling schedule as I wrote in my proposal. Instead of sampling from the three Educational Zones in plateau as proposed, I sampled only from Jos metropolis as I was counselled by somebody. Though I was already born again then in Deeper Life Bible Church, I did not see it initially as wrong and I just did it. But later, the issue began to haunt me. I felt I should confess it to the University. So I began the process. I went to my supervisor and confessed. My supervisor said "Leave the sleeping dog to lie." I kept quiet about it for some time, but I had no peace. Then I went to my HOD and told him about it, he said "Do not worry about it again, it has already been granted", you have graduated already.

Eventually, in 2013, after I joined Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide, hearing all the teachings in the movement, my conviction became too unbearable. So, just one night, I summoned courage and wrote to the Senate of the University, through the Vice Chancellor, I did not tell anybody about it, before I did it. That time I had already retired and was on contract. It took them time because it was a serious case. They constituted committee upon committees, looking at my level as a professor. I learnt that when the Senate was debating on it, some members said, "It is because she has

retired, that is why she is now making the confession; she should be made to pay back all the money from the doctorate level to this time." People would come and tell me, (because I was not attending the Senate meeting since it was on my case) and I would tell them not to worry. Then I said, "God, I have prayed, anything they say I should do, I will do." Eventually the third committee invited me to come and explained what happened. I told them the truth, what I did. I learnt the sampling did not change the content of the work, according to the Statistics lecturer, who looked at my work. And this was noted and reported to the Senate, along with the committee's report. Finally, the Senate looked at the last committee's report and informed me that they had considered my case and had forgiven me. Praise the Lord! Since then it has been an encouragement to other members of HOREMOW to do their similar restitutions. I have written the details of how I did my restitutions to show that I am not ashamed because these were my terrible past life from which the grace of God has saved me. To God be the glory in Jesus name. I encourage you to do your restitutions, so that you may live.

Ezekiel 33:14 -15

14 Again, when I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; if he turn from his sin, and do that which is lawful and right;

15 If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die.

16.3 Restitution Testimonies by Pastor Raymond Agbo

I joined Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide in Jos, Plateau State in August, 2013. I was already an ordained pastor with Living Faith Church, but still a sinner.

In my thirteen years in Living Faith Church I never heard or knew what restitution was. I came to know this in Holiness Revival Movement. The message of restitution convicted me as a sinner who gave a false age to get employment with the First Bank of Nigeria, PLC. After hearing this message, I lost my peace and could not wait to report myself to my employer. The day I was to send a mail to the headquarters in Lagos, the fear of losing my job gripped me and I could not do it. That same day, I had a revelation that rapture took place and I did not make it. When I woke up, I knew I missed the rapture because of my refusal to retribute to my organisation. I sent a mail to them the next day, confessing my sin and asked them to forgive me. I gave them my real age.

I was summoned to Lagos for questioning. After my return from Lagos, they sent me an email directing me to resign my job. I thank God for their asking me to leave the job because my life has become better than when I was a banker. Gory be to God!

16.4 Restitution Testimonies by Sis Bosede Ogwurike

After accepting the Lord Jesus as my Lord and Saviour as a young girl, I so much enjoyed the Lord. But at a particular time in my life I entangled myself with so many sins; fornication, abortions, misconduct in two of my undergraduate examination papers; I falsified my age, falsified some results in my undergraduate research project and other sins that required restitution. This led to a big vacuum in my life, I never enjoyed the presence of God as before and sometimes I prayed for restoration and revival and I would hear a voice clearly in my spirit saying, "Go and report yourself". This I did not do for a long time because I was afraid of the consequences of what reporting myself would be. This went on for several years. But in 2012, I lost my peace completely. We were taught not to steal, cheat or kill etc., but never heard of restitution until I came to Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide.

When I heard about a similar restitution done by one of my senior colleagues, who is also a member of Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide, I went to her to ask how she did her own. With counselling, guidance from my state coordinator who also directed me to have a three-days fasting and prayers, I wrote a letter of restitution, confessing my sins to my employer, a University, because I lecture with a university, and also pleading for forgiveness. I have since regained my peace and the Lord favoured me before my employer.

