

Introductory Text, Luke 4:1-14

## HAVE A WORD



**Opening verse:** *Take with you words, and turn to the Lord; say unto him, take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips [Hosea 14:2].*



**T**he temptation of Jesus in the wilderness teaches many things, among which is the importance of God's word in our day-to-day activity and the battle against the enemy. If you lack the knowledge of the Word or unskillful in delivering the Word, the devil will take advantage of you. The devil is only strong and powerful to the measure of your ignorance. In other word, the more ignorant you are, the more powerful he is in your life. It was for this reason Paul charged Timothy, **“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”** (2 Timothy 2:15). A believer grounded and rightly applying the Word will defeat the devil any day.

Thus, in the wilderness, for every move of the devil, Jesus had a Word to counter him. First, was when the devil said, “Command this stone that it be made bread”. Jesus' response was, **“It is written that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God”** (Luke 4:3-4). The second time was when the devil said, “If thou therefore wilt worship me all shall be thine”. Again Jesus responded with the Word, **“Get thee behind me Satan: for it is written,**

**thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve"** (Luke 4:8). Not giving up, Satan again quoted the written word, charging Him, "If thou be the Son of God cast thyself down..." Jesus response was, "**...Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God"** (Luke 4:12).

Notice that Jesus' responses were not only precise, but gave the right word for every temptation. In other word, your knowledge of the Word must also include right application, otherwise the devil will twist the same Word against you. This was what he did to the young prophet sent by God to prophesy against the idol of Jeroboam. Thus, after the young prophet accomplished his feat, the devil met him through an old prophet, and lied to him saying, "**...I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the Lord...**" (1 kings 13:18). The young prophet died for his error.

If you're going to defeat the devil in this end time, you must have mastery of the Word. Every attack on your life, spiritual or physical, must be matched with scriptural quotes to undo the work of the devil.



#### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

Father, I will give myself to thy Word; for by thy Word I get victory and elevation. Amen.

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#### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

1 Timothy 4:13, 1 Peter 2:2, Acts 20:32.

Introductory Text, Genesis 12:1-9

## DIVINE RESULT



**Opening verse:** *However to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness [Romans 4:5 NIV].*



**T**he wealth of Abraham did not come by 'hard work' but by faith work. Thus, he believed God and prospered. When he left Haran after hearing God's voice, he left with nothing other than his personal stuff. Not a single goat, sheep, ox, gold, silver or servant went with him, but Sarah and Lot. But as he kept walking in obedience and believing God, God kept adding to him until he became very great (Genesis 24:1). Thus, when a man works, he will get a reward for his hard work; but when he does little or nothing other than work by faith (believe), and he gets the same or higher result than the man who worked hard, that is divine result. Divine result is when God works through a human vessel to produce a great outcome. This is the purpose of God for every believer.

God hates laziness with a passion; yet God had not called us into hard work as the world defines it, but faith work. God's reward and blessing is for those who work by faith and not by hard labour or toiling. Every time you have to toil or exert yourself before you get by with life, God is not involved. Peter toiled all the night, but caught nothing, but when he acted by faith at the command of Jesus, “...**they inclosed a great multitude of fishes and their net break**” (Luke

5:6). What they could not get for over twelve hours of labour, they got in few minutes. If you allow your mind to be captured by the world's belief system, you will also partake in their misery.

The Father of our Lord Jesus Christ blesses by faith, if you don't believe this, you will die in hard work. Your salvation came by faith, and everything in the Kingdom works by the same principle; thus anything contrary to faith, amounts to sin and suffering (Roman 14:23). When David fought Goliath, all he did was to throw a stone at him. Do you really believe that a stone would have killed Goliath, if not for the hand of God that drove it into Goliath's skull? (1 Samuel 17:49) When Samson fought the Philistines, he used the jaw bone of an ass to kill 1000 men, really! Could this have happened if not for the hand of God? (Judges 15:15)

Don't get caught with the world's definition of "hard work"; stop toiling, step out by faith, and get divine result.



### **MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER**

Lord, I believe your Word and Promises. This is where I stand and prosper in it.

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### **ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES**

Romans 4:1-16, Romans 5:1-5, Exodus 8:18-19.

Introductory Text, 2 Samuel 14:1-21

## DISCERNMENT OR SUSPICION



**Opening verse:** *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned [1 Corinthians 2:14].*

**O**ne of the major difference between a natural man and the spiritual man is in the area of discernment. While the natural man works by suspicion, the born again Christian works by discerning. To discern is the Holy Spirit working through the human vessel to identify or differentiate good from evil. Thus this person is free of evil thoughts, and ever ready to receive people on their face value, unless there's a check in his or her spirit. Suspicion on the other hand, is using the human mind to analyse, project or assume things. A suspicious mind never thinks good, every of its works is geared towards evil and all forms of unrighteousness. So, he or she is ever defensive, antagonistic and ready to fight, because in his mind he thinks you want to expose him. **“Unto the pure, all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled”** (Titus 1:15).

Today, there is more suspicion in the church than discernment, because education and Bible college degree has taken the place of the Holy Spirit. We now measure men by sight and not by their fruits. When Samuel was told to go and anoint a king in the house of Jesse, he was carried away by sight. **“And it**

came to pass when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, surely the Lord's anointed is before us. But the Lord said unto Samuel, look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature, because I have refused him....for man looketh at the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:6-7).

If you work by suspicion, you will miss God, His will and purpose for your life. You will suspect your spouse, children, parents, neighbour, friends and colleagues. Suspicion will make you miss your helpers and drive you straight into the hands of your enemies; because it's a virtue that attracts you to the negatives and not the positives. But discernment is by the Spirit, and it gives you accurate measure of the individual or situation.

When the woman who came to plead for Absalom's return stood before David, David believed everything she said, until he noticed a twist in the story; then he discerned the hand behind the act. Walk by the Spirit and stop operating by suspicion, you will be better off.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

I shall be led by the Spirit and not by my flesh.  
Great glories are ahead of me.

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Galatians 5:16-18, 2 Corinthians 5:7, Romans 8:12-16.

Introductory Text, Philippians 2:5-11  
**WHY JESUS IS LORD**



**Opening verse:** *And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father [Philippians 2:11].*



**T**here is the desire in every man to be appreciated, respected and honoured. We all want to get to a place of privilege, power and authority, where others submit to and revere us. No one wants to remain small for life, but that does not come by mere wish, but through hard work. God desires the same for you, but in the kingdom, we earn position, we don't exert ourselves on others. When the disciples of Jesus came to find out who is the greatest in the kingdom, **"And he said unto them, the kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, LET HIM BE AS THE YOUNGER; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve"** (Luke 22:25-26).

The younger place is the place of smallness, lowliness, submission and service. In the Kingdom, you rise to the high place by submission. Jesus became Lord because he submitted Himself to the Father, so God the Father lifted Him to the high place above heaven and earth. You will never be lord over anything or anybody until you've submitted to somebody. Submission, lowering yourself to your

leaders and the authority over you is the way up. **“Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you”** (John 13:13-15).

The reason why some believers have not entered the position of influence and affluence, is because they've not submitted to anybody, hence they remain nobody. God has hidden and kept all the blessings of the Kingdom in lower places, only the lowly in heart will find them. **“.... I thank thee O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes”** (Matthew 11:25). If you are looking for promotion, provision, grace, anointing, fame and prosperity, they are all hidden in the lower places of the Kingdom.

If you stoop low enough, you will find them. But as long as you keep standing over and above others, so that no one can talk, correct, guide or instruct you, you will stand alone for a long time. Lordship and lowering go together. Be wise.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

I have chosen to go the Kingdom way, and be lifted to the higher places of life.

