

Positive Change

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INTRODUCTION

One of the major problems that stand against the progress of man in life is change. The nature of man is so complacent that he is always pleased with what he has achieved and believes it is enough to sustain him against any situation in life. This is a deception of the devil.

There are two types of change. One is positive and the other is negative. The negative change brings about setback while the positive commands progress in life. If truly you want to enjoy the fullness of God's glory in your life, you need to give room for a positive change.

"But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Proverbs 4 vs. 18

The journey of life is from one level of glory to another. You cannot remain in a particular glory and believe you have acquired the whole world. It is impossible.

"There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory." 1 Corinthians 15 vs. 41

The glory the stars exude is far different from the glory of the moon, while the glory of the sun is higher than the glory of the moon. Despite the miracles that happened through Apostle Paul, he was still striving to attain another level of glory in life.

"That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; "Philippians 3 vs.10

Change may not be pleasant but you earnestly need it for a better tomorrow. The sons of the prophets realized that where they dwelled was not conducive for their vision to soar like an eagle; hence they had to move forward and get a better place.

"And the sons of the prophets said unto Elisha, Behold now, the place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us. Let us go, we pray thee, unto Jordan, and take thence every man a beam, and let us make us a place there, where we may dwell. And he answered, Go ye. "2 Kings 6 vs. 1-2

Just because you suffered before you could rent one bedroom apartment, you decided to remain there and don't dream to go for a bigger and better place. Your decision is borne out of a mentality to limit yourself unnecessarily due to frustration. Before you know what is happening, that room will become cramped and will no more contain your wife and children and the consequent disgrace will make you popular in a negative form.

No matter how enjoyable your present level may be, it cannot sustain your tomorrow. Strive hard to attain a better and viable level for a greater tomorrow.

I pray that as you read this book, God in heaven will open your understanding in the precious name of Jesus Christ.

Positive change is very vital for a glorious future and wonderful testimony in life.

Be ready to pay the price. God will grant you abundant grace in Jesus name. Amen

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I say thank you and God Almighty will bless you in Jesus name. (Amen)

“A situation Changed that is not chained”

CHAPTER ONE

PRESENT SITUATION

"And the sons of the Prophets said unto Elisha, Behold now the place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us". 2 Kings 6:1

The sons of the prophets saw that the place that they dwelled was too small for the vision, the dream that God has given to them. So they went to the man of God, Prophet Elisha to complain about this. It implies that before you can effect any positive change, you must have a clear understanding of your present situation. If you study the present situation critically, and you look into the future, you will discover that what you are now is nothing compared to what God has for you. The present situation may be wonderful, but God has something more wonderful for you in the future. The Bible says that "the path of the just is like a shining light that shines more and more unto the perfect day" Proverbs 4:18

A man worked in a friend's company for many years as an accounts clerk with just the Ordinary Level Certificate. He was satisfied with his academic level and failed to acquire a higher qualification. The son of the owner of the company later graduated from the university with a degree in Accounting. This university graduate took over the accounts department of the company, while the former accountant, who refused to grow academically, was relieved of his duty. He lacked foresight to see into the future to know that his O' level certificate would not be suitable enough in a growing company of that standard. Look beyond the present situation and desire a positive change to keep you relevant in life.

"Arise ye and depart, for this is not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction. Micah 2:10

Many people in this generation are destroying their future unknowingly as they don't want to change their present situations. They think their present attainment or status is enough to face tomorrow's challenges.

The sons of the prophets realized this and probably thought that their master, Prophet Elisha might die at anytime, and if they did not change their 'present situation' on time, they might be left in a mess. If you do not change your present situation, it will change you.

Samuel failed to change his delinquent children. Behold, the situation dramatically changed and the Israelites demanded for a King as his children lacked the qualities of leadership.

"And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel... And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment. Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a King to judge us like all the nations: 1 Samuel 8 vs. 3-5

Samuel would not have thought that the Israelites could revolt against his choice of his children as judges over them. He didn't study the 'present situation' well enough to know that his children were not fit to be future judges in Israel.