In February 2014, when I gave this testimony in our state three day programme, four of my sisters were encouraged and met me on how to do their restitution with the same institution. They have since done their restitution and have their peace and the Lord also favoured them. Infact, this restitution was such a strange thing with the institution that some of the committee members praised the boldness and courage of those my sisters for doing such a wonderful act. They were asked which church do they belong to, because they saw the gospel light in their lives.

I had falsified my age before I gave my life to Christ Jesus. After my restitution to the university, I also went back to my senior secondary school and another one I registered with to rewrite some WAEC subjects and the Polytechnic I attended to do the age restitution.

I am so happy and peaceful. Each time the Holy Spirit brings some past actions that I need to make good and I do that restitution, I feel as light as the wind because a big weight has been taken away from me. Praise the Lord!

Psalms 119:65

Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word.

16.5 Restitution Testimony by Sis Hope Joel

It was not until I come to Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide (HOREMOW) that I heard about restitution. In 2015, I joined HOREMOW Jos, after being directed

through divine encounter in a dream. Please permit me to briefly talk about how I join HOREMOW which brought about my healing before sharing about my restitution.

One of my friends had earlier invited me for the HOREMOW International Women Conference in April, 2015 and because she is a person I respected I followed her to the conference but I only stayed for the first day (the day we arrived there) and left the following day because I was not interested. I was sick then and my situation became worse. I grew so lean and kept growing leaner and leaner that I was almost a skeleton. When I travelled to my village for a programme and my siblings saw me they were both shocked and very worried. Then in a dream on the 4th of June, 2015, two of my sisters (the deeper lifer and the evangelist), and myself went for a test. When the test results came out, the man in charge confirmed my sisters free but in my case he said, he had tried all he could but there is no hope for me and I accepted his statement in that dream. A man now appeared to me and stretched out his hand to me and crossed me over a gutter.

After that dream and because of my state of health I went to one prayer ministry in Aba for prayers for healing yet nothing happened. I finally went back to my village where my siblings took me to a prayer programme in one church there in my village. My situation still did not improve. It got to a stage that one of my sisters (who is a Deeperlife member) became

uninterested in the prayers anymore because of how bad my condition was. She even told my other sister, who is an evangelist, to stop wasting her time praying that I might not make it. That was how terrible my situation was. I had also given up hope of life and told my elder brother to please bury me in his compound when I eventually die. Then I had another dream and in that dream a voice spoke to me that if I wanted to be healed and make heaven, I should pack my things and leave the village and go back to Jos and go to a place called HOREMOW and join them. The place (HOREMOW, Jos) was described and shown to me in that dream. When I woke up from that dream, the next day, I told my siblings I was leaving for Jos. They were surprised and felt I should not leave but I insisted that the voice that spoke to me was not an ordinary voice. So I left the village that day, and as soon as I got to Jos, which was on a Wednesday, I went to the place and joined the bible study.

I usually monitor my sugar level (because I had a high sugar level) by checking it in the morning and in the evening. When I got home from fellowship that day. I checked my sugar level and found it normal. The following morning checked again and it was normal again. To confirm it, I went to Pearl Medical Diagnostic Centre, where I usually go for tests, the man was so surprise to see that my sugar level is now normal. That was the end of diabetes! Praises the Lord.

I continued fellowshipping in HOREMOW, Jos and I heard preaching on restitutions. I prayed to God that if

He wanted me to do my restitution. He should remind me of things I am to retribute and He did. One of the restitutions God reminded me of something I did at the second hand clothing Katako market, Jos. There is a boutique, SAS Boutique, in that market which deals with first grade second hand clothing. It has been there for over 20 years now. I patronised that boutique for clothes for a long time. About ten years ago, when I went to buy clothes from there, I stole one swimming cloth.

On one faithful service day, a sister gave testimony of her restitution. She said that God told her to say it the way it is. After that testimony I made up my mind to go and do that restitution. Although I was afraid of doing this restitution because I stole but I prayed and told God that, on the day I will go to do my restitution in the boutique, He should let me meet the owner in the shop (because the man is hardly around). The day I went to the shop to do my restitution I met the man sitting in front of his shop trying to buy some tomatoes. He was happy to see me that he left off what he was doing and invited me inside the boutique thinking I came to buy clothes and trying to show me clothes to buy. I told him I did not come to buy clothes but have come to do restitution. Of course he did not understand it. So I explained what restitution is and knelt down before him and told him I stole a cloth from him over ten years ago and have come to ask him for forgiveness. At this point he sent out all his boys from the shop leaving only myself and him.