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

2 kings 3:11, Zechariah 9:9, James 4:4-10, 1 Peter 5:5-7.



Introductory Text, Numbers 11:1-10

## MIXTURES



**Opening verse:** *And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting; and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, who shall give us flesh to eat? [Numbers 11:4].*



One of the danger of mixtures is that it makes the original substance or liquid to lose taste, originality and potency (power). It results in a complete loss of identity. A liquid mixed with another cannot be the same again, because its properties and configuration are automatically altered to take a new form. It is the same with the Christian life, anytime it is mixed with any form of religion, tradition, customs or practices, it changes taste. The absence of power that we witness today is a result of the several mixtures we have permitted in Christendom.

Israel's problem started with the mixt multitude as they journeyed across the wilderness, and this continued with them until they got to the Promised Land; and the result of that was two different people: the Jews and the Samaritan. The Jews are the ones who strictly follow Moses Law as given by God, while the Samaritans were Jews who got caught with the cultures and traditions of the inhabitants of the land. Today, believers are faced with the same problem and choices: the World or the Word. **“Love not the world, neither the things of that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the**

**lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world”** (1 John 2:15-16).

The world will drain you of taste, originality and power. You will become like them, living in fear and doubt with no hope, either here or in eternity. Thus, all the men that feared going to the Promised Land never made it, they all perished in the wilderness, because the mixt multitude poisoned their mind against the Lord and His Word. **“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind. Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, no extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God”** (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

Whatever you are permitting or practicing along with your Christian faith will reduce you, and not enhance you. Thus, you become susceptible to and defeatable by the enemy. Sickness, fear, sorrow, and the likes will invade your life with no chance of escape. But with Christ, you have a defence and a victorious life, even in the midst of challenges.



### **MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER**

To Christ alone, I belong. I separate from every unrighteous gathering.

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### **ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES**

Deuteronomy 22:9-12, Matthew 5:13-16, Matthew 6:24.

Introductory Text, Luke 5:1-10

## WIN THE NIGHT



**Opening Verse:** *But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way [Matthew 13:25].*



**O**ur life is not determined in the day but at night, because the night time is when decisions and battles over destinies are decided and taken. All kinds of evil, wickedness and demonic activities takes place at night; so do physical battles and clashes between communities, cities and nations fought at night. That was why Job said, **“Desire not the night when people are caught off in their place”** (Job 36:20). In government establishment, parastatals, parliament and big conglomerate, meetings and decisions are taken at night. If you're to meet any important dignitary either in the private or public sector, most times such meetings are scheduled for late evening or at night, because the day is for the execution of the decision taken the previous night. Thus, when you lose the night, you lose the day as well; but when you win the night, you secure the day.

When Jesus came to Lake Gennesaret, He met Peter and his partner with an empty boat, why? Because they had toiled all night and have taken nothing (Luke 5:5). Unless you win the battles of the night, you will have an empty boat in the day. The night is what determines how and what your day will be like. The same experience repeated itself after Jesus'

demise, and the disciples decided to go “a-fishing”, but again that night they caught nothing. In the morning however, “...**Jesus said unto them, children have ye any meat? They answered him, No**” (John 21:5). Every time you lose the battle of the night, you will get a 'No' for an answer in the day. This is the reason job applications, proposals, contracts, projects, etc. received a 'no' because those concerned did nothing at night.

If you're going to win your day, you must fight at night in the place of prayers. You must dislocate, dismantle, dismember and decimate all the powers that control the night. **“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places”** (Ephesians 6:12). When Jacob was told that Esau was coming to meet him with 400 men, he knew the only place to settle that matter was the place of prayer at night. **“And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled with him until the breaking of the day”** (Genesis 32:24). If you want to get back your destiny, take the night; leave the day for those who are still babes in spiritual things. You will win



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

Never again will I leave my night for others to control. Henceforth I take charge

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Luke 6:12, Ephesians 5:14-17, Matthew 13:24-30

Introductory Text, Matthew 20:20-28

## SERVANT AND SERVICE



**Opening verse:** *But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted [Matthew 23:11-12].*



**I**n the secular world, if you are to be engaged with any form of work, you negotiate salary; but in the Kingdom you negotiate service. The people of the world follow the rule of work and pay, but we operate by service. If you're going to get anything tangible from God, you serve; the moment you put money to your service, you have pegged your growth and blessing. Grace, anointing, power and favour flows into your life through service. When the disciples joined Jesus, they did not negotiate pay, but freely served instead. In return they got power, **“And the seventy returned again with joy, saying Lord even the devils are subject to us through thy name”** (Luke 10:17). And yet after this, also came financial favour, **“And he said unto them, when I sent you without purse, and script and shoes, lack ye anything? And they said, Nothing”** (Luke 22:35).

Joshua worked as Moses' minister (servant) without collecting a dime, but got power and position. **“And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him....”** (Deuteronomy 34:9). In one occasion, Joshua looked at the sun and moon and commanded that they stand

still until he was done with his battle (Joshua 10:12-13). Elisha served Elijah and got a double portion of the anointing (2 kings 2:9-14); but Gehazi the servant of Elisha focused on money and got leprosy instead (2 kings 5:25-27). Timothy served Paul and inherited the apostolic office with all the resources and men joined to that calling.

Presently, the current trend in the Church is not different from what is obtained in the world. Believers now demand to be paid what their counterpart earn in the secular businesses. While the economic situation world over demands that the Church employ quality staff and remunerate them adequately as part of her contributions to societal growth, yet it is not spiritually beneficial for a believer to tie his or her work in the Church squarely to salary. This will stop the flow of God's grace and blessings into that individual's life.

The focus of a believer must first be spiritual growth before any other; **“But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you”** (Matthew 7:33). This is the secret of her gain and prosperity.



#### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

I will serve the Lord with all my heart, for His mercy and goodness secures me.

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#### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

2 Kings 3:11, Philippians 2:19-25, John 13:4-17.

Introductory Text, Luke 4:16-22

## SCRIPTURE CONFIRMS SCRIPTURE



**Opening verse:** *These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so [Acts 17:11].*



**T**he Bible is a documentation of diverse events by men as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. Thus, without altering the personalities of these men and women, but rather allowing the uniqueness and education of each person, the Holy Spirit used the hands of these individuals to write down God's move and works from the beginning of creation. Thus, the Apostle Peter noted, **"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of men: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost"** (2 Peter 1:20-21).

While individuality was permitted, the make-up of each message was by the Spirit. This is the reason why the letters of Matthew are different from that of Mark, Luke and John, even though that were reporting the same event. In other word, the Holy Spirit allowed each person to document events as they see with their individual eyes, but at the same time preserving the truth of each event. So when you read the Bible, you will always find similar or same story in another book of the Bible. For instance, part of the story in Genesis and Exodus can be found in Leviticus and Deuteronomy. Also the events in first

and second Samuel, first and second Kings are also recorded in first and second Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel, etc.

In other word, you use scripture to confirm scripture, and not your thought, or what somebody said, or that which you discovered from Google. We don't draw our conclusion from the world, but from the Word. So, study the Bible from the point of the Spirit, and not from the point of the letters, for the letter kills (hides revelation), but the Spirit gives life (2 Corinthians 3:6). Education cannot give you the understanding of the Bible, but the Holy Spirit will give you the meaning behind every line of scripture.

For instance, in the story of the rich young ruler, Matthew reported it as though no rich man will make heaven (Matt. 19:24), but Mark's account of the same story clarifies what Matthew omitted, saying, "**...children how hard is it for them that TRUST IN RICHES to enter into the kingdom...**" (Mark 10:24). Thus, it is those who trust in riches that will not make heaven. Use scripture to confirm other scriptures, and be enriched spiritually.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

Holy Spirit, I desire the Word and the Will of God, enlighten me through scriptures.