No matter how pleasant the present situation may seem to be, plan ahead for the future. David had an insight into the future. He knew that the potentials of God in him were more than staying in the wilderness with his father's flock. When the opportunity for a positive change came, he seized it and his 'present situation' changed for the better.

"And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying: what shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God.? And the people answered him after this manner, saying, so shall it be done to the man that killeth him. And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause? 1 Samuel 17 vs. 26-29

Just as in the case of David, the steps you take towards a positive change may be mis-interpreted as pride. 'I know thy pride and the naughtiness of thine heart...'

However, do not allow the situation to overwhelm your thoughts on the positive step to take. More so, in the course of your pursuit of a positive change, beware of wrong advice or assistance from people.

Note that, the weapons and coats of armour that King Saul gave to David were too heavy and clumsy for the young man. They made his movement difficult. So, beware of wrong support or assistance that will destroy your dreams and hinder the glory of God in your life.

QUIET TIME

Quiet time is a time to be alone with God. It is a time to ponder on your present situation, ask yourself questions and think of the way forward.

1 Kings 19:12-15, And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice. And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, what doest thou here, Elijah?

And he said I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and slain thine prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. And the Lord said to him, Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when you come, anoint Hazael to be King over Syria:"

Elijah could not understand what was happening to him until he heard from the Lord in a "still small voice". You cannot get the right answers or solution to the mysteries of life in a noisy environment. Quiet time animates and activates the five senses and enables you to see and understand clearly the true pictures of life.

***"You thought you know many things
but you don't Understand many things"***

CHAPTER TWO

A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING

If you pay attention to your present situation, your inner eyes will open and you will have a clear understanding of your situation. When the sons of the prophets paid attention to their situation, they became enlightened. Many people live on earth but have no clear understanding of their existence. Don't forget there is just one life to live on earth. It is one thing to see what is happening in life and it is another to understand it. Many are living a pitiable life because they lack understanding.

Understanding entails the truth and facts about something. The truth reveals details of an issue while the fact gives the picture. Today, the truth is missing in our lives. The Bible says in John 8 vs. 32 "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

People around you may rise against you, if only they have the facts about you and not the truth. You are the only one that has the truth about yourself.

A man came to Nigeria from abroad armed with the certainty and truth about his vision, but his friends thought he was stupid. Unbelievably, he is a millionaire today.

When the sons of the prophets saw that the vision of God for them was greater than where they were, they took steps to change it.

In Acts 8:26-32" And the angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, arise, and go toward the south to the way that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza, which is desert. And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Isaiah the Prophet. Then the spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. And Philip ran there to him, and heard him read the prophet Isaiah, and said, understand you what you read? And he said, "how can I, except some man should guide me"? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. The place of the scripture which he read was this; He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened He not His mouth".

Many people know many things but they do not understand them. The Ethiopian eunuch has been reading the book of Isaiah, but had no understanding of it. Do you understand your own situation? If not, go for a clear understanding.

In Daniel 9:2-3 "In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting and sackcloth, and ashes:"

It was the understanding that Daniel had that saved the wise men of Israel from perishing in Babylon. Lack of understanding will ultimately lead to destruction.

HOW TO ACQUIRE UNDERSTANDING

Understanding helps to know the things of the past, the present and the future. So how can you acquire understanding?

1. Through learning: You acquire understanding through learning by studying relevant books, listening to CD/Tapes, attending seminars etc.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. II Timothy 2 vs. 15

2. By moving with those who have gone ahead of you. If you move with those who have gone ahead of you either academically, socially, spiritually or otherwise, you will enlightened and acquire understanding.

"And if any man think that he knoweth anything, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know" 1 Corinthians 8:2

3. You acquire understanding from God through prayer.

"But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding" Job 32:8

***“Right information, planning and
divine leading will enhance positive change”***

CHAPTER THREE

CHANGE

"Let us go, we pray thee, unto Jordan, and take thence every man a beam, and let us make us a place there, where we may dwell. And he answered, Go ye. And one said, be content, I pray thee, and go with thy servants. And he answered, I will go. 2 Kings 6 vs. 2-3

People do not see any need for a change because they are satisfied with their present situation. Nevertheless, for a change to take place I mean a positive change, there must be a challenge to tackle first. And if this challenge is tackled rightly, it will surely lead to a positive change.

