

UPDATED VERSION

The Pathway To The Anointing Is A Path Less Trekged By Many
Although, Few Still Dare To Walk Upon.

I Dare You!

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Philip Cephas

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It Is Impossible To Effectively Walk With God
Without The Anointing Of The Holy Spirit.
Everything Change In A Man's Life
The Day He Get Anointed.

Philip Cephas



Ready Writer Publishers

PATHWAY *to the* **ANOINTING**

You can connect with Apostle Philip Cephas on his official online platforms, *most especially his telegram channel* for more edifying messages and other uplifting contents.

Telegram:

<https://t.me/Apostlephilipcephas>

Facebook:

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Youtube:

www.youtube.com/Apostlephilipcephas

Instagram:

www.instagram.com/Apostlephilipcephas

Twitter:

www.twitter.com/philipcephas

Email:

philipcephas@gmail.com

Phone No.: +234 9075600036

PATHWAY TO THE ANOINTING

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Light & Menorah Designs

Designed & Formatted by Solomon Apagu Fidelis

+2348152638323

Edited by Lucy Okonkwo

ISBN:

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Ready Writers Publishers

propheticreadywriter@gmail.com

+2347035603693

Dedication

I dedicate this book to the Lord Jesus Himself! Jesus, I really do want to pour out my life on You! You are the lover of My soul— how I long for your courts and to enter into Your presence. I am a ruined man before you met me and first loved me! Thank you, Jesus!

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Over the years, I have had the high privilege of being impacted by some of the greatest teachers and generals of prayer. Their deposits into my life have been rich and irreplaceable. I thank The Lord for all those sacrificial servants who have helped to hold up my arms as we continue with endurance to run the race that is set before us.

I also want to thank the pioneers who have gone before us in mastering the “Pathway to the Anointing,” where would we be without them? Books and sermons have been my mentors—so, thanks to all those who laid the foundation that we get to build upon.

Lastly, I want to thank my dear family and friends. I am truly grateful to The Lord for such a family and friends who love The Lord, and desire to see His kingdom come on the earth.

Blessings to you all!
Philip Cephas

REMARKS

It was indeed a great privilege to edit this book because it was so rich and each chapter has a lot to offer its reader. Being not just the editor of this book, but someone who also pursues the anointing, I believe it will be a big blessing and teacher to whoever reads this book.

Lucy Okonkwo
Editor
+2348062221835

I remember when Philip came to my room back then on campus and told me about this book and the impartation that came upon him to write, I immediately knew that this must have come from God. As writers we don't just write because we have an idea, we are scribes and testament of heavenly reality. The book you are holding is one of such, it will challenge your current status quo as a believer and push you beyond the normal into the realm of the supernatural; where God is!

Solomon Apagu Fidelis
The Ready Writer
peacefulapagu@gmail.com

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Introduction

PATHWAY TO THE ANOINTING

We live in a day and time where many people high and low are anointed by God for a particular purpose and function upon the face of the earth. The anointing of God seems to change them from who they used to be to an entirely different set of people.

If you have ever seen and encountered someone that is truly graced by God, then you will realize what I meant by them being a different set of people from what they used to be. The anointing of The Holy Spirit gives a different identity, direction and desire for an individual as he transits in life. When people become anointed, they begin to live a life pleasing unto the One that dimmed it fit to anoint them and cause the change in them.

I have asked most times; why must people be anointed? And what are the benefits of the anointing upon a mortal man on the face of the earth? The anointing of God cannot be separated from the Anointed one – which is Christ Jesus The Living One. He is the author of the anointing and He chooses to make human beings carriers, stewards and partakers of the same anointing.

When a man becomes anointed, he is begotten as a son under a Father who deeply cares and loves him or as a servant under a master that chooses to share all his resources with him for just no reason but love. Henceforth, the servant ceases to be the architect of his life, but he is totally influenced and inhabited by another supreme being that gives him direction, instructions and commandment on what to do, how to do it and what not to do for the glory of HIS name alone.

Every individual that is anointed must realize that he is just but a conduit

tube in which another being is resident and always seeks to find expression at all times. With the knowing that you are a carrier of a Holy being, you must also be Holy. You must purify yourself by staying away from things that defile your spirit, soul and body because it will corrupt the true divine nature and essence of the anointing you steward.

God anoints people so that they can be able to keep up with His divine mandate on earth, as well as keep pace with preserving His standards and statutes. God's standards are so high that no mortal man can keep pace without the help of God Himself. Seeing that we are mortals lagging behind with all our insufficiencies, God had to device a way for us to relate with Him effectively. He had to ease the burden upon us and make it possible for us to comprehend His speaking and movement upon the earth. God dwells in the heavens, but made His presence manifest in every spheres and dimensions beyond the reach of our carnal mind. The anointing takes you to the realm of possibilities where you see from a different vista the perspective of God and His movement upon the earth.

For mortal men to be brought into that realm of God so that effective communication can be achieved between God and man on earth, Jesus Christ was chosen. God made Him the heir of all things and custodian of His mysteries and truths. He came to the earth to show unto us the pathway to life and the patterns to relate and cooperate with Him in the heaven as administrators of His affairs on earth. So, Christ Jesus became the first begotten and The Anointed One who functioned effortlessly as a man upon the earth, graced with authority, power and dominion over any and every of God's creation.

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly; Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead (Act 10:38-41).

The Spirit of The LORD GOD is upon me; because The LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of The LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of The LORD, that he might be glorified (Isaiah 61:1-3).

God has to anoint Jesus Christ His Son with The Holy Spirit and with power, so that He can function accurately on earth as He is in heaven. Now, we see Jesus in possession of The Holy Spirit and power for proper functioning on earth.

The Holy Spirit who is the essential essence of The Godhead. Being the essential personality in the heavens and power which is an enablement from divinity to contend with and defeat the powers of the world that existed before Christ was born in the flesh.

By the aid of The Holy Spirit and the supernatural power of God, we saw the victory of Jesus Christ through his defeat of the enemy of mankind as He walked upon the face of the earth. Such was the anointing that functioned in the life of Jesus Christ. As time went on, we saw a similar anointing function in the lives of the Apostles that He trained to be His successors in function and making more disciples for God on the earth. All these were possible because the Apostles were endued with power as The Holy Spirit descended upon them on the day of Pentecost making them another set of people upon the face of the earth (Acts 2). They became fearless and bold, willing to lay down their lives for the cause of the gospel. All these would never have been possible if they were not anointed by God from on high.

It is only the anointing of The Holy Spirit that can turn a timid and fearful set of people to a bold and fearless set of people over night. They become impossible to stop because they saw no limitations in their pursuit

to dominate the earth for God. They saw challenges and persecutions as a tool needed to try their faith and believe in God. Also, they considered it a great privilege to suffer for Christ and if need be, martyrs for Christ sake. They cast out devils, healed the sick, cleansed the lepers, raised the dead and converted many unto righteousness making more disciples upon the face of the earth. They taught them the same things Jesus Christ taught them to do in order for others to follow suit and do even more.

I believe God didn't give to us less than He gave Jesus Christ in the days of His flesh on earth as well as to the Apostles of Jesus Christ. He desires that we all can be partakers of His anointing and share in HIS kingship. But, there is always a pathway to anything in this life, so also there is a spiritual pathway to the anointing. There are things that we must of necessity do if we must come into this commonwealth and become partakers of these divine realities, goodness and anointing through The Holy Spirit.

It is said that, "A stranger will always wander, but a son knows the way to the city." The burden of the stranger can be reduced if he can humble himself to ask and seek for the pathway to his destination than wander onto weariness for lack of knowledge. A true son can guide even a stranger aright if he knows the pathway to the city well enough. You don't have to be ashamed as a stranger because you lack the knowledge of a thing, for everyone is a stranger to something he knows nothing about in life.

The spirit realm can be a wild wilderness to many novices and this can cause a lot of hurt to them if not guided aright on how to engage the realm, and the principles and protocols that governs its operations. The day you get filled with The Holy Spirit, you are opened onto the spirit realm and certain spiritual experiences begin to play out in your life. But, you can be hurt badly if you don't understand what is expected of you to do in order to keep pace with the disciplines of God. This is because the meeting point is in the heavenly places where other spirits which are not loyal to God also

dwell.

It is true that The Holy Spirit must remain your tour guide, but you must open your heart to be educated by Elders as well as them that have gone before you in the dealings of God. Many people make mistakes in life because they refuse to learn from the experiences of others in the same field. Both the good and the bad experiences will be of help as it is said,

“A wise man will learn to listen and learn while a fool will never give an ear but always complain and speak folly.”

I consider myself a son that have been begotten by God and have obtained mercy and grace to be trustworthy in communicating some basic principles that will help activate a desire and give guidance to pressing deeper in exploring the wealth of blessings that the father has kept in secret in the ages past. Many years ago, when I encountered The LORD, He put in me a dissatisfaction for the normal which caused a shift in me from my comfort zone of Christianity unto a higher plain of relationship with Him. This was confusing at first, but as I began to understand the principles of communion with The Holy Spirit, I found it more interesting to be loved and felt at peace with a Spirit and a Being I thought never existed before. Deep hunger and passion engulfed me and a big vacuum was within me that needed to be filled by God. All these drove me to the place of intense prayer, study, fasting and much more obedience. Some of it was done in pain and discomfort, anguish, groaning, sorrow and mourning all for the benefit of my schooling in the spirit unto maturity and growth in God. Recently, The LORD impressed upon my heart to write this book to reveal the pathway to the anointing from my own journey with God as I transit into higher realms of operation and gain more mastery of the anointing release upon me overtime. I will love to take you through a journey showing you the pathway to the anointing. If you can allow The Holy Spirit to influence you, follow the patterns as revealed in this book and watch diligently in love,

you will not only be anointed by God, but you will become one of the beloved of The LORD causing maximum impact upon your generation and bringing the earth into conformity to Christ Jesus. I pray that these words will become spirit and life in you taking the form of flesh that will reveal the risen Christ upon the earth again. Amen.
Shalom!!!

Chapter 1

EARNEST DESIRE TO PRAY

Most people wish to be anointed, but they fail to realize that the anointing comes with greater responsibilities and consecration unto a cause and a purpose. God has no problem anointing people, but most times He wonders if mortal men can be trusted with the anointing of The Holy Spirit.

The anointing of The Holy Spirit has no limitations; we are the limit! We are the limitation of the anointing of The Spirit, since God is the supplier of the anointing and God cannot be lacking in resources –cannot run out of the anointing. There can never come a time when God will be short of the anointing rather, man can become so myopic and finite to limit the flow of the anointing of The Holy Spirit through him. Since men are like conduit tubes in which the unlimited anointing of The Holy Spirit flows, then the conduit tube has a high probability of being faulty limiting the flow of the anointing from its unending source.

Many times I ask people, how much of God can you contain? Or how much of the anointing of The Holy Spirit can you contain? The answer to that question lies upon individual capacity to contain God's Spirit- it depend on you. You can choose to enlarge your spiritual capacity through prayers to contain more of God so that you will not be the limiting factor when it comes to the functioning of the anointing.

The word “*ANOINTING*” simply means to rub with oil, i.e. to anoint; by implication, to consecrate; also to paint: - it is a smearing with oil, the pouring on of oil or the act of smearing with an oil. From all indications, the word “anointing” is always related to oil which The Spirit of God is being

poured into man to fuse with his spirit and make him become one with God in spirit.

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit (Joel 2:28-29).

Everything changes when a man becomes anointed. He begins to speak differently, perceive differently and see things in the perspective of God, because he is now one with Him. Slaves and servants become sons immediately The Spirit of The LORD is poured upon them. A new identity is given to them and the anointing begins to function in their lives. Here is the amazement: common men become a centre and focus for the dealings of God with man. As God continues to pour out Himself into man, he becomes more like God on the earth. Sooner or later he becomes the responsibility of God and God begins to reprove people that come against the man that He anoints. God is always jealous for the people He anoints, because they carry so much of His nature that He must defend as it is written:

Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm (Psalms 105:15).

The anointing is related to the unction of The Holy Spirit which is the ability of The Spirit of God to teach us in His own language and to guide us aright in life.

Unction means the act of anointing or divine sanctification by grace. We possess this ability in God to be sanctified by His grace and receive this token that connects us to Him. The unction of The Holy Spirit grants us access into the current speaking of God for the moment. It comes as a release from The Spirit to give us illumination and revelation to know deeper truth at an instant. This can occur solemnly in prayers and in time of personal meditation.

Prayer as a tool and vehicle for access into the anointing cannot be overemphasized. It is not an option, but a necessity and a prerequisite if we must attain greater levels in functioning in the anointing. Prayer is a legal permit for God to interfere in the affairs of men on earth. When we pray, not if we pray: because we have to pray, make petitions, supplications and request unto God, He interferes on behalf of us.

Nothings seems to happen on earth except a man or a woman prays and gives permission for God to function on the earth.

The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD'S: but the earth hath he given to the children of men. (Psalms 115:16)

As the scriptures says, the heaven is The Lord's, but the earth He has put under the jurisdiction of men who are His sons and representatives upon the earth. If these sons will not give Him the permission to come and help them, then He will do nothing, because He will not break His law.

God is SPIRIT and He lives in a realm not like the earth. Our realm is a realm of the mortals which is a natural realm. Nevertheless, the influences of the spiritual realm affect us positively or negatively. The realm of the natural is only fit for men to be visible to function. If God must walk the earth, then He definitely needs a human vessel that must yield to Him, giving Him expression through influence so that the man can function on His behalf.

When we pray, we position ourselves aright for God to influence us so that He can reveal Himself through us on earth. For God to reveal Himself, He must first of all make us fit to be able to contain Him and represent Him aright. Since man is mortal and live in a physical realm relating with a God that is in the spiritual world will be complicated and almost impossible if not simplified by God Himself whose interest needs to be satisfied.

In that manner, God anoints people giving them heavenly resources in the form of a smearing of oil from above that causes them to know His

speaking and movement on the earth. If God must do anything on earth, it must be via someone He has anointed overtime because only such a person can understand Him and be able to respond to His demands. It is amazing how God never does anything or just chooses to anoint a man without him first praying and asking Him to release His Spirit upon him, so that he can represent Him effectively on earth.

If you have ever seen the manifestation of God in a place as seen in many revivals throughout history, then you would know that there were people who took it upon themselves to invite God into the town or city to come manifest Himself.

When you read through the scriptures, you will realize that at several times, our forefathers—kings, Prophets, Apostles etc. called on God in prayer and He answered them by releasing His anointing upon them through His Spirit so that they can function on His behalf on earth. In times past, we saw many God's generals that cried for revival, that the presence and the fire of God might fall on their cities and towns that will let men and women turn to God. These God's general gave themselves to much prayers, day in day out consecrating themselves and fasting believing that one day their prayers will be answered. It did not take too long before God anointed them with uncommon grace and abilities to go heal the sick, raise the dead and cast out devils.

This was done by the gifts of The Spirit and the presence of God falling upon their cities and turning people's heart towards Him. All these are what is called “revival” and it never came without prayers and much more yielding to The Spirit who found expression through mere mortals. When you study the moves of God, there are always pioneers, people that took it upon themselves to invite God through prayers to their cities. These are the same people that were endued with strength and gifts to represent God on earth.

Many years ago when God began to stir up our hearts on campus to pray, it was like a continual burning fire inside us. Little did we know that it was an invitation from God to reveal unto us deeper truths and bring us to the place of the anointing. God can invite men to come pay the price for the anointing if there is a need and there are not many who are willing. You can also initiate an invitation by praying and positioning yourself aright by asking God to send His spirit upon your city through releasing His Spirit upon you and enduing you with gifts and power to function on the earth.

Suddenly, we found ourselves praying for hours and asking God for an outpouring and a revival to fall in our locality. It took months before we began to realize that our prayers had a profound effect and carried the ability to change our society. We began to see manifestations of the spirit at work in our lives, gifting of the spirit was activated and the boldness to witness onto others was activated.

Many people began to dream dreams, see visions and even prophesy, prophecy became common to us. It was like the heavens now dwelt amongst us. We did not have much knowledge then to know that we were walking in an open portal which made the realities of heaven real to us daily. As we grew and matured, we realized that it was the hand of The LORD that was at work in our lives.

Prayer opens you to the spirit world to begin to do business and deal with The Spirit of God, Angels and the Watchers of God sent to watch over terrains. Prayer creates a link to heaven over you so that you can be hearing and seeing things that goes on in the heavenly realm. As you begin to pray, you will realize a release of power and strength upon you by God. The Holy Spirit builds more conviction in your heart to believe God the more. Prayer helps convert the potential *dunamis* power we received when we first got baptized in The Holy Spirit to *kinetic* power that flows to others. This power helps bring deliverance and healing to many.

Communion

In our relationship with people, deep secrets are usually communicated in the inner chambers or the closet where no one can hear except between the people involved, this also applies to our communion with The Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the conveyor of the secrets and mysteries of The Father. He carries it to us from heaven and as we commune with Him, we experience that partnership and sharing of His nature and ointment upon us. The residue that is left after the communion is the anointing. It gets to rub on us as we allow Him to infill and fellowship with us in the inner chambers of our heart and soul.

The Holy Spirit carries the atmosphere of heaven since He alone has the access to both realms and dwell as such. Man also has access into both realms, but must be guided and led by The Holy Spirit into the spirit realm so as not to be misled. After much communion, the nature of heaven is exchanged between us and the Holy Spirit as we fellowship with Him. He gives us access into deeper mysteries of things yet untold.

And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. (Roman 8:27)

The bible says that, The Holy Spirit searches into the heart of God even the deep things of God. If you must be heavily anointed you must be well equipped with God's truths, principles and values, and these things lie in the depth of the heart of God. Only The Holy Spirit has access into that depth, and He can reveal it to you the more you fellowship with Him. The Holy Spirit seeks and desires a deep fellowship and communion with man at all times. You have to be available!

Encounters

Encounter simply means to meet face to face with a thing or a being. For you to be anointed in God, you must have lots of encounters with divinity and must be shown certain glory of God that resides in the heavenly. Encounters build you and not just encourage you. It forms certain structural patterns in you to be able to contain God. God desires that we encounter Him and see His glory, as it is written:

And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart (Jeremiah 29:13).

A man of prayer is never lacking in encounter as encounters are a common thing in the place of prayer and communion. It is easier for God to reveal Himself, His glory and majesty in the place of encounters. His unconditional love is also experienced which comforts us through the hard times in seeking to find rest in Him.

As you begin to pray, you will encounter angels which are messengers from God sent to release impartations to you, while some come to give you instructions and even help you through spiritual warfare; for the pathway of a man of prayer is never lacking in spiritual warfare. As you strive for mastery in God, attaining greater height in the realm of the spirit, you will find demonic spirits trying to resist and contend with you. Most times, they are resisted by the angels of the Lord because He has put them in charge of us.

Some other times, when you are summoned into the court of God, angels are sent to come and take you into the heavenly realm to experience apostolic speaking into your spirit by God. These speaking shape you and even form the basic foundation for you to be able to relate with Him. The speaking and impartation of God contains the necessary resources needed for your effectual functioning on the earth. Most times after an encounter, I

discovered certain gifts of The Spirit beginning to function in my life which were absent before.

Never take for granted your daily spiritual encounters, they are as important as your quest for the anointing. As you commune with The Holy Spirit, He takes you to the place of encounter, not just with angels or heavenly beings, but He takes you to the very presence of Christ Jesus to see The Father's nature of love in His glory. Jesus Christ is the anointed one! When you encounter Him, you have encountered the anointing and He will smear upon you the oil of Himself and the virtue that constitutes Himself to walk and act like Him.

I have been caught up to the very presence of God The Son and saw Him in His glory. The unexplainable unconditional love He released cannot be forgotten. The beauty of His voice and the perfection of His beauty is beyond description. He spoke to me in my spirit and I spoke also from my heart and He released an impartation upon me that I have not recovered from till now.

Many a times, if you are to encounter Jesus Christ as He dwells in the heavenly throne, you will be taken by an Angel to His presence. Sometimes the Angels switch you by rank to each other until you reach the court of God. In the presence of God, you will fall as a dead man. discovered certain gifts of The Spirit beginning to function in my life which were absent before.

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Many a times, if you are to encounter Jesus Christ as He dwells in the heavenly throne, you will be taken by an Angel to His presence. Sometimes the Angels switch you by rank to each other until you reach the court of God. In the presence of God, you will fall as a dead man. Then, Christ will give life to you again to live in another strength covered in His glory so that you can be able to communicate with Him through His spirit. Other times, Christ Jesus chooses to come to you by taking the form of Light, a child or other forms He deems fit. He takes the form that will ease His communication with you for He knows you best.

It is worthy of note that in our need and gullibility to have an encounter, we may fall into the trap of the enemy; as the devil can also masquerade himself as an angel of light to deceive believers who lack knowledge and are desperate for spiritual encounters. We must be able to discern and test all spirits knowing fully well that not even Jesus Christ will contradict the scriptures and its truths because He is the word.

All through the scriptures, we see men and women cry out to God to be used as agents for change and God used them to cause dramatic change upon the earth. These men were normal men, but the anointing of The Holy Spirit upon them gave them the boldness and authority to command such results. The same can be done by you and me if we can only pray and ask God to influence our lives and make us carriers of His presence and power on the earth as our fathers the generals did.

Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit. (James 5:17- 18)

This reveals to us that Elijah was a man like you and me, but because he prayed, he was able to command enormous power and authority over a nation. He was a righteous man, so are we! If we can also pray and travail as he did, then we will conquer anything that exalts itself above the knowledge of Christ Jesus.

In 2 chronicle 6:19-40, 7:12-15, we saw how Solomon a righteous man made supplication unto God and He heard him and harkened to the prayer of His people. My friends learn to talk to The LORD, speak to Him and ask Him anything you need. If there is a man to pray, then there is always a God that will answer. Until we ask, He can do nothing.

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance (Act 2:1-4).

We saw a historic Jewish event coinciding with spiritual timing and heavenly ordination when Jesus Christ was enthroned and glorified as stated in Psalm 110:1

The LORD said unto my Lord, sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool (Psalms 110:1).

The Apostles and other disciples gathered together in the Upper room as commanded by Jesus Christ where they prayed and asked God to fulfil that which was spoken by His Holy prophets about the outpouring of The Spirit of truth and a baptism of fire. As they gathered and prayed in one accord, suddenly there was a sound of a rushing mighty wind and The Spirit of God

rested upon each of them like a cloven tongue of fire and gave them the utterance to speak in other tongues. This gave them power and authority to function like Christ Jesus when He walked the face of the earth.

We must be careful not to be like the others who neglected the gathering of the Upper room of which only 120 were present. There were many other disciples that were downstairs enjoying the event of the feast of Pentecost eating and drinking as usual. It was never written that only 120 should gather at the upper room to be endued with power. It would have been pleasing to God if all of Jerusalem got baptized in the upper room. Unfortunately, only a few understood the timing of The Spirit and aligned themselves to get the gift of The Spirit while others feasted as usual.

The first step to the anointing is to ask God to send His Holy Spirit of truth to come and fill us like He did to the apostles. If you are already filled with the Holy Spirit, you can still ask Him to infill you again with a fresh baptism like He did to the apostles.

And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

(Acts 4:31)

That was a scenario of a terrible time when the apostles were forbidden to preach in the name of Jesus Christ, fear gripped them. As they came together and gathered again tarring in praying with faith, The Holy Spirit descended upon them again in a new dimension giving them boldness to witness with no fear of the persecution of men. Always continue in prayers, fervent in spirit, speaking in tongue always as The Spirit gives you utterance to enlarge your capacity to contain more of His anointing in you. Continue earnestly in the fellowship of The Holy Spirit communing with Him daily. Amen.
Shalom!!!

Chapter 2

EARNEST DESIRE TO STUDY

Many years ago, when I got baptized in The Holy Spirit, we were taught less on the important of studying and giving heed to sound doctrine. Little did we know that it will have a great impact on our genuine quest and hunger for the anointing and the functioning of The Spirit of God in our lives. We took out time to pray in tongues until it opened us up to certain spiritual truths and realities. We began to experience certain visitations and encounters that were beyond our knowledge of God's word which almost resulted in a drifting away from the pathway of The Truth.

We began to encounter intense spiritual warfare and our souls almost became polluted from the backlashes of these warfare because we did not have the “washing of the water by the Word.” We were like warriors that returned from the warfront with arrows behind their backs needing treatment. It is not good for the soul to be without knowledge! It was not too long before we realized that our souls were lacking in the basic truths of the knowledge of Christ and our authority as believers were founded upon realities that are ephemeral. The Spirit of Truth is supposed to be the one to guide us into all truths and realities in God. When guided into the realities of God by The Holy Spirit, it results in the opening of the veil which will cause the anointing to begin to function in the life of an individual.

Knowledge has always been power, and he that has the knowledge of God sustains the power to function like God on earth. The knowledge of God commands His virtues to flow through us which results in a commensurate anointing release.

It is written in 1 Timothy 4:13, *'until I come, give attendant to the public reading of scriptures, exhortation and teaching.'* Lack of knowledge always results in ignorant and being ignorant results in demonic influences and manipulation in the life of a believer.

Most people that are lagging behind in the knowledge of God are always left behind in the things of God. They are not able to counsel aright or give a godly instruction that can help another in time of need. The more of the knowledge of God you possess, the more of His presence that is attracted towards you. This causes you to be possessed with His nature and have His own kind of mind that see no limitation but absolute possibilities.

Daniel was an intercessor and an earth watcher over the city of Babylon. He was the one that was saddled with the responsibility to maintain spiritual balance, keeping the portals of light open so that God can influence the government of Babylon prophetically. The king of Babylon was not even a righteous man and Babylon was not a city named and dedicated to God, but God was interested in the rulership of Babylon. So, He instituted His son, a watcher in a man called Daniel to maintain the balance from earth as He gave him the legal permission to influence Babylon from the heavens. It had to be done in that manner because God is Spirit and He has put the earth under man, He cannot do anything until a man gives Him the permission.

Daniel was faithful in keeping Babylon under the rulership of God by doing that which is expected of him to do in prayers and intercession. As stated earlier, the king didn't need to be a righteous man, but in as much as God had Daniel who was a righteous man that has the city at heart, then God still did business and influenced the city under Him. Daniel's presence in the land of Babylon was very paramount because he kept the city from spiritual decay and destruction by the judgment of God. This is because when a land increases in darkness and there is no witness by a true son of

God to the city, God will judge and destroy that city. It doesn't matter how unrighteous a land is, if God can just find a man willing to be anointed with His Spirit to represent Him, then He becomes involve in the affairs of the land just as seen in Babylon with Daniel. Although Daniel was a prophetic intercessor and a watcher over the land, he constantly studied so that he can continually be in the perspective of God per season.

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 (Daniel 9:2).

He said that he understood by the books of the prophecy of Jeremiah the prophet of how long the children of Israelites ought to be in captivity before God comes to deliver them. He then aligned himself to the prophecy spoken by Jeremiah and prayed according to the knowledge of what he understood by the books. How did he get to know it by the books if not through reading the scroll which was their scriptures in their time? Daniel was a man that gave himself to much study of the writings of the elders that walked with God before him which made him acquainted with the dealings of God with the people of Israel overtime. That knowledge became a revelation that gave him access to the anointing to function and rule in the strange city of Babylon.

I have discovered that, the more I engage in the studying of the word, the more I feel an increase in the anointing upon me and a greater stirring in different times and seasons. The more time you spend reading the word, the more insightful and clearer the voice of The Holy Spirit becomes to you. The sharpening and amplifying of the inner witness of your spirit is done through continuous communion with the word of God.

It is not a cliché that people that don't study always have a lopsided view of the things of God and cannot command authority because the word of God within you is the light and life that releases a living energy which

causes changes. If you lack the word within you, your faith is baseless! The word of God is the building block for your faith.

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high (Hebrews 1:1-3).

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men (John 1:1-4).

Every building has a foundation so also every spiritual truth rest upon a foundation. The anointing of The Holy Spirit is fuelled by the word of God that is based and resided within our heart. The word of God is eternal. Also, His speaking that brings the anointing are eternal. When God speaks, it releases the anointing that causes it to function and fulfil His speaking to the end. That is why when God speaks, it must come to pass because His anointing backs it up and fuels it. In time past, God released His anointing upon the prophets and embedded His truths in the law so that they that honour it can find the anointing and they that honour the prophets can be anointed by the prophet to function as he did.

When it pleases God to reveal His only begotten Son to the earth as the Anointed one and the custodian of the anointing, He let His eternal word which was in the foundation to come into the womb of a human being, the Virgin Mary. That word existed before even the beginning, it was with God and still remains with Him.

Jesus Christ is the source of the anointing and if anyone can touch Him, He will cause it to be smeared upon them to become a carrier of it. When He walked the earth, people that touched Him with a revelation of His true

nature received a deposit of the anointing which set them free and changed impossible situations to possible ones.

The apostles were close to Him and encountered Him. They saw Him through the eyes of revelation, beholding His true glory, and they received the anointing. He even sent them two by two and they saw similar results of manifestation as He did. That made Him feel glad that The Father has chosen more sons, including them to share in His glory. If you can just encounter the person of Jesus Christ in His true nature, you will receive an anointing upon you that will change your life forever.

The anointing is communicable and can be viral. It can be transferred through impartation to another, but by revelation through The Word of The Anointed One. The anointing of The Holy Spirit does not just move to people without a revelation, only people that know the value of a thing guard it jealously and the anointing of The Holy Spirit is a precious jewel that will not just be cast upon swine. For you to receive an impartation of the anointing through the laying on of hands or through an encounter that can cause an apocalypse within your spirit, you must have your heart ready and willing to receive such a measure of God and desperate enough to guard it from the corruption of the world's system.

The world was framed from the word of God and by the speaking of the word from His mouth. When the earth was created by the speaking of the word of God, Jesus Christ being the word became the framework that holds it in balance and shape. He is the one that is and is still holding the world in its proper shape by His current speaking of the word into creation. He is the anointed one and controls all things. God spoke creation into being by the word and so also the word in the likeness and nature of Jesus Christ (Man) still shapes the world.