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

2 Timothy 2:14-18, Luke 24:27-32, 45, 1 Timothy 4:13-16.



Introductory Text, Acts 3:1-10

## SUCH AS I HAVE



**Opening verse:** *Then Peter said, silver and gold have I none: but such as I have give I thee: in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk [Acts 3:6].*



**T**he world is full of many abnormalities and uncertainties, it will only take something higher or stronger to be able to confront them. That was the case at the beautiful gate, where Peter and John had gone to pray, and there they met a man lamed from his mother's womb. Before this faithful day, the man had been coming to the same gate for about forty years without solution (Acts 4:22), but this day, the attention of Peter and his team were drawn to the man, and they knew something had to be done; and so they fixed their eyes on him. The lame man also gave them attention hoping to be given some money, but the disciples had something else in mind.

Thus, seeing that the lame man had set his gaze on them, Peter declared, **"...silver and gold have I none, but such as I have, give I thee, in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk"** (Acts 3:6). Thus when the disciples said, "such as I have", what they had was the Name of Jesus, and by that name, they made the power of a 40 year old infirmity to submit. If you're going to confront or defeat the world, you must have something higher or bigger than what they have. **"When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: but**

when a stronger than he shall come upon him and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils" (Luke 11:21-22).

The power behind the Name of Jesus has not changed, neither has it diminished, it is left for you to put it to work as "such as I have". When Peter got to Lydda, he again proved the Name to be effective, saying to the lame man, "**Aeneas Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately**" (Acts 9:34). If by the Name of Jesus, the disciples defeated and overthrew the power that kept the lame man crippled for over 40 years, and did the same for Aeneas; no matter how long the issues around your life, they shall be overthrown. "**Hitherto have ye ask nothing in my name; ask and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full**" (John 16:24).

The opportunity to turn the table against the adversaries and adversities is in the use of the Name of Jesus. Go ahead and use it.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

By the Name of Jesus, I bring down every opposition.  
I prevail by His Name. Amen.

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Acts 3:11-16, Acts 4:8-12, Philippians 2:9-11.

Introductory Text, Revelation 8:1-13

## SUCH AS I HAVE [PART 2]



**Opening verse.** *Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour [Acts 3:1].*



**W**hen Peter said to the lame man by the beautiful gate, “...**silver and gold have I none; but such as I have, give I thee....**” he was not only referring to the Name of Jesus, though that was their principal instrument, but they also had prayer to their advantage. Prayer was an integral part of the disciples' lives, so much so that they had a time allocated to it - “**being the ninth hour**”. Until you have prayed, you have nothing to fight the devil and the powers of the world. Prayer is a person, prayer is a spirit, prayer is a force; and these three dimensions of prayer come from the Father, as we see in our lead story in Revelation. Notice that all the rumblings that happened in heaven, came after the prayers of the saints were mixed with the incense in the hand of the angel. Thus, any time you're praying, you are setting up heavenly reactions that the enemy cannot handle.

After the charge of Jesus to the disciples before His ascension, “**Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet...These all continued with one accord in prayer and in supplication with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren**” (Acts 1:12,

14). Through prayers the disciples triggered the Pentecost and after this came; salvation, healing, deliverance, miracles, signs and wonders. They took over Jerusalem and the neighbouring towns, and released the land and the people from the spell that held her bound. Multitudes came into the Church, and there was revival, and provision and prosperity for the people.

For the disciples, prayer was one of “such as I have”. Thus, when the leaders of the city saw the healing that took place, **“Saying what shall we do to these men? For indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; we cannot deny it”** (Acts 4:16). Prayer is what puts you in a position where you can't be ignored. Men may hate you, but when you pray, heaven and earth will submit to you. When Jacob prayed, heaven sent an angel to attend to him (Genesis 32:24); and when Jabez prayed, God granted him all that he asked for (1 Chronicles 4:9-10). The power and place of prayer has not changed.

Prayer is our weapon of triumph over the world. Unless you pray, life will keep tossing you to and fro.



**MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER**  
 he instrument of prayer given to me shall be put  
 to full use. No turning back, until I win.

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#### **ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES**

Acts 9:40, Revelation 5:8, Luke 10:19.

Introductory Text, Luke 17:11-19

## SUCH AS I HAVE [PART 3]



**Opening verse.** *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him [Hebrews 11:6].*

The healing of the lame man at the beautiful gate came by the Name of Jesus (Acts 3:6), but to raise him to his feet came by faith. Faith is what delivers God's work into your hand. **"And he took him by the right hand and lift him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength"** (Acts 3:7). Thus, when Peter said, "Such as I have", he was also referring to faith as one of the instrument at our disposal. Until faith is in place, every work of God remains on stand still. If Peter had not by faith pulled up the lame man, he still would have been healed by the Name of Jesus, but for the fear that his leg will fail him, he would have remained on the floor, having been crippled for over 40 years (Acts 4:22).

The work of fear is to limit, and the work of faith is to liberate. Faith is what breaks the hold of fear, so that we enter into God's purpose. Thus, many today have received the answer to their prayers, but for lack of faith to make a move, they have remained on stand still. Healing, joy, fruitfulness, restoration, deliverance and breakthrough are out there begging to be taken, but fear has kept them away from their owners. When Jesus met the ten lepers at the outskirts of Samaria, all He said to them was, **"...Go shew**

**yourselves to the priests..."** (Luke 17:14). The choice was theirs to make, either to obey the command or to stay back and be bound by the fear of being stoned if they enter the city; for lepers are not allowed in the city. But they obeyed, "**...And it came to pass that as they went they were cleansed"** (Luke 17:14).

Unless your faith is in place, nothing will be delivered to you, your prayers notwithstanding. Faith is what overcomes the world and puts you in charge of life (1 John 5:4). Heaven waits for your faith, because it is what pleases God. Everything is within your reach, if you step out in faith; for a man of faith is unstoppable. Faith is the key to entering God's provision; it is the instrument that connects you to your dreams, thoughts, vision and ideas, and turns them into reality. Until your faith is in place, you are nothing but a dreamer.

### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER



By faith I reconnect myself to every purpose of God for me. I step into life and win. Amen

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Hebrews 11:1-6, Acts 14:8-10, 2 kings 7:3-8.

Introductory Text, Acts 19:11-20

## SUCH AS I HAVE [PART 4]



**Opening verse:** *But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth [Acts 1:8].*



**T**he workings and successes of a believer after Jesus' ascension depends squarely on the Holy Spirit. He is the administrator of everything that comes from heaven to men. Without the Holy Spirit, all that Christ bequeathed to us through the cross remains inaccessible, hence the charge He gave to the disciples in Acts 1:8. Thus, at Pentecost, they were infused with power from High, making them heaven's power carriers and power distributors. That was why after the healing of the lame man at the beautiful gate, the question the priests and Sadducees asked was, "**...by what power and by what name have you done this?**" (Acts 4:7). Thus, the healing of the lame man came by the Name of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. Until you are a carrier of higher power, the powers of this world will not submit to you. The Holy Spirit was the propelling and compelling force behind their operations and triumph.

When the seven sons of Sceva saw Paul's operation, they thought within themselves, "This is no big deal, we can also do this". So they took a mad man heavily possessed with demons, and said, "**...we adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth... And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, Paul I know, but**

**who are ye?"** (Acts 19:13, 15). They had access to the Name of Jesus, but lacked the power behind the Name. They wanted the Name without the Person of Jesus; they wanted the Name without a relationship; they wanted the Name without the Spirit. And the result was, **"And the man in whom the evil spirit was leapt on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of the house naked and wounded"** (Acts 19:16).