WHAT IS CHANGE?

Change means to become different, moving from one level to another level in life. Unfortunately, this is a major problem to many in life. Once people are adapted to a particular system, they find it difficult to change. Also in

Acts 18:24-26, "And certain Jew named Apollos born at Alexandria an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spoke and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him to them, and expounded to him the way of God more perfectly"

Apollos knew only the gospel of baptism of John. Aquila and Pricilla noticed that he needed a change, and therefore explained in full details to him the Gospel of the Lord Jesus.

As far as many of us are concerned, change is a problem; but to the sons of the prophets, change was inevitable. They had to go to Elisha to make a demand for a change despite what they were enjoying in their 'present'.

There are two types of change: One is negative and the other is positive.

NEGATIVE CHANGE

What brings about a negative change? It is a frustrated situation that brings about a negative change. If you fail to change a situation, that situation will change you. A man of God who fails to develop himself, but always soliciting for an opportunity to preach in other ministers' churches is an example of one in a frustrated situation. Similarly, a dress designer that refuses to collect clothes for sewing, with an excuse of no electricity to iron clothes sewn is only cooking up a flimsy excuse to defend her frustration.

There was a man that was highly reputable for repair of typewriting machines in those days. But with the invention of computers, typewriters were phased out and the man was advised to learn how to repair computers. He refused and claimed that what he was getting from repair of typewriters was enough. Now that the use of computer has overridden the use of typewriter globally, the man has

ended up an Okada rider (a commercial motor- bike rider in the Nigerian parlance). This is negative change. a

2 Timothy 2 vs.15 says "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth".

POSITIVE CHANGE

"Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the King, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish. Esther 4 vs. 16

A positive change is a change from one level of life to a better level. It is a movement from a pathetic level to a celebrated level. It is a change that many desire, but not many are ready to pay the price. Can you take a decisive step and deny yourself of worldly pleasures to make a positive change? Queen Esther paid the price on behalf of the Jews. She took a bold risk, and a deadly situation changed to life. Are you pleased with your present situation? Can it sustain your tomorrow? If not, be ready for a positive change. The entire Jews testified. If you can take the risk, your testimony is sure.

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me". Philippians 4 vs. 13 Paul the Apostle prayed for God's help and strength and God granted him. You also can pray for God's help for a positive change.

***Right information,
planning and divine leading
will enhance positive change***

CHAPTER FOUR

STEPS TO A POSITIVE CHANGE

1. A Clear Vision

A clear vision enhances a positive change. Don't take a step without a sure and strong vision and conviction. Be sure to make enquires, know the advantages and disadvantages involved before embarking on a project.

Luke 14:28 states "For which of you intending to build a tower, sits not down first and counts the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?. While Habakkuk 2:2 And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that read it.

I pray as you take the step for a change, God will back you up in Jesus name. (Amen)

2. Total Conviction

This is another essential step to achieving a positive change. Irrespective of the discouraging words from people around you; you need to view that step in the mirror of God and be totally convinced before taking a step.

"Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. Genesis 12 vs. 1-3

3. Adequate Knowledge

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth but thou shall meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then you shall make your way prosperous and then you shall have good success". Joshua 1:8.

You must have adequate knowledge of what you want to venture into because information brings transformation. Information enables you to have an edge over others.

4. A Clear Understanding

This is getting the details of what you want to do. Know the rudiments and the nitty-gritty. Make sure you have a clear understanding of it.

Matthew 15 vs. 16-17 "And Jesus said, Are ye also yet without understanding? Do not ye yet understand that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out the draught?

Jesus expected His disciples to have a full understanding of what they were doing. Understanding is the bedrock to a positive change.

5. Wisdom of God

"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. 1 Samuel 18:14, And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the LORD was with him." Ecclesiastes 10:10.

It is the wisdom of God that guarantees good motives. Despite all King Saul did to David, he still dealt with the king wisely. You need to apply wisdom because it is profitable.

6. Determination

Be a strong-willed person; be determined to make a change just as Daniel did by not eating the King's meat.

Daniel 1:8 "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the King's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself."