Now, Jesus Christ being the Anointed one became the foundation of the anointing and must be encountered to receive the anointing whether in

person or as a spirit or through the word. Jesus Christ still remains a spirit on earth, but a man in heaven seated on a throne at the right hand of God The Father Almighty, administering all things according to the counsel of The Father.

Back on campus as we prayed and travailed, we began to encounter spirits, some demonic while others divine. Some of my peers even saw a false Jesus Christ appear to them as the risen Christ Jesus. Most of such encounters had similar falsehoods that rendered the encounter null and void. As he spoke with them, he told them that he never died and was never crucified on a cross. All his speaking was against the word of God and since the scriptures cannot be broken, he spoke a lie. The devil always masquerades as an angel of light to deceive believers, even the genuine ones who are on the pathway to life. Thanks to God, all of them never believed him and rebuked him by the mercy of God when insight and wisdom came through the scriptures. Paul said,

but though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed (Galatians 1:8).

We must hold firm our stand in the word and never be lacking in the foundation of the word of God.

The knowledge of the word of God that you have directs you to the right encounters in the spiritual realm. If your foundation in the Word is firm, then your spirit will not be tossed to and fro because the Word in you will lead you to the person of Christ Jesus in the heaven where He is seated on the throne exalted. When your word base is accurate, you will not be misled to believe a lie instead of the truth when you encounter it. Most people that are entrapped by a demonic spirit that translates himself to be like an angel of light are those that lack much foundation of the word of God.

Many people are very reluctant when it comes to the study of the

scriptures, they consider it a waste of time. Some ask uneducated questions that seem logical like: how can a scroll or a bible that was written many years ago still have so much potency now? Well, I consider such a person an unbeliever who has no desire at all for the anointing of The Spirit of God. If you must be anointed by God, then you must give yourself to much prayer, fasting and studying. These have no replacement or duplicate in the kingdom, it has to be done the old fashioned way.

Words are eternal, they are spirit and life and have no expiring date, but will forever live till the end of the ages. I want to reckon onto you that Jesus Christ the Eternal Word of God, the source and custodian of the anointing desires that we on earth come to encounter Him via His word which is eternal. This will program us right to see Him in His true heavenly glory.

There is a high probability that if you have not encountered and know Jesus Christ as The Word of God in the physical realm, you might not encounter Him in the spiritual realm as the Light and Life bearer. Even if you do, you will not be able to recognize Him because He is much more of a Spirit in the spiritual realm with a spirit reality. As you continue to study with more passion and a clean heart, you will cultivate the atmosphere of the anointing that purifies your spirit, soul and renews your mind. The word of God will speak to you making you to become familiar with the voice and the frequency at which God speaks. It will also open you to many spiritual patterns that are only visible to a man with a heart that desires to search for more of God.

The battle of the mind that results to many thought patterns that cause havoc upon the mind are cast away as you focus more on the word of God. Your emotion, intellect and will submit even unconsciously to the discipline of God which increases the smearing of the oil upon you that results in the increase of the anointing upon your life.

The mind is a vital pivotal place when it comes to the anointing. The

warfare that goes on in our minds can be minimized if we can cleanse our minds daily by the word of God. The word of God cleanses us, we are purified by the washing of the water by the word. We must realize that no man hears God from a troubled mind. Stability of the spirit, soul and mind can be attained when accurate studying of the word is done on a daily basis. In consistently studying of the word, the anointing is released upon us and certain gifts are activated to function in our lives. The Holy Spirit cannot take us above our knowledge of God's word.

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children (Hosea 4:6).

It is really sad how God intends much more for us all, but we are not willing to press hard enough to take all that He wants to give us. The anointing is free, but has a price that must be paid, one of such is spending hours of time praying, travelling in the spirit with the word of God. You must understand that knowledge is light and understanding gives you access into that light, and wisdom enables you function in that light.

You cannot claim to have wisdom if you don't have understanding and you can't claim to have an understanding of a thing until you have a knowledge of the thing. Many people stop at only knowledge, so they lack the understanding of what to do despite having the knowledge. Others stop at understanding which is still not complete until you receive the wisdom on how to do it, then you can be able to function in the anointing.

Solomon received not just knowledge and understanding, but also the wisdom on how to solve issues. That set him above others and caused the release of the anointing he functioned in. Solomon himself admonishes us to go for knowledge and understanding so as to be able to apply wisdom.

The pathway of acquiring wisdom is always that of labour and hard work in reading diligently on a consistent basis. God is all-knowing and He

expects us to study to show ourselves approved, but He did not leave us without an unction from the heavenly to know all things as He does. When God speaks to us and gives us a revelation, it is meant to draw us closer to Him and attract the anointing upon us. The Holy Spirit flows with the knowledge of the word that we have and if limited, then we are also limited in the anointing released because we cannot contain it.

When Jesus Christ walked upon the face of the earth, He told His disciples that there are things He wished to tell them, but they will not comprehend because they are limited in knowledge. But, when The Spirit of Truth comes, who is the custodian of the mysteries of God, He will guide us into all of His truths. That Spirit of Truth is The Holy Spirit, He has come and we have received Him. Now, it is expected of us to know much truth about the word of God.

Never allow yourself to be limited in knowledge because the more knowledgeable you are of the scriptures, the more anointing you command upon your life. This is because God's Spirit always comes to witness and confirm His word. When He comes, He brings the anointing upon you.

God confirmed that His own people who are His covenant children perish for lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6). Do you realize that God never complained of lack of the anointing? The anointing will always follow a man that has the knowledge of God's word. The nature of God is explained in the word. So, when you digest it, it will become part of you as you become part of the trinity by co-heirship and being one with Christ Jesus.

The perishing of the people of God was not as a result of demonic warfare, but a lack of knowledge. When knowledge and light comes, the illumination drives out demonic spirit as a result of the anointing. The anointing breaks the yoke as it is written in the scriptures. As you grow in the anointing, every yoke of darkness begins to break away and falls out because the anointing carries the presence of Christ the anointed one who is

the deliverer.

And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing (Isaiah 10:27).

The prophet says, it shall come to pass when the burden shall be lifted up away from your shoulder as a result of the anointing. The anointing substitutes the burden of the yoke of the devil with the yoke of Christ and as stated in the scriptures, His burden is easy and light. The burden of the gospel is like a blessing in disguise which is why it is called a light, easy yoke and burden.

For rejecting knowledge, they also resist light which is the illumination that brings the anointing and liberation unto many. God has no fellowship with darkness so, He rejects them. Do you realize that when a man is in darkness, he does not know how pleasant and nice it is to be in light? He fools himself in his darkness calling it light. It is hard for him to be redeemed especially when he is not willing to be redeemed from his darkness. God's Spirit does not strive with man, He rejects them in hope that when their heart is turned away from darkness unto light, He will come to deliver them again. If you must truly receive the anointing, you must love and cherish the knowledge of the word of God.

For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings (Hosea 6:6).

Many years ago I had some friends who did not believe much in studying the word. They did everything such as praying and also paying some sacrifices, but not giving themselves to the study of the word. As years went by, they realized that there was nothing or little of God's manifestation expressed in their lives. They couldn't see the anointing

functional in their lives, despite being diligent in their daily religious routines. What good is your prayer if it does not bring you to the person of Christ Jesus the anointed one to be smeared with His ointment of anointing to represent Him on earth? It was not long that many of them become frustrated and even lost the zeal to pray that they once had. They realized latter that, it is not good to be a man of zeal without knowledge. Their error was simply that they rejected the knowledge of God's word and His revelation and pursued the manifestation of His glory and power. Your pursuit must be towards an encounter with the person of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God not just towards some spectacular encounter and an experience in the spirit world.

It is written that; He desires the knowledge of God more than sacrifice. There is surely a time for sacrifice, but don't do the right thing at the wrong time. Many people sacrifice a lot for the anointing, like much hours of prayers, honouring of ministers and sowing of seeds, all these are very important but must be mix appropriately for a balanced spiritual life. No matter what you do, you must still give yourself to diligent studying of the living word so that it can open your heart to the depth of the mysteries of God.

In my study of the word, I found myself spending hours just reading and getting more acquainted and familiar with the way God speaks. Sometimes I lock myself for days just to commune with the word. An average believer will never find this of any use to him because his heart is not even opened to receive the truths of God. The day he genuinely set his heart to seek God, he will find Him not too far from the bible that he has long ago looked at with less interest.

The bible is not as bulky as many were made to believe. It is the same people that complain about the bible that spend hours and days reading a fictional novel or other books. They can't even give at least an hour per day

studying the word of life that will bring them the anointing that will change their lives. To be sincere, most times you will not find it interesting to study, but even in those seasons still be committed, it will not take long before you will love it and never want to leave it.

The more I study the scriptures, the more I feel the anointing moving around me, the more I hear the voice of The Holy Spirit talking to me and revealing more of His truths to me. This presence of The Holy Spirit covers me and shows me love and gives me comfort within my heart from worries and also eases my pain bringing peace to my soul.

In 2 chronicle 1:10, we saw the request of Solomon the wise man of the scripture. He asked for the ability to govern with the perspective of God's word. When that was given to him, the anointing followed suit. I always say, when a man becomes addicted to the word of God, he is made a vessel fit for the anointing to flow and function. When a man gives himself to seeking the wisdom of God and His knowledge, he will never lack the anointing.

The fear of The LORD is the beginning of wisdom, but the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. I urge you to continue desiring to study and be possessed with the knowledge of God at all times. Then, the anointing of The Holy One will be your companion always. Amen.

Shalom!!!

Chapter 3

EARNEST DESIRE TO FAST

When the word “fasting” is mentioned, many people get scared and I wonder, what they are afraid of. Fasting is a normal spiritual exercise that results in more consecration for proper alignment in order to hear and perceive God in the right perspective. This spiritual practice cannot be overlooked in the body of Christ.

Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? Wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours. Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high. Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? (Isaiah 58:3-6)

Proper fasting has never killed and cannot kill anyone, for fasting is an old custom of the Jewish people in the Old Testament. It was even mandatory in some seasons for consecration of oneself to be purged and purified by God. Prophet, kings, priest and even the laity in the society at large were saddled with the responsibility of keeping the fast of The LORD in those seasons. Fasting must be done with prayers and making of supplication unto God as a petition. We have seen through the scriptures that when a believer or an individual fast, terrible and impossible situations become possible because God releases His strength to cause a change for the people. Fasting is done in different manners. It can be undertaken by an individual, group, family, nation and even cooperate bodies. Most times, days are given for the waiting period of the fast according to the revelation

and instruction given by God. In the Old Testament, sack cloths and ashes are put upon to symbolize the degree of grievousness, pain and the desperation to see God come intervene. The Jews believe solemnly that when they fast, they attract God's attention to come rescue them in times of pain and distress especially in times of danger and threats from their enemies. It is possible for an individual to get God's attention by afflicting his soul so that God can look upon him and pour out Himself to release grace and mercy on his behalf. We saw Hannah, the mother of Samuel how she afflicts herself praying until God saw her through her challenge of barrenness.

And as he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, so she provoked her; therefore, she wept, and did not eat. Then said Elkanah her husband to her, Hannah, why weepest thou? And why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? am not I better to thee than ten sons? So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk.

Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the LORD. And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore. And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head (1 Samuel 1:7-11).

The Mystery of Fasting

Have you ever wondered how people fast for days without eating and drinking and still remain alive? Some also wonder how long one can fast in his own capacity. There is no limit to fasting, you can fast as long as the grace and strength is released upon you by God. Long Fasting requires the supply of the grace of God to be sustained. Fasting that is embarked upon for long days and months whether dry or wet are strictly undertaken by revelation from The Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit releases strength and grace upon the individual to tarry and wait on Him for that long. Fasting is a spiritual thing and it is very important not to be done in the flesh resulting to starvation and a hunger strike. If we must gain the benefit and result that is

expected of fasting then, it must be done as a spiritual exercise with a revelation. Also, fasting brings the anointing upon the life of an individual and can draw him closer to God. This is because anytime you consecrate yourself unto God, you are comforted and refreshed by the glory of God. The coming of God to you as a visitation will result in the release of the anointing as a deposit on you even when the fasting period is over. During fasting, God comes to release His grace and strength upon mortals, so that we can be able to endure the process and period of waiting. The resources of heaven that is released upon us during fasting is supposed to see us through the season and remain with us as an enablement from God to carry the anointing released. Whenever you abstain from food, your focus is single and your unending desires are minimized, you become more interested in an encounter with God. Fasting also has a way of minimizing and silencing our unbelief, making us to believe God the more. Fasting also silences the flesh that speaks to us through our emotions, vile affection and other means. When you fast, the flesh is tamed so that it can have no control over you. The truth about fasting is that you are supposed to avoid earthly food and lust but partake of divine meal and heaven's bread and drinking of the living waters that spring from heaven's throne. When people fast, they encounter Jesus Christ The Living One who administers to them the living water which makes them loose taste of earthly pleasures. Lust of the flesh can be conquered by the greater love of God! When you are lusting for a wrong thing, simply replace it by a love for the right thing, having and unending love for God and His kingdom. Let people call you a freak and a weirdo, but all you care about is that the kingdom of God. As the scripture says, the wisdom of man is considered foolishness before God. Don't just fast blindly, but fast in searching and seeking for the living one so that He can show you the sure and the living way to eternity. There is no nobility in starving to dead. If you must venture into a soul fast, then do it accordingly,

with a pure heart and a desire toward God knowing fully well that He takes pleasure in you excelling and prospering in whatever you do. In the season of fasting, God gives out spiritual bread that sustains and keeps people in shape spiritually. This is why when you fast religiously, you will do yourself no good, but rather more harm to your body by starving it from daily required nutrients. Always know that fasting is supposed to bring you closer to God, and it is also supposed to give you the ability to eat of heavenly bread and drink of the living water of The Spirit. God is present even in your desert times. Fasting seasons are referred to as a desert, draught and a wilderness journey. Even in the desert, God can make a supply for you if you truly seek Him in spirit and in truth. He has provided for the children of Israelites in the wilderness in impossible times. Also, He provided for Hagar and her son Ishmael in the wilderness when they had no water to drink. Elijah was fed by a raven in the wilderness, the Israelites were given manna to eat and water to drink from the rock which is Christ Jesus that followed them all through the way out of the wilderness. Always seek to eat spiritual food when you are fasting. Always have an open heart and spirit so that God will satisfy you in the spirit and you will feel no hunger because spiritual nourishment and refreshment is administered to you by The Spirit of God. There is such a thing as the living water which you need during fasting. When taken, it makes you not to taste again, such is a spiritual water that quenches spiritual hunger and thirst. The scriptures say,

For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal (2 Corinthians 4:16-18).

This passage gives us much insight into what God expects and intends

spiritual fasting to be. Fasting is not to starve the body onto perishing, but to get the inner spiritual man to be renewed day by day. Man is a tripartite being consisting of a spirit, a soul and a body. All of these components must undergo different processes of change to be able to sustain and contain the anointing of God. The spirit must be regenerated, the soul must be recreated and the body must be transformed into a new creation in Christ Jesus. The spirit needs the revelational speaking of God to be sustained; the *Rhema* of God put in the right perspective. While, the soul needs to be renewed by the word of God and the body needs the normal balanced diet to survive and thrive. Many ministers make the grave mistake of neglecting their body and most paid dearly with their lives, God is not interested in starving you to death. The same way He expects you to take care of your spirit and soul by putting them in the right perspective of doctrine and truths, He also expects you to take care of your body by supplying it with the necessary balanced diet that will keep it in shape so He can relate with you effectively. Any sick and bedfast minister of the gospel has some limitations in the body since the body is a vital component of a man as well as the spirit and the soul. It must be given the proper care. A wise man says: *“most people spend their health in search for money, and when they find the money, they spend their money in search for their health.”* What an irony of life! You may not be in a quest searching for money like the others, but I believed the picture is clear to you. We must not let our passion and desire lead us to destruction. In fact, I doubt if you can be relevant if you don't have all the component of a human being (spirit, soul and body) in shape. You cannot be a man with only a spirit or a soul or only a body, they all need each other. In the physical and natural realm, it is our body that do business while our spirit and soul influence it to act aright according to the pattern of God. Nevertheless, you have a spirit man: that is the true identity of who you are. There is another reality of who you are inside of Christ Jesus even before you were born to

earth. That means, there is another 'you' inside of yourself that sees no limitation because that 'you' is in the likeness of God in the spiritual realm. Most times, when God wants to talk to you, He communicates and fellowships with you through the spiritual man or the spirit man. Before we were born, we once existed inside of God, just as the word become flesh that existed in heaven before it manifested on earth as Jesus Christ. We are created after the likeness of Christ Jesus in the spirit as spirit beings, then we materialized into this physical realm as human beings bearing human names. No wonder in the book of revelation, Jesus Christ spoke about giving us a name that no one knows except you and Him alone. The spirit man is encapsulated in the body which is our outer shell, it can always relate with God from this realm. When God wants to speak to us, He always communicates directly into the nature of Himself that lies inside of our inner compartment. That spirit man is referred to as the inner man that must be renewed day by day. The spirit man is also fashioned and born into the corruption of this age, but for it to function in its designed divine manner, it must be renewed and transformed to be like the original one that existed before creation. The spiritual man is eternal because he lives even after the body is gone and decays on earth. Our spiritual man also has the ability to grow and it does that by simply feeding on the living word of God as well as undergoing certain spiritual exercise like praying, fasting and communing with The Holy Spirit. Prayer has the potency of enlarging the spirit man to be able to contain and accommodate the anointing of God released upon him. Jesus Christ is resident inside our spirit after our new birth experience as the Anointed One. God releases His anointing upon the Anointed One that resides within our spirit who administers everything according to His counsel. Jesus Christ, The Anointed One is the base and foundation of the anointing in anyone's life. Since Christ, The Anointed one reside within our spirit, we must do our best not to corrupt our spirit man, keeping it in the

right perspective must be a priority for us. If our spirit man is corrupted, then the anointing that we carry will be corrupted because its base, spirit man is out of spiritual balance. But, if we renew our spirit man and grow in the knowledge of Christ Jesus, then the anointing will be genuine and sharpened. Since the spirit man is the resting place for the anointing, if it is purged and purified, it will contain more of the anointing to function on earth. Whenever we fast, the outer man dies and the inner man which is the spirit man is opened to receive more of God's anointing. The outer man is a shell that covers the inner man of the spirit. For the spirit man to be open, the first layer of the outer man must be taken away by fasting. During fasting, Angels are sent to strengthen our spirit man and give it spiritual nourishment to survive. God also bring us to the well of living water to drink and get more matured spiritually. That is the only reason why many people fast and still get sustained for that long. They spiritually get fed by God for the renewing of their strength.

Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ (1 Corinthians 10:1-4).

The bible says that, Jesus Christ is that Rock they drank from in the wilderness when they thirst. Also, when we fast, we are in a wilderness needing to be fed by Jesus Christ the Rock that sprang out water in the desert for sustenance. Jesus Christ is the living spring source. If we drink from Him, we will receive strength and life. No man partakes of heaven's resources and remains normal, certain changes definitely must happen in him. That is why when you drink of the living water and eat of heavenly bread, your life takes a new shape and pattern in encounter as the anointing is release upon you. The anointing is God dwelling in a man in the likeness

of Jesus Christ The Anointed One. When you encounter Him in the wilderness during the process of fasting, He will cause you to eat of His body and drink of His blood. This will make you take His nature to become like Him on earth, full of power and might.

The Mystery of Communion

When you enter from the wilderness of your thirst and hunger for more of God, taking a tour into the spiritual realm and trekking a path that is less trekked by many to encounter The Living Christ, He takes you through several dealings. Finally, He will permit you in your weariness and anguish of heart and soul to see Him and touch Him; eating of His body and drinking of His blood. He will spiritually nourish your spirit man, making you one with Him in spirit, soul and body.

I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, how can this man give us his flesh to eat? Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live forever (John 6:48-58).

Jesus said, except you eat of my body and drink of my blood you have no part in me. He called Himself the bread of life, this means that, He is The Living Bread or the bread that can bring life. I believe there has not been an earthly bread produced that can give life or bring life to someone that has no life neither is there any water that is living invented that when you drink of it, you will not be able to thirst again. All these are spiritual speaking by God trying to communicate spiritual realities to us in the natural so that we

can come into a covenant with Him both in the spirit and in the natural so that we can have earthly and heavenly relevance. This is cosmic authority and government.

For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul (Leviticus 17:11).

The life of a being is in its blood. It has always been the desire of God to unite Himself with His creation, man and for man to have similar authority and power as He has so that man can become like God. This can only be done if God unites Himself with a man spiritually. Through the covenant of blood, man was able to come into God and God into man to function like God on earth as it is written:

Jesus answered them, is it not written in your law, I said, ye are gods? If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken (John 10:34-35). I have said, ye are gods; and all of you are children of the Most High (Psalms 82:6).

God chose to procreate gods and lords after His kind and kings after His kind. So, we become smaller God, kings and lords under The GOD OF GODS, KING OF KINGS AND THE LORD OF LORD. As it is written, that the life of a being is in its blood, and anyone that drinks of the blood of a being becomes one with that being and naturally take on the life of that being, that is the mystery of communion. We become and partake of this eternal Bread of Life and drink of The Living Blood that has the eternal life of God, so we can share in His glory and suffering.

From the above picture painted from the mystery of the communion, you will see why it is important that both communion and fasting should never be a physical religious exercise, but a high level spiritual activity with the revelation of the purpose and the reason. What shall it profit you if you starve yourself and receive no spiritual nourishment from God? It is

better you feast and rest knowing you did nothing worthy of heavenly reward.

When next you decide to fast, seek to encounter Jesus Christ The Anointed One in the wilderness so that you can fellowship with Him and take upon yourself His nature and likeness. Until you partake of Him in the wilderness and be strengthened by His angels, you will never be able to grow in your spiritual man.

I recall when I began my journey with God, it was not long before I realized the need for me to begin to fast and pray waiting on God on a daily basis. Seriously speaking, if you so desire the anointing and want to walk in uncommon supernatural dimension of the power and authority of God, then you must have a season in your life when you fasted more than you ate and prayed more than you talked –like your life depend wholly on those two parameters. When that is done and the season passes in your life, you will experience a breakthrough from certain resistance that limits people naturally in their quest for the anointing. You must realize that you are not the first to desire the anointing, many have been in your shoes. Some passed through while others failed to pass through because of certain demonic and satanic resistance and influences. For you to breakthrough those tentacles of the devil, you must have a season in your life when you prayed and fasted like your life depends on it. That will clear your path of any satanic resistance and influence for long.

When your desire for more of God and your obedient to His will and commandment increases, then naturally, the anointing begin to flow through you. Demonic resistance are built by demonic princes from the second heavens seeking to hinder and limit your penetrating ability into the heavens as well as your influence on the earth. With much more prayer and fasting, God will release His strength and power upon you to break through the veil and wall that limits you.

When I continued to pray and fast for months seeking the face of God, it was in those season I began to have intense spiritual experiences and prophetic encounters that drew me closer to His presence to see His face and His glory. That glory that covered me left a residue of His anointing upon me to function even when the encounter was over. I still have lots of friends that fasted for years, some are still fasting now seeking God with the whole of their heart. This has kept them in close communion with God, and has sustained the anointing upon their lives.

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord (Corinthians 3:18).

We can never become like what we have not seen. The anointing of The Holy Spirit is revealed in the face of Jesus Christ. When we fast and pray, it should bring us closer to see and encounter Him. When we see Him, the veil in our eyes are taken away so that we can see Him for who He Is in His glory. No man sees Jesus Christ and remains the same. Also, you cannot be anointed without encountering Christ Jesus The Anointed One. It is crystal clear in the scriptures and consistent in the account of God's Generals, and others who have walked with God throughout history that the moment they encountered the person of Jesus Christ, He leaves with them something that change their lives which is the anointing.

We have seen many people that have claimed to have seen Jesus Christ and had nothing to show for it, some of them still even propagate iniquity. I doubt if they saw the same Jesus Christ some of us saw because no man will encounter the one true risen Christ and still remain the same. Christ is a transforming Spirit; He seeks to transform everyone that comes to Him willing to be transformed.

Fasting makes me more conscious of the heavenly realm, and of the love of Christ Jesus towards me. This gives me the strength and comfort to

continue in my quest for more of God in life. Also, because of the love I have towards Him, He releases His anointing upon me to ease my burdens and keeps me going. The anointing makes things easier and opens doors of opportunity.

Fasting separates and consecrates us unto God. Most times, when I am on a fast, I separate myself to God and get my bible, play teaching tapes, read the scriptures and soak in the atmosphere of the anointing that is created. It doesn't take long in such atmosphere before you become infused with the anointing of The Holy Spirit. This opens you to certain spiritual realities. Nobody can remain in the presence of God without being transformed and anointed. As you fast, pray and study in the presence of God, the anointing becomes part of your life and you find yourself naturally walking in it.

I realize that many, if not all men and women of faith that did terrible things on earth never took fasting lightly. They separated days in the week for fasting and praying. Some took the first week of the month indoor just seeking the face of God in fasting and prayer making supplications unto God. Others took first month of the year; others took three months in each year while others fast on a regular basis as a lifestyle. On my own accord, I found fasting regularly more profiting. Nevertheless, people that fast regularly are not all led by God to do that, most people do it as a life style and a way to discipline the flesh and the body to subdue it with its lust. Many people fast to stir up the anointing upon their lives when they have a ministration. It is very good as a regular Sunday pastor to at least fast and wait on God on Saturday to hear what God will have you say to His people on Sunday. You will need fresh revelation, current wisdom and insight from God to deliver to the people. Ministers of nowadays hardly fast, the act of fasting is almost lost with many just depending on only the basic gifting of The Holy Spirit.

If we must genuinely bless our congregation, then we must undertake fasting, studying and praying to wait on God for an encounter that through you, He can encounter His people. I found it common that most of the generals that walked with God on earth followed the pattern of Jesus Christ and the prophets of old. They fasted for long days before venturing into any heavenly mandate or a full time ministry given to them. That act seems to concentrate the anointing and release the response of heaven. Many people embark on long fasting and come back in the power of The Spirit full of grace and glory.

This is true for we saw it even in the life of Jesus Christ who after been baptized by John the Baptist was led to the wilderness to be tested of the devil. He returned full of the anointing of The Spirit and power. Also, we saw how John the Baptist lived an isolated life from among his people and remained in the wilderness seeking God. It was said of him that he remained in the wilderness until the time of his showing forth unto Israel, and he was a shining and a burning light. What a man of the anointing and full of power! No wonder it was spoken of his disciples that they fasted a lot. He trained them in the way of fasting and waiting on God because therein lies the anointing and power.

Even in the Old Testament, we saw how the prophets and our fathers of old undertook fasting. It was never a hard thing for them to do, it was normal because they knew fully well that it produced tangible results. They didn't relent in committing to it when the need arose. Moses was on the mount for 40 days with God without food or water like it was a few hours and never complained of hunger, for The Lord God was his sustainer on the mount top. He returned back not just with the ten commandment from God, but with more anointing and power from God because the presence of God rubbed off on him that was literally visible for all to see. The visible anointing upon him was the glory of God which was never on him when he

left for the mountain top to meet God. As a result of fellowship, fasting and talking with The Living God, he was permitted to share in the glory of God.

Most times, God gives command for the people to be consecrated by fasting and praying before He will come speak to them. Fasting surely has an effect on the spiritual nature of a man in his quest towards God.

And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God (1 kings 19:8).

A similar situation was seen of Elijah the prophet. He was running from Jezebel and the angel of The LORD came to him and gave him food to eat in the wilderness. Truly the angel never cooked in the wilderness, but brought the food from the heavenly realm which is the heavenly bread and meat, and anything that is heavenly has the texture and nature of heaven. As it was recorded that after the meal, Elijah went in the strength of that food for 40 days. Well, that must be supernatural because no natural food is eaten once and gives strength that can sustain for 40 days, only by the anointing can such a thing happen. When a man eats of angels' bread, he is given a place among them to share in their strength and power.

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward hungered (Matthew 4:2-3).

We saw the same in the life of our ultimate model Christ Jesus. After being baptize, He was led to the wilderness to fast and pray for 40 days. In like manner, I have seen people that embarked on a 40 days fasting and another 70 days fasting of which when they returned from it they came back refreshed in power and anointing of The Spirit of God. Of course, such should never be done without a revelation of why it should be done because your heart posture matters a lot to God. The reason should not be the power or the anointing but to encounter and see Christ Jesus The Anointed One

because when you see Him, then the anointing and power will be a by-product of your encounter. When you seek power and the anointing without a genuine love for God with a pure heart, your desperation may lead you to error. By and large, if our fore fathers: prophets, kings, priests, Jesus Christ and His Apostles fasted, then we have no other option than to follow suit.

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 4:16).

Esther became the queen in Shushan after Queen Vashti was deposed as queen by the king. She represented the Jewish people because she was a Jew. One day, a threat befell the Jewish nation in that country that only she could solve. Her uncle, Modeccai who was also her guardian was depressed putting on sack cloths and ashes asking the lord to intervene. He did not know that God has long foreseen this problem and has put a potential deliverer in the palace as the queen. Mordecai spoke to her about her responsibility and what God will have her do for His people. She understood the mystery of fasting and how it brings God into a situation. She declared a 3 days compulsory fasting and prayer even the animals were not excluded. To the human mind, 3 days will not be considered long enough for the situation at hand, but because she got it by revelation, it was. A one day fast in the spirit will do for you what many days of fasting in the flesh cannot do.

Daniel fasted and pray for 21 days but when the angel came to him, he told him that from the very first day he began to pray he was answered by God. With that, we can see that it is not really how many days you fast and pray, but the posture of the heart and the quality of your prayer by the revelation of The Spirit of God.