Every time you operate without the power of the Spirit, the powers of the world will make you naked and wounded. The world has no place for powerless Christianity, and our power comes from the Holy Spirit. He is the Power House of the Trinity. Outside the Holy Spirit, your Christianity is a mockery, challengeable and defeatable. No wonder Jesus strictly warned the disciples not to step out until they've been endowed with power from High (Acts 1:4). The Holy Ghost power is what puts you in the category of "such as I have", get connected with Him.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

The Holy Spirit is the force that drives me, I will not be subject to the devil's gimmicks.

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Acts 1:1-8, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, 1 Corinthians 4:20



Introductory Text, Acts 26:19-23

## SUCH AS I HAVE [PART 5]



**Opening verse:** *These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren [Acts 1:14].*

Champions don't remain champions by feasting and drinking, but they do so as they continue in the act or exercises that elevated them. The moment you stop exercising yourself in the very act that put you on a throne, you will be dethroned. Thus, every virtue, grace, anointing, power, strength you have needs to be exercised continuously. To receive the Holy Ghost, the disciples continued in prayer, and after Pentecost, **"...they continued steadfastly in the apostle's doctrines and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers"** (Acts 2:42). Thus, because they continued, they generated enough power to drive the ministry. You will have nothing to give on the day of your showing, if you don't continue to exercise your grace, virtue or strength.

The reason why some fail in life, is because they failed to continue in the act that brought them to that office; they get carried away by pleasure of their present position. When David fell to adultery to Bathsheba, it was because, **"....at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel: and they destroyed the children Ammon, and besieged Ramah. But David tarry still at Jerusalem"** (2

Samuel 11:1). It was while he stayed back at the palace enjoying the glory of his office that he saw from the roof Bathsheba taking her bath. That singular event led to a chain of woes in the life, family and reign of David.

But the disciples understood the power of continuity, so they did not relent, but kept working until they took over Jerusalem and the surrounding towns and cities. In one instance, when the wave of revival entered the city of Thessalonica, they described the disciples thus, “...**These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also**” (Acts 17:6). They took on the world, and the world could not handle the fire they carried; and turned it upside down for Jesus. Thus, the more you work on your grace, the greater fire you generate. No wonder, Peter said to the lame man at the gate, “Such as I have, give I thee”. It was out of the abundance of what they had generated, that they delivered outstanding results.

Power, victory and success is waiting for you in the place of continuity. Don't stop praying, fasting, giving, doing evangelism or walking in righteousness, there lies the secret of victorious living



#### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

I have received the power of continuity. I will not stop until victory is sure and secured.

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#### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Acts 2:46, 2 Timothy 1:6, 1 Timothy 4:12-16.

Introductory Text, Genesis 11:1-9

## SUCH AS I HAVE [PART 6]



**Opening verse:** *And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were with one accord in one place [Acts 2:1].*

One of the enabling force of the Kingdom of God is the force of unity. Where ever unity is absent, God is absent; and where there's unity, God is there. The force of unity is so strong that, when men are united in evil, they can stop a righteous course if something is not quickly done to stop them. In the building of the tower of babel, the people were united in evil, and they decided to reach up to heaven. It took the direct intervention of God to stop them. If unity can accelerate evil, it will do much more with a righteous course.

Thus, when Peter said, "Such as I have", unity was one of the instruments they relied on to deliver God's purpose (Acts 3:6). For God's power flows unhindered in the place of unity. **"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirt of his garment. As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore"** (Psalm 133:1-3). Until there's unity of purpose with the Word of God or with other brethren, the Name of Jesus and the power of the

Spirit will be hindered. God works through a united team. The disciples were united in spirit, in word and in deed, so the power of God had a platform to express itself.

When the Pharisees accused Jesus of casting out demons through Beelzebub, He made them understand that the Kingdom of God does not operate under a divided platform, **“But he knowing their thought, said unto them, every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and a house divided against a house falleth”** (Luke 11:17). The Church that will make a great impact, must be united. That Church is you. You must work with other brethren in the word, prayer, evangelism and daily fellowship, so that the power of God can find expression through your work. The world will not submit to the Church until they see power; and that power is delivered when we are united.

God's end time move will not be limited to one church, ministry or minister, He is gathering men and women from the four corners of the earth. Be part of that move.



#### **MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER**

A united church is the secret of the end time harvest of souls. I will be a part of this.

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#### **ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES**

1 Corinthians 1:12-16, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9.

Introductory Text, Acts 11:19-26

## LIVING THE CHRIST-LIKE LIFE



**Opening verse:** *And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness [Ephesians 4:24].*

The Christianity we currently practice is completely different from Biblical Christianity. For them, being Christ-like was more important than any other; but for the present day believer, it is all about Church. In other word, for our generation, being a good Christian is about being regular in church, partaking in departmental activities, pray, fast, evangelise, read Bible, speak in tongues, quote scriptures, hold vigils, etc. Thus, none of these activities are wrong, rather they are very necessary for our spiritual growth and wellbeing, but it doesn't end there, it's just the beginning. **“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 temperance godliness...”** (2 Peter 1:5-11).

Thus, our focus have been more on the outward showing, rather than the building of the inward man. However we live among people, families, friends and relations who are probably not believers; and they are not going to measure us by how much scripture we know or quote, or by the hours we spend in prayer, etc. They will measure us by how much love we show, and by our patience, kindness, mercy, forgiveness, joyfulness, peacefulness and the help we render, etc. Jesus lamenting of the Jewish

leaders, said **“Woe to you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay the tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law; justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done without leaving the other undone”** (Matthew 23:23 NKJV).

The world around you will not measure you by charisma, but by your fruits (character). Christianity that is based on display and showmanship will take you nowhere. When as a Christian, you're still heavily involved in gossiping, backbiting, backstabbing, lying, cheating, bitterness, rebellion, disobedience, manipulation, fornication, etc. every of these virtues will give you away. You may be a champion in the Church because of your charisma (gifts and anointing), but your Christian character will either sell or de-market the gospel to the world. Thus, scripture noted, **“Ye are the salt of the earth; but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and be trodden under foot of men”** (Matthew 5:13).

Jesus established the Church, and went about doing good (Acts 10:38), but it was the disciples that started running the Church, and they did so well, that people called them Christians (Christ-like), Acts 11:26. What are you called?



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

My life shall be a display of the Christ-like nature, and nothing less. Amen.

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

2 Peter 1:5-11, Ephesians 4:17-32, Colossians 3:5-17

Introductory Text, 1 Corinthians 10:1-15

## FUNFARE OR WARFARE



**Opening verse :** *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about, seeking whom he may devour [1 Peter 5:8].*



**T**he coming of Jesus has made our relationship with God simple, easy and yet powerful. Everything the men of old did by themselves in order to bring their head a little above the waters, Christ has done all for us. All the challenges that goes with walking with God have all been taken care of by Christ. We are a generation working from the known, while the Old Testament brethren were working from the unknown. In other word, we looked up to them as examples of the result of walking in obedience, faith and godliness, etc. But the Old Testament brethren had no one to look up to. They had to walk by faith.

The implication is that, the devil can only get you if you're careless. All the loop holes to failure and defeat, Jesus already revealed and closed them up through the Word, and by His prayer ministry from heaven (Hebrews 7:25). Though we are the most secured generation, yet we are the most carefree. It is the carefree ones apostle Peter warned in our opening verse, **"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about seeking whom he may devour"** (1 Peter 5:8). It is careless Christian living not to grow your spirit man

through regular prayers, personal Bible study, church fellowship, etc. The absence of these things leaves your life open to the devil.

