

empowered daily

THE DAILY DEVOTIONAL
FOR LIVING WITH
CERTAINTY & INTENSITY

*"Have not I written to thee excellent things
in counsels and knowledge, That I might
make thee know the certainty of the words
of truth; that thou mightest answer the
words of truth to them that send unto thee?"*
- Proverbs 22:20-21

RYAN & DEBRA JACOBS

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books@saithmedia.com

The authors can be contacted via The Empowered Church at info@empoweredchurch.com or directly at books@ryanjacobs.info



TUESDAY, APRIL 1

No April Fool



Paul told the Ephesian Christians, “See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”

They were not supposed to walk as fools. Fools are blind. They have no foresight. They can’t distinguish between shifting seasons and changing times. And therefore cannot seize destined moments and life-changing opportunities. Fools live every day the same because to them every day is the same. They cannot notice the subtle changes in life. Fools are like frogs sitting within a pot, which is slowly being heated up, to a boiling point: They are oblivious to what is happening.

Christians are not expected to be counted among the fools but the wise. Christians walk wisely. They are ever ready and conscious of shifting seasons and changing times. And they position themselves to seize the day. The days may be evil but these are in the realm of the Christians to seize and occupy. Every Christian should know how to resist the evil within every day. Did not our Lord Jesus teach His disciples to pray, “Deliver us from evil?”

From today, deliver each day from its evil. Drive the devil out and hamper his freedom of movement in your life: Give him none. Today, look yourself in the mirror and say, “I am no April fool. I am spiritually wise. And I will seize the day!”

Yes, you are no April fool. Are you ready to seize the day?

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 5:15-16

SEE THEN THAT YE WALK CIRCUMSPECTLY, NOT AS FOOLS, BUT AS WISE, REDEEMING THE TIME, BECAUSE THE DAYS ARE EVIL.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

Take Time To Wait



“Lets take time to wait upon the Lord. Lets take time to listen for His voice.” The lyrics of this old worship song is compelling even now. We are reminded to take time out to wait upon the Lord.

The scripture says, “For since the beginning of the world men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him.” God acts for those who wait upon Him. Here is a secret of how to have the Lord to act for you: Wait for Him by waiting upon Him. Just take time to sit and wait for Him to speak to you.

The Lord Jesus withdrew often, to a solitary place to pray. Those who wait for Him, see the acts of God. It is so simple: just wait.

Isaiah was right when he said, “But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”

So today, “Lets take time to wait upon the Lord. Lets take time to listen for His voice.”

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 40:31

BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY; AND THEY SHALL WALK, AND NOT FAINT.



THURSDAY, APRIL 3

Freedom to Behold



There was a time and a generation that was not free to behold the glory of God. The ark was hidden within a thick veil and everyone who dared to breach that veil, was met with instant death.

God dwelt in thick darkness and men were not free to approach. A few men could, from time to time, catch a glimpse of God's beauty. Moses was such a man. For forty days and forty nights he dwelt with God, on a mountain. He came out of that encounter with his face shining like that of an angel.

Yet man could not look on his face, without the darkness of their hearts being pierced. They were afraid.

In steps Jesus! And now we have a recreated spirit, regenerated in heaven. Now we can look upon His glory with an unveiled face. All of us are now looking on God, by looking at the word of Christ, through the inspiration of the Spirit of liberty.

We can now stare at God all day long and come out transformed. We have the liberty. Yes, you have the liberty!

Today, enjoy the freedom. Pick up your bible and say "Come up on me Holy Spirit and show me Jesus!"

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 3:16-18

NEVERTHELESS WHEN IT SHALL TURN TO THE LORD, THE VAIL SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY. NOW THE LORD IS THAT SPIRIT: AND WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS LIBERTY. 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.



He's Changing You



There is an old chorus which says, “He’s changing me. He’s changing me. By the power of His word, He’s changing me.”

The chorus lyrics are simple and yet its truth profound. God uses His word to transform us. Apostle Paul, wrote, “...be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...”