Finally, the wisdom of God played out for the Jewish people and God

intervened on their behalf and rescued them. The Jewish people became like lords over the kingdom that they were once strangers. I believe it was the anointing and the favour of God that was released upon Esther which caused her to find herself in the palace overnight. Also, their prayer and fasting which influenced the heart of the king to be in their favour.

It is written that, when a man's way pleases The lord, He makes even his enemy to be at peace with him. God loves us all the same, but He honours them that honour Him and favours them that favours Him. The day you choose to honour and favour God even in your fasting, studying and praying, then God will begin to honour and favour you with His anointing to succeed in life.

Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not? And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bride chamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast (Matthew 9:14-15).

Jesus was asked why His disciples don't fast as John's disciples do. Well, it is obvious that John's disciples were fasting to communicate with God as well as draw closer to God, but when Jesus Christ came to the earth He came as God, so they don't have to fast to draw closer to Him, but just to follow Him and hear His teachings as the Apostles did. That is why even John said, Jesus must increase and he must decrease. In that, Jesus Christ came to end the ministry and ministration of John the Baptist. If you were John's disciples before, then your new master must be Christ Jesus at the time He was revealed to all. John's disciples were still fasting religiously because they didn't know that The God they sought is in Jesus and there is no need to fast to talk to Him because He is among them physically. They just have to follow Him and ask anything as He will do it for them. He was The Bride Groom present with them, they had no need to fast as He is with them. But, when He is gone as He is now, they will have to fast to access

Him in the heaven.

Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting (Matthew 17:21).

Jesus told them that their unbelief will be cured if they began to give attendant to fasting and more prayers. It had not been long that He sent them out, two by two and they took authority over demons and the demons obeyed and left then, what went wrong now? Jesus made it clear to them that it is not like they don't have more anointing and needed more by fasting and praying, No! But His comment was to emphasis the use of fasting to eliminate unbelief. It is clear that they had faith, but they needed to be more stable by having a deep conviction in their belief. For them to be stable and function more effectively in the anointing, they needed to fast.

No matter how anointed you are, if you waver in faith in unbelief, you will limit the functioning of the anointing in your life. Be stable and confident in God's anointing on your life believing that it is God's ability to perform supernatural things and to change impossible situations to become possible not by your doing but by God's working with you. Amen.
Shalom!!!

Chapter 4

THE DESIRE TO LOVE GOD AND MAN

God is Love and that nature of love is the greatest dimension of God anyone can ever experience. God is Spirit, God is Light and He is also Love, His love is unconditional. In that, while we were yet sinners, He still sent His only begotten Son to come die for our sins. God is Love, but He also want to be loved by man. Sometimes, when I look at God I see this emotional personality wanting to be loved by His creation and be given a place in their hearts. The fellowship between God and Adam in the Garden of Eden depicted this love immensely.

The bible said that God came every evening to fellowship with Adam like a man seeking companionship. Surely, the fellowshiping of God with Adam had more merit to Adam than God. Nevertheless, God derived pleasure in coming to fellowship with man and to find companionship in Adam. God fellowshiping with Adam revealed His love towards mankind and even when Adam sinned, He still came to fellowship with him. Despite finding him in the pool of his sin, He sought out a way to get man out of his decaying state. In love for man, He covered their nakedness and drove them away from the garden as He devised a better way to still fellowship and commune with him.

Jesus Christ the only Son of God had to become flesh and dwell with man, so that man can become one with God again. Jesus Christ reconnects us to God and restores to us what was lost at Eden. He will do more for those who love Him in spirit and in truth. When a man is in love, he shares almost all he has with his lover even without knowing, this is also applicable to God. He desires us to reciprocate His love towards us with a willing heart.

The glory and anointing of God can easily be transferred and rubbed upon an individual that has a genuine love for God. A heart in desperate need to be in love with the divine and to be united with Him will experience unlimited access into the inner character of the lord.

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself (Matthew 22:37-39).

Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations (Deuteronomy 7:9).

When you have access into the heart of God, you have access to all. It is impossible for a man that have access into the very heart of God not to be anointed and experience the love of God. Every intention of God resides in His heart and He has given us access by love to come into His heart like David His beloved (a man called after His heart).

You cannot encounter the love of Christ and resist it because His love tightly embraces us. The moment you find your way into the heart of God, that unending anointing begins to rub on you and His love begins to gladden your heart. God so desires us to love Him with the whole of our heart that is why He made it the most important commandment of all that, we should love Him with the whole of our heart, mind, soul and body. God wants to unite us together with Himself that is why He detests people that unite themselves to idols or those that have an idol in their heart as a god.

We must make God our uttermost priority in life, and strive to please Him and be united with Him in love. The bond of love cannot be broken if both parties keep to the covenant of love. You must set God as your only pursuit in life and desire to know Him and experience His love. Everything you have ever desired is found in Him and will continue to remain in Him

until the day you find your way into His heart. The anointing of God will never be an issue to a man that loves God because the one that is The Anointed is always with him on daily basis. He will have no need to ask, it will become his by default. It is the same with when you love someone and he/she loves you also, you both have become a single entity sharing everything in common.

We have more to gain from a covenant relationship of love with God, just take your eyes away from the burden of commitment and that which you have to put up as an effort. This is because what you stand to gain can't be compare with your little input. In a relationship between a stronger and a weaker person, the weaker person always stands in the position of gain and the stronger gain nothing or less. This is similar with our relationship with God, we are the weaker vessels in need of a great help from God. It becomes a great advantage if God sees it fit to become a covenant friend with us sharing in our weakness and short comings.

In a covenant relationship of love with God, our weaknesses are exchanged for the strength of God in love, grace and glory. If the covenant is maintained for a while, the anointing which is the deposit of the presence and glory of God begins to naturally function in our lives. The love of God is key to lasting manifestation in God. People that love God always live long and last in the things of God because their pursuit is not for the fame, gifts and even the anointing itself, but just to please God. It is impossible to please God and never be honoured with the anointing, gifts and with an unending potentials from Him. When you prepare a place for God within you, He comes with His values, nature, gifting, grace and unction that will make you heavily anointed.

God is a jealous God, His love for us made Him to caution us about serving idols. He cannot share our heart with an idol which is why when people serve idols especially them that walked with Him before, God

cannot help but to discipline them, so that they can realize their mistakes and return back to Him. In His love, He welcomes them back. God is Holy and He cannot behold iniquity and idolatry that is why He will forever punish such. His eyes will always judge it when He sees it, but when He sees love He always embrace it and shower His abundant grace upon such a lover. The danger of idolatry is that it steals away the love of God in your heart and replaces it with the love of an idol that has no life of its own. An idol is a worthless doctrine; it has no power of its own to do good or evil. The only power it has; is the power you ascribe to it.

If you truly want to get and sustain the anointing, then your passion and love for God must be unquenchable by nothing visible or invisible. I remember how many times I will just lie down waiting on God to just shower His love upon my heart, soul and spirit to overflow. In my hunger, longing and desperation for the love of God, I look like a fool, but within my spirit, I know that I was not a fool at all. The love of God come sometimes like a liquid honey being poured upon me and it overflows to my heart giving me peace and satisfaction. Sometimes, I will wait and nothing will happen, that does not mean that He loves me any less. 'The waiting' is also part of the price I have to pay for the love of God and in receiving the anointing.

You should always do your part in waiting for His love to be released upon you. Let it be that you separated yourself and waited for the love of God and God did not reveal Himself to you than He come to encounter you and find out that you are not available. In the pathway to the anointing, your availability to God matters so much as He comes to encounter you in seasons unannounced, you have to be available and accessible.

For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister (Hebrew 6:10).

You must be resilient enough not to give up easily as many a times your effort will look as though it yielded no tangible result. I urge you to still continue because when God seems not reachable, He may be closer to us than we can ever imagine.

I remember a lady came to me one day and said that she is so frustrated about all this pursuit of God and just want to quit. She felt that God don't love her again because she can't feel the love of God like before when she got born again initially. Well, it is not about feeling, God is not wicked as to forget your effort and labour of love towards Him and to others. God hides Himself a lot of times, so that we can find Him and derive pleasure and delight in that we found in Him. I realized that when you hide candy from a child and say to him, "go find it if you can," he will go in search of the candy, and if he succeeds in finding it, he will be very happy and glad of his achievement. Nonetheless he may get frustrated if he can't find it too. That is why I don't really blame people that think that God is far from them and have neglected them, but they must realize that what they are thinking is just but a feeling which is not true about God's love toward them. The love of God is not expressed in the feelings of the flesh as experienced in times of intense persecution and pain, instead, it is shown in His grace released upon us to endure till the end. When you claim to love God, you must realize that true love is tried and tested in hard times and during seasons of severe pain.

The feeling that people do have of being neglected and not loved by God is a false deception from the pit of hell. The devil is trying to make believers discredit God and profess that God is not faithful in keeping to His word. That deception has made a lot of people quit in their quest for the anointing of God. It will be foolish of you to think that because if God can still love you when you were a sinner, how will He not love you now that you are born again and doing your best to please Him.

Changes in spiritual seasons contribute a lot to the feeling of frustration

and neglect towards God by His people. God is a being of movement, but His nature does not change and can never change. Surely, the season and timing that govern our sphere of influence gets to change on consistent basis, so does His demand upon us change. With the increase in the demand of God upon your life, you are expected to meet up with the demand of God and most times, we find ourselves falling short. This is simply because it is a new season and what you are used to has changed. You need to learn anew and be schooled again for the new season.

When you fail to meet up with the demands of God for you in the new season, God naturally becomes invisible to you. Not because He don't exist in the new realm that you are promoted to, but because you have not come to master the *modus operandi* that govern the new realm and its operation. In those times of confusion, try to reposition yourself and gain alignment with God's spirit, so that you can perceive Him even as He speaks and relates with you.

Our positioning is very important for encounters and visitations because our visitations and encounters depend upon geographical positioning in the spirit. We saw God give specific locations to the prophets of old when He wanted to meet with them. It may be on a mountain top, but there are lots of mountains. He can say Mount Sinai today and tomorrow Mount Horeb another time Mount Carmel. God gives specific instructions to the Apostles on what to do, as to tarry in the upper room to be baptized with the Holy Spirit on the day of the feast of Pentecost.

Most people never realize that God will only release His resources and permit His visitation in a place where He has chosen and appointed. We saw what happened in Egypt when the children of Israelite dwelt in Goshen. Although Goshen was part of the land of the Egyptians, but it had a different atmosphere and geographical governing factor that permitted them to prosper even in the land. If God says you must be in a specific state

at a time, don't argue with Him since He is ubiquitous and omnipresence. You cannot refuse to move and expect to be blessed. Just obey Him and move as He told you to because your blessing may only find fulfilment in the land that look like your land of slavery. Joseph was never a prime minister in his land, but as he was sold out into slavery by his very own that his destiny began to unfold. You will never become what God called you to be until you come to the location He wants you to be because there He commands the blessing for you.

I personally have received several instructions from God to go pray in specific locations in state and places I have never been to before. He asked me to go fellowship and worship with a people or a church I have never visited before. I can attest to the fact that until I obeyed did I receive a fresh release from heaven. People get frustrated when they take themselves to places that God has not approved of them to be. If you are not in the place that God sent you to function, then the heaven over you will be locked. God is never wicked not to reward your labour of love as He is more committed in keeping His covenant than you are willing to obey.

It is not that easy to miss the will of God as many people supposed it to be. It is not that easy because even if you lose alignment with God, you can come back into alignment. In fact, when you miss God, He is so desirous to have you come back like the prodigal son who took a tour away from home for a foolish vacation and realized that his father meant well for him. With much cry and a repented heart, he came back and was forgiven of his foolishness and even allowed access to love and abundance again.

God wants us to remain in His will, and continue to receive His love and anointing daily. Like Abraham, when God told him to leave his father's house alone, he took his cousin Lot with him. God never spoke to him about his assignment until when an issue came up between him and his cousin Lot and Lot had to leave him alone. When he became alone as God will want

him to be, He returned back to talk to him about His assignment of making him a great nation and father of nations.

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. (1 Corinthians 2:9-11)

I always ask myself, what are the things that eyes have not seen and ears have not yet heard? That is not for everyone and anyone to comprehend, there are lots of things in the mysteries of God that are personal to God and if you are one among those who have God inside of them, you are privileged to be among them that are worthy of secret mysteries kept in ages past. You cannot love truly and not sacrifice, but you can sacrifice and not truly love genuinely.

God loves us, and the extent to which He is willing to sacrifice for our sake is not captured within doctrine, as He gave His only Son to make more sons. A lot of what God will give to us are still a mystery to mortals, even the celestial eyes are yet to conceive it. Nevertheless, The Spirit of God is the revealer of all mysteries and secrets. It is also the same Spirit that we received as The Holy Spirit that dwells in our spirit. If we can commune with Him to a greater extent, He will reveal a facet of mysteries to us since He searches even into the deep things of God. We relate with God individually and what He reveals to one as a benefactor of His love toward Him might be different from what He will reveal to another. One thing for sure is that, all His promises are good and worthy of note.

If God is willing to sacrifice His Son for His love for mankind, then He will give us His anointing even more, if we love Him with the whole of our heart. In your pursuit and adventure into the very heart of God, always sustains the zeal and passion to please Him. Always show Him much love

knowing fully well that you cannot be anywhere outside of His love for mankind. Separate yourself from everything He detests and love to follow after Holy living and righteousness, this will also attract the anointing of God upon your life to function.

There has never been a limit put upon a man that strives to please God and to become a man after God's heart through striving to become a man that can relate with God from His heart and do His biddings. The anointing of God will not just be your portion, but the glory of God will become your dwelling place and the covering of protection around you. We saw how David walked with God from a lad to a king over Israel. He conquered his enemies by the anointing of God upon his life and the covering of the glory of God gave him unprecedented wisdom and prophetic unction to excel as a warrior and a king. The secret of David lied in his genuine love for God and his willingness to do that which God commands. David was not a perfect man, he had some flaws, but you cannot deny the fact that he loved God with the whole of his heart. He made God his sun and shield and he chose to be a gatekeeper for God, watching over the gates of Israel, until he was found faithful and given the right of becoming a ruler and a leader of the children of God.

I urge you to have a genuine love for God in your heart, no matter the flaws and weakness that tries to weigh you down. Let it be that your love for God is the foundation and the base of your pursuit for the anointing. God love us all, but surely He honours them that honour Him, and anoints them that He can trust with His resources on earth to function. Your love for God will always bring the anointing of The Spirit of God upon you and you will begin to function in the grace and gifting of The LORD in due time. I pray that as you strive to love The LORD, He will grant unto you access into His mysteries, truth and realities that will cause His anointing to manifest in your life. Amen. Shalom!!!

Chapter 5

THE DESIRE TO WALK IN THE SPIRIT

Walking in the Spirit is not as complicated as many think it is. It should be the hallmark of every believer that truly love God and desire to function effectively in the anointing. Many people are anointed, but still walk in the flesh as a result of that, they don't please God with the anointing but please their ego and soulish desires.

Until a believer begins to walk in the spirit, he cannot please God. This is because the flesh profits nothing in its expressions. Also, it ends up hurting the individual and the people around him/her. God is Spirit, and them that must worship and please Him must do that in spirit and in truth. You cannot relate with God in the flesh, it will have no profit for you. It is a pity how many believers drift away from the spirit into the flesh without even realizing it until they are doomed that they begin to recall and at this time, much harm has already been done.

Walking in the spirit entails, ceasing to operate in the flesh and turning yourself to heaven to be able to hear and do only that which heaven intends to do. It is a conscious submission of your spirit, soul and body to the leadership of The Spirit of God to take the lead as you follow behind Him knowing fully well that you will crash-land if you are given full control of your life.

Man was never designed by God to lead himself, it was God's perfect design that man be led, instructed and guided at all times by The Holy Spirit of Truth. The spirit realm is like a wilderness that anyone that is not conversant with it must be guided aright. The best of us that is anointed still need to be led by The Holy Spirit. In fact, the more you grow in God the

more leading you will need from God.

The Holy Spirit is our tour guide assigned by God to lead us through the rudiment of the processes. The Holy Spirit has existed even before you were born and He will still remain The Spirit of Truth. He is part of the Godhead, fully involved in the creation of all things heavenly and earthly. If there is a great need to be led into the realm of the spirit, then it has to be by The Holy Spirit because we all are like strangers and pilgrims upon the earth. We lack the knowledge of the protocols that govern putting all of creation in its place.

Whenever we engage the realm of the spirit, we must be aware of the rules of engagement as well as the modus operandi that govern that realm of operation. All the laws and protocols of operation in the spirit realm is embedded in The Holy Spirit of Truth. He has never been a stranger to the realm of the spirit, but we are! So we must have to submit to Him to lead us through the path of life and the journey to destiny.

The spiritual realm controls the physical realm, as the princes rule and influence things from the spirit realm. We also as true sons and princes of The Lord must engage the spirit realm so that we can take authority over it to influence the government and the rulership of the physical realm. If we fail in taking charge of the spirit realm, then the princes of darkness will rule the spirit realm and also influence the government of the physical realm to cause more evil on earth by propagating darkness.

There are three heavens, but the second heaven is the one we should be well guided on. The second heaven has its own way of doing things of which we are ignorant of and we fully need the guidance of The Holy Spirit. The second heaven is not a fair realm because it is a realm full of spirits of different capacity that contend with each other seeking dominion and rulership. Both angels and demons are found in this realm, the cohorts of darkness and the celestial beings of light also dwell and function in that

realm.

Anyone that engages the spirit realm without The Holy Spirit is a *spiritualist*, and he is prone to deception and attack from demonic forces that dwell there. If you must do business in the second heaven, let it be with the guidance of The Holy Spirit. You must also do your best to maintain a pure heart toward God and a genuine love for light because the celestial being of light will only favour them that are of the light which is Christ Jesus.

Anytime you operate in the spirit, someone gets blessed, but anytime you operate and function in the flesh you tend to hurt someone. People that are led by The Spirit of God walk in the spirit and they always bless people that are around them while people that are not led by The Spirit of God always hurt people around them.

I realized that most people that cause problem in churches and ministries are mostly people that refuse to submit themselves to the leading of The Holy Spirit in character, act and function in making decisions. They end up speaking words that don't minister life to another but death. They may not be fully aware that they are walking in the flesh, but as surely as they are not being led by The Spirit of God, then they must be led by another spirit, demonic spirits. Demons seek people they can influence to work in the flesh for them and produce fruits of the flesh which hurts others.

I have been in ministries where when people decide to walk in the flesh, they contaminate the atmosphere and permit demonic forces to operate. Many people don't know that walking in the flesh give satanic powers more potency and ability to influence both their lives and that of others around them.

For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would (Galatians 5:17).

The scripture says, the flesh and spirit are in contention with each other, this sounds like World War to me. This contention has no end as long as man is on the earth, but we determine the being that rules over us. This is why The Spirit of God releases the grace of God so that even if you cannot win the warfare, you will not allow the flesh win either. So, you can mortify the flesh by taming or subduing it and making sure that it never leads you into sin. The grace of God is always there for you to say “NO” to its manifestation.

When you walk in the spirit, you submit yourself to God via The Holy Spirit to be led aright. He gives you the right words to speak that brings comfort and He gives you the anointing to bless others. One of the people that were led by The Spirit of God in an amazing way are the prophets. God gave them instructions that will make an ordinary believer withdraw, but they obeyed. Through their obedience, God brought deliverance to their nation. Example of such prophets are: Isaiah, Daniel, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and so many others.

And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me (Ezekiel 2:2).

The prophet said, The Spirit of God entered him and set him on his feet from then he was taken by The Spirit to different places and locations where he was shown things that were long gone. He had lots of prophetic experiences by just being led by The Spirit. When you submit yourself to be led by The Spirit, spiritual and prophetic encounters will be normal to you.

Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, this is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts (Zachariah 4:6).

Your power can do little and your might can do little if not submitted to The Spirit. Samson thought it was just by power and might, well, he learnt a

grave lesson. He was a great judge over God's people, but died like an ordinary man. We must realize that for us to end well in the journey with God, it is not just for us to be anointed, surely the anointing of God does a lot, but we must walk in the spirit daily as it is very vital for our own safe keeping.

When a man submits himself to The Holy Spirit, his anointing is increased and his gifting are sharpened to function maximally. A man that submits to The Spirit will attain to his greatest potentials in God as time goes on, while a man that operates in the flesh will only utilize very little of the potentials God has in store for him/her. A man that walks in the flesh is limited in the anointing, but a man that is walking in the spirit: submitting to The Spirit of God has no limitation in his manifestation of the anointing.

Walking in the spirit is having your mind set on the things of the spirit and the word of God, while walking in the flesh is having your mind set on the things of the flesh and its lust. We all have unending potentials in God: gifts, talents and callings in God. It can only take The Spirit of God to cause them to fully manifest in our lives. We must submit ourselves to The Spirit of God so that what He has for us can be released upon us.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come (John 16:13).

Jesus said, when the spirit comes, He will guide us into all truth, and take what belongs to Him and give it to us. I do wonder, what will be the fate of a man that is not submitted to The Spirit of Truth? This is because it is impossible to receive from a spirit that is not part of you and does not dwell in you. You must acknowledge the need for The Holy Spirit baptism in your life if you must truly receive anything from Christ Jesus in this our age. We all must realize how important it is for us to come under the rulership and

leadership of The Spirit of Truth for only He can take us home to Christ Jesus and lead us through the path of life.

For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light (Psalms 36:9).

The life that resides in God can be accessible by The Spirit of Truth who reside in us. If we give Him the permission to take the lead, He will take us to places we never even imagined before. There are new paradigms and planes that we cannot attain outside The Holy Spirit. He is the custodian of the mysteries of God and every mystery that we decipher take us to new planes in God.

There is never a neutral ground as many people are led to believe. They believe that they can live upon the earth without being controlled by either the spirit or the flesh (Satan). There is no neutral ground because man was never created to be lord over himself. He must belong to a kingdom that has a king and must be influenced by either the divine or the demonic. If you are not serving God, then you are unconsciously serving the devil.

The devil has successfully succeeded in deceiving many people to become his partner in darkness because immediately you leave light you enter darkness by default. Also, the day you make a decision to leave darkness to light, that very day, you will become a new creation into a new kingdom. The challenge here will be making sure you make the right decision before it is too late and you find yourself in hell.

Many people who know the truth, but refuse to follow it usually plan to repent later in life, but never foresee death. Some are so unfortunate to die before they make up their minds to repent. A wise man once said, "Don't live a wrong life today, hoping to live a good life tomorrow, for tomorrow may come and find you dead already."

To fully understand where people stand, we will consider three set of people: the natural man, the carnal man and the spiritual man.

The Natural Man

The natural man does not understand the things of the spirit because they are spiritually discerned. He does not have a heart that can perceive God because he is not yet born again. The natural man is a man that is still under the law of sin and death. He is still under the bondage of corruption in which Adam subjected all of mankind into in the Garden of Eden, but Christ Jesus came and liberated us from that bondage of corruption by faith in His name. The natural man is not filled with The Holy Spirit, so he cannot be led by the spirit, but by the flesh. He can be possessed by devil and can be heavily demonized. He is referred to as an unbeliever in Christ Jesus. Also, he produces the fruit of the flesh as stated in Galatians 5:19- 21 because he is influenced by his flesh.

What a natural man need is the salvation of his soul by first repenting of his sins and becoming born again into the kingdom of God. This can be done by accepting Jesus Christ as his Lord and personal Saviour, believing in the death, burial and resurrection of Christ Jesus; and in the ability of the blood of Christ to wash away his sins and making him a new creature in Christ Jesus. With the heart, a man believes and with the mouth, he confesses that he is made righteous. If a natural man refuses to get born again, then when he dies, he will surely go to hell because only Jesus Christ is The Way, Truth and The Life.

The Carnal Man

The carnal man is born again, but does not follow the things of the spirit. He is led by his flesh and its lust. He does not take seriously the things of the spirit. He cherishes his flesh so much that he exalts it above God. He has been deceived by the devil into believing a lie and a false doctrine that does not glorify and exalt Jesus Christ, but glory in himself. He is demonized and influenced by demons, but not possessed by demons. The demons just

influence him in his soul and flesh to do their biddings and to keep sinning. He cannot be possessed because when a man become born again, believing in Christ Jesus, Jesus comes and sits upon his spirit so that even when he backslides, Christ is still seated in his heart. Christ Jesus still hopes that the carnal man will return in repentance. A carnal man is referred to as a backslider. A carnal man produces so much of the fruit of the flesh as stated in Galatians 5:19-21.

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envying, murders, drunkenness, revelling, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God (Galatians 5:19-21).

He receives The Spirit, but chooses to still function in the flesh. If by any means he dies, he will surely go to hell for crucifying Christ Jesus the second time. What he needs to do is repent of his sins and ask God for forgiveness. Then, reaffirm his salvation by repeating the salvation prayer of the sinners, this will be a re-dedication of his life to Christ again. He will have to ask for the leadership of The Holy Spirit by giving Him legal rights to influence and lead him aright.

The spiritual Man

This last category is the standard of a man fit and righteous before God. He is the one that is born again, filled with The Holy Spirit and led by The Spirit of God, following after the things of The Spirit and expressing the fruit of The Spirit as stated in Galatians 5:22-23. He is a true son of God that is trusted with the resources of heaven.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law (Galatians 5:19-21).

Nevertheless, a carnal man can become a spiritual man when he repents and re-dedicates his life back to Christ Jesus again. The natural man can become a spiritual man by becoming born again. The spiritual man can also become a carnal man if he backslides into sin and gives heed to the deception of the flesh and its lust.

The natural man and the carnal man cannot understand the things of the spirit because they are spiritually discerned. Only the spiritual man can be able to perceive it because he is aligned with God and having the current revealed position of God for the moment.

Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?
(Galatians 3:3)

As I have noted earlier, an individual can begin in the spirit as a spiritual man, but end up in the flesh as a carnal man by simply yielding to the deception of the devil and his lies. The devil is able to influence him to walk in the flesh and in its lust. This is common among believers and spiritual men, all of a sudden they begin to give heed to seductive doctrines and teachings of forbidden knowledge that corrupt the soul and pollute the mind.

They can also become carnal by believing the angel of darkness that disguises and masquerades as an angel of light teaching deception and releasing demonic impartations upon people that cause them to drift away from the truth. They begin to have evil spiritual encounters and have profane manifestations, all these lead people to carnality. Nevertheless, Romans 8:1 -2 gave us a relief that anyone who has fallen into such state can repent by denouncing their former ways in darkness and come back to the fold of light. It takes so much humility for a carnal man to repent of his sins and submit to The Spirit again. This is because most carnal believers are very proud, arrogant and hardly accept corrections or rebuke, even if it

is from God. It takes The Spirit and the mercy of God to convince them again into repenting and coming back to faith in Christ anew. Whenever you discover that you have a mentor that is carnal, it is now upon you to pray for him that God's mercy sees him through. This is not time to rebuke him, but if he is your age mate then you can rebuke him; talking to him in love. But if that fails because it can fail, you must just have to pray for the mercy of God and the light of Christ to illuminate him again. We see from the scriptures that Paul rebuked Peter and Jesus Christ also rebuked Peter.

You have to be careful not to follow after the errors of your mentor, but pray earnestly for them that God changes their hearts and call them back to alignment before it leads to their destruction. As it is written, there is a way that seems right to a man, but that way leads to destruction. We must pray that they don't get destroyed, but restored.

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:1-2).

When they get to repent as Roman 8 says, there is now therefore no condemnation for them because they are not under sin and death, but the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus. We all must work circumspectly to redeem the time because the days are evil. We must be careful as we fight with evil men and the cohorts of darkness lest evil finds a way into our heart. As we deal with evil people on daily basis, evil may not find its way into our heart, but we are prone to carnality as spiritual men and women. One of the greatest challenge of a spiritual man is carnality, but he can choose to be in the spirit at all time. It is not impossible because Jesus and His apostles did it.

The essence of The Holy Spirit is also to help us through our infirmity and overcoming the challenges that seek to weigh us down in the flesh. We

can resist even unto the shedding of our blood for the sake of Christ Jesus. It is not by power or by might, but by The Spirit of the living God at work inside of us. If we can always submit ourselves to Him, then we will be able to win against the flesh.

If walking in the spirit is having our mind set on the things of the spirit, and walking in the flesh is having our mind set on the flesh, then it is a matter of choice. There is no sin acted upon that did not originate from the mind. What will it be like if we can control our mind, what to think on and how to think of it? so that the devil can't rule our mind into sin and death. This is not just about getting more of the anointing, but preserving the anointing and not getting it corrupted over time.

I believe that if we make the decision to submit our minds, emotions, intellect and will to The Spirit of God, then He will help us manage it better. Seriously speaking, no one can resist sin and evil by his own power it takes a divine enablement for that to be done. So, I urge you to submit the whole of yourself: spirit, soul and body daily to The Holy Spirit of truth and let Him lead you through life. He can do more for you than you can do for yourself.

Amen.

Shalom!!!

Chapter 6

THE DESIRE TO FUNCTION AND EXPRESS THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Every plant has a seed it emanates from, and most plants have the unique fruit that emanate from their seeds. Also, the fruit contains the seed which will produce the fruit; in that manner, their succession is sustained. Every plant of the same species produces seed of the same kind, as well as fruits of the same kind; a mango seed will never produce an orange fruit and vice versa.

We also in like manner must realize that we are a product and a result of a seed that was planted on earth a long time ago. Life on earth began from the Garden of Eden by God Himself. God planted the seed of Adam after His own image and likeness and from that seed came the whole of mankind. The Word of God, Jesus Christ was also a seed that came upon the earth, died and resurrected producing fruits and seeds of His own kind.

As seeds from the ultimate SEED, we must bear similar fruit as He bore, if we are truly from Him. In John 15:1 -27, Christ urged us to bear fruits else we stand the chance of being cut off from Him as our source. It is natural for a seed from the same species to bear similar fruit by default. Also, we are supposed to bear the same fruit as Christ since we all are seeds after the order of His SEED.

Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them (Matthew 7:16-20).

Christ Jesus made this statement knowing fully well that it is impossible for any tree to bear fruits not similar to its kind. We are sons of God and God is Spirit, and He relates and functions with us from the spirit realm dimension, and through His Holy Spirit of promise. The Spirit of Truth in similar manner has fruits that is similar to that of The Father in heaven which was revealed to us through Christ Jesus the SEED.

If we have become one with Christ Jesus as Christ is one with God, then we are to bear the same fruit of The Spirit since we are created after His likeness and image. The fruit of The Spirit is given unto us to bear by The Spirit of God as a revelation of the nature and character of God. The anointing upon the life of an individual must produce certain fruits of The Spirit if he really received the anointing from The Holy Spirit.

Many people are anointed by God, but they lack the fruit of The Spirit in their lives while others refuse to give The Holy Spirit the expression to produce His fruit in their lives. The Holy Spirit always seeks expression from us to release His fruit as a blessing to mankind. Fruits are for nourishment and consumption, so also the fruit of The Spirit nourishes the spirit of the person who comes in contact with Him. When you bear a wrong fruit, people that come close to you discover a bitter and sour fruit that cannot make their spirit glad.

It seems normal for people to believe that the fruit of The Spirit should be automatic in their lives, No! We must give The Holy Spirit full expression for Him to bear fruit in our lives. Even Jesus Christ had to choose to show love, kindness, patience, peace etc. You must also choose to express the fruit of The Spirit towards others because those fruits lie within you as The Holy Spirit dwells in you.

The anointing of The Holy Spirit increases more as you function in the fruit of The Spirit. The Holy Spirit releases His fruit in time past and caused several revivals like the revival of faith where the people had so much faith

and believed in God so much for mighty manifestations of great signs and wonder and they got it. Also, when God released the gift of hope, people hoped for a better life than their present situation and saw a great change in their circumstances. Also, during the release of love, we saw the revival of love sweep over the globe and people expressed more love. When you love, you practically release the anointing that heals people's hearts.

For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting (Galatians 6:8).

When it comes to expressing the fruit of The Spirit, it depends solemnly upon the ground which the seed is sown. In the natural realm, the quality of fruit you will yield is highly depended upon the land that you sow in as well as its fertility. When you sow in a fertile land or soil, you will reap a good fruit in harvest, but when you sow in a bad soil, there is a great tendency that the seed will even die. This is similar in the spiritual realm.

There are two kind of soil:

- The spirit
- The flesh

When one sows into the spirit, he will produce fruits that lead to life while the flesh will produce fruits that lead to death. There has been a battle of influence between the spirit and the flesh. They are both in contention with each other as the spirit seeks expression so also does the flesh desire to be expressed. The one to decide who wins is the man and whichever he yields to, he will produce its fruit.

It is possible for one to bear good fruit for a season and become corrupted and begin to bear another fruit after the order of the flesh in another season because it is possible to become carnal overtime if one is not careful. In the former chapter, we saw the three different types of man: A

natural man, a carnal man and a spiritual man and each has its distinct characteristics.

A natural man cannot produce the fruit of The Spirit because he is not yet born again. He is not spiritual because it takes The Holy Spirit to make a man spiritual. The natural man is led by his flesh as such, he produces the fruit of the flesh.

While the carnal man is one that is considered a backslider because he has drifted away from the truth of The Spirit and given heed to an anti-Christ doctrine. Since he is now governed by the flesh, he will produce fruits after the flesh. He may appear anointed, functioning in some gifts, but if the fruit is of the flesh, he is a carnal man. A carnal man cannot produce the fruit of The Spirit even if he tries he will be frustrated. This is because spiritual fruits are only produced when the spirit is the leader.

The spiritual man is the one who is led by the spirit. He is influenced by The Holy Spirit and produces the fruit of The Spirit which edifies others and brings healing to their spirit. It is worthy of note to be careful as a spiritual man lest you fall into carnality by the deception of the devil over time.

And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall (2 peter 1:5-10).

Peter, the Apostle gave a profound analysis of how we are supposed to progress unto perfection, by adding one fruit upon the other. Many people wonder how they can function and express all the fruits of The Spirit, although one cannot begin to function in all the fruits at once, but one must consciously observe to improve in the functioning in the fruit that are

currently at work in their life. A lot of people have expressed few of the fruits but are lagging behind in others, which makes them guilty of the others not expressed.

I have seen many believers anointed of God with anger, lust issues, etc and the same people will be expressing some of the fruits of The Spirit like: kindness and patience, but since they sustain some of the fruit of the flesh, they become guilty of the others. When the person that is patient and kind is seen by another person expressing his weaknesses of the flesh, he will be seen as a carnal man although he possesses some of the fruits of The Spirit.

We must be careful as spiritual men with our weaknesses in the flesh. We must always submit our weaknesses and confess them to God asking Him to help us in the sincerity of our hearts. We are all humans with infirmities in our flesh that seek to express themselves as fruit of the flesh. We must learn to control and rule our weaknesses and infirmities before they rule and destroy us.

Peter gave us the perfect way to improve on the fruits of The Spirit in our lives. Since we have The Seed and The Spirit that bear the fruit within us, it is possible for us to bear all the fruits of The Spirit if we can only keep improving. He described it as adding one upon the other continually. So we can add patience to our goodness and faith to the patience and goodness. Then, we can add love to the goodness, patience, and faith. Then, we can add hope to the goodness, patience, love and faith. It might take time or even years but it is still worth it. Just make sure you keep adding up until all the fruits are at work in your life.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law (Galatians 5:19-21).

These are the fruits of The Spirit as shown in the above scripture, but the

greatest of all is love and against such, there is no law. All the fruits of The Spirit is summed up in love, a love for God and a love for your fellow man.

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these (Mark 12:30-31).

A man that walks and functions in the fruit of The Spirit is not bound to the law. Since all the fruits are summed up in love, therefore, if you love, none of the laws of God will be broken by you. The fruit of The Spirit stands above the law because love is the fulfilment of the law.

The law was given in order to make them able to function in the fruit of The Spirit. But, how can one function and produce the fruit of a spirit that does not dwell within them? God had to send The Holy Spirit to dwell within us, to teach us how to obey and produce the fruit of The Spirit of Christ.

When you function in the fruit of The Spirit, your anointing is fuelled up the more. Love, as the ultimate of the fruit is very paramount and pivotal to function effectively in the anointing. Jesus Christ does nothing outside of love. We must have a genuine love for others and a desire to see them know God the more. We must avoid any nature and element of the flesh for the flesh is an enemy of the anointing.

When God anoints a man and he continues to function in the flesh, it will not take too long before God will reduce the man's influence on men and the government of the world so that he does not corrupt others in his lust. We must have a holy anger towards the works of the flesh and avoid being trapped by the devil into yielding to it. Anytime you find yourself walking in the flesh, repent quickly and turn to God for guidance.

When you have an infirmity in you that you bind and cast out through

prayer and fasting and it refuses to leave you, then know that it is the flesh, and the flesh cannot be cast out by prayers. The flesh can be tamed by the law of The Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. Paul said, he has a thorn on his flesh and the more he cried to God, the more God said that, His grace is sufficient for him. Your flesh cannot kill you and drive you to sin, except you permit it.

It is possible for you to struggle with the lust of the flesh and still not permit it to lead you to sin, it is purely the grace of God helping you to subdue the flesh. Just like when your body say go and fornicate, you should tell your legs that, “today you are moving nowhere.” You know fully well that your body and your flesh that is lusting cannot go to commit sin without your legs aiding it in motion. You must also learn how to say “NO” to your ungodly wants and desires as well as how to run and flee from sin.

If you are struggling with smoking and drinking of alcohol as well as dealing with drugs, all you need to do is abstain from it and also learn to say “NO” to your desire and lust for them. It might seem hard initially, but after sometime, you will rule over your lust and tamed it. No one is born a drunkard or a smoker, there is always a beginning and there is also an end to any addiction, but the end is determined by you. Addictions are built over time so also is breaking away from the addiction, abstinence requires time. You can start from today if you begin to say “No” to your desire to sin. The more you say “No” to sin, the more you are saying “Yes” to God's grace through obedience.

As long as you don't breed tobacco as a farmer or have a brewery company in your house, then you can choose to remain at home locking yourself in and refusing to go out to drink or smoke. In fact, even if you breed tobacco and have a brewery company and you are determined to stop hurting yourself by sinning, then you can destroy the tobacco farm and close down the brewery company. There is No price too high to pay for your life and health, except you just don't know yet how valuable your life is.

The flesh can be tamed and is possible to rule over it and its lust, because the grace of God is sufficient for us. The day you decide to resist the devil, the grace of God will do to you more than you can ever imagine.

It is written. For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world (Titus 2:11-12).

The same grace of God that came to you to save you from sin is still available to help you overcome sin and temptation. Every time you resist the devil, you are strengthened the more to obey God. We must begin to learn how to say “No” through sheer will, especially when it involves a decision from our flesh. A lot of people can't even say “No” to a wrong idea even if it will cause them much pain later.

Whenever your flesh tries to control you into sinning, always try to object at least by consciously saying “NO” to yourself. You may not be strong at first, but as you continue to say “NO” to your flesh you are automatically saying “YES” to The Spirit of God to help you and to influence you the more. The lust of the flesh is a terrible force that seeks to push you against God's ideals. Carnal people suffer a lot from the lust of the flesh. Also, some believers are suffering from the lust of the flesh, but believers do have the ability under God to tame it, but the carnal man cannot bridle his appetite in the flesh. This is because he is a slave to his flesh and it leads him to sin daily.

The lust of the eye is another manifestation of the spirit of darkness to influence believers into sinning. As a believer, you must try your best within your capacity to control what you see because they have a strong influence on you, what our eyes see influences our minds and emotions. It creates distorting imagination that are unholy when we expose ourselves to unholy materials.

The eyes speak of desire, love and passion; people find it hard to control those gates in their lives. When you don't control your passion to see and associate with unholy things, how can you control the emotions that is fuelled from the passion of what you see? If you must control your emotions, then you must first control what you see and hear.

Since the eyes are the windows and the ears are like the gates to the heart, then equally it must be controlled if your heart must remain pure. We must control what you hear, feel and see as they are very vital in influencing our lives on earth. Both of these gates must be guarded jealously by us if we will be victorious over our flesh and its attendant lust.

Another manifestation of the spirit of darkness that leads to sin is the pride of life. It is possible to see people that don't really lust in the flesh or lust in the eye, but they are very proud about their life and achievements. It is a known fact that pride always comes before a fall. A great man that will fall in life begins from being proud and arrogant. A proud person is always close to his end in life because he stops learning new things which is why most proud people are arrogant and egocentric in nature.

God detests a proud person and He will do His best to resist him. We must avoid anything that will make us proud. God loves a humble man; he who understands that he was nothing until God made him something in life. Basically in life, people that are proud always fail.

In the scriptures, we see how God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. God pulls down kings and princes that are full of themselves and their achievements. It is indeed worthy of note that, if you must truly sustain the anointing that God smeared upon your life, then you must be humble and willing to be helped by God on a consistent basis. One of the greatest enemies of God that He cannot overlook is an ungrateful proud and arrogant man that never gets satisfied of earthly riches and wealth.

Even from history, we saw how many rulers that took pride in themselves and in their achievements fall before they realize it. Apostle Paul said, even if I should boast in life, I will do my boasting in the Lord. Not that I have more possession, but I boast in the fact that I am a bondservant and a bond slave of Christ Jesus. Also, boast in the stripes and scars you sustain for the sake of the gospel and always strive to add up to the fruit of The Spirit in you daily, until you become perfect in Christ Jesus.

Amen.

Shalom!!!

Chapter 7

BE CAREFUL WITH THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Have you ever seen a lawless pastor? Or have you seen a minister of the gospel that is sinning and still functioning in the anointing? This has become the norm in our society today for lawless people to still be pastors and still preach as usual. There are members of the clergy that engage in unlawful acts, but still function on Sunday morning. We have a lot of perverts and so called prophets today masquerading as ministers of the gospel of peace.

Most of such ministers have become false prophets and teachers, they prophesy doom to people. Some have given heed to their lust and the devil has ensnared and cage them into doing his will, but since they still have the gifts of the spirit, they still function as ministers “for the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.”

I recall one faithful day after I was done praying for a lady that was suffering with an infirmity and was healed. She began to tell me what she has been through in the hands of a so called prophet and minister. I found it strange when someone trusts me with certain secrets that are personal to them. I found out that it is common as a genuine minister that when people come and see the difference and how genuine you are with the anointing, they open up to you, trusting you with their secrets.

This lady was suffering from a demonic oppression that led to different kinds of sicknesses in her body. The doctors diagnosed her and could not find anything on her, but she was dying daily. This is the first sign of a demonic operation, when any infirmity is beyond natural medical diagnosis and science, but still felt in the body. Her situation was

complicated to her as a normal average believer.

She once had a boyfriend that was in love with her and desired to marry her, unfortunately, he died. But after his death, he kept on appearing to her, assaulting her by trying to fellowship with her and talk to her. It grew worse that she began to find herself at the graveyard with him conversing together, and even sometimes eating together at night. Since she did nothing about the experiences, it grew worse to her seeing him in the daytime. He comes and demands to spend time with her. Demonic spirits always seek a body to possess, and since they are disembodied spirits, they only get a form when they find a body that is willing to contain them. It was not long before the result of her fellowshiping with the dead began to reveal itself on her, she picked up demonic spirits that influenced her life and oppressed her. She is always sick, confused and gradually deteriorating; the spirits began to demand for her life. She heard her dead lover's voice telling her to come join him in the grave, that if she died, she will rest from all life's struggles. She began to believe him and it began to suck the life out of her.

Finally, I was contacted to come pray for her while she was dying in the hospital. Instantly, I perceived strange satanic oppressions around her, she was like a hub for spirits. I had to rebuke those demonic spirits and also rebuked the spirit of dead which left immediately. After taking authority over the demonic and satanic encumbrances that formed a colony in her life, relief and sound health came to her in few days. She began to gain weight and was not seeing any spirit when she sleeps.

I had to teach her some basic foundation of faith as well as the believers' authority in Christ Jesus, and also how to rebuke spirits when next they come to attack her and even how to rebuke the spirit of dead when he comes against her.

Before I came into the picture of her challenge, in search for a solution to her infirmity, sought after prophets were welcomed into her home to pray

for her. She even went to meet one in his office, a well-known prophet in the town, only for him to speak the counsel of darkness and words that lack spirit and life. He said God told him that if he who is holy have intercourse with her that is unholy, stricken with infirmity, then she will be purified from the inside out. This may look farfetched, but this is the bitter truth. This prophet even prophesied factual truth about her family and life. I have no controversy whether his prophecies were true or false, but I doubt the source of his inspiration and insight. It can't be divine in that his spirit is corrupted, but his gift still functioned. For that gift to function and be sustained for long, it must be sharpened by either the divine or the demonic.

I believed that familiar spirits by the spirit of divination can give people the ability to see things that may look true but are not the truth. Such a prophet employs the ministering of familiar spirits and the spirit of divination to walk with him, so that he can divine by false spirits to deceive many. Thanks to God that The Holy Spirit guided and revealed to her that he is not a righteous man. She refused and ran away from his office. He threatened she will die if she let anyone know what he attempted.

I believe both demons and the so-called prophet took advantage of the ignorance of the lady. When you become ignorant of the operations of the spirit and lack discernment of spirits, then you will not be able to differentiate between the genuine and the profane. She was ignorant to entertain the demon that masqueraded himself as her boyfriend that was dead. It is normal for demons to masquerade as someone you once knew to deceive you, but if you are very discerning, you would rebuke it immediately. When you see a demon and understand he wants to trick and deceive you, simply rebuke him and he will leave immediately.

Immediately she kept company with the demon, he decided to execute his mission which was to kill her. Demons have a way in which they feed on human soul through fear. Have you seen a man heavily possessed by

demons and strongly under the oppression of the devil? He looks like a dead man walking or a walking dead, his blood is drained and he will have the look of someone who will not survive the next day.

When a demon sits on you, he makes you prone to diverse kind of sickness and diseases that will affect and destroy your life in pain and sorrow. When a man is ignorant, he is in the dark and very easy for a demon to deceive, but when you are in the light you are illuminated and guided by God's wisdom. We must embrace the truth of the word of God, it gives us light and life that no demon can resist. The bible says, “and light shineth in the darkness and darkness comprehends it not” John 1:5.

That acclaimed prophet is operating in the gift of The Spirit, but his gift is fuelled by familiar spirit simply because the fruit looks similar to the genuine ones. There are pastors and ministers that sleep around with women and still come to preach the gospel on Sunday and people might still get blessed. In like manner, many so called Apostles steal money from churches and do a lot of atrocities and still preach, heal and cast out devils from people.

This kind of ministers have no respect and fear of God in their hearts and no sense of honour for what they do. Some even consider it normal that if God has not kill them yet, then He has given them approval. The fact that God uses you to manifest His power never means that He will not judge you. Every man has his own personality different from the anointing and power that is at work in his life. God is the owner of the power at work in the life of ministers. A minister must never mistake the mercy of God for His approval to do evil.

For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance (Romans 11:29).

This shows us that a man can still be operating in the gift of The Spirit

even when he backslides into carnality, since the gift is without repentance. Even if he chooses not to repent, he can still function in the gift, but by a different unction and inspiration. There are many believers that test God by committing sin willingly with the hope of repenting afterwards; never misunderstand the mercy and grace of God as a license for sin and lawlessness.

God says He will show mercy to whoever He wish to show mercy to, but His grace and mercy is not for us to continue in our lawlessness. The grace and mercy of God is designed as an extra time to buy us more time in hope of repentance. I always say that the grace of God has a place where it stops to operate for you, am not saying the grace of God has a limit, but where the grace of God stops in your life the mercy of God begins to function.

When God chooses not to show you mercy as you continue in your iniquity and lawless act, this means that His Spirit will not strive with you anymore. When God's mercy and grace is far from you in your time of sin, you are bound to die because you have neglected and resisted the essence of His grace and mercy that was supposed to save you from death.

When a gift is given to you, the person giving you the gift cares less on what you do with it, although it may have a procedure and precautions for proper use. The person that earns the gift can choose to misuse it by not abiding to the procedure and precaution given, but at his own risk.

Several times in Christendom, we have seen how God anoints people with His gift and power instructing them on the precaution and procedure to abide in to fully function in the anointing, they still choose not to follow it and give themselves up to their lust misusing the gift and power of The Holy Spirit.

Then went Samson to Gaza, and saw there a harlot, and went in unto her (Judges 16:1).

Samson was a man heavily anointed by God but he misused his anointing. He had no regard for the secrets and covenant relationship he had with God. Secrets and covenant are private and not a thing of the public. Samson had the gift and the anointing of God at its maximum capacity. He can destroy a battalion of army single handily, but he was conquered by just a woman named Delilah. Delilah was a common harlot in the land of the Philistines and she brought his downfall with his cooperation. She first destroyed his covenant relationship with God when she succeeded in taking out the source of the covenant, his hair and he lost his place of relevance with God.

Anything that is trying to destroy your covenant with God is a big enemy that must be dealt with. Success in life depends upon many secrets, so also every great man has a secret with God. If that secret is made known, it ceases to be a secret and its power will be broken. We must keep our secret with God personal so that it will not be perverted by others except if sharing will edify and exalt the body of Christ Jesus.

Samson slept with prostitutes, but his gift was still functioning with him until he made it a daily lifestyle. God's mercy and grace was still keeping him until when God choose not to strive with him, then he was reduced to nothing. He arose to destroy his enemies only to realize that he was no god at all, but reduced to nothing. It is one of the way God deals with people that abuse the gift of The Spirit for long. He reduces them to nothing by first of all reducing the power of His Spirit on them then withdraw His strength by shutting down all the supply of His resources of heaven from them. Samson was reduced to nothing when God withdrew from him.

Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent (Revelation 2:5).

God made it known to a church in Asia Minor that if they don't repent, He will reduce them to nothing. Anyone or a co-operate body that attains prominence in God has a candle lampstand as a symbol of His covenant and it stands burning in God's very presence in heaven. When you continue in your abuse of His gift, He simply take away your lampstand and dims the light from Him illuminates you to illuminate others on earth so that your influence on earth is reduced.

When God reduces your influence on earth, your impact is reduced. This is so that your tendency to corrupt people through your ministrations will be reduced as God did to Samson. He withdrew His heavenly supply of strength and power to reduce His influence to nothing until he came to his senses in repentance. He was given unction again to represent God and judge ungodliness, but he died with the ungodly at last.

In Numbers chapter 22, we saw the mistake and error of Balaam the prophet. How he deployed his resources to curse Israel when he was supposed to bless them because God wished to bless them. He was warned by God not to go at the request of Balak the king, but because Barak was a man with a gift, he choose to go even when God insisted on him not going. So, God let him go in the lust of his heart. He was able after many trials to devise a means that led to the destruction of Israel, but he was heavily punished by God which caused him his life.

For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame (Hebrews 6:4-6).

This passage gave us a terrible scenario of people who have once walked with God and operated in the anointing and gift of The Spirit. When

such people backslide, it is very hard and almost impossible for them to be redeemed. When you continue to abuse the gift and anointing of The Spirit, it will lead you to a dead end in life as seen in the life of Balaam and Samson. We saw Aaron a priest of God also errs and his error was beyond pardon, therefore, God had to kill him on the mountain top. No man is too big for God!!! We must realize where we have fallen from and return to God, He will put us together in love.

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal (1 Corinthians 12:1-7).

The gifts of The Spirit are specially given to us by God via His Spirit for effective function, representation and manifestation of His glory here on earth. There has never been anything evil about the gifts of The Spirit, rather men corrupt its operation in their lives by using it for their own selfish gain. Paul urged us to covet the gifts of The Spirit and to function in them as they are The Father's gifts for us through His Spirit.

Many if not all ministers of the gospel possess and function in one or two of the gifts of The Spirit. I will lie to you if I say I don't function in the gift of The Spirit. The gifts most times come with the anointing in a man's life. In your quest for the anointing of God, gifts are given to you by The Spirit of God. His gift differs, but are all by the same Spirit.

According to the passage from the scripture, it is true that The Spirit gives gifts in their diverse manner to people as He will. There is also different administration of the gift, but this is given by Jesus Christ the son in their differences. There are diverse operations, but are given by God and

He works all of them in us.

The Spirit gives gifts for their manifestation, but these gifts are for the profit of another, not to the person given. The gift that The Spirit gives to you is not for yourself but for others. The one He will give to another person might benefit you that is how the anointing works. It is mainly to profit another person while the one that is to profit you is put upon another person.

The gifts of The Spirit are about nine in number and none is less important than the other and all are needed in their different times and seasons of demand. They are all from the same God and Spirit with the same quality. Jesus Christ was the first pattern of man to accurately operate all the gifts and He did that perfectly and accurately in the days of His flesh on earth.

I cannot say that there is a limit to the manifestation of the gift of The Spirit in the life of a spiritual man because God has no limitation and so is His gift and grace, but we humans are the limiting factor for the manifestation of God's Spirit and gift through us. I believe a spiritual man can function in all of the gifts of The Spirit if he can so yield to The Holy Spirit in the time when they are demanded and needed for function.

The gifts of The Holy Spirit are given to whosoever He pleases. If you can please Him, it will be yours for the taking. It is a norm that most ministers major in one or two of the gifting, but it is very possible to move between all the gifts if you can sufficiently yield to The Spirit when it is demanded and needed for the moment.

I have seen it happen again and again when we go for field trips and outreaches to witness to others about Jesus Christ as we prayed for strength and unction from God before we begin the outreach. People suddenly receive several gifts from God just because there is a need to liberate souls, God gives His resources for the function. After the mission trip, the gifts remain with as many that can sharpen and develop it.

In those times, I find myself functioning in certain spiritual gifts even without knowing. As you fast, pray and study, you will come to a point where you please God's heart, that He give you gifts so that you can represent Him well on earth.

The Gift of The Spirit and The Fruit of The Spirit

The gifts of The Spirit are not less than the fruit of The Spirit. It is a misconception to believe that one is greater than the other. God never said that neither is it captured by doctrine in any of the scriptures. The pedigree that supports the antecedent is not biblical. There must be a balance when it comes to doctrine and where a balance cannot be established, it should be left alone for personal conviction by The Holy Spirit. The gifts of The Spirit are well needed as the fruit of The Spirit in the life of a spiritual man. In fact, a true spiritual man should manifest the gift of The Spirit and express the fruit of The Spirit. Anytime you neglect one over the other, you become deficient and guilty of the other.

When you see a spiritual man that manifests the gifts and you cannot see any fruit of The Spirit at work in his life then his life is imbalanced. There are certain spiritual things that you don't choose one over the other, but you must have both. It is like being asked to choose between the need for The Holy Spirit and the need for Jesus Christ. You don't choose in such situation, but receive all. You need Jesus Christ and need The Holy Spirit as well, if one is lacking in your life, it will be imbalance and limited.

In 1 Corinthians 13, we saw how love is the backbone of all that we do in God. Love is the crux and pillar of everything we do, It all must be centred in love. Our gifts will do us no good if it is not functioning and express in love, so also our fruit will not be reckoned with if love is lacking in it.

And now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love (1Corinthians 13:13).

It is written that faith, hope and love remain, but the greatest still remains love as the pillar of all. Love is so important for both God and man. We saw that the fruit of The Spirit is summed up into love – for man and for God. Although the gift of The Spirit is not summed up in love, but no gift will last long and be appreciated by men and God if not express in love.

There are many anointed ministers that will heal your body and raise the dead, but can't even show love to another or can't even control their anger, so he can heal you but can also kill you. Others can bless you with the gift, but can also cheat you when it comes to money because they can't be trusted with money. This illustration is not to downplay the importance of the gift because when you have a sick brother dying, what you need is not just patience, kindness or love but the gift of The Spirit that can heal. Nevertheless, we must balance our gifts with the fruit of The Spirit so that our lives will be balanced as spiritual people. Paul said that we should desire at least to prophesy, not that prophecy is the least of the gift, but just a recommendation on hearing and speaking for God to bless others by prophecy. We must continue to strive for mastery in God and watch our motive in love as we express and function in the gift of The Spirit expressing the fruit daily. Amen.

Shalom!!!

Chapter 8

LOVE: THE PATTERN OF INTERCESSION

One of the easiest way to be anointed by God over time is to become an intercessor. An intercessor is one who desires earnestly to pray for others. Intercessors are one of the few ministers of the gospel of Christ that live long serving God because their pursuit is selfless and that always gladdens The Father's heart. If you must remain anointed and survive the quagmire that befalls most ministers, then you better follow after the pattern of intercession. Intercession is simply the act of interceding; to intercede means to pray making peace for someone and standing in the gap for him.

Intercessors pray the burden of God, while prayer warriors pray their heart out to God. God always sustains intercessors because they live to carry His burden, when you carry the burden of God He will also take your own burden. When you make God's desire your priority, He will make you His priority.

The simple truth is that someone prayed for you to become born again. Some of us became born again because of the prayers of our mothers, friends and fathers. Those people that prayed for you to come into the fold are called intercessors because they stood and believed God for your salvation even when it looked impossible. You may have been deep in sin and cared less about them, but it was still a burden in their heart to pray for you until you found peace through salvation in Christ Jesus.

God desires that no one should perish, but many people are held bound by the devil. It is the work of the intercessors to keep praying that those bound in darkness to be released, to come know Christ Jesus the saviour.

And I sought for a man among them that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none (Ezekiel 22:30).

When you see a city suffering from the bondage of the devil, it is most likely because it is lacking in intercessors; until a people pray God does nothing and if there is a people to pray then there will be a God that will answer them. If there is only but a few people giving their all interceding on behalf of a city, God will stretch forth His hand to deliver them.

God is always looking for a man that will represent Him on earth for He cannot do anything on earth without the agency of a man and if He can find even one that is sold out to Him, He can pour Himself upon him. One with God is majority!

Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months (James 5:17).

James said that the prayer of a righteous man will save the other. Yes, when an intercessor, his prayers are with effect and can bring deliverance to an individual or a nation. If God can pour His power and anointing on just a man, I tell you the whole world will know that God is still alive and walking with men in this our time. It is God that set and anoint intercessors in places to pray for the fulfilment of His will on earth. God can't act until someone pray.

Jesus Christ is our greatest intercessor because He is still living to make intercession for us. He is our pattern man and shows us the path of intercession, how to stand and legislate on behalf of another person so they don't fall into sin and temptation.

No church and ministry succeeds without intercessors. Have you been to a ministry or a church and realized that they have a unit or a group that prayer is their mandate. They may not necessarily be called prayer group or unit or a power house, but certainly their mandate and what they always do

is pray. Such people in that commission are the ones referred to as intercessors and they are considered the pillar of every commission. They control the spiritual affairs that goes on in the spirit realm, so that people can get blessed by God in the church or ministry. They pray for the salvation of souls and the preservation of the ministers.

True intercession is without a price. The reward of an intercessor is not in silver and gold, but an eternal reward in heaven, but intercession is a gift, they always live long and have stature with God. You cannot pay an intercessor for praying for you, he is worth more than your gold and silver. He is always a man that is easily satisfied. If you really want to give him, you can just give him his basic need. Most of them don't demand or need money except if there is a serious need for the money. They are not after fame and influence or acquiring wealth and riches. Not that these are bad in themselves, but that is just how an intercessor's life is structured to be. They always live hidden and take delight in God. Only God alone is their portion and only Him rewards them according to His justice.

The success of a church and ministry depends on the intercessors that intercede for the ministry as well as the ministers. As a believer in search and quest for more of God and His anointing, you must have a season in your life that is dedicated to being an intercessor. You don't have to be called as one, but become one, sell yourself out to God for a season. He will give you more than the anointing itself when the season is over. Since you are not called as an intercessor you will continue in your calling, but still keep praying as an intercessor which is an added advantage to you. You will last long and have stature with God as intercessors have.