Many believers do not know that we are at war. They think Christianity is funfare, and nothing to be taken too seriously, but they are mistaken; the devil is damn serious. He is already judged and condemned to hell, so he wants to take as many as possible with him (Isaiah 14:12-15). We are at war with the spirit of darkness; we are at war with the children of the bond woman; we are at war with the spirit of the world; we are at war with the spirit of Satanism and demonism; we are at war with the spirit of sexual immorality; we are at war with the spirit of sickness and death; we are at war with spirit of poverty, etc. All these spirits were defeated by Christ on the cross, yet the slightest gap you leave open, they will creep back into your life. **"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed, lest he fall"** (1 Corinth. 10:12).

Christianity is warfare; fight to keep your life and all that Christ has gotten for you.



#### **MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER**

I am here for good, I am here to win; to knock out the devil and his works. Amen.

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#### **ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES**

2 Corinthians 10:3-6, Ephesians 6:10-18, 1 Timothy 1:18-20.



Introductory Text, 2 Chronicles 16:1-13

## THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD



**Opening verse :** *But God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus [Philippians 4:19].*



**O**ne major reason some believers suffer lack is because they are focused on the wrong place or person. Paul warned the brethren in the church in Colossae, **“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above and not on things on the earth”** (Colossians 3:1-2). The purpose of His message was very clear; to redirect the focus of the people on the Lord above and not men. As long as your focus is on the earth, men, government, etc. you will remain in short supply. Too many believers have their focus on men, hence when they come to church or other gatherings, they are busy gazing around and measuring people by their clothes, car, spouse, children or businesses, etc.

When your focus is on men, you are automatically cut off from the supply of heaven. That was what happened to Asa king of Judah in our introductory text. While he trusted in the Lord, he defeated the large host of his enemy, but when he had a disagreement with Israel, a brother nation, he turned to Basha, the king of Syria for help. Then Hanani the propeht said, **“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro the whole earth to shew himself strong in the**

behalf of them whose heart is perfect towards him..." (2 Chronicles 16:9). God will not show up for you, as long as your trust is in men.

When David wrote Psalm 23:1, he noted, "**The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want**". He recognized that it was the Lord who provided for him and not man. In other word, the provision may eventually come through a friend, neighbour, sibling, father or mother, yet he saw it as the Lord using men to direct his need; thus he had unending supply. The same mind set shaped Paul's word to the Philippian church after he received their gift of love, "**But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus**" (Philippians 4:13). They saw God as the one behind their supply.

The danger of focusing on men is that, the day they go down, you will also go down with them. But when your focus is on God, you will continue to enjoy a ceaseless flow of provision. That's why He is called El-Shaddai - One with more than enough.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

My eyes are on the Lord, He supplies all that I need. I have more than enough. Hallelujah!

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Proverbs 21:1, Psalm 23:1-7, Psalm 121:1-8, Philippians 4:10-19.

Introductory Text, John 3:1-18

## CIVILITY AND CHRISTIANITY



**Opening verse:** *There was a certain man in Cesarea called Cornelius.....a devout man, and one that feared God with all his house. Which gave much alms to the people and prayed to God always [Acts 10:1-2].*

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Civility is a product of good education and proper upbringing. A man that is civil is one that is able to conduct and comport himself properly both at home and outside. Through education and good home training, he is well behaved, well dressed, respectful, peaceful, kind and loving. He is a giver, helper and lover of humanity. He will not do anything to hurt or harm anyone because his civil nature will not allow him. A civil person also believes in God and attends church regularly, yet very liberal and does not discriminate against other religion. In fact, he or she will partake in the religious activities of others, and believes in the one God philosophy. By every human standard, a civil person is above board and can fit into any society. This is who Cornelius was, and his types abound in our society.

To be a Christian is to be born again. **“Jesus answered and said unto him, verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God”** (John 3:3). It is to have Christ in you and be filled with the Holy Spirit. In other word, Christ enters you in a Spirit form. Thus, the presence of the Holy Spirit in you is what makes you speak, act, think, choose, decide and judge

differently from others. That was why Jesus repeated himself with emphasis on the Spirit; **“...verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of flesh is flesh: and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit”** (John 3:5-6).

A civil person has no Holy Spirit; he is full of education and moral uprightness. This person cannot meet God's standards, because he is a captive of his own self-righteousness. This is what scripture calls filthy rag (Isaiah 64:6). Also, he cannot fight the devil or demons with education or good behavior, because they are also spirits. One punch from the devil, will send him flat on the floor. **“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world against spiritual wickedness in high places”** (Ephesians 6:12).

It takes being born again to be able to handle the devil and the world; outside Jesus you're vulnerable. No wonder, Cornelius was asked to go receive salvation.



#### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

I confess Jesus, as my Lord and Saviour. With Him, I win all my battles. Amen.

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#### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Acts 10:1-8, Luke 3:8-14, Acts 3:37-40.

Introductory Text, Job 1:12-22

## JESUS' INTERCESSORY MINISTRY



**Opening verse:** *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].*



One of the major differences between the New Testament believer and the Old Testament folks is the prayer ministry of Jesus. In the Old Testament, it's either the individual prays for himself or dies with his challenges. Job's troubles lasted that long because there was nobody to pray with or for him, so he was left open and alone for the devil to devour. When his friends came visiting, they could not recognize him because of the scars and tears the devil had left on him. Not a single one of them uttered a word of prayer; "And when they lifted up their eyes afar, AND KNEW HIM NOT, they lifted up their voice and wept; and they rent everyone his mantle, and sprinkled dust upon their heads toward heaven" (Job 2:12).

Thus, in the Old Testament, the rule was, pray for yourself or you die in that situation. We see this rule play out in the lives of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses, etc. Abraham had the issue of barrenness; and he didn't come out of it until he was a hundred years old (Genesis 21:5). Isaac had the same issue of barrenness but had to pray out Rebekah (Genesis 25:20-21). When the herdsmen of Gerar contented with him over his father's wells, he kept relocating to new ground until the breakthrough at Rehoboth

(Genesis 26:22). Jacob got to Laban's house, his uncle, and after 21 years of service, the man had changed his wages 10 times, switched his wife and almost sent him away empty but for God's intervention (Genesis 31:38-42). Moses made just one mistake, and God ended his ministry (Numbers 27:12-18).

But that rule changed as Jesus came into the scene and became our intercessor before the Father. And as He continues to pray for us, we are able to enjoy God's blessings and provisions, even when our ways are not yet perfect. "But God commended his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). God's healing, power and deliverance have continued unabated, our imperfection notwithstanding, all because of the prayers of Jesus. Similarly, God's judgement is delayed because of Jesus' intercessory ministry. Thus, the psalmist noted, "If thou, LORD, shoudest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand. But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared" (Psalm 130:3-4).

Jesus' prayer gives you an advantage on every side of life, don't get caught on the wrong side again.



### **MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER**

I choose to align myself with the Lord's prayers. I am totally delivered and blessed.

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### **ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES**

Luke 22:31-32, Mark 4:35-41, Philippians 4:8-9.

Introductory Text, Luke 10:38-42

## STOP TRAFFICKING



**Opening verse:** *And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things [Luke 10:41].*

The Church is a place of so much activities. Without the men and women working behind the scene; fixing, arranging and setting up things, the church will collapse. But you have to be very careful so that you are not caught with the right activity at the wrong time. Therefore, you must know the right time for everything. However, there are those who are just “going to and fro” doing nothing other than busy body in other men's affairs (2 Thessalonian 3:11). Before Job's trial began, God asked Satan, “...whence cometh thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, from going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it” (Job 1:7). When your work or walk in the church is not adding value, you are not too far from the ministry of Satan.