If you are not determined you can't get to your fulfillment. Anyone that needs a positive change must be determined to make the change occur by all means. It was the determination of Daniel that made him great in a strange land. You need to be determined before fulfillment will knock at your door.

7. Focus

Let your decision be firm; do not deviate from the decision you have taken, no matter how strong the distractions around you may be. Be focused! Concentrate on what you are doing. Do not entertain rumours. Give no room for distractions. At the end of your fulfillment, those who tried to make you lose focus will celebrate you. If you are focused and determined, your mind will not be divided.

Proverbs 4: 23 "Keep your heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

A little distraction can end a glorious journey of life. Give no room for distraction.

8. Diligence Be committed to the step or decision you have taken. Work hard towards the achievement of your goal. Give no room to slothfulness. This will make you stand out from others, even when you are all pursuing the same cause. Fulfillment never leaves the door of a diligent person. Many know the right thing to do but they are too lazy to do it. Laziness has turned many to beggars, thereby killing their vision and strangulating their glory. Some ministers of God are not exempted from this crushing laziness. Apart from the normal Sunday service and weekly activities they handle, they do not have any other activity doing that can promote their ministries.

John 5:17 says "But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto until now, and I work."

9. Fervent Prayer

Prayer is a very good antidote to failure. Without God you can't achieve anything in life. Every effort made will be useless because there are forces contending with you, that prefer you rather have a negative change to a positive change. The Bible says in James 5:16 "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much".

Enemies do not want you to succeed, hence the Lord told the Israelites to contend with the inhabitants of the land.

Deuteronomy 2 vs. 24 "Rise you up, take your journey, and pass over the river Arnon: behold, I have given into your hand Sihon the Amorite, King of Heshbon, and his land: begin to possess it, and contend with him in battle".

Never forget the place of prayer, because the place of prayer is the zone of winners.

A woman once told one of her customers to wait for her to pray before attending to her because she saw a sign that portrayed the devilish intention of the customer. The book of Jeremiah 17:9 says "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? Prayer is the master key to your successful journey in life. Pay attention to prayer.

10. Associating with the right-minded leader "He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed". Proverbs 13 vs. 20.

Associate with a leader who has a good mind and interest in your advancement. Eli was good to Samuel and that was the reason he gave the boy the right counsel when Samuel told him of his divine call. Some leaders are bad. Once they know about your good vision, they would destroy it

There was a man of God who used to curse the pastors under him whenever they told him they received a divine call to move forward. Are you a good or bad leader? Don't forget that what goes around comes around. One thing that is sure about this life is that, you will reap the fruit of your leadership.

Whosoever you choose as your leader or mentor determines what you will become. If you are under the influence of a positive minded leader, it is then you can be an achiever. A positive mind breeds a positive change. John 16 vs.33 declares "These things I have spoken unto you that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

John 17 vs. 14-15 "I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from evil."

Our Lord Jesus was a good leader to His disciples. He advised, taught, encouraged and prayed for them. A good leader must possess the good spirit of Christ. Philippians 2 vs. 5 "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus". A good leader must produce tomorrow's leaders. Jesus produced twelve leaders while the twelve disciples produced one hundred and twenty (120) others. The ripple effect of that is reflected in the innumerable believers of Christ in the world today.

***No Canaan without its
own challenges***

**CHAPTER FIVE
CHALLENGES**

God can only tell you what you will become but He will not tell you the challenges inherent in the course of getting there. It is good to have a good dream as they say, 'Canaan is real', but there is a battle to be fought and won. It was God that told the Israelites to leave Egypt for Canaan, but He never told them the difficulties on the way to Canaan. Success comes after subduing every obstacle on the way.

Every step of a positive change attracts Satan's attention and interest. "For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries". 1Corinthians 16: 9. There can be no promotion without examination. Winners never quit but losers. Don't quit because of challenges of the race. Your breakthrough is very near. 'Keep on keeping on'.

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?