I told him that in the church (I mean HOREMOW) I attend now, we were taught that what I did was bad and must go back to confess and beg for forgiveness and the Spirit of God had instructed me to come back and return it and ask for his forgiveness. So I brought out the cloth (because I went with it) and showed him and I also told him I am ready to pay whatever amount he wants me to pay for the cloth. He pulled me up and called in his boys. I was afraid, because I thought he was going to arrest me. Instead he said to those his boys in Hausa (interpreted into English). "Did I not tell you that Christians fear God? Come and see what this woman has done! She returned this cloth and has come to beg for forgiveness after ten years. Did you people see it now?" Then he turned to me and told me he has forgiven me with his whole heart that I should go with the cloth that he dashed me and I should not pay anything for it. He said he is very satisfied with what I did. I thank the Lord for His great love and mercy over me, for bringing me into this truth. Praise the Lord!

HOLINESS REVIVAL MINISTRY WORLDWIDE (a.k.a) HOLINESS REVIVAL MOVEMENT WORLDWIDE (HOREMOW)

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

HOREMOW is a non-denominational Ministry having the following aims and objectives:

1. To hold Crusades, Conferences and Revival meetings in churches and nations of the world, so as to bring sinners to Christ's salvation and believers to His holiness. (Acts 26:16-18).
2. To produce Christian literature that promotes salvation of souls, sound Bible teaching and holiness of believers in churches and nations of the world. (Luke 1:1-4).
3. To produce audio and visual taped messages for the spread of the gospel truth in churches and nations of the world.
4. To bring denominational churches into Christian unity through the belief and practice of the faith once delivered unto the Saints.. (Eph. 4:12-15).
5. To support believers, ministers, ministries and churches with free Christian materials for their spiritual development in holiness. (Isaiah 65:1).
6. To raise members and supporters of Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide from churches and Christian ministries all over the world who will submit their lives to Biblical holiness and be spiritually, materially and evangelically equipped to make others righteous and holy in their churches in the society around them. (2 Timothy 2:2).
7. To establish Christian bookshops in many places within

and outside the nation, equipped with holiness materials for the promotion of holiness in the churches of Christ in the world. (Romans 10:17).

8. To establish a body of believers called Holiness Revival Movement in every Nation who will sponsor the production of the holiness materials of the ministry and other recommended holiness materials. (Acts 4:36; 2 Cor. 8:1-7).

9. To translate or interpret ministry materials into as many local, national and international languages as possible. (1 Cor. 14:9-13).

10. To place the Ministry book: Escaping Hell Fire and Entering Heaven made Simple by Pastor Paul Rika in hotels, hospitals, prisons and in places that can attract public reading, for the salvation of sinners and holiness of believers. 1 (Cor. 9:18-22)

11. To own Satellite Channels for publicising the messages and programmes of Holiness Revival movement in the world.

12. To establish Bible Colleges where believers and minister can receive biblical and ministerial training for sound Christian ministry (2 Tim 2:2).

13. To have ministry campground in various headquarters and nations where holiness camp meetings can be held regularly. (Hebrews 10:25).

14. To hold zonal, national and international holiness conferences regularly for the promotion and spread of holiness in the lives of believers and in Christ's Church. (Colossians 1:28,29).

15. To mentor Churches registered under the ministry on sound doctrine, holy living and ministerial establishment. (Titus 1:5-14).

16. To support believers, ministers and ministries financially

HOLINESS REVIVAL MINISTRY WORLDWIDE (a.k.a) HOLINESS REVIVAL MOVEMENT WORLDWIDE, (HOREMOW) is a non-denominational Ministry given to the promotion of biblical Righteousness and Holiness in Churches and Nations of the world through Crusades, Conferences, Revival meetings, production and spread of Holiness literature and materials. The membership of the MOVEMENT is open to all that love to live a Righteous and Holy life and to spread same in their churches, communities and nations.