As it is in the Church, so it is in some offices, businesses, homes, etc. Men and women just trafficking up and down, pretending to be working but doing nothing. Anywhere there's trafficking, there is also problem; whether it be human trafficking, drug trafficking, vehicular trafficking, verbal trafficking (gossiping), or eye trafficking (busy body). You have to watch yourself and be careful not to be entangled with any of these. When

you get caught up with any, you also become a problem to the system. That was the difference between Mary and Martha in our lead story. While Mary sat at the feet of Jesus hearing the Word, Martha was busy trafficking until Jesus counseled her on the things that are needful.

Thus, any time you are involved in trafficking, you will also lose time and place; as in the case of Judas Iscariot. While the other disciples settled down with Christ, he was busy moving from one camp to the other looking for the highest bidder for his market. **“Then one of the twelve called Judas Iscariot went unto the chief priests, and said unto them, what will you give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty silver”** (Matthew 26:14-15). That transaction eventually became his Waterloo. When you're not given to righteous work or walk, the devil will sell his own to you. Stop trafficking.

When you come into God's presence, settle down and know what is required per time, so that you don't give yourself away through words and actions. For **“In the multitudes of words, sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise”** (Proverbs 10:19)



#### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

Lord, in your Presence there's fullness of joy. I will be focused and not go astray.

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#### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Psalm 46:8-10, Matthew 6:24, Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.



Introductory Text, Mark 6:1-6

## THE CARPENTER OR THE MESSIAH



**Opening verse:** *Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.*

*[Mark 6:3].*

How we see have a way of affecting our result. When Moses sent twelve men to go and spy the Promised Land, 10 saw the enemy as giants and saw themselves as grasshoppers, but Joshua and Caleb saw the occupants of the land as bread (Numbers 14:9). Thus, they entered the Promised Land and possessed it as the Lord said, but all the men that saw themselves as grasshoppers and those who believed their report did not make it, but died in the wilderness. When God is speaking to you, He does not look with your own eyes, but with His. Thus, if you're going to enter into any of God's promises, see with the eye of faith, and not with your physical eye.

When Jesus entered Nazareth his own village, rather than they see the Messiah, they saw the Carpenter. And since carpenters don't do miracles, "**...he could there do no mighty works, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them**" (Mark 6:5). Any time you look with the eye of the flesh and not with the eye of faith, you will get nothing from life. This account for why many in the church have remained without testimony their genuine salvation notwithstanding. The apostle Paul spoke in the light of the limitations such men

suffer, when he said, **“From now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer”** (2 Corinthians 5:16 NIV).

What are you seeing in your church? What are you seeing in your pastor? As long as what you see is the man or woman and not the minister of God, you will miss the God in him (her). When Maryam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman he married, they saw him as their younger brother whom they could speak to anyhow, until God revealed the true identity of Moses as a Prophet of a different class (Numbers 12:6-8). That encounter led to Maryam's affliction with leprosy and Israel being delayed longer than necessary, all because two people saw wrongly. Every time you see wrongly, your journey (life) and ministry will suffer delay.

Our work and progress on earth are all tied to faith. The more you see with the eye of faith, the quicker your progress. That's the way to go.



#### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

My eyes of faith are opened, and I see miracles and wonders accompanying me daily.

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#### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Genesis 15:3-6, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, Matthew 9:27-30.

Introductory Text, 1 Kings 18:41-46

## AND HE PRAYED AGAIN



**Opening verse:** *And he prayed again and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit [James 5:18].*



**I**n the millennium, when Christ will come and reign on the earth for 1000 years, God has promised to answer our prayers while we are yet speaking. **“And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and whiles they are yet speaking, I will hear”** (Isaiah 65:24). In other word, there will be no delays to prayers, but answers will come speedily and immediately.

Presently, however, this is not the case. We are in the times when the devil holds sway. Jesus, in fact called him the prince of this world (John 14:30). Thus, it is the devil's time, and he knows it. If you're going to defeat the devil in your present situation, it will come by persistence prayers. In other word, you may not be able to break the hold of the enemy in just one session of prayers, but after several sessions. For Elijah to open the heaven after 3 ½ years of drought, scripture has that, **“And he prayed again”**. Thus, Elijah had seven rounds of prayer in one day before he could generate a cloud of the size of a man's hand (1 Kings 18:44). Check your hand and see the size compared to span of heaven, then you will know how small a cloud Elijah generated after 7 rounds of prayers. But thank God, that little cloud brought rain.

Without any doubt, the devil has long been defeated through the cross of Christ, yet every man will have to walk to the cross to take his own share of that victory. This is where the devil will wait for you, and throw spanners at your wheels, but as you persist, you will break his back.

For Jesus to open the eye of the blind man in Bethsaida, it took two rounds or doses of prayers to heal him completely (Mark 8:22-25). And at Gethsemane, it took intensive prayers which made Jesus' sweat like drops of blood, before breaking through to birth God's will (Luke 22:44). In the same way, the devil will resist you, only by forceful prayers will he yield his ground. Isaiah describes the devil thus, **“That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners”** (Isaiah 14:17). If you pray once and get victory, glory be to God; but if you are going to come out of many troubles, pain, sickness, delay, etc. you may have to pray again and again until victory is won.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

I am renewed and recharged to pray and overcome. I have my victory through Christ.

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Hebrews 5:7, Matthew 11:12, Mark 8:22-26, Luke 5:1-7.

Introductory Text, Jeremiah 49:7-18

## LET HIM ALONE



**Opening verse:** *Ephraim is joined to idols, let him alone [Hosea 4:17].*



**O**ne of the strongest power God gave to man is the power of choice. God never forces anything on anyone, rather He gives you all the space to decide what you want. Moses at his departure said to the children of Israel, **“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that thou and thy seed may live”** (Deuteronomy 30:19). Joshua repeated the same, and charged the people to choose God's way. He concluded, **“...but as for me and my house we will serve the Lord”** (Joshua 24:15). God offers life, but He will not force it down your throat.

Ephraim was the initial name used to represent the northern tribe of the entire Jewish nation of Israel, while the southern tribes were simply called Judah. But Ephraim gave herself to Baalism and all forms of idolatrous practices, and after several warnings and rebuke, and the people continued in apostasy, God finally abandoned them to their fate. The consequence was the total destruction and ejection from the land by a combination of enemy nations led by the Babylonians. Whenever God abandons a man, church or nation, the consequence are dire and sometimes irreversible. Cain and Esau walked away

from God, today all the tribes that came out of both persons have become extinct (Jeremiah 49:16-18).

To be 'let alone' is to be given freedom to go and do what you want. No institution survives without rules, laws and structures. When you are a man or woman who does not like to be under structure/command, you will not last. No soldier walks alone, we are all under one command or the other. Thus, the primary purpose of laws is to keep you in place and in shape, which is why those who don't follow laws are tagged criminals. **“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived, neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind. Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God”** (1 Cor. 6:9-10),

When the prodigal son insisted on his way, his father left him until he was corrected by suffering (Luke 15:13-19). God's plan is to give you abundant life, peace and provisions. He wants you healthy, strong and successful in your endeavors, but He can only do much if you agree to go His way. He has a



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

Your ways and thoughts are sufficient for me, Lord  
I submit and subscribe to this always.