As an intercessor back on campus, God instructed me to pray for someone for a week for at least 30 minutes per day. The person was not born again and lived in sin and it was impressed upon my heart to intercede for the person to be saved. When I started, it looked like the more I prayed, the

more the person committed more sin. When you start, you may not see a change, but just continue in obedient to the instruction of God. As long as the cloud be full of rain, it will empty itself. A day will come when God will encounter the person and what you have been praying for long will be answered. My family was not a perfect one, there have been lots of misunderstanding between my parents which I knew that the devil was a set up by the devil. When I went before God in prayers He revealed to me how strong the bondage of the devil upon my family was and assured me that as an intercessor over the house, He will release His anointing and strength upon me to breakthrough that bondage, but it will take me about 3-4 years of intercession. I took it upon myself to fast and pray until the devil was cast out and peace and harmony was restored again in my family.

How many families can boast of peace, harmony and love shown from the parents to the siblings? Even if there is, then it will be but a few. Most families have been wrecked down by the devil. He causes a lot of misunderstanding resulting from lots of abuse and conflict at home; father against the mother, mother against daughter, daughter against brother and so on. We must realize that all these are from the devil and he will succeed if there was no intercessor in the family.

When a family is lacking in intercession, there cannot be any peace and harmony because there is no one to represent God within. I know many houses and families that have so many intercessors, they may not live in wealth and affluence but the peace, harmony and love is found within. And with one accord, they go through hard times, cry and laugh together strengthening each other, such is a home that God desires. A strong home base on the foundation of faith and moral standard.

It is the desire of God that we become intercessors over our homes and ministries, so that His burden can be communicated to us for implementation. You may ask, how can I become an intercessor? A simply

desire to pray for your family, taking it upon yourself to inquire from God pertaining your home will set you on the cause. It is so unfortunate that our parents who are head over us and are supposed to be the intercessors at home have lost the stake and made a way for the devil to manipulate the family.

In these days of busy schedules, many fathers hardly pray at home with their families even the normal morning devotion is lost. Why will the children not become wayward and amount unto nothing in life. When you neglect The God that give shape to life, your life becomes shapeless and formless. As the father in a family, you must set out time to seek God's ideals and perspective over your home, ask God what His interest is in your family.

God is so much interested in our individual families. In time past, God did mighty things via families and He is still looking for a righteous home He will use as a standard for many. Our homes are like small churches. Homes are like a microcosm of the macrocosm of the church. When the devil can't get you in the church on Sunday, he will wait for you at home to tempt you into sin. If we don't just go to church on Sundays, but bring the church home with us for the remaining week days he can't succeed. If our home is like the church, then we will get the devil out of business in our lives.

There is a purpose for any ministry, body and a cooperation, even a family. As an intercessor, your assignment is to keep praying until the purpose is fulfilled over time. You cannot enter into a place in your destiny where your prayers have not entered. Prayer shapes our life and future; it redirects our destiny rewriting our prophetic destiny according to God pattern.

Most intercessors always fulfil destiny, it is hard for them to miss the will of God because the devil finds it very hard to hinder and stop them from

fulfilling destiny. They don't have the time to converse with darkness as they are sold out to God. When God cannot find in the parents a worthy intercessor to anoint, He will raise from the family another with the heart of an intercessor and pour His anointing upon him mightily. I have been set as an intercessor over many people and ministries that I just find myself praying for them even at unprepared times. Many people are separated from their families by God to become an intercessor, just like Abraham interceded for Lot, Daniel interceded for Israel and Ezekiel for Israel in captivity, etc. Some of us are selected by grace and separated by God to be born again then anointed, so we can watch over our families as an intercessor.

Your father is your physical head, therefore give him honour due him. But if he is not yielded to God, God can choose to set you as the spiritual governing prince over the home and God will be looking unto you for the deliverance of the family. Respect your parent even if you are more spiritual than them, but never forget that you have more spiritual responsibility than them at home. When they are sleeping you should be praying. An intercessor is supposed to be found waiting and watching especially at the night times.

For many years as I rose to become an intercessor over my home, I always find myself praying at night when everyone is sleeping. I will always be the one with the dreams, vision and prophetic revelations from God about the family because of me, God became so interested in the family. Imagine if I failed as an intercessor, then my family would have failed. In the same light, many ministries and churches collapse and die because the intercessors fail in keeping the watch over the commission. Your prayer alone is not enough to sustain you as a minister, although everyone needs someone praying for them. If you must last long as a minister you must have people that pray for you not for money but because

they are called as intercessors to help you succeed in life. They also find fulfilment as intercessors and ministers of The LORD. One thing I always ask and will not stop asking from people is to keep praying for me, making mention of me to God in their prayers.

The higher you go in God and in world influence, the more prayers you need to keep and sustain you because you become a top target for darkness. You have to be needing so much grace from God. No wonder Paul the Apostle always solicited for prayers from his disciples. It is not a sign of weakness to ask and solicit for prayers, it is even considered wise because if they don't pray for you, they might watch you fall.

Jesus told Peter that the devil desires to tempt him to fall, but He has prayed for him that his faith will fail not, and when he is strong he should strengthen his brethren. We saw Jesus Christ intercede for Peter and when he was tempted he fell, but his faith didn't fail, so he returned in faith in Christ again. But, Judas Iscariot faith failed him when he sold Christ to be crucified. When your faith fail, you are doomed!!!

The devil desires that we all fail in faith, but Christ is still praying for us. Jesus said something profound that, after you are strong you should learn to strengthen others. There is a great need for us to pray and intercede for each other. You may not know what another person is going through, but by praying for him he will emerge victorious.

It has never been my habit to pray for myself, maybe a few times, but I always pray for others interceding on their behalf that God keep and strengthen them in faith. When I pray for myself, it is summed up into asking God for grace, mercy and favour. I do always ask God for the grace and strength to tame my flesh and bridle my appetite before it kills me in life.

Sometimes as I pray for people in my closet, I do wonder if anyone is praying for me also. I know that not all are intercessors, but I still need

prayer because the higher you go in God the more you need prayers to keep you. Sometimes the degree of damage experienced in a plane crash depends on the altitude of the plane. One day God told me not to worry about whether someone out there is praying for me, as long as am faithful and diligent in doing my own part of the intercession, He will raise people and put the burden to pray for me in their heart. It was not that long people began to call me that they had a burden from God to pray for me and some had encounters where they saw me needing prayers and help in my spiritual warfare.

It is required that an intercessor should be consistent and diligent in interceding. I remember some years ago, a mentor of mine that I look up to came to us asking that we should pray for him that the devil is after his life to kill him. That sounded weird because surely the devil wants to kill everyone, but this was different because he has become a target by the kingdom of darkness. They realized how much of a terror he has become to them, so killing him will do them good. It was strange to me as I thought he is more anointed and needed to pray for us his disciples.

God made me realize that your prayers as a minister alone can't sustain you, you need helping hands from the intercessors. The devil can't just kill us because if he could, we will all be long dead. Most times, we escape death and think we are more holy and anointed than others that died, No! It is the cry of a destiny seeking expression in us and the prayers of others that is kept us. Many holy and anointed men of God have died and we still live, we must appreciate the intercession of others.

A woman who I used to pray for alongside her family called me on a faithful day to share an encounter she had, which put a burden in her heart to pray for me. She saw me in the midst of an intense spiritual warfare contending and fighting with demonic spirits, she saw her friend fighting side by side with me. Finally, we defeated the demonic spirits. It amazed

her when I told her that the same season she was having those encounters I was in a heavy spiritual warfare that is really stressing me out. It was like all hell was let loose on me, the battle was intense. I was fighting and was not winning until they came to help me defeat the darkness.

I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth (Isaiah 62:6-7).

Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore, hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me (Ezekiel 3:17).

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved (Habakkuk 2:1).

God has set watchmen over cities and it is expected that they don't hold their peace, but continue to hold firm their ground until God's purpose is fulfilled on earth. Intercessors are watchmen and gate keepers, they guard the entry and exit of spiritual gate. They judge the princes that don't come in the name of The LORD but fellowship with the ones that come in the name of YESHUA HAMASIACH.

Just like the watchmen and gate keepers in the physical will be held responsible when things go wrong within their post, so also a spiritual watcher is held responsible for the things that happen in his duty post. A watcher is given the necessary armoury and arsenals for warfare. We are given the needed spiritual arsenals to accurately watch over our territory.

A watcher has a territory that he guards. He is given a terrain as a boundary of jurisdiction by God and he is responsible for that region. We as watchers are given terrain and require proper positioning to function well. There is a position of advantage in which he stays to watch. If you are familiar with the military barracks, you will realize that there are watchers that stay on top of strategic locations to watch the terrain, you may not see them but they always see you. When you misbehave and try to attack, they

will shoot you down. We also have positions of advantage that give us foresight and hindsight to see our enemies afar before they come.

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them (Hebrews 7:25).

Likewise, the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God (Romans 8:26-27).

Jesus Christ our high priest lives forever to make intercession for us, He is the ultimate intercessor. His intercession will never fail as long as He lives, it is His intercession that is still keeping us and giving us the right and access to righteousness and forgiveness of sin. Also, we have The Spirit of Truth that helps us intercede for we don't know what to pray for and how to do it, but He helps us daily.

Most times, I found myself praying in the spirit over a nation and people. I cry with a burden in my heart, this I don't do always, but when it come upon me suddenly and deep, I just know it is a strong intercession help by The Holy Spirit. Most people find themselves praying and crying deeply uncontrollable, that is intercession. You may not even know what and who you are praying for, but the spirit knows better.

I have seen people that pray in the spirit, groaning for days, some even do that for years before the prophecy over their life is fulfilled. It is true that the pathway of women is that of an intercessor that pray, groan in pain and anguish of heart. They have a spiritual womb that helps them birth things in the spirit realm. Prophetess Anna and the priest Simeon are good examples of intercessors that interceded for years for the fulfilment of the promised Messiah. They desired death, but was not allowed to die until they saw the manifestation of their intercession. It was their lot and portion to live that long to see the birth of The Son of man.

And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem (Luke 2:25-38).

Prophetess Anna prayed for years since the death of her husband, she remained in the temple of God praying daily for the consolation of Israel, so also prophet Simeon. He waited in prayer and intercession for the male child that will rule the earth to be born. The covenant that intercessors enter with God come with a promise of long life and immunity from darkness. When an intercessor cries out to God in prayer, his voice carries the power of God to deliver. He has stature with God and angels are at his disposal to function.

During my season as an intercessor, as I prayed and studied daily at night, I began to see and have angelic encounters. Angelic encounters are normal with intercessors because they are always praying. Since angels come to take our prayers to heaven, they will always traffic around you. I prayed to an extent that when I sleep, I still find myself praying in my sleep like my spirit was still praying within me.

Daniel is a great prototype of a true intercessor. He lived long enough to

see many kings come to power, about four kings he walked with in his time, each died, but he survived to rule with the new king in Babylon. Even at dead threat by the king he was protected by God, God is very jealous of His intercessors, because there are not many of them, the little you find are very powerful. God answers selfless prayers faster than selfish ones; intercessors are selfless people; their needs are met by God they don't need to ask that much.

And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him. For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak (Isaiah 59:16).

He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors (Isaiah 53:11-12).

God is looking for people He will anoint as intercessors in the land, He is seeking a people with a desire and passion to carry His burden among His creation. There has been a clarion call by God in search for true intercessor that He will crown with His glory and power. I regards intercessors as God's volunteers and I tell you the truth and lie not that, no man volunteer for God and get disappointed by God. God is not a man that He will lie not to reward our labour of love.

When nations are fallen, God need volunteers that will rescue it from the besiegement of the devil. When the devil and his demons are having a field day, God need volunteers that will check them out of business. God right hand of judgment don't just come to a place besiege by the devil until a man volunteer to report to God about the present situation of the city and how he is willing to partner with God to defeat the devil.

When the iniquity of Israel multiplied, God desired a man He could use

to liberate them from their ignorance that led them to sin, even the prophets were not spared. Everyone enjoyed evil and iniquity and those that stood for righteousness were taken as prey and killed, the situation was terrible. This happened because God lacked sufficient intercessors or maybe as iniquity increased there was a need to initiate more intercessors in the land.

Sometimes when there are not sufficient witnesses in a land, God is somehow limited as He can't do much even if He wants to. Daniel along with few Hebrew boys in Babylon did little because they were only able to save themselves while others remained as slaves to the devil in the land—there was no conversion of any Babylonian to serve YAWEH. Lot who was Abraham's cousin was able to save himself and his family while the rest perished in Sodom and Gomorrah. Also Noah was able to save a few while the rest perished. God can be limited when there are no sufficient intercessors.

During the time of Jeremiah, the prophet, he was treated like a criminal with disdain and cruelty. His life was that of a martyr and he suffered persecution speaking for God till death. The same applied to Isaiah the prophet. In his days, he suffered persecution from his own people until he was finally killed by the same people he was sent to bring deliverance to. All these happened because the people were deceived and took sides with the prince of the power of the air.

When a land is lacking in sufficient intercessors, the darkness in the land will over power the light and God will have no option than to rescue His righteous ones, then destroy the land before they corrupt the little righteous ones He has left. God has no restraint to win or to conquer with a few, but to influence society you need more than winning and conquering, you will need to influence the people willingly by dominion and that requires a little more than a remnant. God has never left a city without a witness for Him as remnant. This remnant He uses to infiltrate and influence others, but for the

remnant to succeed, intercessors must move at the frontline, parting the veil of darkness that blinds and binds people to sin so that they can come to God.

I heard of Moravian falls, how in time past, the people gathered together and prayed for almost one year for 24 hours a day, just so they can send missionary to various corners of the world. They were successful as they influenced the whole world. They sent missionaries to almost all part of the world, some of those missionaries died in the new land they were sent to while some came return back. They witnessed for Christ even to death.

You cannot separate accurate evangelism from intercession. People must have to pray and fast before sending evangelist to a land. When you pray, the land is open for God to pour His Spirit upon the land before you come and minister to the people. There is need for The Spirit to be poured upon the land so that it can hover around the land to purify it from all stronghold and darkness so that the people's heart can be prepared to receive salvation and The Holy Spirit baptism.

Before revival can occur in a land, God needs at least a man to initiate it. A true revivalist is a man that intercedes on behalf of a people and a land for long that God's Spirit be poured upon the land. The revivalist has the mentality that The Spirit of God moves and His movement causes people to return to God by the manifestation of many signs and wonders. As you pray as an intercessory revivalist, sometimes nothing happens in your life time in the land, but after many years, God moves in the land reaping the harvest of your prayers of many years through another revivalist.

Most intercessory revivalist are pioneers of the outpouring and revival of The Spirit upon the earth. When a man binds himself by an oath to intercede on behalf of a land and its people, it doesn't take long before God become interested in the land to come heal and deliver it, but He still needs a desperate man. It takes an intercessor to part the veil of darkness and open the door for God to come heal the nation.

When you so desire to see the kingdom of God revealed on earth by carrying the burden of God, God makes you a candidate for His anointing and power daily. He becomes very jealous for you, not wanting anyone to hurt you, as you become His personal property and God becomes your portion and in Him you delight daily. Amen.
Shalom!!!

Chapter 9

UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL TIMES AND SEASONS

Someone might ask: what has spiritual times and season have to do with becoming anointed? It has everything to do with the anointing and how it is processed in your life. There are seasons and times in the spirit realm and they are characterized by series of events and happening that must be discerned by the spirit of a man if he must grow in the anointing. There are times and seasons of advantage in the spirit realm that only them that have the ability to discern can take advantage of.

Just as in the physical realm, we have several times and seasons, so also in the spiritual realm we have spiritual times and seasons, but they are not governed by anything physical. Just as we have seasons of rain and dryness or summer and winter in the physical, there are also distinctive seasons in the spirit and as I said, they are characterized by series of events and happening which are indicators to know the season and how to adjust to continue flowing in the anointing.

Physical seasons of rain demand that cold jacket be employed as additive to our clothing if we must survive the cold, in the same manner during dry season you need lots of ventilation, bathing to cool the body and being in an air conditioned environment if you must enjoy the season. When a season changes in the spiritual realm, spiritual people are demanded and supposed to take on a new set of kits and tools for proper functioning in the anointing. If you don't move according to the order of the season you will become perplexed on how to keep pace with God. That can lead to disappointment and discouragement.

Spiritual Timing goes hand in hand with spiritual seasons, they are like bolt and nut. This is because the season reshape the time and the time is revealed in the season. Most night, mid noon and early morning hours are usually characterized with increase demonic activities. That is a good time for spiritual activity. Those timing are always delicate because lots of spiritual operations are carried out by spiritual princes—demonic or divine. The timing in the spirit realm can be best explain in two ways:

- The Chrono time
- The Kairos time.

Chrono Time

Chrono time is a timing that follow the normal antemeridian (AM) and postmeridian (PM) in a circle of 12AM + 12PM = 24 hours per day. This Chrono time is followed in chronological order from 1AM to 12AM and from another 1PM to 12PM. This timing was derived from trying to explain timing by watching and studying starry movement and its influence on the constellations on the earth and its system of operation as ordained by God.

Time itself is a spiritual commodity given to us by God to regulate our affairs here on earth. For us to keep pace with time, we had to devise a means to decipher the mystery of time as a basis of measurement of our life. Do you realize that time is a commodity you can't buy or redeem? Time itself wait for no one, you have to prepare yourself waiting for it to manifest.

Time cannot be controlled globally by a man. No matter the development of mankind, it cannot come to the point where it controls time and its influence on the earth. Simply because it is a God commodity put in place by God Himself as a unit of measurement of our life on earth. So basically we all are bound to time, except otherwise divine. —Selah.

The Jewish people follow a lunar calendar of 30 days circle and it comes with a new moon. Most of their feast are influenced by the movement of the constellation and its alignment in the heavenly places. Our normal chronological 24 hours can also be regarded as spiritual although it does not explain much about the spiritual truth of timing. It has been consistent in revealing morning and night. That can only be possible if it follows the movement of the constellations that are given dominion by God to rule the day (sun) and the one that rules the night (moon).

As a spiritual man wanting to understand spiritual times and season, you must have the knowledge of time watches that are available and how it is revealed on earth with its influences. It was common in the scriptures of how the believers go to pray at certain hours of the day and night, even Jesus Christ, it was recorded that He went to pray at certain hours of the day and of the night. Those hours of day and night are called the night and day watches.

You must have read how the apostles went to pray at the ninth hour of the day and how Elijah was waiting for the time of the evening oblation before he prayed for fire to come down at Mount Carmel. All these are time watches that have significant spiritual and physical implications. As a spiritual man, you must realize that those times are times of advantage; times in which heaven gates and portals open and God answers prayers.

There are 8 spiritual watches per day revealed in the physical in a circle of $4 + 4 = 8$ watches. 4 watches for the morning and four watches for the night. Like I said earlier, the normal chronological clock tried to interpret the movement of the starry constellation that govern time, day and night and explain it to us in a language of $12\text{AM} + 12\text{PM} = 24$ hours so we can understand. From that understanding we derived the weeks, months and the year.

The movement of the constellation reveals times and seasons. The chronological cock tried to capture that truth and decipher it to us of which has been in place for ages. Nevertheless, there is another better way to understand the movement of this constellation and how the reshape themselves to reveal time.

The time watches begin from 6AM to 6PM for the morning and from 6PM to 6AM for the night watch. After every 3 hours the stars reshape themselves in a different pattern entirely. They move all the times but when the 3rd hour is reached, they reshape themselves to reveal another time watch given interpretation to the movement and forming a pattern of identification.

This is what the astrologers, stargazers and monthly prognosticators do in the demonic realm to influence people's lives. They study and observe the constellations then direct their influence toward people by the power of spoken words to do harm or good. The spiritual realm in which demonic people take advantage to curse and harm the people under God was not supposed to be so.

God expects us to take charge of the realm of the spirit and rule over His creation both the celestial constellations and terrestrial creations. The constellation was never designed by God to harm His creation, but to support it. But by demonic collaboration with mankind, the constellation can be influenced to do otherwise harming God's own people. That is why it is very important we dominate even that sphere of influence, so that demonic spirit will not partner with wicked men on earth in influencing it wrongly against its original design by God.

It is possible for us to influence positively the constellation. We saw in the Old Testament how leaders like: Deborah, Joshua, and even Job had an understanding of the constellation which benefited them in hard times of war. Everything you ever see the devil do by his demonic spirit is but a

perversion of the original design. If it is possible for the devil to harm people using the constellation, then The God that created it can use it to benefit mankind. Since all He ever created was good.

When I began to understand spiritual timing, I took out time not just to pray, but to also observe the time watches of day and night, I noticed different spiritual patterns overtime. I made decrees praying, so I can control the ordinances and speaking that were released within and between the movements of the heavenly bodies. I also be aware of the spiritual happenings within those time watch.

We all know that there are arrows that fly by night and pestilence that work by noon day, you must be able to contend and redirect their path back to the sender and that can't be achieved if you don't keep the watches of day and night. There are times in which gates open in the spirit realm (whether day or night), when those gates are opened, people are to make decrees and speak forth words that influence the constellations which then influence lives on earth.

Apostle Paul had this understanding when he said that we should pray always without ceasing. When you accurately pray always, you will make decrees that will influence the heavenly bodies to function for your benefit. If you walk in the spirit day and night with the consciousness of heaven on earth, you will naturally find yourself influencing both the watches of the day and that of the night.

When you are active and alive in the spirit realm, your enemies can't be take you by surprise because when he comes to you by day, he will find you at watch and when he comes by night, he will still find you watching. Keeping the time watches is not just a spooky physical activity, but a positioning of the heart and spirit. Even when you are sleeping, your spirit is active in watch as your heart is aligned to God and to His creation both celestial and terrestrial.

The Spiritual Dynamics of Chrono Times

Here are the watches for the Chrono times in spiritual dynamics:

TIME	WATCHES
From 6am to 9am	First watch of the day
From 9am to 12pm	Second watch of the day
From 12pm to 3pm	Third watch of the day
From 3pm to 6pm	Fourth watch of the day
From 6pm to 9pm	First watch of the night
From 9pm to 12am	Second watch of the night
From 12am to 3am	Third watch of the night
From 3am to 6pm	Fourth watch of the night

Do you now see the mystery behind the clock, and how it tried to reveal spiritual movements in the heavens to a simple 12am + 12pm = 24 hours per day? These watches are starry movement that influence times and seasons on earth.

Do you realize that our normal analogical and digital clock still keep pace with this starry movement to interpret time to us, so even if you off your laptop and mobile device, it can still keep pace with the movement in the heavens keeping itself in alignment so that the next time you switch on the device, it automatically resets itself to the current timing without needing help from you to adjust it? God made day and night, and to each, He made a star that will rule it and influence it according to His ordinances.

And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also (Genesis 1:16).

What we called day is simply when the sun rises from the east to west and its light is seen bright in the sky, and what we called night is when the sun set, and the moon positions itself to rule the night by the help of the sun. God made stars of which the sun is the ruler of the day and the moon the ruler of night, their operations govern the earth's timing and season.

For you to accurately keep pace with spiritual timing, time watches must be observed consciously or unconsciously. Most spiritual people do keep the watches of day and night unconsciously, some find themselves praying at specific time in the day or night. Most prophetic stirring of The Holy Spirit falls within those watches of day and night; when the time watch change, you switch into another stirring in the spirit.

Keeping time watches unconsciously is better and less complicated than observing it on a daily basis. You don't have to undertake a ritual for you to influence the heavenly under God. The Holy Spirit will always guide you in those spiritual timing to pray if there is a need. He will prompt you into prayers as you perceive His movement around you, except if you choose to disobey His stirring to pray.

Don't always engage in unnecessary spiritual warfare with demonic princes in the name of keeping time watch, off course when you observe those timing in the spirit you will have encounters, but you will also be resisted heavily by the devil. That is why it is important to lay hold of The Holy Spirit in your journey into God. On a personal note, I am more careful in certain seasons to keep the watches of the day and night for the first week of the month and the last week of the same month into the new month. It is the time of the full moon which announces the new month. The new moon has a womb that cultivates what people decreed it to be and they are all given birth to at the full moon.

Don't just be a vigil believer or an evening-evening prayer man. Although it is very good especially when you are consistent with a pure

heart, you will gain mastery of most of the time watch of the night, since you keep waiting at night praying. The night portals will be at your disposal and under your influence because you have prayed your way through them and now have access through their gates.

There are many gates that open at night and day time. You might have mastered a few gates at night, but what about those gates that open at day time? It is better to contend for those gates also so as to have more access and influence on the heavens. After each of those time watches, certain portals are opened in the spirit realm and certain stars are revealed which seek to influence the earth.

Each time watch has a specific portal of light that darkness seeks to pervert and rule. Watchmen and intercessors must understand that at new moon, major gates and portals are opened to make decrees concerning the new month to be revealed. These decrees from God are what the devil and his cohorts pervert so that answers to the petitions of believers are delayed.

The devil also masquerades himself to give false counsel and information to believers pertaining the new month.

Then said the LORD unto me; this gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the LORD, the God of Israel, hath entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut. It is for the prince; the prince, he shall sit in it to eat bread before the LORD; he shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall go out by the way of the same (Ezekiel 44:2-3).

We as spiritual men are to take charge of those gates and portals. We are to welcome the princes of heaven that come in the name of The LORD to decree heaven's counsel on the earth. As a minister, you must realize that the decree of God concerning your ministry is done in the heavens, you are to meet the princes of God in certain seasons and time to receive the impartation and eat of the bread that will sustain your ministry for the next season.

Many ministers never cared to contend for those portals to be opened over their ministries, so they are lacking in current revelations and insight into the perspective and wisdom of God. The heaven over many people is like brass which is very tragic because they will be lacking in God's current wisdom and perspective for the season. A closed heaven is a closed destiny! When the heaven over you is closed, your destiny is also closed because whosoever influences the heaven over you will influence your life also.

There has always been a contention by demonic spirits wanting to superimpose and rule over people. The portal of light that God has put over each of us must be sustained by this spiritual understanding. Our spirit must be kept without mixture if we must continue to enjoy the anointing of God.

It is common nowadays that most believers say they don't hear God when He speaks to them while others hear different voices when He speaks. When the portal of light over you is occupied by demonic princes you will surely hear voices at random that has no meaning instead of hearing God speaking to you. When you find yourself in that situation, simply pray and rebuke every demonic encumbrance over your life, covering yourself with the blood of Christ Jesus asking The Holy Spirit to speak to your heart again.

The heaven over you can be unlocked by God to hear Him speak to you, but you must rebuke the demonic spirit that built walls around you and speaks words that confuse you. You must also take charge of your time watch waiting for God to encounter you in due season. Kenneth E. Hagin wrote in his book "I believe in vision" that he was in a vision having a long discourse with Christ Jesus when suddenly a demon appeared and stood between him and Jesus, moving up and down making sounds that are strange. The activity of the demon made him unable to hear Jesus Christ speaking to him and he was distracted by the demon although Christ Jesus continued to speak. He began to wonder why the all-powerful

Jesus will be talking to him and a demon will come and stand in-between them. After a long time of wondering, he rebuked the demon and the demon fell down to the floor. He commanded the demon to leave and it left the place immediately, then he could hear what Christ Jesus was saying to him. Being perplexed he asked Christ Jesus, why He didn't rebuke the demon when he blocked him from hearing Him speak? Jesus told him that, if he had not done something about the demon, He couldn't!

As a good theologian, he was dumbfounded and said, “No, Lord! You mean if I had not done something about the demon, You wouldn't?” Then Jesus told him again that, if he had not cast the devil out He couldn't. He had to ask Jesus to prove His point with the scriptures, Jesus had to show him how He has given us the authority over demons and we are the ones saddled with the responsibility to cast out demons. He then realized that Jesus Christ will not do for us what we can do for ourselves.

The dilemma lies in the “couldn't” and “wouldn't.” when Jesus said He couldn't, it means He does not have the ability and power to do that, but Kenneth E. Hagin could not comprehend Jesus not being able to cast out a demon in that vision, so he told Jesus that He was supposed to say He wouldn't. If He wouldn't, it means He can do it but chose not to do it. Jesus reiterate it to him that, if he didn't cast the demon out He couldn't. He revealed to him how He can be limited to help us if we don't do what we are supposed to do for ourselves because He will not do for us what we are to do for ourselves.

The same applies to people that experience a closed heaven, they have a part to play for it to be opened and to remain open. Demons can resist people from entering certain gates and realms in the spirit because of their ignorance. The day they get the revelation needed, that realm of operation becomes opened for them. People can be ignorant of what to do to breakthrough while others are just being negligent about their

responsibility.

Most people would have been healed and enter into certain realms in God if they can just take some responsibilities. Just like the woman with the issue of blood, she said if I can but touch Christ I will be made whole and it was so. The man at the pool of Bethesda was complaining that nobody cares to push him into the pool when the angel stirs up the water. He was blinded by his complaints that he did not notice the messiah when He came to make him whole. The 9 lepers that were healed were first given a task to go wash themselves in a river far from their current location. Also, Neman was told by Prophet Elisha to go and wash himself afar off. As those people took responsibility to obey, they were healed. You also have a part to play if your heaven must remain open so you can continually enjoy the anointing.

Kairos Times

It is referred to as the opportune time and it is not governed by the Chrono. It has no antemeridian and postmeridian; it is governed by God Himself. When you miss your opportune time, it takes another circle to come again because our lives are in a circle of prophetic timeline just as it takes 9 months for pregnancy to mature and be due, and takes 24 hours for a day, 7 days for a week, 12 months for a year, and 365 days for a year. This timeline is completed in circles, when one passes it takes another circle for it to repeat itself.