Call us to introduce you to Holiness Revival Movement Chapter nearest to you or to organize one for you and others where you are. We are now in more than 30 Countries.

Holiness Revival Movement Materials
For Audio and Video messages, Christian literatures and other materials of the Ministry /Movement or for enquiry, call: +234(0)8169023948; 080568343323

Main website:

www.holinessrevivalmovementworldwide.com

Email: holinessrevivalmovement@gmail.com

Facebook: Pastor Paul Rika (facebook page = Holiness Revival Movement Media)

Google Pastor Paul Rika's books @
www.amazon.com/author/pastorpaulrika

Headquarters Office: Behind Federal Government College Kwali, F.C.T., Abuja, Nigeria.

where required for their spiritual encouragement and establishment in holiness.

17. To have chapters of HOLINESS REVIVAL MOVEMENT in local Governments, states and nations, holding regular meetings, with clear goals and uniform operations, which are submissive to central administration. (Philippians 4:8,9 Hebrews 13:17)

PASTOR PAUL RIKA
Int'l Director/Founder

OTHER BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR

1. WORSHIPING GOD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS.
2. ESCAPING HELL FIRE AND ENTERING HEAVEN MADE SIMPLE.
3. DAILY DEVOTIONAL.
4. MARRIAGE IN BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE.
5. PURE AND CORRUPT DANCE IN THE BIBLE.
6. DELIGHTFUL REVELATION OF HEAVEN AND HOW TO GET THERE.
7. A GENERATION IN QUEST FOR MIRACLES.
8. THE PERIL OF IGNORANCE AMONG CHRIST'S FOLLOWERS.
9. SCRIPTURAL EXAMINATION OF HANDKERCHIEF, APRON, WATER AND OTHER SUBSTANCES IN GOSPEL MIRACLES.
10. DIVINE REVELATION AND SCRIPTURAL EXPOSITION ON BELIEVERS' HOLINESS IN CLOTHING AND ADORNMENT.
11. CONTENDING AGAINST DENOMINATIONAL BARRIERS.
12. MARITAL SEX, CHILD BEARING, ADOPTION AND FAMILY PLANNING.
13. PURIFY YOURSELF.
14. THE KEYS OF YOUR LIFE IS IN YOUR HAND.
15. THE PASSION FOR PURITY.

16. DILIGENT PERSUASION ON OTHERS FOR HEAVEN BOUND CHRISTIANITY.
17. COURAGE AND BOLDNESS OF HOLINESS PREACHERS.
18. THE DOCTRINE OF SANCTIFICATION AND HOLINESS.
19. SERVING GOD IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS.
20. THE DRESSING OF A GODLY WOMAN.
21. PROPHETIC REVELATION ON PROMINENT NIGERIAN PREACHERS.
22. TRUTH, HOLINESS AND REWARD IN CHRISTIAN GIVING.
23. PASSION AND WISDOM FOR SOUL WINNING IN RIGHTEOUS AND HOLY CHRISTIANS.
24. PRAISE-WORSHIP FOR THE HOLY GOD.
25. DENOMINATIONALISM IN THE LIGHT OF HOLINESS REVIVAL MOVEMENT WORLDWIDE.
26. FAITH IN GOD THAT GIVES SUCCESS AND VICTORY TO THE RIGHTEOUS - THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.
27. PRAYER MADE SIMPLE FOR HOLY AND FAITHFUL CHRISTIANS
28. JOSEPH: THE YOUTH WITH A BRIGHT FUTURE.
29. THE HOLY LIFE AND MINISTRY OF A TRUE PREACHER.

30. SUPERIORITY OF CHRISTIANITY OVER OTHER RELIGIONS ON EARTH.
31. A DIVINE CALL TO HOLY WOMEN FOR ENDTIME GOSPEL EXPLOITS
32. TIMOTHY: THE YOUTH TRAINED IN SCRIPTURES.
34. UNDERSTANDING THE TRINITY OF THE GODHEAD
35. THE DOCTRINE OF RESTITUTION FOR YOUR HOLINESS AND HEAVEN