Challenges are the enemy of your destiny on the way to fulfillment. They could be in form of:

1. Fear

The Fear of the unknown usually confines many people to their 'present', sometimes to a precarious situation. Fear does not produce success, but rather destruction. Anyone who allows fear will never share a testimony. Say No to fear! 2 Timothy 1 vs. 7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear: but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. Fear is not made for a believer. Liberty and confidence are believers' attributes. Receive your liberty and confidence in Jesus name. (Amen)

2. Complacency

Do not be comfortable with your present condition. You need to desire a change before it can occur. Take a step to leave that position you are now, and move forward to a greater height. If you are satisfy with the present situation, you can't achieve a positive change. The state of satisfaction you are today may not help to solve tomorrow's challenges. Any man of God that depends on yesterday's anointing will not move forward in life.

"Arise ye and depart, for this is not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction." Micah 2 vs.10 Many have been destroyed because of their refusal to change their present situation.

3. Envy

Fear of being envied makes some people to be afraid of moving forward. No matter the level you are, people will always envy you and say a lot of things about you; but don't let that bother or hinder you from moving forward. People are afraid of being an object of envy. For instance, they are afraid of wearing new or beautiful clothes. Don't let what people say move you. Allow what God says about you, move and motivate you.

Romans 8 vs.35 says "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"

4. Family Problem

Many would have been great in life, but family problem debarred them. I pray for anyone facing any family problem, God will arise and fight for you. The sons of the prophets screamed that the axe was borrowed when it fell into the water. Whenever you are facing any problem on the road to success, it does not mean that God is wicked. He only wants to bring out something great beyond your knowledge. When the Israelites murmured against Moses in the wilderness for water, God provided water for them. Whatever you are facing on the road to a positive change, please do not go back! Genesis 9 vs. 22-25 "And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without. And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went back-ward, and covered the nakedness of their father and faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness. And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him. And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren". 1Corinthians 16 vs. 9 "For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries. If you are not a believer you cannot be free from family problem. Your sonship to God through Jesus Christ guarantees your freedom from family problem.

WHY DOES GOD ALLOW CHALLENGES?

1) God allows challenges in order to test your heart.

2) God allows challenges in order to prove

Himself that He is God. When the Israelites drank the water of Marah in the wilderness and it was bitter, the Lord asked Moses to cut a tree and cast it into the water and it became sweet and the people drank. The bitterness thereof was turned into sweetness. I pray that every bitterness in your life will be turned to sweetness in Jesus name (Amen). Exodus 15 vs. 22-25 "So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness of, and found no water. And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah. And the people murmured against Moses saying, what shall we drink? And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance and there he proved them,"

3) God allows challenges in order to build up your faith and make you to have complete trust in Him. Hebrews 12 vs. 2 "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

HOW TO OVERCOME CHALLENGES

1) Carry God along in whatever you do. The sons of the prophets asked Prophet Elisha to go with them. Moses asked God to follow them when the Israelites left Egypt for Canaan, the Promised Land. The presence of God is very vital in the journey of life. Truly, you are a professional, but if you do not carry

God along, your efforts will be in vain. If Elisha had not followed the sons of the Prophet, they would have failed

2) Present your case before God

The sons of the Prophet presented their case before Elisha who carried the presence of God and he gave them a solution. Whatever you are passing through, present it before God. Laban wanted to kill Jacob but God visited him before dawn. This is because Jacob had presented his case with Laban before God. Do not weep over your problem; but rather, present it before God. Tell God to arise and scatter your enemies. Psalm 68: 1, Let God arise let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him.

3) Do not allow the challenge to dominate your life

If you do not allow the challenge to dominate your life, it will come and go. Whatever you are passing through now is just for a short while. Do not point an accusing finger at God. The English man says, 'It is not over until it is over. Mere dressing of some people speaks volumes of challenges and frustration they are passing through. A man of God said "You can easily know a frustrated man by his dressing and movement". If you allow challenges to dominate you, all sorts of suggestions and advice will come your way.

4) Give room for innovations and ideas

When you are being confronted by challenges, do not be idle. Do something. Always ask yourself, 'what should be the next step!?

5) Challenges Are Visitors

You must always see your challenges as a visitor that would come and must surely go. Challenges make a good leader out of you. God can use ridiculous ways to remove challenges in your life. An axe head which was iron fell inside the water and an ordinary stick was used to get it afloat.