When your Kairos time comes, it does not follow the normal sequence of events overtime. Rather, they are all sum up to the moment in solving the situation. Kairos times are associated with a visitation and an intervention by God. Anytime God intervenes in a situation, the Chrono time is changed to Kairos, so that people can be liberated instantly.

Kairos time and moments are associated with the time of life. The time

of life in itself is the time appointed for the fulfilment of prophecy. It is the time due for the birthing of the promises of God, the time of life can be either Chrono or Kairos. Just as a woman gives birth to a baby after 9 months, the moment for the birth of the child is her time of life because promises and prophecies are being fulfilled. Also, when Jesus Christ healed the boy that was born blind, Jesus said it was for the glory of God to be revealed at the moment that was the time of life for the boy. It is a time designated for fulfilment and it is referred to as the opportune time because of God's intervention.

When Jesus stepped into the situation of the woman with the issue of blood, her Chrono time stopped and her Kairos moment was activated to fulfil her time of life. This same moment happened to the man at the pool of Bethesda, the lepers and many others that encounter Christ. We must also discern our time of life and our Kairos moment when Jesus Christ chooses to intervene in our situation. We should not complain like the man at the pool of Bethesda and the woman at the well of Samaria. She was not spiritual enough to realize that Him who she has been seeking is right before her. There is nothing as painful as a poor man with gold and diamond without the knowledge of its worth, so he remains in poverty.

Kairos times are moments of encounter and visitation with God. Many people never realize that they have to utilize such moments to gain some breakthrough in God. They remain in their circumstances and perish for lack of knowledge and understanding.

He answered and said unto them, when it is evening, ye say, it will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, it will be foul weather today: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?
(Matthew 16:2-3)

Jesus was grieved with them for not being able to discern His coming

and said Jerusalem will not see Him again until they say, “blessed is him who comes in the name of the lord.” When I read it at first, I wonder who is to be blamed for their ignorance. Until I realized that they were responsible for their ignorance. If the wise men who are not part of the household of David discerned the coming of The Messiah and came to see Him when He was born while those that had it written and prophesied by the prophets did not discern it.

They backslidden to the point that the devil blinded their eyes to seeing and perceiving that the heavens have been closed over them. Demons were given a field day to build walls around their minds making them unaware of what they did. They became the ones that crucified The Messiah that came to save them. It is easy for you to miss your Kairos moments, but when you have an understanding of spiritual laws taking control of the heaven over your sphere, you will not miss the opportune time of God because your eyes are open to see and your ears are open to hear Him speak.

And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full. Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; And then the LORD'S wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you (Deuteronomy 11:13-17).

The fulfilment of God's promises is tied to our obedience even in season, we must be obedient to do as He says. It is written that God demand that His people keep His principles or the heaven over them will be shut. God can refuse to release His blessing over His people and they will starve bitterly, the corn, wine and oil will be lacking.

God is the one that owns and creates the season. When you continue in your iniquity, He will lock the heaven over you even in due season and you will not benefit from His anointing and blessings. It happened in Egypt how the children of Israel prospered in Goshen, a part in Egypt while the rest suffered famine and lack. God can choose to cause rain to fall in your locality but exempt you from the rain for He is The Lord of the season. This is why when He chooses to come, He changes the timing to Kairos moment. When you remain in God pleasing Him, He will always make your time Kairos with no limitation.

The Influences of the Constellation

God has given this authority to some of His princes even on earth to rule in the cosmic realm. They have the ability to influence both the heaven and the earth. Men like Elijah the prophet that shut down the heaven so that it did not rain not must have influence over the natural elements that are supposed to cause rain to fall. He spoke to their ordinances to reshape and bring no rain until he spoke again to them, that kind of authority is cosmic. Rain does not come from the earthly or physical realm, although it can be explained by science, it is far beyond science. God owns the seasons and He rules over it and its results.

We saw another strange prophet and priest Samuel who offered sacrifice and rain fell from heaven. His sacrifice caused the season to give rain to the earth. Deborah was a prophetess in Israel. She was a great prophetic warrior and a judge. She demanded the stars to come help her fight in the time of war. The constellations seem to be more of an arsenal for warfare.

Joshua who became the leader of Israel after the death of Moses changed the cause of history when he commanded the sun to stand still during the war with the Amalekites. That act of faith and boldness took a day out of February. Till today, February remains 28 or 29 days in the

a calendar instead of 30 or 31 days. I do wonder how a person that is born on the 29th of February celebrate his/her birthday when the month ends on the 28th. This was caused by a man like you and me. These men had an understanding of spiritual timing and how to influence it.

Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion? Canst thou bring forth Mazzaroth in his season? or canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons? Knowest thou the ordinances of heaven? Canst thou set the dominion thereof in the earth? Canst thou lift up thy voice to the clouds, that abundance of waters may cover thee? Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are? Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart? Who can number the clouds in wisdom? or who can stay the bottles of heaven (Job 38:31-37).

There was a man named Job. He was a righteous man that kept his way right before God. It came to pass that he was reduced to nothing by the devil and that happened with the permission of God. When he became weary in the days of his test and trials he began to speak words without knowledge or understanding. When he demanded an answer desperately from God in agony of heart, God answered him in the form of questions demanding an answer from Job.

The questions were about starry influences and His creation. How He puts them in place for rulership. He asked mysterious questions pertaining to the secrets that bind creation in order. He talked about past events that led to cosmic activities in time present. He asked if he can bind the sweet influences of the Pleiades. The Pleiades are part of the planetary body of constellation, they are prophetic stars that govern seasonal times with their powers. Stars have glory, but God made it that each one differs from the other in glory and strength.

Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea. Which maketh Arcturus, Orion, and Pleiades, and the chambers of the south (Job 9:8-9).

The Pleiades are clusters of stars and they are referred to as the seven sisters by mythology. They are a group of seven stars that function together, but one among the seventh is not visible. Only six are seen but function in cooperate manner for a similar purpose. They have a power that regulate and manipulate the heavenly. They are found and seen in the constellation, Taurus.

It is unfortunate that these constellations created by God has no will of their own as they await to be influenced. Evil men also seek to influence the stars in their quest for supernatural powers. God gave His creation potent power especially the celestial bodies. This glory that God puts within them are tapped by men who seek for power to rule on earth. The stars can superimpose men and permit their power and glory to be revealed through men.

As a believer and a lover of God, you have no need for a star to superimpose you because you have been superimposed by the king of the stars, the bright and morning Star, Christ Jesus. He is The King star and He already possesses us, therefore all other stars are bound to obey us. His glory is greater than that of the whole stars. When you are in need of help from the stars, just command them as Deborah and Joshua did, you don't have to go practicing some zodiac astronomical *abracadabra* before you command and speak to the constellations.

When you speak to any creation in the name of Jesus Christ it will surely obey you. Jesus spoke to the element of nature several times and they obeyed Him because they are supposed to obey. We have The Holy Spirit within us and He is our guide. Jesus said, even the mountains will move if we speak to it in faith to be move, I dare you to walk in the faith of Christ Jesus. You don't have to allow any star in the sky to superimpose you before you speak and command them to obey you under God. These starry bodies look for people they can influence and possess to express their glory on

earth, although God put them in place to announce time and seasons.

Taurus is a constellation of stars that look like a bull and within it contains another star called Aldebaran which is a binary star in the constellation Taurus. It looks like an orange both in colour and shape. It is considered one of the brightest stars in the sky. The Pleiades are found among these stars and come out in certain seasons, but the demonic people now influence them to rule the earth. Mazzaroth is supposed to come out in certain seasons to reveal stars. It is also a constellation among the constellation Taurus. All these constellations have power given to them by God.

God further asked Job if he can bind them together with this little exposition on these stars because it looks impossible to be bound together. To bind a giant star like that is to restrain it from influencing the earth. But we saw Deborah, Elijah and Joshua bind stars and lose them after they were done with battle. We can speak to the stars demanding them to do to us good even without us worshipping and allowing them to superimpose us.

Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name (Amos 5:8).

Can thou loose the bands of Orion? The Orion is another starry constellation that has been bound by God Himself. He is a rebellious star and was believed to be the star that helped Nimrod in his days to build a tower that could reach the heaven. The star Orion was punished by God and held bound in the sky. He is caged in the cage of himself. He is referred to as a hunter. He helped and influenced Nimrod to become a hunter of people's souls.

Nimrod was really an agent of the devil. He married his own mother who was a witch that killed her husband. The star Orion is referred to as a

fool from the Hebrew word *keseel* (the fool). It consists of about 80 stars. It is referred to as the evening star. Also, Nimrod was described as Nimrod the fool that contends with God. Just like the Orion, when the fulfilment of Isaiah 13:10 will happen, the star will be ripped of its glory like Orion. It is close to the other star, Taurus. It has a star named Betelgeuse and Rigel.

Job was also asked if he can bring forth Mazzaroth in its season. These are the twelve signs of the stars that are used to predict and tell by prognostication what lies tomorrow. Their signs are supposed to come what lies tomorrow as God ordain, it is like a mirror of tomorrow but evil men influence it to come out as they wish revealing the future to them.

Also, Job was asked if he could guard Arcturus with his sons. This is another star in the constellation Bootes referred to as the bear-keeper. He is also referred to as the night watcher, he never sleeps at night but revolves around. It was allegedly believed that Arcturus has five sons. He is the 3rd brightest star in the night sky with a bright yellow-orange colour.

God went further to ask him if he knows the ordinances of the heavens and can set their dominion in place. God puts these stars in their place by His mysteries and set their rulership and dominion in place like Arcturus that guides the sky at night. How does God expect Job to understand the ordinances of these bodies? I believe God was not asking him a complicated question like He did to Ezekiel at the valley of dry bones to say, “only thou know,” but was expecting him to know that He has influence over these starry beings. God guides us on what to do to influence and rule as we desire these constellations.

Also, God told Ezekiel to prophesy, and as he prophesied, we see the impossible become possible. We saw the power of spoken words when the devil was given the authority to test Job by God. Overnight all that Job had vanished into thin air. For a possession like that of Job to vanish overnight, it has to be supernatural. When God permitted the devil to test him, he

employed the function of the constellations. When the stars descended on Job and his possessions, they swept it off in just a moment. This is how the stars can be influenced to do good or evil depending on who influences them. God asking Job those questions was an attempt to make him realize how cunning the devil is, knowing fully well that Job had a lot of possession which can't just go in a day without the partnership of the constellations.

The devil sought the influence of the constellations to collaborate with him to test Job. Job's whole life became a dilemma and he had no clue about what befell him. If Job was wise enough to have commanded his morning and speak to the element of nature to be at peace with him, doing only good to him, then the devil could not have used them against him because he has already given them a decree for the day. Since he didn't command the heavenly and it constellation not to hurt him, they had no option when they were influenced by the devil to do him evil.

Job had no issue with God as he was a righteous man, but his righteousness couldn't save him in his time of ignorance. God didn't go against him, but the devil played on his ignorance about the constellations to harm him. We can always speak and command the affairs of the stars and it functions in God through The Holy Spirit with Jesus Christ's authority as the bright and morning Star.

***To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven
(Ecclesiastes 3:1).***

Everything has a time, season and a purpose on earth. We must be able to discern and align ourselves by positioning. We are to prepare in time, pray for our season and be patience to endure its fulfilment on earth. It is possible for you to do the right thing at the wrong time and it will not be of any benefit to you. It is also possible for you to be anointed by God and still lack influence on the earth not because you are false, but because your

appointed time for manifestation and commissioning into world influence is not yet due.

When it is due for your commissioning into world influence, you don't need to help God by publishing yourself, He will cause the earth to hear your voice. On the mount of transfiguration, God announced His Son and commanded the world to hear Him. When you try to announce yourself, you will surely get frustrated for God cannot sponsor what He didn't commission. There is an appointed time for anything under God and that timing must be carefully waited upon.

Most ministers make the mistake of starting ministries that God has not commanded them to start. Although they are called of God, but He expects them to be commissioned into ministry at an appointed time of life. Some of those ministries close down while others are still struggling to survive.

The Holy Spirit also gives you burden of things to pray about in different season and time. You must be careful to keep pace with the prompting of God as regards to His instruction and His commandment to you. If you neglect the prompting, He will stop giving you His burdens until you repent and come under His government again.

The change in seasons may require you to study more or to pray more at particular times. It may require more meditation and communion with The Holy Spirit. Don't be that familiar to continue with your normal routine when you perceive a change in season always do your best to follow the prompting and do what is required of you. You can easily know what to do if you follow the grace of God. Do what you sense a strong grace of God for. You may be graced for a season to study the word day and night while other seasons, you are graced to pray day and night. However, you should also do your best to balance your study and prayer life so you can grow in God constructively. There are seasons when God sends His angels to come wake you up from sleep to pray at night and other times, He gives you specific

locations to go pray.

The change in spiritual seasons also come with a new divine relationship. God will connect you with new people that will teach and impart upon you a new knowledge. Every season of your life is tied to certain people sent by God to impart and elevate you into the new realm of operation in God. As God promotes you spiritually, you must be sound in knowledge and character to function aright. He will send you to people that have gone ahead of you to teach you what is expected of you.

The new realm of operation that God has elevated you to has been occupied by many other faithful lovers of God. There are many seasons when God may demand that you go learn from one of them. In that season, He may orchestrate a divine relationship that will last for a while so that you can be equipped to function and represent Him accurately. When you see such people, cherish and honour them, if you don't, then you will not grow into the new realm in Him. You will be retarded in your spiritual growth until you get frustrated and realize at last to repent, but it may be too late for you. I pray we all discern our seasons and timing in the spiritual realm so we can keep pace with God's dealings with us overtime. Amen.
Shalom!!!

Chapter 10

BECOME A SELFLESS GIVER

Givers never lack! This statement cannot be overemphasized. There has never been a time in which men gave more than God, God Himself is the ultimate giver. People that give out their resources in love never lack. Giving is not just limited to money, but there are a lot of things someone can give to another, you can give out love, kindness and many more things other than cash. Most people don't need your money. In fact, most times, people need things that money cannot buy.

God made it crystal clear when He said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' Some people enjoy the luxury of being the one to be given than to be the ones to give out to others. This dependent mentality limits them from getting blessed and growing in the anointing of The Holy Spirit. It is very hard to convince people to believe that giving has never made anyone poor, rather it makes you richer. The more you give, the more you receive. It is a principle that works no matter who is involved, a believer or an unbeliever. Nevertheless, we must be careful in our giving not to cast our pearls upon swine. There are a lot of people that don't value your gifts, even if you give it to them, they see no use of it. Give to the people that need it and value it. Since giving is not only limited to cash, there will be people that will not value other gifts given in kind and love.

The anointing upon a man's life increases the more when he releases it in love to bless others, bringing them to liberty and purpose. You don't have to be stingy with the anointing. When you keep accumulating the anointing, it puffs you up, but as you release it to bless others, you get refreshed the more. Just like when pouring an oil into a tube, it stops flowing when it

reaches its climax. We also have our brim and are not supposed to just be a container for the anointing, but a conduit tube in which the anointing flows to bless others.

When you are just a container, you will definitely have a brim point. When you are a conduit tube, you don't get full, but keep flowing to bless others. You will only get full when others get full, and since there are so many people on earth needing to be blessed by God, you will become the connecting tube for the anointing to flow from God to them.

There are so many anointed believers on earth, but many never care to function in the anointing to bless others rather, they go from one place to another seeking who will bless them and make them feel comfortable in the anointing. To truly grow in the anointing, you must come out of your comfort zone and dare to take a bold step of faith to witness for God. By so doing, the anointing upon you will multiply and you will master the act of the anointing. As said by the wise, 'to whom much is given much is expected'.

Let us be frank about something, it doesn't take a thousand years for someone to be anointed by God. It may even take just a day, but it take several years to be able to master the act of functioning in the anointing. The anointing is a smearing or an unction from God that enables us to function in His grace and power here on earth. I recall when I once prayed for someone who is a babe in the things of The Spirit, this person suddenly began to function in some gifts of The Spirit having encounters and visitation from Jesus Christ. It startled me because I wondered if that was how easy it is to see Jesus. When I became born again, it took time before I began to work in the anointing. Others may pray for years before they yield to The Spirit and another may just yield in one day to The Holy Spirit.

It doesn't take too long to be smeared with the anointing from God if you have a genuine heart of love towards Him and love to pray consistently. All

you need to do is to maximize and utilize the anointing upon yourself, so that you can grow in grace and power overtime. It is obvious that people go from meeting to meeting in a bid to get anointed, but the truth is that, they were even anointed the first meeting they went. The Holy Spirit came upon them and released His anointing upon them.

What most people have to do is to master the act of the anointing by yielding to The Holy Spirit and becoming a giver and a donor of the anointing to bless others that God has placed around them. When God anoints an individual, it is for him to impart His creation. You don't have to be a pastor called into the ministry, all you need is the anointing on you and with the little God has given you, He expects that you give it to others by praying for them and helping them fulfil purpose and destiny. When you pray for someone, the virtue of God in you is transferred to the person to bless him. The more you pray for people, the more you release those virtues. The more you release the virtues of God, the more He infills you with more virtue to bless others. That continued process of releasing and infilling will make you master the act of the anointing to grow in grace and power with God. A lot of people are afraid of praying for others although they are anointed, and I wonder how they will grow in the anointing of The Spirit.

God will not just anoint you for fun, He does that for the purpose of imparting others. There is always a first time, and even if you make mistakes it is normal. There has never been any great leader that has not made a mistake here on earth. You will not be the first or last. In your quest to explore and discover new things in God, you are bound to make mistakes, but that should not be a stopping point, but the starting point for you.

When you give spiritual resources to others, your spiritual capacity is enlarged to contain more of God. When you don't, you simply limit your

progress in God. It is better to make your mistakes and learn from it. If you have studied most world leaders and God's generals, living or dead, you will find out that, almost all of them living or dead that you currently admire as mentors have done something stupid and made their mistakes. The mistakes they made never killed them rather, it made them stronger. Also, yours will make you stronger. Although, you have to be very careful not to keep making and repeating the same mistake daily. This is because it might become a big error that can lead to consequences that are too grievous to bear. I believe that to make a mistake is not a mistake, but to repeat the same mistake continuously is a terrible mistake.

When you volunteer for a function, you have sown the seed of service and that sharpens your gifts and talents. To grow faster in the anointing, simply volunteer to serve in the areas of your calling and gifting that will equip you with the necessary discipline for the anointing. Every great man had a time he volunteers to serve, only giving out his gifts and talents to help others fulfil purpose as he discovers his.

But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. {of full age: or, perfect} {use: or, an habit, or, perfection} (Hebrews 5:14)

Only people that are good givers of their resources in gifts and talents see the windows of heaven open over them. When you volunteer, you sow and give a seed of service that comes with a reward. Strong meat means deeper understanding and light, it will only come to them that have exercised their spiritual senses to discern between good and evil.

You will become more acquainted in the anointing by the reason of use. Until you serve others, no one will serve you for every master was once a servant. You must learn to love to serve, and do that with the whole of your heart, it is a seed sown. You may not be rewarded in cash and kind, but that

seed will not return to you void.

'Service is greatness, and service to humanity is divine'. You must always love the act of service, using your anointing and gifting to serve others for free. There is a time to collect money as Prophet Elisha told Gehazi his protégé, but not all times are appropriate times to collect money or a reward for service. When men reward you for your service to humanity, it can't be compare to when God reward you. Time will come that it will be fare when you serve people to be rewarded in cash or kind, in fact it will be wrong of them not to reward you; but let it not be a habit you develop to always ask for a reward for your service to humanity. God reward is best for kingdom service, although men seek to bless us with physical resources too.

The easy and more efficient way to learn is to be in the system, when you are in your season of training and learning to improve more on your gifts and calling; it is better you find a place that express and function in the area of your gift to serve and learn. If you are called as a minister or sense that calling on yourself, then, find a ministry or a church to serve without grouches. As you do that, you are being equip in the area of your purpose and discipline in God. This will make you grow more in grace and power.

It is wisdom to sow seeds of service to people because if in all your time there, you served for free as a seed, the day you want to go, you will be paid off either in cash or in kind. Even if you are just being prayed for and imparted upon, it is worth it because that grace can do more for you than the cash will do. Through the scriptures, our patriarch of old had this understanding, most of them served their masters well and were rewarded. Sometimes, just a prayer of blessing is enough to empower you and prosper you to become successful.

During your time of service, it is supposed to be a time of building and increasing in grace, favour and power with God. It is a time to become

competent in your talent and gifts. We all have seasons of training and those times, we are not yet competent in our calling and gifts. That is why we are to know that it is not the time to be rewarded with money because many are so obsessed with money. It is a challenge that they can't do anything for free, but seriously speaking, many people make money the centre of what they do which is wrong. Money is supposed to be a by-product of your obedience to God, a reward for a value you add and an honour of the grace and gift of God upon your life.

I heard Bill Johnson of Bethel church say, “I am not yet called into the ministry, and am still waiting for God to call me.” Of course, that was a joke, but he wanted to make a point that he just volunteered to serve when there was a need for a youth pastor at Bethel church many years ago. He was faithful as a youth and children pastor. His influence was noted by the board of elders and when the resident pastor left and there was a need for another resident pastor and since no one was as committed to serve without payment as Pastor Bill, he was rewarded by God with the anointing and power.

In his leadership as the senior pastor of Bethel church in Redding, California, America, the church experienced serious growth spiritually and physically. You don't need a special intervention from God before you go to serve, just deploy your gift and talent in your own little capacity to serve others. When you continue to sow and give out the seed of service, you will become competent in your gift and talents growing in the anointing.

I also heard Robert Liardon gave a story about himself when he migrated to a different location in Florida, America. He went to a church and volunteered to serve as an usher when there was a demand for more willing ushers. The senior pastor knowing fully well that this is a man of global influence and anointed of God. By then Robert Liardon had sold about 20 million copies of his books worldwide. The pastor saw him

volunteering to serve as an usher, he came and told him that if he really wants to serve, he will allow him be an associate pastor alongside him not an usher because the church needed to be blessed by his grace. It was not fit for him to serve as an usher with such a calling and grace since the people were willing to learn and be blessed by him.

I don't know why Robert wanted to serve as an usher in that church, but even if he served in that church as an usher it would not reduce him, he will still be rewarded by God and eventually be noticed by men as a man of great grace. Humility is key when it comes to dealing with God and his anointing. There are many proud and arrogant anointed men that showcase themselves everywhere they go and such people may be anointed but are still babe –not matured in the things of God. When you are matured, you will permit your works to speak for you at the gate. 'God resist the proud, but gives grace to the humble.'

I love to pray a lot and if I can just find a people of prayer, I am glad and refreshed for I regard them as my family. I once belonged to a group of prayer folks. In the group, I found some very proud, but anointed folks. Some were proud because they were anointed while others are just ignorant and seek to showcase themselves to be given an office. A true leader doesn't really need an office or a position to lead people, some see leadership as a position of honour instead of a calling into servitude. The calling of God into ministry is a call to service, not to a position of influence. Jesus said, "Whosoever desires to be great must first become a servant of others" and that must be done in love if God will be glorified. When you serve with a good heart posture, you are sowing a seed and contributing your own quota to the body of Christ.

***Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice
(Psalms 50:5).***

To attract the anointing of God you must be a man of sacrifice, you will have to give out your time, money, resources and even deny yourself the comfort of luxuries. Every true sacrifice is painful, but it is worth it. Men and women in times past made sacrifices to God, not necessary in cash, but they made vows that were better than money.

Men that know God are selfless givers and people of covenant and they keep the covenant at all cause. A similar situation was seen of Abraham when God tested him to sacrifice his son Isaac upon the mountain top, he took the son on a journey to the mountain, but with the faith that even if he sacrifices him, God will still raise him from the dead. God provided a lamb for the sacrifice at the mountain instead of his son Isaac. Abraham realized it was only but a test of faith.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16).

The offering of a life to be sacrificed as a living sacrifice was first oriented by God Himself when He offered His own Son for the benefit of humanity. He selflessly gave His Son for our sake so that we will live and have peace. He became sin so that we sinners can become free to live not guilty of the sins committed. Jesus was made sin the day He carried the sin of the whole world, and when the devil came, He found Him guilty of sin. Since any soul that sin must die, He had to die a sinner on the cross. But, He was resurrected as prophesied and gave a new life to mankind.

By the power of The Holy Spirit, The Father rose Jesus Christ from the dead after three days and exalted His name above all other names. That same Spirit resides within us now. God saw it fit that Christ Jesus die for the sin of mankind so that mankind can live for Him. His blood cleanses our sins and forgives us our iniquities. The blood of bull and birds in the Old Testament could only buy you some mercy from God, but can't cleanse sin

forever. Jesus Christ being a sinless man, His blood is spotless. It cleansed our sin once and for all when He sacrificed His life on the cross of Calvary. When His blood touched the ground there was a reaction. There was a man that was crucified with Him, although a thief, but for simply believing in the man named Jesus and His sinless blood that was shed, he became born again. Jesus promised him that today he will be with Him in paradise. A man saw Jesus' reaction when He gave up the ghost and realized that truly this man is The Son of God. Such a proclamation of faith can grant him access to paradise also.

No sacrifice has ever been in vain. The sacrifice of Jesus was not in vain. It was a conscious deliberate act of bringing many sons into glory. When one Son Jesus Christ died, more Sons were born, and we saw how the apostles through faith in Christ Jesus did mighty things on earth. They changed the cause of history and shook the foundation of nations. At their death as martyrs, many other Sons rose up again to function in greater power and glory.

'The blood of the martyr is the seed of the gospel', the more the believers were killed and persecuted for the gospel, the more the gospel went viral. Christians are the number one people that are been persecuted globally in the world now, but the more they are persecuted the more they are willing to be persecuted. A true Christian is supposed to be sold out to God dying daily, persecution is just the starting point and a catalyst to witnessing for Christ, even unto death.

The world believes that the more they kill and persecute Christians, the more they will reduce and get weary, but NO! In times past, Christianity prospered more in hard and terrible times, times of intense persecution from high and low places. That Spirit still rests within us, the seed of Christ Jesus. We will continue to wax stronger in times of test, trials and temptation.

Until the believers in Shushan were persecuted and decreed for death, then they gathered to cry to God in one accord in prayer and fasting. During times of persecution, you will know who the genuine ones in pursuit of God. God prepared and placed Esther in the palace as a deliverer for His people and by divine wisdom she delivered the people from the decree of death. It was recorded that, many people converted to Judaism for the fear of the Jews.

It was during intense persecution that Saul became Paul. When Stephen a deacon was stoned to death in Jerusalem, the heaven opened and Jesus welcomed his spirit home to rest, but He also saw a potential Apostle who was part of the conspiracy of killing Stephen. Paul was a young lad then named Saul, he was on his way to Damascus to persecute the believers when Jesus Christ appeared to him. That encounter changed his life forever. His purpose was revealed to him and he fulfilled it with great passion and zeal.

Paul had to continue the mandate which was upon the life of Stephen. Don't you realize that in a nation that believers are more persecuted, God always raises mighty ministers that will despise the pain and witness for His name sake? The foundation of Christianity is eternal in Christ Jesus and the gospel is Truth, it cannot be quenched by mortal men on earth.

It is like a moving train, whosoever that stands before it will be eliminated. We saw how great men in low and high places in time past tried to resist the gospel, all of them died without achieving their goal. The gospel continued even after their death. Herod wanted to restrain the apostles from preaching the gospel, the apostles gathered for a night and reported him to God, that night he was killed by an angel.

I learnt of a man from the Celtic tribe of Ireland, named Saint Patrick. He was a man that saw no limitation. He was mightily used by God in his days. He was like the Elijah of old in that land. He challenged kings and

kingdoms. He was able to subdue a whole nation influencing them under God. In his days, a wizard or a sorcerer never boasted of his abilities else he dies.

Not too far from home we have such men of power that have walked with God in their days. Just like: William Mario Branham, Oral Robert, Billy Graham, Jack Coe, D L Moody, John G Lake, Maria woodworth- Etter, Kathryn kuhlman and so many more that shook the foundations of the earth. We also have men here in Nigeria, not far from home that shook the foundation of our nation, some of them challenged kings and kingdoms until Christ was planted in the land. These men gave themselves for the gospel. Time and pen will fail me to write about all their achievements in God. Most, if not all nations have a remnant of witnesses that God preserved which He is using to cause revival in the land. There are many past generals in their numbers, all these men gave themselves selfless for the service of humanity and God did terrible things on earth through them.

It was like the continuation of the book of Hebrews 11 where we see, how by faith, men and women did many things in God which shook the foundations of the earth. Although many died as martyrs and some through natural causes, their witness still speaks throughout generations.

They have joined the cloud of witnesses to cheer us up to continue the race carrying the baton because they without us are not made perfect. There was a man named Watchman Nee in ancient China. He was martyred for his belief in Christ Jesus. He suffered many afflictions, but his voice keeps speaking till this day. 'A man's belief doesn't die even if the man is dead as long as he was able to impart that same belief on others while still alive,' He will live in them and they will witness for him.

Watchman Nee was an apostle, a deep revealer of the mysteries of God. He was a good teacher, teaching his students the revelations he got from God and the principles of the kingdom. He began to make many converts in

the land until his fame went afar off. It was a challenge because he was a Christian in a land that restrained and forbade Christianity. Christianity was regarded as a sin with the punishment of death. Others were locked in prison cells and those ones that resisted arrest were killed. He became an object of persecution when he was noticed by the government.

As a man that is sold out for God, he had nothing to lose. He is crucified with Christ and have denied himself for the cause even before he began. Even when he was arrested and restrained, he sought to preach and convert many to Christ as long as he was still alive. Paul said a similar thing when brought before the government for preaching the gospel, he said “I seek to convert you all into believing in Christ Jesus.”

Watchman Nee was put in prison, but he kept writing epistles and letters to many brethren strengthening them in faith. He was preaching even in the cell converting many to Christ. When it was noticed, he was summoned again and extreme measures were taken on him. His tongue was cut off his mouth so that he can't speak again, but still in much pains and crying, he continued to write letters disciplining many more in Christ.