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Proverbs 14:12, Jeremiah 29:11-14, Matthew  
11:28-30

Introductory Text, John 11:1-16

## IT CANNOT BE CLOSER THAN THIS



**Opening verse:** *For we are members of his body, of his flesh and of his bones [Ephesians 5:30].*

Scripture uses different ways of describing the relationship between believers and Christ, and one of such is what we see in our opening verse. When someone or something is very close to you, we use the phrase, “as close as the skin” to describe such, but in the case of the believer with Christ, it goes deeper. It talks about we being, “.....members of his body, of his flesh and of his bones” (Ephesians 5:30). We are intertwined and interwoven with Him; an indivisible and unbreakable union. Christ is committed to us for life; that is how serious it is. What touches or affect Christ does the same to the believer, and that which affects the believer affects Him also. Your pain brings Him pain, your fears keeps Him worried, and your battle is His battle.

When Lazarus died, Jesus came with the intention of raising the dead, yet when He saw Mary cry for his brother, He was greatly moved and scripture noted, “**Jesus wept. Then said the Jews, behold how he loved him**” (John 11:35-36). And with that pain and love in his heart, He called the dead back to life. It is this same feeling of love, care and emotion He has for you, no matter what you're going through. Sometimes, situation makes us feel abandoned,

separated or very far from the Lord, but that's not true; Christ is closer to you than your skin, you are part of his bones.

Before Christ crucifixion and ascension, He promised sending the Holy Spirit. **“Howbeit when he the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whomsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you”** (John 16:13-14). The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ. At salvation, that same Spirit enters you to guide, teach and remind you all that you need to know. The Holy Spirit makes Christ and the Kingdom a present reality, bringing everything of the Kingdom to you.

The Holy Spirit seats in you, delivering all the deliverables. At no time is the active believer out of touch with heaven. Christ has given you all that you need to keep you above and triumphant; making you a member of his body, flesh, bones and of His Spirit, it cannot be closer than this.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

I have Christ, and He has my back. I am secured and assured of the future. Hallelujah!

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

1 Corinthians 3:21-23, Isaiah 39:27-31, Isaiah 43:1-3.



Introductory Text , Deuteronomy 2:26-37

## CALLED TO FIGHT



**Opening verse:** *Rise ye up, take your journey, and pass over this river Arnon: behold I have given it into thy hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land: begin to possess it, and contend with him in battle [Deuteronomy 2:24].*

There are many reasons why God wants us to fight; principal among them is that, if you don't know how to fight, you will not be able to keep what is yours; the enemy will come and snatch them from you. What you don't fight for, you don't value. Thus, it is the thing you struggled or worked hard to get, you place value on. This is reason why most times children from wealthy homes can't keep their family wealth, because they did not partake in any work, neither did they know how it came. **"Give not that which is holy to dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under feet, and turn again and rend you"** (Matthew 7:6). It simply means, don't give what is of value to the one who will (or does) not value it.

To make you a fighter, God will either allow you to accept it willingly, or He will initiate it. When Israel came out of Egypt on their way to the Promised Land, they were very reluctant to fight. All their lives, the Egyptian army did the fighting, while they do the work. So, the first attempt to pass through the land of Edom, they went by negotiation, saying, **"Let us pass..."** (Numbers 20:17), but the king of Edom refused them, so they turned back. At the second attempt, as they tried to pass through the land of the

Amorites, they again negotiated, saying, **“Let me pass...”** (Numbers 21:22), but they were again refused. However, before they could turn back, God stirred up Sihon king of Amorites to pursue Israel (Deut. 2:31-32), and in the battle that ensued, Israel defeated the Amorites.

In spiritual parlance, you don't negotiate with the enemy, you fight. No one will let you pass to the place of your destiny, you have to fight your way through. **“And from the days of John the Baptist, the kingdom of God suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force”** (Matt. 11:12). God will not put anything valuable in your hand, unless you've developed a fighting spirit. Gideon understood this, so he told his men in the battle against the Midianites, shout, **“...the sword of the Lord, and of Gideon”** (Judges 7:18). He was ready to fight along with God, and that gave him quick victory. You will not suffer loss.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

The Lord is a man of war, and He has put the same spirit in me. I will fight and win.

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Numbers 14:6-9, 2 Corinthians 10:3-6, Jeremiah 51:17-24

Introductory Text, Psalm 2:1-12

## SONS AND NOT SERVANTS



**Opening verse:** *And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts crying, Abba, Father [Galatians 4:6].*



One of the major difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament is the place of the believer with God. In the Old Testament, they were called servants, but in the New Testament we are called sons. That is a very huge gap, because a servant and a son are in two separate world. When the prodigal son returned from his expedition of the world, and thought he was no longer qualified to be a son, he said to his father, “...**make me one of thy hired servants....But the father said to his servants, bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hands, and shoes on his feet. And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat and be merry**” (Luke15:19, 22-23). Though his son had greatly sinned, yet the father couldn't see himself put his son in the place of a servant.

Sons are not bought with money, neither are they transacted like goods and services. Sons are birthed, they carry our name, face, gene and covenant. They are the ones that carry-on with our heritage long after we've gone. We bequeath everything to them, guiding them carefully to take our place. That is who you are to God. Everything He created has been carefully put together for you to inherit. **“Blessed be the God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

which according to the abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. To an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you" (1 Peter 1:3-4).

As strong as the covenant between God and David was, God still called him "my servant" (Psalm 89:20). Why? Because the fullness of the purpose of God was not yet revealed in the Old Testament times. But that changed with time, hence Jesus told his disciples, "**Hence forth I call you not servants: for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you**" (John 15:15). But in our time, we have moved beyond friends and have become sons. Christ through redemption has brought us into sonship. The Holy Spirit in you is makes you manifests sonship (Romans 8:14).

Take advantage of your sonship, and stop acting beggarly before your Father. Take hold of every provisions of the Kingdom, they are all yours.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

I take hold of my sonship position, and lay claim of every blessings. Praise God.

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

1 Corinthians 3:21, Romans 8:14-17, Galatians 4:1-11

Introductory Text, Luke 18:1-8

## PRAYER: A SIGN OF FAITH



**Opening verse:** *And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint [Luke 18:1].*

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Jesus was God in the flesh, yet He had to depend on God the Father for strength through prayer. At the time of His arrest, He said to the people that came for him, **“Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels”** (Matthew 26:53). Jesus yielded completely to the Father through prayers, rather than show himself as one superman. Unless you pray, God cannot be absolutely sure you need His help. Prayer is what shows you cannot help yourself; it is one of the major ways of working your faith. Thus, when you don't pray, the message is simple: **“I can sought out myself”**

At Peniel, Jacob was told of Esau's entourage on the way to meet him. For 21 years, he had been on the run, avoiding Esau after stealing his birthright. So on this day, all his tricks could no longer carry him, he now has to come face to face with the one he deceived. To solve that problem, he went for an all-night prayer (Genesis 32:24). Prayer is faith in action. It is the process of putting your faith to work, a sign of submission to the Father above. If Jacob had not prayed, the encounter with Esau would have been different; but thank God he got the reward of his

faith.

Jabez was under a curse placed by his own mother, and nothing prospered in his hands. Yet for the faith he had in God, he went to pray, “...**And God granted him that which he requested**” (1 Chronicles 4:9-10). Until you've prayed, you have not exercised faith. That is why God cannot vouch, commit or entrust anything into the hand of a man who does not pray; because he will do it his own way. Today, the present world is embroiled with many challenges, because they removed God from their scheme of things. “**And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do things which are not convenient**” (Romans 1:28).

But those who allow God into their space by praying always get answers. Jesus walked by faith in the Father, and got answers; so did Jacob and Jabez. If you put your faith to work through prayer, you will also get answer. That is the advantage we have over the world; that we have a God who responds to our faith when we pray.



#### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

I will exercise my faith in the Lord, I will keep on it until my change comes. Hallelujah!