***Glory is very sweet
but very hard to achieve***

CHAPTER SIX

NEW GLORY

Anyone that desires a positive change must learn to endure. It is endurance that gives birth to new glory. Glory is very easy to express in words, but its manifestation is not a day's job. In Genesis 26 vs. 22 "And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, for now the LORD hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land." It does not mean that God was not with him while digging the previous wells. God was with him. God is always with you.

Everyone is born with a vision but, not all will get to its fulfillment. If you do not follow the rules and regulations of the vision, you will miss the glory. Many know how to gather resources, but do not know how to preserve them. If you follow the rules, you are sure of fulfillment. The more you press forward, the more you experience new glor Glory is in stages. Proverbs 4:18 Says, "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more unto the perfect day." If we succeed in one step of life, do not stop there continue to move ahead till the shining light gets into perfection. Every blessed day interprets its own vision. Do not use yesterday's blessing to interpret tomorrow's vision; Dare to improve! Anything termed 'new' will surely bring new name, new life, new fame, new product and new place. The challenges of positive change can never be compared to the glory thereafter. Romans 8:18 says, "For reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." 1 prophesy, the glory that will manifest in your life shall swallow all your challenges in Jesus name. (Amen)

1 Corinthians 15: 41-42 "There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:" Note that the glory of the sun supercedes every other glory because no one can look directly at the sun. Also not everyone that is on the path of the journey of glory gets to fulfillment. Some get tired while some die on the way.

In Numbers 14:1-12 "And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night. And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would God we had died in this wilderness! And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? Were it not better for us to return into Egypt? And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt. Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel. And Joshua the son of Nun, Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us, a land which floweth with milk and honey. Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is

with us: fear them not. But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel. And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? And how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them. I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they." So many started the journey to the Promised Land but only Joshua and Caleb got there. You will get to your Promised Land in Jesus name. (Amen).

In 2 Timothy 4:10 "For Demas hath forsaken me having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

THE KEYS THAT ENHANCE NEW GLORY

1. Have the ear of God

If you do not have the ear of God, it will be difficult for you to know the right thing to do at the right time. Elijah had the ear of God. In 1 Kings 19:12-15 "And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice. And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in the mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold there came a voice unto him, and said what doest thou here, Elijah? And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Heazael to be King over Syria: If you desire to achieve a better tomorrow you must not listen to what people are saying but rather let what God says lead you to your glory.

2. Possess the eyes of God

Do not see the way other people see. In Jeremiah 1:11-12, "Moreover, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what seest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree. Then said, the LORD unto me, thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it. If Jeremiah had failed to see what God wanted him to be, we would not have heard anything about him. God has wonderful glory for many people, but they cannot see it. Your ability to see it will commit God to action and fulfillment.

3. Have the mind of God

If you do not have the mind of God you can never have new glory. Philippians 2:5 says, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: The mind of God is creative and achieves goals. You need to possess the mind in order to be creative and achieve your own goals in life.

1. Understanding the language of the present situation

It is your present situation that determines whether to change what you are doing or not. The time I was having just a secondary school certificate, I could not handle the administrative aspect of my ministry effectively, until I moved forward to learn more. 1 Corinthians 8 vs. 2. "And if any man think that he knoweth anything, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know". Change your situation before your situation will change you. What you know now is not enough, go for more knowledge.

2. Use your time wisely

There is time for everything on earth. There is a course titled: "Time Management". Learn to abide by it. Do not use the time for work to play and vice versa. Ecclesiastes 3 vs.1 "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: John 2 vs. 4 "Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? Mine hour is not yet come".

3. Financial Obedience

What is financial obedience? Looking at it from the perspective of a child of God, it means paying your tithes and offerings accordingly. Do not play with your tithe. Malachi 3 vs.10 "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not room enough to receive it". If you do not pay your tithes, things will be tight for you. An offering such as the 'kingdom offering' in our ministry should be paid promptly. It is those who have the kingdom expansion spirit that God will bless. We are in the era of God's blessings. Always attend to the needy and the less privileged. And don't ever have the mindset that God created some people specially and better than you. What God has packaged in you is enough to effect a positive change and take you to a greater level in life.