His resilience was uncommon, he made much converts at all time. People cannot understand such a belief that a man would willingly lay down his life for. We don't have to use carnal weapons for war if we are willing to lay down our lives for the cause of the gospel. If you must cause a change in your society under God, then you must be willing to lay down all your personal agendas for the cause of the gospel of peace.

John Huss (1380-1415), a Catholic priest and professor at the University of Prague was burnt at the stake for preaching the Gospel of Christ. He gave his life to Christ late because he was already full of age. It was in a time when Christianity was an abomination and since he was a member of the clergy, he was called upon to denounce his belief and recant, but he refused and chose rather the punishment which was the burning on a

stake which took place on July 6, 1415. He was burnt at the stake for preaching the Gospel of Christ. Although before he was burnt, he said this to his executioners: "You are now going to burn a goose, (the name of Huss signifying goose in the Bohemian language), but in a century you will have a swan whom you can neither roast nor boil." He died gloriously singing songs of joy and praise to The Lord as his spirit and soul is received into heaven with a smile on his face.

Saint Martin Luther was the swan who came exactly 100 years later!! He came with an unending passion and zeal that ended the debate of whether faith and believe in Christ Jesus leads to salvation or the commitment to the ordinances of the clergy by undertaking some penance as spoken by the clergy. It is impossible for one to think he can kill all the Christians in the world because before he is done, he would have been converted to be the most vibrant of all believers in Christ. He/she will profess and preach a gospel he once hated.

Apostle Joseph Ayo Babalola was a Nigerian from the south-western part of the country. He was known as a man of prayer. Before he became a minister of the gospel, he was an operator of bulldozer. He did that as a job to sustain himself. One day, he was encounter by God. His bulldozer developed a fault and in the process of repairing it, he had a loud voice that said to him, "Leave your job for I have called you to be a minister of the gospel. You will minister in my name with many signs and wonders." He abandoned his job and began to seek God day and night upon the mountain top where he fasted, prayed and studied daily. That became his lifestyle with much intercession, he gave himself completely to God. As usual, one day he was praying on the mountain top when he had an encounter with Arch Angel Michael. He appeared to him bearing a bell which he gave to him and said, "This is a mantle of signs and wonders, go to any city, land and nation, before you proclaim Christ Jesus to them, Ring the bell! For

many signs and wonders will happen and whosoever resists and try to harm you will die at your word.” From that encounter, he began to go to several cities, town and villages preaching the gospel with many signs and wonders following him. Almost all the miracles recorded during the time of the apostles, he had them manifest in his days. He also raised several people from the dead.

There was a time when he came to a village to preach, he rang the bell, but as he began to preach, he was resisted by the warlock and spiritualist that held the land under their care. They refused him to preach and vowed to kill him if he will not leave the village immediately. The warlocks and all their members had a place of meeting which was under a tree. That meeting place was headquarter of their demonic activities. It was where powers were influenced and source from demonic spirits by invocation.

He set a meeting with them and asked them to meet at their headquarter which was their shrine. When they came, he told them to try killing him and if they failed, he will kill them all. They did a lot of incantations to invoke their gods which failed to kill him within the hour. When he rose up and shouted the name, 'JESUS'!!! Immediately, fire fell from heaven and burnt the shrine with the tree. The burning fire was photograph as a historic event.

There was a time when he was praying and laying hands on sick people. When he was tired because they were too much, he laid hands on a little river around and decreed praying that anyone that entered that river will be healed of any infirmities of the body. Many people entered the river and got healed of their sicknesses and diseases. It happened that many years after his death, a madman stumbled into the river and got healed of his madness instantly. The apostle was able to build many churches with branches all over Africa and some parts of Europe and America named Christ Apostolic Church [C. A. C]. All this was possible because mere men gave themselves totally to God. You also can do the same and even more if you can only

believe.

Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour. There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, give me to drink (John 4:6-7).

Do you know how many times Jesus might have asked us for a drink in disguise knowing fully well that we are the ones in need of the drink. Jesus was not interested in drinking the water, but He was interested in her drinking from Him. If she must drink living waters from Him, then there must first be an agreement between them. I doubt if He drank the water, but she definitely drank from Him. She realized quite late that He wanted her to give Him her life not just a physical drink. Jesus was interested in her giving herself as a living sacrifice acceptable unto God. Until you learn to give yourself to God, things will not change in your life. When you give yourselves to God, it will be easy to give your resources to Him too.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service (Roman 12:1).

The greatest giver, God gave His Son to die for our sins has now demanded that we give ourselves to Him as a living sacrifice. No man gives himself to God in vain for He is The Author of life. We don't have to be afraid, He can give life even to the dead. The greatest giving that is selfless enough is your total surrendering unto God in service and seeing His will come to pass.

Your service to God must be done with your whole heart filled with love. God desires a people that will present themselves as a sacrifice so He can anoint them with His power. Many ministers that claim to love God have no genuine love for Him. They are yet to give themselves selflessly unto God. Let your foundation in God be steadfast, so you can stand strong

in times of persecution. May God keep and sustain us all in the bond of love and peace. Amen.

Shalom!!!

Chapter 11

UNDERSTAND THE GRACE OF GOD AND EMBRACE IT

Have you ever seen a minister of the gospel that don't fast and pray as much as you do, but still function in the anointing? Most times it is not just the gifts of The Spirit at work, but the gift of the grace of God. The grace of God can do for you what your many days of prayer and fasting cannot do. When God chooses to grace and cloth a man with Himself, such a man has no need to do much before he functions in the anointing because it is simply an election of grace by grace. Nevertheless, it is wisdom for a man even if graced by God to labour more in prayer, fasting and studying of the word, so that he can do more work for the kingdom.

There are people that their ability to study and fast cannot be compared with many others and they have this uncommon grace to pray always. Such a people are graced by God in that aspect of which you may not have the grace to do as much work as they will do. Such people don't easily get tired when praying because they have the grace of God as a gift to function in that sphere. The grace of God is not just part of the gift of The Spirit, but a specialty by God. The gift of grace is like a catalyst that makes your gifts in God to be amplified to function in an extreme measure above your fellows.

You can be graced to pray, study or fast, although many people pray, fast and study, but if you have received the gift of grace by God to help you fast, pray and study, you will do it above the normal average believer. I know a man that fasts and prays daily for hours without relenting. Such a man is graced in the area of prayer. It will be wrong of you to try to copy him, wanting to pray and fast for hours as he does, you may breakdown because you are not graced by God to do that.

God gives us grace in different measures when it comes to spiritual things. You don't compare yourself with others. You can be challenged by their achievement in God, but never compare yourself with them because the grace upon each of you is different. When you fast and pray, you do that according to the level of grace given to you by God. Nevertheless, we all grow in grace according to the level of our obedient and yielding to God.

Some are graced in the area of fasting. I know a prophet that has been fasting and praying daily for the past 14 years that it has become his lifestyle. Everyone might fast and pray, but not everyone has to do that as a lifestyle for 14 years. He doesn't see it as grievous because he is graced by God to do that. I know another prophet that has been fasting for the past 10 years consistently. He is an itinerant minister but still keeps pace with fasting because he is graced by God to do that. You don't have to do as they do, that is not a measure of spiritual maturity because it is purely a work of grace.

Others are graced in the area of studying. They can take days studying the scriptures without getting tired. It is normal for everyone to study, but to have an unending appetite and zeal for the word is not that common. Some spend weeks inside studying, they do that often without stress because they are graced by God to study. You that is not graced by God may try to do that, but with much stress and strain. There is a limit to your studying per day. God has a measure of grace for you to study which may be sufficient for your consumption.

The gift of grace can't be equal to spiritual maturity, because you can study, pray and fast unending, and still not be walking in The Spirit and mature in The Spirit. Nevertheless, most people that are graced in a particular area walk in the supernatural in that area. Sometimes, the gift of grace is also connected to your calling and its degree of influence on earth. When the calling of God upon your life demands that you influence a large

amount of people, then God will have to grace you abundantly if you must reach such multitude of people.

I have seen some people that are graced by God in several areas in life, but still function in the flesh some times. The grace of God at work in your life will function even if you neglect its discipline and dealings that is supposed to put you in place. That is why you can still find some people that have the zeal to pray, fast, study, prophesy and functioning in the gifts of The Spirit can be carnal in act.

Solomon was a man of wisdom. He was an embodiment of wisdom, knowledge and understanding, but his wisdom, knowledge and understanding never saved him from his folly. Sometimes the wisest people on earth are also trapped and caged in their foolishness! Solomon wrote thousands of songs and proverbs, but his wisdom never saved him from the besiegement of the devil. He was graced with wisdom, you can't find many like him that walked the earth, but he was still deceived by the devil into serving idols.

Spiritual maturity can be measured by your degree of dependence and yielding to The Holy Spirit and your total obedient to the voice of God per time. You can't measure spiritual maturity by the grace and gifts of God at work in a man's life because they are without repentance.

Paul and Peter were both apostles, but one was graced by God for the Gentiles and the other graced for the Jews. Both can preach to either Gentiles or Jews, but for proper and effective functioning, each abided by the designation of the gift of the grace of God upon his life. Paul was an apostle to the Gentiles while Peter was an apostle to the Jews. Peter may not understand how to witness to the Gentiles in the right perspective as he would do to the Jews. Also, Paul may not understand how to effectively witness to the Jews in the right perspective.

Purpose and the Gift of Grace

The grace of God can reveal your purpose in life. The purpose of one can be discovered if he can keep track of what God has graced him for. Every one of us has an area that is graced by God as a gift. You may not have discovered it yet, but it exists within you. That place where the grace of God flows easily for you to achieve an assignment may be an area of purpose.

When you can find such an area that you are graced by God, even in your passion and zeal, then you are called into that sector to effect a change by God. We all cannot be fit and positioned into the different sectors of life arbitrarily at random, but in a specially designed manner through the grace of God as an enablement. You can take a look at the sectors of life to find out the one that you easily find yourself solving problems either: family, education, finance, media, religion, commerce, or art and entertainment.

Many people are in a wrong career and because they are doing something that they are not graced for, they struggle without succeeding. There is a specialty for you, a place meant only for you to occupy even in a busy society. You have to find your area of passion and grace, then seek to dominant that sphere. It will not take long before your fame spread abroad. When you are positioned aright, you don't compete with anyone because only you can fit in by the function of the gift of grace.

As a business individual, when you find out that, despite doing business, you are very good at family counselling and solving difficult issues pertaining to the family, then you might be graced by God to function and solve issues in the sector of family. You don't have to keep doing business as usual, especially if you are always at a loss. It is better to focus on solving family issues and be unique in that field with no competitors. You will even be paid for your services in cash and kind.

As a teacher, you may discover yourself struggling to teach, but have a passion for the economy; you can see the structure of the market and how to

make profit. You may have an understanding that is unending in investment and strategic planning that will earn you maximum profit. Know you that, you may be called to the sector of finance and commerce to solve situations and issues regarding to the economy of nations. With the breakdown of the economy of nations, there are people that may not be appointed to offices, but are graced by God to solve dilemmas in the economy. They can see those strategies for solving the crisis in the economy by grace.

Some are bankers, but as they count money in the counter, they are in pains and groaning of how the harvest is plenty but the labourers are few. Such people always have a burden for the lost despite working in the bank. They may pray and intercede for the lost, but they will not be satisfied because there is a spirit of a minister within them that seeks expression. That compassion of an evangelist to save the lost continues to torment them. Such a person may be challenged in the bank always, but graced by God to intercede and pray for the lost daily. Such a person is definitely called to the religion sector to solve the issue that burdens that sphere.

Whenever you are graced by God to function in a sector, you are sent there to infiltrate as an envoy and an ambassador to bring a change to the sector. God graces people for specialization and we can't all do the same thing. Only people grace in a particular sector can bring change to that sector. That is why there is no change in most of our sectors because many have misplaced their divine placement which led to disorderliness in the sectors. Many politicians are not supposed to be politicians; they have another placement in God that could have made them more effective. Also, many ministers are not supposed to be ministers because they are not called to the office. You don't have to be a pastor, evangelist, teacher, prophet or an apostle before you witness for Christ, so also you don't need to have a church or a ministry to be a minister of the gospel of peace. There are lots of ministers that are not called by God to major in a ministry because they

choose to do that, they are struggling to survive the consequences of their decision.

Your area of grace and passion is linked to your purpose in life. When it comes to the religion sector, your spiritual gift is graced by God for proper and effective functioning. You don't have to function in all of the gifts of The Spirit, although it is possible, but if you can just master one or two of the gifts, you will still succeed and fulfil purpose. We have seen in times past how great men and women of God function in one or two of the gifts of The Spirit and still fulfilled their purpose in God.

It is really burdensome and hectic for one individual to function in all the gift of The Spirit. Although, a spiritual man that is yielded to The Holy Spirit is able to share and function in many of the gifts of The Spirit when needed at a particular moment, but he will be known majoring on one or two of the gifts.

You can be graced by God in the prophetic, to prophesy with ease while others have to fast and pray for long before they function in the prophetic. A man graced in the prophetic can do it with ease. Both have the gift of prophecy, but the other is graced in the area of the prophetic, he can see and hear God speak as long as he set his heart to hear. Since God is a doing and speaking Spirit, when He is doing or saying something, someone must position himself to see what He is doing and hear what He is saying.

The grace of God can do for you what your days of fasting and prayers can't do for you, when the grace of God is eminent in your life, you will do things with ease. It will not be a guess work, but accuracy and precision will be seen when you minister because the grace of God made it possible for you.

When God gave Moses the blue print for the temple, it was to be according to the pattern given without mistakes. Moses saw the design, but another person worked on the design. Such a person that will design what

another saw without making a mistake must have to be graced by God to do that. God told Moses, He has anointed Bezaleel and Aholiab to do the artistic work of the temple because it is only them that He has anointed and graced to do the function. They were positioned rightly to be noticed and placed appropriately for the fulfilment of purpose. So also, you need proper positioning by God to fulfil purpose here on earth.

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, when he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. {captivity...: or, a multitude of captives} (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) {fill: or, fulfil}. And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: {in: or, into} {stature: or, age}. That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive (Ephesians 4:7-14).

When Jesus conquered, He gave gifts to men and these gifts are in offices. He gave some to be Apostles, [the ones that will govern]. Some prophets, [who are to give direction and guidance]; teachers, [who are to ground people in the doctrine of Christ]; pastors, [who are to shepherd the flocks]; and the evangelists, [this are the ones that are to gather lost souls from the field].

All these fivefold offices are very vital as given by Jesus Christ for the equipping of the saints until we come to the fullness of Christ unto a perfect man. There are many offices that was set by Christ Jesus, but the fivefold is the most prominent in our today world. I will limit myself to the fivefold for the benefit of understanding.

When a man is graced by God in the sector of religion, he takes a gift and links it with an office to give him a designation. This is not just done in the

flesh, but by The Holy Spirit discerning the area of his *gracement*. He must watch to see which grace functions in him. It is a predestination that reveals itself by default as you submit to The Holy Spirit.

When a man with the gift of the prophetic is called into the office of a teacher, he become a 'prophetic teacher'. Such a man is called into the fivefold office of the teacher, but graced by God with the prophetic gift. He can prophesy a little, but can always teach depth of revelations. Because, he is not called as a prophet, but a teacher, graced in the prophetic. When a man is called into the fivefold office of an Evangelist, but graced by God with the gift of healing, He is referred to as a 'healing evangelist.' Such an evangelist undertakes large and terrible camp crusades gathering of thousands upon thousands of people. Through him, the function of healing the sick, casting out devils and even raising the dead is done by God because he is graced by God in the healing gift. A man that is not graced by God in the area of healing can pray for someone to get healed, but he cannot go and organize a crusade gathering thousands upon thousands to be healed. He is not graced by God to do that. When he forces himself to do it, he may make mistakes. The stress might even kill him.

There are many apostles that function in the gift of healing. They too can organize healing meetings and thousands upon thousands can get healed. They are graced by God in the area of healing and miracles. They are called 'healing Apostles'. People like Kathryn Kuhlman, Maria woodworth-Etter, Benny Hinn, and Reinhard Bonke are called 'healing evangelist'. Others like Alexander Dowie, Smith wigglesworth, John G. Lake are called 'healing Apostles' of faith. Papa Kenneth E. Hagin, can be referred to as a 'prophetic teacher', he is a teacher, but heavily graced in the prophetic by God. All these are specialties designed by God and given to these people by an election of grace. God is still gracing people in our days. When God graces His gift in you, you see no limitation.

William Mario Branham, is a man called as a prophet. He functioned as an evangelist and graced in the gift of healing and the prophetic. He can be referred to as a 'prophetic healing evangelist.' He was so good in the prophetic that he was unique in his days. He sees things about people's life, past, present and future. God truly found a man in him that He can function with in the prophetic to open the realms and womb of the prophetic for next generation. He was the one that began the manifestation of the gift of the prophetic, calling people's names, states, cities and numbers that is common in our generation now. He is truly a father in the prophetic. He raised many people from the dead.

His accuracy and precision in the prophetic is uncommon. He was not a good teacher of the doctrine. When you hear him teach, you will see the imbalance in his doctrine. He did not do well as a teacher. In his generation, Kenneth E. Hagin was the one that sat in the office of a teacher maintaining the balance in doctrine. Those two were like a pillar in their time. William Mario Branham sat in the office of the prophet, while Kenneth E Hagin sat in the office of a teacher and God made it so for them.

God choose to divide the gifting and the offices, so that we can play different roles, but still be under one Lord and Spirit. The gift of The Spirit can be joined with the office of Christ Jesus where we are given a designation for proper functioning on the earth.

We all must learn to understand the grace of God upon our lives and embrace it. We must appreciate the unending supply of God to us. Everyone is given a measure of grace, but according to calling and election of grace to fulfil a mandate. When you don't appreciate and embrace the grace of God at work in your life, you will struggle even with the gifts of The Spirit. The grace of God is given to us to ease our burden functioning in the anointing via The Holy Spirit.

I have seen ministries that struggle simply because they failed to

understand and embrace the grace of God released upon them as a gift to sustain them. Every ministry and church has a grace upon the commission given by God and it always rest upon the commission until it is accessed and functioned in. It is the responsibility of the set man to access the releases of grace and resources that God has blessed the commission within the spiritual realm and bring them to the physical, so that all can benefit from it. That is why, when the set man is weak in the spirit, the members will follow suit. But if he is vibrant and active in the spirit, they will be also. His countenance is supposed to sharpen that of his members.

When Jesus Christ said to the disciples, “Go for I am with you always.” He is releasing Himself to them as a grace that sustains a man. The grace of God mostly is Jesus Christ personified because Christ Jesus supplied Himself to us as the grace of God to enable us when we ask of Him. The grace of God upon a commission is accessible by realizing and embracing it. So also, everyone that is anointed by God has a grace over his life. That grace makes the burden of God easy and light for him. When the grace of God is withdrawn in a man's life or ministry, the man and the ministry goes into oblivion.

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich (2 Corinthians 8:9).
And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth forever (2 Corinthians 9:8-9).
And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Jesus Christ is the grace of God personified in our lives. This may sound like heretic, but before you criticize me, critique me first! When we ask for the grace of God, God gives us Himself in the likeness of Christ Jesus, The Anointed One to help us. Grace is an unmerited favour that is, when favour

is not merited. It is something we don't deserve, but when we ask, it is given to us just like Christ was given to us even when we don't deserve Him. When He said, "I will be with you always," He meant that, He is going to leave a part of Himself with us at all time.

Grace is the supply of God to man and the exchange of man's weakness with God's strength. Paul said, "Should we continue in sin that grace may abound?" When we sin it is the blood of Christ Jesus personified as Christ that cleanses our sin and plead for our forgiveness. Since the life of a being is in its blood, then the life of Christ still remains in His blood and it washes our sins daily. This simply means that Christ Jesus is supplied to us on a continual basis.

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, {hath...: or, to all men, hath appeared} Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; {glorious...: Gr. the appearance of the glory of the great God, and of our Saviour Jesus Christ} Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee (Titus 2:11-15).

We must keep looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith. Jesus Christ Himself is the grace of God personified that appears unto us all to save us from sin. He still lives in us and is willing to save us in times of our weaknesses. We are to call on Him for help not giving into the weaknesses of the flesh which leads us to sin.

The grace of God is revealed in several ways and we have to embrace all the dimensions of the grace as revealed to us and take advantage of it for effective function in the anointing on earth. The different dimensions of grace are as follow:

- Grace revealed as a form and a person. (Proverbs 1:9, 3:22)

- Grace revealed as favour, kindness and friendship. (Genesis 6:8, 18:3, 19:19, Psalms 45:2)
- Grace revealed as God's forgiving mercy. (Romans 11:6, Ephesians 2:5)
- Grace revealed as the gospel distinguished from the law. (2 Timothy 1:9, John 1:17, Romans 6:14, 1 Peter 5:12)
- Grace revealed as a gift freely bestowed by God: as miracles, prophecy, and tongues. (Romans 15:15, 1 Corinthians 15:10, Ephesians 3:8)
- Grace revealed as a Christian virtue. (2 Corinthians 8:7, 2 Peter 3:18)
- Grace seen as the glory hereafter to be revealed. (1 Peter 1:13)

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

Paul gave a full detail on how much he depends on the grace of God to reveal who he was and how the grace of God saw him through his journey in God. The grace of God upon him was an enablement and a greasing that made the burden of God light for him to bear. The grace of God does not abolish work, but it helps you to labour and produce more work of faith.

The more grace God releases upon you, the more you have to work and labour for righteousness. Many of the ministers I mentioned were heavily graced by God to be able to do those exploits in God. I do wonder what will happen to them if they were not graced! No matter their zeal and passion, they might have achieved little. They might have even broken down because of the burden and stress overtime.

The grace of God is not a tool for laziness, but to labour and work. The grace was supposed to drive you into doing more for God, fulfilling great

purpose and goals in life. Paul the apostle was one of a kind that experienced so much grace from God, from his conversion till his apostleship. That grace was not in vain in him because he laboured so much for the new generation believers. His labour resulted to the mass conversion of the Gentiles. He wrote so many books and epistles of the New Testament that has become the template and foundation for a new believer in Christ Jesus.

Paul was heavily persecuted in his pursuit for God, but the grace of God enclosed and comforted him. Even though on occasion, he felt the pain, he never gave up but continued in God. He reckoned his achievement to the grace of God at work in his life and he said that, he laboured more than every other apostle. He might be sounding rude, but we saw his works and labour of faith revealed in the epistles and letters he wrote in comfort, pain and terrible times of perils by the government. He was a man of deep revelation and mysteries in Christ. Peter after a while had to agree that Paul may not have walked directly with Christ when He was on earth, but he spoke as one who did. He was later given the right hand of fellowship among the apostles to function with their seal of apostleship after the order of Christ Jesus our saviour.

The same way that the Apostles of Christ and many others were graced by God to function maximally in God, all of us can do the same. Paul himself was a former persecutor of the brethren, but when his predestination began to speak, he was summoned by God to become an apostle unto the nations.

When you understand the grace of God not just as the one that saved you from sin, but as a covering of God upon you and the administration of Christ Jesus into your life, and embrace it, it will keep you in the functioning of the anointing daily. Always appreciate and embrace God's grace in your life. You can't do it by your strength, with might and power,

but by The Spirit of God that supplies grace to you at all times. May you not be lacking in grace at any time in your journey into God. Amen.

Shalom!!!

Chapter 12

HONOUR! THE ULTIMATE RULE OF ALL

Q man you don't honour will never bless you, neither will his grace be of any effect to you. There are many anointed men and women that God anointed in millions all around the world and these people impact the world globally. But for that impact and global influence to continue, there must be a people that must honour them so that they can bless them with the same blessing they received from God to do even more than they did on earth.

Many of the great men that walked this earth were not honoured by even the people they helped. Some of them were an object of cruel mockery and disdain in their society. Others are seen as nuisance while others were considered a threat by their government and political tyrants because with the influence of the masses, they could start a revolution.

When you don't honour an anointed man, no matter how he tries to bless you, he can't! This is because your heart posture is far from his and the grace of God upon his life will only bless them that are in the same posture of heart with him. A minister said, "God told him, if he can get the people to believe in the grace of God upon his life and its ability to heal them, then they will get healed! But if they don't believe, he can't do anything to help them." When they believe in the grace upon him, they have honoured him and in honouring him, they honour God. God will in turn, honour them by healing their infirmities. People continue to suffer with infirmity because they fail to honour others who might be their solution. Maybe by just honouring another person that love God, they will be healed. Your honour is not to the individual, but the grace of God upon him which is Christ Jesus

personified. Honour is really a jewel my friends!

I was watching a tape of William Mario Branham and it amazed me seeing him spending time telling the people suffering with infirmities to first believe in him and in the ability of God in him to heal them before he prays for them. He will engage them in a little discourse to be in harmony with their spirit so that they can believe that God can do this through him. When he senses their faith and believe that he can do it, then he prayed for them and they get healed instantly. This may sound like a long discourse, but it takes merely a minute for them to believe as he engaged their spirit in a conversation. He will say to them, “The Angel of The LORD who is sent to me to help you believe in Jesus Christ is here now, do you believe me as a man sent from God to you? If He reveals to me the secrets of your heart, will you receive Him as your Lord and Saviour? You have to believe it yourself, because, I cannot force you to believe that.” You will be amazed how they immediately believe in what he said. He will begin to reveal the secret things in their heart and talk to them about themselves. This seems to give them the assurance that God knows them and have them at heart which made them believe him the more. When their heart is open, he prays for them to be heal of the infirmity that troubles them and it leaves immediately! This is because by the prophetic gift of The Spirit, he engaged their spirit and revealed the secrets of their heart to them.

'A grace you don't honour and respect, have no respect and honour for you.' Also, a God you don't honour have no honour for you. Honour is a conscious thing and it comes from your spirit, heart and mind. It is when you esteem another higher than you. One of the easiest way to become anointed in the kingdom is to find someone that is anointed and honour him and his grace will naturally rub on you even without his permission because his grace is a resources from God. Honour is a law that God instituted which can work for anyone –believer or an unbeliever. That is why we have

mentors, elders, tutors, spiritual fathers and leaders, in which mentees, tutees, disciples and spiritual sons are to honour and submit to.

Many people are too familiar with their mentors and spiritual fathers that they have no respect whatsoever for them. Such a people wonder why they don't grow and prosper in ministry. You cannot grow because "a servant is not greater than his master." The servant may be destined to do greater things, but not above his master. Spiritual maturity is not equal to world influence, stature in God may not give you world influence, but it will give you a voice in the realm of the spirit. God can choose to make it so, although most people that have stature with God have world influence also or He can choose to make you the father and mentor over the ones with the influence.

The grace of God upon a man's life multiplies when it gets to his servant and spiritual sons that is why many fathers may not have influence and impact on the world as their sons will do. This does not mean that the son is greater than the father because the fathers laid the foundation for the sons to build upon. The sons cannot do anything without the help of the fathers; every leader today is connected to a mentor once upon a time.

There is a thin line between familiarity and intimacy and that thin line that makes the difference is called Honour! Until you honour a man from your heart, he will not bless you. He may not even know you are not honouring him because your commitment and sacrifices may look like honour to him. He may lay his hands and pronounce a blessing upon you, but God who gives the blessing knows your heart and will not cause it to function because you can't deceive both man and God. Man may not see and perceive your heart but God does.

When you become familiar with a mentor, he ceases to bless you. He becomes like your mate; for honour is a positioning of the mind and a posture of the heart. This has been a challenge to by many mentees that

are close to their mentors. They may think they do honour the mentor, but the posture of their heart is already wrong. Everything you do must be in the right mind and heart posture to function well.

Honour has to be consciously shown, by positioning your mind and posturing your heart to esteem a mentor and a spiritual father above yourself knowing fully well that he has a lot to give to you than you have to give him. There has never been mutuality between a mentor and a mentee, the mentee should always be imparted. Nevertheless, the mentor may learn a few from the mentee by wisdom. Most close spiritual sons who minister in the flesh never get to honour them, they may even be very familiar with them. When the minister is long gone, their life becomes a misery and they have nothing to write home about. The minister might have prayed for them and wished them well, but it is of God to honour, not a man. Men can honour you in the flesh in cash and kind, but God rewards with spiritual resources and investment as an honour to influence the earth.

And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better (Hebrews 7:7).

The lesser will always be blessed by the greater in life. It is impossible for water to flow from a low level to a higher level, instead it flows from the higher level to the lower level. The current in the higher cannot permit the lower level to flow toward it, rather it flows toward the low to attain equilibrium. Young ministers of nowadays have lost the act of honouring their elders and spiritual leaders. They never see the need to honour the fathers that have gone ahead of them, some consider themselves equally anointed. What a bad mindset! No wonder many never attain unto certain heights in the spirit realm. No matter how anointed you are, if you continue to dishonour and discredit your spiritual fathers and elders, you will never attain unto certain levels in God. God will put a limit to your progression in Him because that is the seed of pride which is of the devil is growing in you.

Humility results in a natural honour to others especially your fathers and elders. God will always resist the proud, but give grace to the humble.

There was a story of a man, he is the spiritual father to many sons. They all gathered in a meeting to discuss an issue. In the process, the spiritual father said something that one of the son's disagreed with. The son got offended and shouted, "Are we not all anointed?" Immediately, he was struck with an infirmity that only the spiritual father was able to cure. He learnt a very big lesson that day. Anyone that dishonours his head has dishonoured God. God was the one that put the leader over you for your benefit and no matter how anointed you are today; someone was once upon a time more anointed than you. The anointing is not a new thing that you have to lord over it. Solomon said, "There is nothing new under the sun." Be humble as a minister, serve in humility unto God and submit to others in honour so that you can do even more than what they did in their time.

No matter how wise a son thinks he is, the father always has an experience he can tell the son about. The father has the privilege of being born before him and he can tell him about the days he was not yet born. Also, spiritual fathers and elders in the spirit may not be older than you, but by the privileges of grace, they are more experienced than you in the things of God. They can teach you something even if it is their mistakes, you can learn from it.