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#### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Genesis 32:22-30, Luke 6:12, James 2:17-24.

Introductory Text, 1 Timothy 4:1-10

## SERVICE THAT RELATIONSHIP



**Opening verse:** *And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers [Acts 2:42].*



**H**ave you ever wondered why the people who were once in the Church are the same people that attack the Church the most? Many of the people you see on the street who are no longer going to church, especially on Sundays were once choir leader, women leader, head of prayer department, children church coordinator, youth fellowship leader, etc. They were men and women who once carried fire in their bones, but soon their fire went out, and they lost enthusiasm and passion for the things of God and the Kingdom. The simple reason for this was because they delayed in servicing their relationship with the Lord.

Someone might say, "They left because the church or someone in the church hurt them". Well, that may look like a very tenable reason, but you must understand that our relationship with the Lord is like a car, if you don't service it regularly, it will either breakdown or get knocked (completely out of use). Thus, in the church you will always have people that will hurt you. Even the pastor will sometimes do some crazy things that will get you upset. If you don't service your relationship regularly, the devil will set you up with people and get you out of the church in no time. Anything that

involves people gathering together in a place, will always bring friction; you will either have to manage people or manage yourself if you want to continue in that gathering. **“And those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration”** (Acts 6:1).

As you use your car daily, it goes through wear and tear; same is our walk with the Lord. As we daily engage with men and women in the church, you will see and hear many things; if you don't go back regularly to refresh yourself before the Lord, you will lose fire. **“Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, it is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve table....But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and the ministry of the word”** (Acts 6:2, 4). No Christian will survive only on what the pastor preaches on Sunday, but on personal study and prayers.

Go back to personal fellowship with the Father, and see your Christian life bubble again with new zest, passion and enthusiasm.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

I will give myself to daily pursuit of the Lord, until my life rise out of obscurity. Amen

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Acts 1:12-14, 2 Timothy 3:10-17, 2 Timothy 4:1-5



Introductory Text, Judges 7:1-7

## IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH NUMBERS



**Opening verse:** *And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said, Lord, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us O Lord our God... [2 Chronicles 14:11].*



**G**od's operation has nothing to do with number of persons, but His dealings are with individuals that are faithful and available. In the wilderness, after Israel's rebellion, God said to Moses, **"I will smite them with pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they"** (Numbers 14:12). God's intention was very clear, it was to wipe out the people and create a new set of men and women out of Moses. But Moses interceded for the people and stayed the hand and anger of God. Thus, God's pattern from the beginning, is to work through individuals and not a group of people. Every work, will, purpose and programme of God has never been through people but individuals.

It all started with Adam, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Deborah, Esther, etc. And this has continued till our present day. When you understand this principle and follow this pattern, you won't kill yourself when people fail you, or be intimidated by a multitude. **"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). So, do you have a project, assignment, programme, work or

calling to execute? Just look for one person among the whole bunch, and pour yourself into that individual, you will be amazed how much and how quick you will get accomplished. Stop waiting for everybody to tag along, it is not compulsory for everyone to agree with you, so leave room for disagreement.

When Gideon gathered 32,000 soldiers to go with him to war, God said, they were too much. So He reduced them to just 300 persons, and the war was won. Why? Because it was about God, and not about the people. The moment you can find one faithful person to agree with you, the job gets done. Jesus had 12 disciples, yet among that 12, He focused on three; Peter, James and John. And between these 3, He narrowed it further to just one person, John the beloved. Thus through John, two of among the most important subject of the Kingdom; love and heaven were revealed to the church. (Read 1, 2, & 3 John, and the book of Revelation).

As you focus on individuals and not group, the work will be done.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

Through the Holy Ghost, I receive wisdom and direction to accomplish my kingdom goal

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Judges 6:12-14, 2 Chronicles 20:1-4, 14-15, Ezekiel 22:25-31,

Introductory Text, 1 Kings 18:17-29

## HE HEARS US



**Opening verse:** *And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us [1 John 5:14].*



**W**hen Elijah entered into battle with 450 prophets of Baal, he asked them to call on their god; and this they did all through the morning hours. And after several hours, not a voice of Baal was heard, **“And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is on a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awakened. And they cried loud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them”** (1 Kings 18:27-28). However, when Elijah called on the Lord God just once, He answered by fire, and the people shouted, **“...The LORD, he is God, the LORD he is the God”** (1 kings 18:39). That singular act ended every controversy and contention of who is the true God.

The beauty and power of the Christian faith is that we have a God who hears us. God does not only hear prayers, He hears every conversation; spoken and unspoken. Your wish, thoughts, desires, dreams, joy and anger, etc. He knows them all. David relayed this in Psalm 139:4, **“For there is not a word in my tongue, but lo, thou knowest it altogether”**. Thus,

when your thoughts, words or prayers are in line with His will, it makes your case better; God will answer you speedily. John communicates this in a stronger term, **“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us”** (1 John 5:14).

With God, we are in a place of confidence; that is why both in good and bad times, He wants to hear you. But He will not force Himself into your life, He is a respecter of choices; unless you speak and call upon Him, He will do nothing. Your pains, struggles, worries, fears, guilt and regrets are all known to Him, but He will wait for you to give Him access. When Job was complaining, cursing and grumbling, the Lord did nothing, until Job called on Him (Job 40:1-2). Same thing happened to Jabez; his life did not change until he called on the Lord (1 Chronicles 4:9-10).

God hears you, no need dying in silence; go ahead and tell Him exactly how you feel, He will answer and give you peace in every trouble.



### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

The Lord has not shut his ears to me. He will answer and give me peace. Hallelujah!

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### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Psalm 85:8, Psalm 91:14-16, Psalm 65:1-8, Psalm 139:1-16.

Introductory Text, Acts 4:23-33

## PRAYER FULL OR FAILURE FULL



**Opening verse:** *And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray and not to faint [Luke 18:1].*



**T**he world runs on a system that is against the Christian faith. Everything in the world is against us, the only way to survive here is to pray as often as possible. If you are not prayer full, you will be failure full. To be prayer full is simply to be full of prayer. That was what the disciples did after Jesus' ascension, and by it they overcame the powers that ruled the land. They generated so much power in the upper room, in one occasion scripture described them thus, **"And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they had assembled together, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness"** (Acts 4:31). You must also generate enough power to shake and dismantle the structures resisting you, otherwise you will end up a failure.

When Jesus entered the temple to teach the people, he found the place taken over by traders; and in anger He made a scourge and cast out all of them that were buying and selling in the temple. When the chief priest, scribes and elders saw him, **"And they say unto him, by what authority doest thou these things? And who gave thee this authority to do these things?"** (Mark 11:28). There are powers that are

constantly speaking into your life and challenging your authority. They ask for your right to marry, to have kids, to work and prosper, to laugh and be happy, and be in health, etc. Unless you defeat these powers in the place of prayer, you aren't going anywhere.

Is it not surprising, that the leaders of the city called the disciples for questioning for healing the lame man at the beautiful gate? rather than rejoice for what the Lord had done? Their fear was, if this continues, they will lose their grip over the people. Similarly, when the man by the pool of Bethesda got healed, the same happened, but this time they went further, **“The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, it is the Sabbath day, it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed”** (John 5:10). Can you imagine that they wanted him to go back and lie down in the same spot he had been for 38 years?

If you're going to overcome the powers challenging your place and authority, you must go beyond being prayerful to being full of prayer.



#### MY DECLARATION AND PRAYER

Lord thank you for the grace to pray. I will press on until all my enemies and foes are defeated.

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#### ADDITIONAL BIBLE REFERENCES

Matthew 26:36-46, Luke 9:28-29, 1 Timothy 2:8