A student is not supposed to be a student forever, but is supposed to be taught until he comes into maturity having the same or more insight than the teacher and this is the goal of teaching. It aims to bring students to the same level of understanding as the teacher and even elevate them above his/her standard. This implies that as you decrease, they will increase keeping the legacy in higher measures.

Knowledge and the anointing cannot flow among mates. If it must flow for whatever reason, one must assume the position of a student or the lesser

one and the other assumes the position of the teacher or the greater so that the knowledge and the anointing can flow –Even if it is for the benefit of the moment. If everyone claims to have what to give, then no one will be receiving anything. God's resources and virtues are in different measure among us. As we share together, we partake of each other's grace.

I learnt of a minister of the gospel that had a challenge, his wife was not able to conceive since they got married. They prayed and fasted but to no avail. He decided to go meet his spiritual father to pray for him with the mentality that since the spiritual father is more anointed than him, it can be done. God wanted to teach him the law of honour not to a ministry or to a particular selected fathers, but to all fathers in the body of Christ. You may not be that close to a minister of the gospel, but for the love of Christ Jesus, show them love and honour them. It will be wrong of you to only honour your father and dishonour other people's father. Honour them all! When he met their spiritual father to pray for them, as he began to pray, God told him to send them to another minister who is not even connected to their ministry to pray for them. The spiritual father told them what God said, and as they obeyed, the wife became pregnant and gave birth to a child according to the time of life. The couple learnt a new principle of honour and how God is no respecter of person old or young.

Don't be too quick in castigating ministers even the ones you don't know they belong to the body of Christ. Learn to love and honour them with the love of Christ. It may be right to do a critical critique on them sometimes, but don't just sit and keep on criticizing them. Don't also be only limited to your local church because the body of Christ is global and cannot be limited to a denomination even in their millions and billions of memberships.

The local church is just but a microcosm of the macrocosm body of Christ, we must embrace each other in love. We may not accept each other's doctrine, rules and regulations, but let's accept each other in Christ Jesus

The Saviour of all. There is no perfect local church on earth, each has its own issues and flaws. We, the body of Christ can only be perfected as a cooperate body. Each denomination may contain a part of the body which can only find perfection in the other.

Lack of honour can limit a minister. When a minister is not honoured within a location, he cannot be a blessing to the people of that location no matter how anointed he is. Not because he is not anointed, but because they failed to honour and believe in the God he came to profess. But when a man is honoured by a people, even if he is not as anointed as many will claim, he can still be able to bless and impact the lives of the people. Jesus Christ Himself was unable to do much work in His home town because they were too familiar with Him and never cared to honour Him. When you begin to share in the grace of a minister, you naturally begin to love and cherish him and even desire to become like him. Some even act and behave like their mentor, that is good, but don't remain that myopic. God has not called you to be like someone else, you have a unique identity in Christ Jesus. It will be revealed through you in time and many others will also want to be like you. Nevertheless, for the time being, continue as your mentor if you so wish, but he must realize that you have your uniqueness in God. Most true spiritual sons behave and act like their spiritual fathers, that is an influence of his grace, but they are to do more work than their fathers. The fathers are to help them fulfil purpose in God.

A Pastor seems to command more influence on his immediate members and followers and he shares part of himself as he speaks and communicates spirit and life to them releasing impartation upon them. As a minister matures and develops in the spirit, his spirit is shared upon his disciples by The Holy Spirit. There is a place and a realm you can attain in God where you begin to release the spirit upon people as you pray and lay hands on them as impartation.

That is why, when you share in the spirit of a minister by impartation, you begin to function in his graces. He can appear to you in a dream to pray with you and for you, and he can even appear to you and give you an instruction on what to do in hard times. All these were possible because he released an impartation of his spirit upon you. The spirit he imparts upon people is not fully his spirit but The Spirit of The LORD upon him. When God anoints you, He puts His Spirit within you and that Spirit is connected to The Holy Spirit. For example, Elisha and John the Baptist received the spirit upon Elijah, and Joshua and the 70 elders received the spirit upon Moses.

And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease (Numbers 11:25).

This spirit that is upon a minister that is anointed is of God. When the minister dies, God can choose to transfer the mantle with the spirit to another person. But when he is alive, another is allowed by God to share and partake of the spirit that made up the minister.

Until you honour someone with the whole of your heart, you can't share in their graces and blessings. You may want to pray, fast and study following the pathway to the anointing to become anointed, but that will require a lot of discipline and dealings with The Holy Spirit over time. Honour can grant you that access in just a moment and you will be guided and watched by a father who has been through the dealings and discipline in God. Although, the lord will teach you and guide you, but so many mistakes will be avoided because your spiritual father will give you a guide and a foreknowledge of what to expect in your journey in God. 'If you are waiting to invent your own electricity before you begin to use electric light, then you might wait and live in darkness for long. Why not use the electricity

that is already invented by someone else'? The same applies to spiritual journey into God. Many do not want to be mentored and disciple by others, instead they want to do it all by themselves. It is not impossible, but that is not wisdom at all! We all need to be helped by each other in our journey into God and that is not a sign of weakness at all. People without mentors and fathers make a lot of mistakes which could have been avoided. Those mistakes can be avoided if they have an elder that speaks over their lives and ministry advising them on what to do and what not to do. Nevertheless, I have seen many lawless and dishonest spiritual sons that don't honour their spiritual fathers. Perhaps, some of the spiritual fathers are also very gullible.

Spiritual Fatherhood and Mentorship

Before I speak on this, I don't consider myself a final authority on this subject, although I speak as a man that have received grace and obtained mercy from God to be trustworthy. If you have an issue with believing, please pray and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you aright because only Him has the final say. As every doctrine written by man is subject to a critical critique by others, not all spiritual things are to be debated. Some cannot be comprehended by the carnal natural mind.

There are lots of people that call ministers their spiritual fathers, but do not understand what they are saying because this spiritual culture has become a cliché overtime. They call ministers their fathers for the wrong reasons. The same applies to spiritual fathers who have many sons without the understanding of what it entails. As I observed this saga and series of reasons in which ministers adopt sons and I realized that it is now a normal cliché in our today's generation.

This new culture is really absurd because they both know little or nothing about their decisions, but being ignorant of the consequences of a decision you take will not stop the consequences from befalling you. So

many sons can't keep up with their spiritual responsibilities as sons, also many fathers don't keep up with the responsibilities expected of them. Many ministers that call themselves spiritual fathers over many sons are supposed to be mentors over them. They have to be very sure that God wants them to keep such an individual as a son and they are willing to keep up with their spiritual and physical responsibilities.

For you to be a spiritual father over a son, that son must be someone you begot in the gospel. You must be the one responsible for his conversion into Christ, his salvation, his training and his mentoring into maturity in the things of God. You are to be responsible for his well-being: spirit, soul and body. His spiritual, financial and moral well-being is also a concern for you. He becomes like a child you just adopted as your own. He is begotten as a son in your court from his initial in God to his maturity as a true son.

You can beget a spiritual son or submit to a spiritual father also through revelation by God. It is a product of a revelation by God to become a partaker of the grace of the father and to remain with him sharing in his mandate and mantle. A son can receive a revelation from God to go submit to a man of grace so as to partake of his grace, mantle and mandate as given by God to the man.

When he receives the revelation, he is to let the man know, since God is not the author of confusion. He will then speak to the man to confirm the word spoken to him by God to become a son under his fatherhood. The son has the responsibility to serve, honour and respect him in total submission to the mandate and mantle. The son also has to be fully engaged in any project undertaken by the father. He is supposed to be fully involve with his life even unto dead.

A Spiritual father is supposed to own the spiritual son. The son becomes the property of the father because the father can give him any responsibility to do without controversy. Nevertheless, the father is supposed to love, care

and cherish the son for he will be held responsible by God for the well-being of the son. God will hold the father accountable for each of the son he begets. He will give a report of how he trained the sons unto maturity. Sometimes, it is better not to beget a spiritual son because you will be held accountable for his development in life by God. If you know you don't have the time to keep to your responsibilities as a father, don't accept a son. That goes for the sons also, don't just go to be begotten by a father if you are not going to submit to him spirit, soul and body in service.

A spiritual father has a two edged sword that can bless you or curse you. You can go with a curse when you disobey him and you can go with a blessing when you are obedient and faithful to the end. No spiritual father will curse his son, but the son can bring the curse upon himself when he dishonours the father. When you truly honour your spiritual father, he will bless you in his own capacity, but God will give you his mandate and mantle if you can earn it.

When you receive the mantle and mandate of your father, you will do greater things than your father because it is now the fusion of graces, the one of the father that came with the mantle, and the one that you receive from God before the mantle. Make no mistake, as long as your father lives, you cannot take of his mantle, but you can partake and share in his mandate which is his assignment on earth. You can only take your father's mantle when he is gone to be with The LORD, but his mandate is his assignment given by commissioning. You can take and share of the mandate on earth at any time as an extension. With this understanding, you now realize that many sons submit to fathers for reasons not justified and many fathers beget sons they should not have begotten initially. Some fathers in a bait to increase and enlarge their empire and ministry beget sons. Most of these sons never truly submit to the fathers, they don't have a close relationship with them. They are just interested in the money and support they get from

the father.

This kind of sons are just using the influence and affluence of their father to gain access into places they never would get access to. They always cause a lot of trouble in the ministry because anything God didn't give and orchestrate will not last long, but will always cause chaos. Such sons are never committed to a project in the ministry without a personal gain. They are not stable in the ministry and are willing to leave the father at any time.

Lots of sons submit to fathers for earthly reward not by a revelation. Some may want to get a branch of his ministry while others may want a cheque on a daily basis or just want to reckon with men of great renown. Such a reason is not sufficient for you to submit to a man. There is always a grace that comes with submitting to a spiritual father. If God does not orchestrate your submission, you will find it very hard to submit to a man. When you allow God to direct you, you will receive the grace that will keep you, as you will not find your responsibilities grievous.

I know a man that will never accept and beget a spiritual son until he asks God, and even if he receives a revelation from God, he will wait until he receives a conviction from God about it. If he receives no conviction from God, he will accept you as a mentee and not a spiritual son. He will become your mentor as you become his mentee, you will learn a lot from him directly and indirectly, but he will not be responsible for you as you will not be that committed to him also.

A true spiritual father must have time for his sons, he can't be too busy for them. He must create a time to counsel them aright in life and ministry. There was a story of a son, who one day called his father for counselling but the father was unavailable. He tried for a while until he got frustrated and sent a text that read, 'what kind of a father are you that have no time for a son, if that is how you will father me; then today I dis-father you.' That may

look like he went too far, but as a spiritual father you must create time for your sons. Always make them feel at home and comfortable with you. Such a spiritual son that can dis-father his spiritual father lacks the revelation of spiritual fatherhood and sonship. He might have submitted to the father without a revelation and surely the father was not responsible for his conversion in Christ as well as spiritual development. If he was, then a child he trained should do better than that except he is a bastard! The father might have been in a meeting which may have demanded he put his phone on silent or even switch it off or many other possible reasons.

When you submit to a father by revelation, patience shouldn't be an issue to you. You will have to wait to hear your father's reasons for his actions toward you, even if you are not satisfied with them. You as a spiritual son is supposed to serve, honour and respect your father at all times, except when it is wrong. You may bring a curse upon yourself if you just leave him because of an ephemeral and erratic reason without his fatherly blessing.

Mentorship

A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, wherein have we despised thy name? (Malachi 1:6)

'All spiritual fathers are spiritual mentors, but not all spiritual mentors are spiritual fathers'.

Mentorship: is the relationship that exists between a mentor and a mentee for the equipping of the mentee to succeed in life and fulfil purpose. To mentor someone simply means to give them help and advice over a period of time, especially help and advice related to their job – whether ministerial or otherwise. A mentee is a person that submits to the mentor to be mentored.

Mentorship is for a period of time and involves less commitment to the mentor. You don't necessarily need a revelation before you choose a mentor. In fact, the mentor may not even know you are his mentee, in our today society of internet and electronic resources.

A mentor is regarded as a wise and trusted counsellor and a teacher. We all need teachers and mentors in our lives at different stages in our life developments. The Holy Spirit is our ultimate mentor, but we still need other mentors on earth. Our lives are full of many mentors since from when we were born; there were people that taught and counselled us aright as we grow and matured in life. Those people are mentors because they helped and trained us for a period of time. All Our teachers from nursery school to university and even beyond that are referred to as our mentors. You may give them a general designation of a teacher or a lecturer, but they are surely mentors in your lives for a period of time.

A mentor can have lots of mentee, most of them don't even know the mentees personally, but his impact upon their lives is tremendous. He sits in the office of a counsellor and a teacher for a period of time in their lives. A mentor is not supposed to choose his student, but to welcome all. He doesn't need to sustain a personal and close relationship with the mentee rather, they are supposed to maintain a close relationship with his resources and materials. A mentor even if localized is always open to welcoming all that are willing and open hearted to learn of his knowledge. The mentor may not ask for any commitment, honour and respect from his mentee because they can choose to walk away at any time.

Since the law of honour applies to all, even a mentor, it will be wise to honour and respect him if not, you will be surprised that, although he didn't curse you, but you will not get blessed by his ministration. When you dishonour a mentor, it may not result to a curse as when you dishonour a spiritual father, but surely he will not bless you. All your time spent

listening to him may not add anything to you, because, you didn't set your heart toward it. Basically speaking, anything you reject will reject you and whatever you cast away will be far from you. Why not make it a lifestyle to honour anyone that is contributing something to you, physically or spiritually.

It is possible to have as many spiritual mentors as you want, but you can only have one spiritual father at a time. You need people that will mentor and guide you in different areas of life, and since there is no man that is a custodian of all knowledge, then you need to be mentored by many in those various areas of life per season. You can choose a mentor in the area of: marriage, relationship, ministry, business, health, sport and even politics. A mentor is someone you submit to for a season to learn certain basic truths and the foundation for a specific area of life that you are deficient. Such a person must be graced by God in that area to be able to counsel you aright. Since you cannot be a custodian of all knowledge, you will need others to teach you in other aspects of life that you lack understanding. When you see someone you admire and is graced enough by God in a specific area you need, you can choose to submit to him and learn his knowledge for a season.

A mentor might not even know all the people that benefit from his wisdom because he has little or no close relationship with them all. As long as they continue to honour him, they get blessed by his knowledge and produce similar results as he has from his principles. The revolution of the internet age made things easier because you can be schooled online and earn degrees and attend conferences and services online without even seeing the mentor physically. Lots of mentors have materials and resources in different formats that they use to mentor a mentee if he can just be faithful to utilize those resources well.

When you get to know what your mentor did to become successful and

what he is doing to maintain that success and apply the same principle and knowledge on yourself, you will produce the same results and even better. One of my strengths is that, I have lots of mentors, both dead and living, I always take out time to study great men that have walked with God in times past. How they did it and the challenges they encountered, their failures and successes.

When you study biographies like I do of great men and women that have walked with God, you will realize an unending passion and zeal that they had for the cause and how determined they were to achieving their goals in God, even unto death. Their commitment and sacrifices were terrible. They were totally sold out to God for His purpose and will to be fulfilled on earth. It was not long before I too decided to make a vow to follow God till the end. I began following after their footsteps desiring more of God's love. As I continued to apply the laws and principles I learn from the lives of these great men, I too began to function in the anointing of The Spirit overtime. I found God to be faithful fulfilling His calling and purpose in me and through me.

Every great man living has a mentor living or dead. He has someone that he references and respects apart from The Holy Spirit the ultimate of all. No matter how anointed you are, no matter how many spiritual mentee and sons you have, no matter how many bestselling spiritual books you have written, you still need to be mentored by someone. Your knowledge and perspective alone is not enough. You still need to read other people's books to be mentored in another perspective, light and revelation.

A spiritual man without a spiritual father or a mentor is walking on a dangerous path that may lead to costly consequences. Such a man is like a moving train without a driver. You don't have to tell people you have a mentor, but just be mentored by someone. There are a lot of people that have mentors that no one knows about, it is not a crime. Even your mentor

might not even know he mentors you! It is normal for you not to account for the number of people that admire you and desire to be like you, so also people that you admire as mentors might not even fathom that you admire them. We all have someone we admire and desires to do similar things as we do in life and even exceed it. That can be achieved if you can only allow them to mentor you.

I once told a friend, “You don't have to be fathered by a leader, if he refuses to accept you as a spiritual son, why not just accept him as a spiritual mentor.” One good thing about mentorship is that, the leader can't choose the people he wants to mentor, except the mentor decides to be restrictive. If he doesn't put a restriction on himself and his resources, then utilize his materials, honour, serve and respect him. Attend his conferences and seminars, read his books and listen to his tapes since the same law and principle applies to both spiritual sons and mentee. The same grace and blessing can be received between someone that is fathered as a son, and someone that is mentored, but honour must be given to both the father and the mentor. Become more faithful than even some of his sons and the God that see your heart will honour your service of honour to his servant overtime.

'Every good leader is a good reader.' If you must sustain and grow in the anointing of the spirit upon your life then, you must undertake to study the scriptures and read spiritual books written by trusted authors. That will help keep you in the right perspective of mind and spirit and sharpen your discernment in the spirit. Words are spirit and life, whether spoken verbally or read from a paper. The potency of the word spoken is dependent upon the heart that receives it.

When a leader refuses to read, he naturally begins to deteriorate in knowledge and the tendency of him making many mistakes and error will increase. If there is one thing I do more, is to read! Study! And write! I

consider it a delight because I learnt very early in life that, an investment in knowledge counts a lot. I can't calculate the number of books I have read so far, I read as many as I have laid my hands on. I still read books, biographies and publications, it has become a habit that can't go easily. I love reading biographies more because they challenge and inspire me because they show how God raises a man from nothing to something which is why He is YHWH!!! As I read about great men and women who impacted the world, I see the possibility of anyone created by God having the same potential to do even more.

I realized that among the great men and women in the world, living or dead, there is someone among them that mirrors your situation of discouragement and disappointment, and how they got out of it. How they fought and refused to give up their life until they had victory. Your current situation is just but a mirage that will fade away, you don't have to make it look like a final bus stop for your life. There is always a bigger picture to life that you see not and hear not but is always hidden in God. Let your faith be in the faithfulness of God for He will not fail you. There shall soon be a performance in your life.

Weakness, handicap and deficiency in life is not the end of an individual and this will not stop you from being successful unless you decide to let it stop you when you give up in life. When you read and study the lives of great men and women dead and alive, you will realize that there is always someone with the same challenges and circumstances that you have, but has succeeded despite its effect on him. All you need to do is to choose one among them that you admire and make him a mentor, then study about him: what principles he applied and the things he did, and how he did it to succeed.

You cannot blame anyone for your spiritual, financial and marital state in life, so also you don't have to blame it on a situation and a circumstances

because someone like you with the same situation and circumstances have chosen to do otherwise and succeed. If you can take the responsibility to find a solution, it will be of great benefit to others that are walking on the same path with you. Solutions don't just come automatically; someone needs to proffer them for the benefit of others. Why not be the one to proffer the solution for the benefit of others?

When you study the biography of great men, you will realize that some of them were once one of the most terrible people on earth. Most, if not all did some terrible things but that never stop them from being used by God to do the most awesome things on the earth. Later in their lives, they considered it a stepping stone onto higher grounds. Others came from backgrounds that were never associated with greatness and success, some of them had poverty as a pet name and designation because they came out of intense poverty and lack and were the first to rise out of that den. With great determination to make a change, they strived and broke through to greatness.

You should get the thought of quitting and giving up on life out of your mind as other people in worst case scenario were able to breakthrough, why not find such a people as mentors and learn from them and their experiences. I really love to listen and read what self-made millionaires have to say about how they succeeded in life. Their story of victory and success from hard work, discipline and commitment would encourage you greatly. A man born into wealth and affluence may not have a story to tell of victory that can encourage and inspire others, even if he is a millionaire because he has no story to inspire.

When you find such people that have passed through pain in life to limelight and honour respect them. Those people might not even be "spiritual" but might have a grace from God that enabled them to prosper. When you honour them, you partake of it also. A wise man once said

“celebrate success when you see one, else you will never become one.” It is wisdom to study how people do things and attain unto success. Choose to honour and study great men and learn how they do what they do and the way they do it.

Mandate and Mantle

People always wonder the difference between mandate and mantle, there is a great difference between the two. A spiritual mandate is an authorization from heaven and a command decree upon a man by heaven to execute an assignment. Mandate is referred to as the commissioning, while a mantle is like the covering garment of the anointing. It is like a carrier and vehicle of the anointing. A mantle of something is a layer of it covering a surface. If you take on the mantle of something that someone is doing, you take on the responsibilities and duties which must be fulfilled to achieve that person's goal.

In the Old Testament, a mantle can be a piece of clothing or anything that God can use as a carrier of power and the anointing for signs and wonders. In the New Testament, the mantle upon a man is like a covering surface that may be invisible to our naked eyes. It is usually the covering around us like a heavy weight presence of God. That covering garment of mantle is like a spirit form that can be transferred to someone else. Moses' rod was a symbolism of a mantle, it was used for signs and wonders in his time. Elijah cloak was also seen as a mantle in his days and it was always with him, but when he was transported to heaven, it fell on his protégé Elisha. He picked it up and carried on the responsibilities of Elijah to continue as a prophet doing more signs and wonders in the land.

A mantle contains the anointing for the commission and mandate. When God gives a man a mantle, He gives him a mandate that he will use the mantle to execute it. Also, when you are given a mandate by God, a mantle will be given to you to execute it on earth. A man's mantle can be received

by his protégé after he is long gone. Most long term spiritual reward for diligent service, respect and honour is the taking of the mantle of the spiritual father. You may not necessarily take of his mandate when you take of his mantle, but your mandate will be in line with the mantle because it was designed as such.

A prophet with a prophetic mantle will have a prophetic mandate and even if he is gone, you may not continue his assignment on earth as a mandate, but your mandate will also be in line with the prophetic for it to work effectively. God sometimes decides to give a man the mantle of his father, but another mandate to accomplish, different from that of his father but still in the same sector and area. Mantles don't leave earth to heaven, they only come from heaven to the earth and remain on earth even after the possessor is dead. The mantle of great men and women that were not picked up by a protégé or someone that honours them still linger on the earth. Mantles continue to linger until they are taken by someone who cares to honour the leader on earth.

There are so many mantles on earth to be picked up of great men and women of God that live and die without a true successor, just like Elisha and Gehazi. Gehazi was unable to take the mantle of his father, as he took the leprosy of Naaman as a curse for life. There are a lot of great men that walked the earth with a mantle and a mandate from God before they died and went to heaven. God anoints the new generation with a different mandate, but with the same mantle of their fore fathers.

God can decide to give a new mantle to a faithful servant, if he chooses to pioneer a move on earth. The mantles of great men long gone are picked up by passionate and zealous believers that pay great price of honour and servitude unto God.

And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house (Matthew 13:57).

How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only? (John 5:44)

If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour (John 12:26).

The mantle upon a man can be limited if he is not honoured. A mantle can be powerful, but if found in the hand of a man that lacks the knowledge of how to yield to it in honour, it will become powerless. Until you honour the mantle given to you by God, it will never function in its full capacity. Jesus Christ though anointed with a mantle from heaven couldn't do much miracles in His town because they did not honour Him. This is applicable today as people have no respect for the anointing in a man's life. The mantle is to be honoured and used to fulfil the mandate of heaven given by God.

Elijah was honoured by Elisha because he served him diligently. Elisha was not the only 'Sons of the Prophet,' but he understood truly the place of honour and its reward. He was resilient until he was blessed by God with the mantle of his father. To partake of a mantle, you have to honour the possessor of the mantle. Elisha honoured Elijah and had respect for the mantle he carried. When the mantle rested on Elisha, he became a man like Elijah with more might and strength.

A man you don't honour his mantle will not bless you. We saw in the case of Moses and Joshua how Joshua served Moses diligently and when it was time for Moses to go, Joshua was honoured with the mantle and the mandate to lead Israel. There is no other way to receive the mantle of a man than to honour the possessor of the mantle, except if God chooses to give you another new mantle.

Mind you, honour is not human worship, but a spiritual principle put in

place by God Himself. Jesus submitted Himself to God The Father Almighty. Although He is God, His submission gave Him the honour of being exalted above all the creation of God. When you honour a man with a mantle, you can easily begin to function in the anointing. You will share in his grace and calling. If you are faithful till the end, you may take his mantle and mandate if God so wish.

There are many ministries that have folded up immediately after the pioneer died, he might have been a man of power and anointed by God with a mantle and mandate to liberate the world, but because there was no one worthy among his sons to pick up his mantle, the ministry could not be sustained and preserved at the level and height he attained.

When a man's mandate is taken by God and given to another, the man ceases to become relevant in God again. When God gives you a mandate and a mantle, it is supposed to be preserved through the next generation by your sons and protégés. If they fail to do that, God can give another individual the mandate, so that His kingdom can continue to influence the earth.

God is the one in control of the mantle and mandate and Him alone gives it to whosoever He pleases. A minister cannot decide who he wants to hand over the mantle and mandate to, except by the permission of God. It is God who decides who He will give the mantle to on earth. The mandate of God can fully be expressed on earth only if the mantle is also available. The man that is given the mandate needs the mantle to function aright in God.

Finally, I urge you as true spiritual sons and mentees to be diligent in services giving honour to leaders that have gone before you. Always learn to apply the principle of honour on the ones living now so that you can be fit to take their mantles when they are gone. God can even give you another mantle and mandate for your faithfulness and commitment to service.

I see no reason why we can't come into the inheritance of our fathers, since they have paid the price for the mantle and mandate, we can come into their inheritance to function in God. Paying another price for the mantle and mandate may not be that easy, although, it is not impossible. There are a lot of mantles of men and women that walked with God in times past still lingering on the earth. We need to have a perfect heart and mind posture of honour to be able to pick up those mantles. I pray that you will be fit to partake of the mantles of them that have gone before us. I urge you to be steadfast in the Lord walking in love always. Amen.

Shalom!!!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



PHILIP CEPHAS

Philip Cephas is a seasoned apostolic and prophetic teacher of the gospel of Truth. He is a man of love, wisdom, revelation, and prayer. He is centered on an effective balancing of kingdom principles, doctrine, and revelations to equip the Body of Christ apostolically and prophetically into its full manifestation of Christ. His love for the Body of Christ is endless. This drive has led him to evangelize and conduct outreach programs in different cities to reach the lost souls and administer the gospel of Christ within those environments.

He is interested in raising and mentoring youths in prayer, leadership, influence, relationship, anointing, and investment. He is also a prolific writer. He has authored many books: *The Prophetic and Vision*, *The Vision of a Great People*, *Roadmap for a Weary Sojourner*, and many others. He has been instrumental in the revival movement within Nigeria.

He is resident in Lafia, Nasarawa State, Nigeria.

For Correspondence and Question Contact:

Philip Cephas

@

Phone No.: +234 9075600036

Email: philipcephas@gmail.com

Telegram: <https://t.me/Apostlephilipcephas>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Apostlephilipcephas

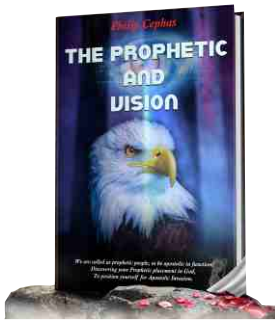
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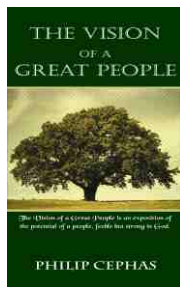
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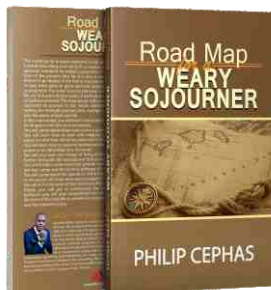
The prophetic and vision is a revelation from The Holy Spirit, and a clarion called into the experiences of the prophetic. You don't have to be a **prophet** called into the office of the *prophetic* to function in the prophetic. The speaking and dealings of God is prophetic in nature.

ROADMAP FOR A WEARY SOJOURNER



The vision of a great people is a little story and a fiction of a family who has been helped by God and still being helped by Him. Among many systems of God expansion upon the face of the earth, a man is pivotal.

ROADMAP FOR A WEARY SOJOURNER



This manuscript is likened to a compass employed by a spiritual sojourner to journey to the desire destination without being weary and tired, lacking the strength, passion, zeal, courage, and the understanding to press further into the realm of light and life.

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*My heart is inditing a good matter:
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my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.
Ps 45:1 KJV*

*The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.
Ps 68:11 KJV*

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We will be glad to hear from!

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- You will learn how to sustain the anointing as well as grow in the anointing by deploying yourself towards a selfless service to the body of Christ.
- You will also learn how to balance the gift of The Spirit manifesting through the anointing in your life.
- You will have an understanding of spiritual times and seasons and how it affects our daily living.
- You will learn how to position yourself right to receive an impartation that will benefit you in different seasons and times.
- You will also understand the gift of the grace of God, and how it seeks expression in our lives: by gracing our gifts and offices for effective functioning of the anointing.
- Finally, you will learn what I call, 'the ultimate rule of all' which is honouring spiritual fathers and mentors living or dead that have worked faithfully with God.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Philip Cephas is a seasoned apostolic and prophetic teacher of the gospel, he is a man of love, wisdom, revelation and prayer, he centred on effective balancing of kingdom principles, doctrine and revelations, equipping The Body of Christ apostolically and prophetically into its full manifestation of The Christ. He is interested in raising and mentoring youths in prayer, leadership, anointing and investment. He has authored many books; *Road Map for Weary a Sojourner*, *The Prophetic and Vision*, *The Vision of a Great People among others*. He has been instrumental in the revival movement within Nigeria. He is resident in Lafia, Nasarawa State.



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