Why is it then that so few Christians find the bible exciting, energy generating and let alone life transforming? Many find themselves distracted when they read it and some even fall asleep, whilst reading the bible. These are common symptoms of a widespread spiritual deficiency and a root cause of innate spiritual darkness, within the souls of Christians. Why is this so? The answer is simple. We have not turned. Paul said, “...for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.”

We need to turn to the Holy Spirit again, in our private and public Christian walk. The Holy Spirit is absolutely necessary in our reading, hearing and preaching of the holy bible. His private and public ministry to us, is indispensable. We need to turn to the Holy Spirit again, when we are about to read or listen to the Word. He is the conveyor of the words and voice of God. Without Him, we will simply not get the message nor have power to live it. Paul preached and taught in demonstration of the Spirit and of power. He called himself and his colleagues, in his own words, “able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit.”

We are changed when we turn to the Spirit of the Lord in our reading, hearing and communicating of the bible. When you turn to the Holy Spirit, He will change you, by the power of His Word.

The words of the bible, when quickened by the Spirit, converts the soul. Right now, He’s changing you. Do you perceive this?

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 3:16-18

NEVERTHELESS WHEN IT SHALL TURN TO THE LORD, THE VAIL SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY. NOW THE LORD IS THAT SPIRIT: AND WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS LIBERTY. 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.



SATURDAY, APRIL 5

Who Knows How



The carnal mind is always trying to figure God out. It has an unholy fixation to analyze God. This is impossible.

Likewise, the spiritual man cannot be analyzed by the rational mind, yet understands and dissects the rational mind perfectly. As is written, “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. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.”

Rational people never enter experientially into the realms of God. They are left on the outside, scratching their heads, wondering what’s happening.

Jesus explained that the seed of the kingdom of God springs and grows up. And the man it pertains to, does not know how it happens. It just does.

The process is automated and it’s outcome sure.

You have to be like a little child to truly experience the kingdom of God.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 4:26-28

AND HE SAID, SO IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD, AS IF A MAN SHOULD CAST SEED INTO THE GROUND; AND SHOULD SLEEP, AND RISE NIGHT AND DAY, AND THE SEED SHOULD SPRING AND GROW UP, HE KNOWETH NOT HOW. FOR THE EARTH BRINGETH FORTH FRUIT OF HERSELF; FIRST THE BLADE, THEN THE EAR, AFTER THAT THE FULL CORN IN THE EAR..



You Will Come Out



In this life, a Christian may encounter unexpected adverse circumstances.

As our Lord said, “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world, ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”

This world may bring you tribulation but we should cheer up, Jesus has overcome this world. In other words, you will overcome and come out of that tribulation.

Afflictions and adverse circumstances are brought on by the enemy of our souls, the devil. It is written, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.”

The devil may seek to devour your faith through afflictions. Don't let him! Resist him in faith and refuse to doubt God's providence for you. Peter said that after a little while, the God of grace will make you perfect, stablish, strengthen and settle you.

So cheer up and faith up. Something good from heaven is on the way to you, which will settle you for life.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 PETER 5:8-11

BE SOBER, BE VIGILANT; BECAUSE YOUR ADVERSARY THE DEVIL, AS A ROARING LION, WALKETH ABOUT, SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR: WHOM RESIST STEDFAST IN THE FAITH, KNOWING THAT THE SAME AFFLICTIONS ARE ACCOMPLISHED IN YOUR BRETHERN THAT ARE IN THE WORLD. BUT THE GOD OF ALL GRACE, WHO HATH CALLED US UNTO HIS ETERNAL GLORY BY CHRIST JESUS, AFTER THAT YE HAVE SUFFERED A WHILE, MAKE YOU PERFECT, STABLISH, STRENGTHEN, SETTLE YOU. TO HIM BE GLORY AND DOMINION FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN.



MONDAY, APRIL 7

The Atmosphere



We all live in the atmosphere. In other words, we are surrounded by an atmosphere. Every inch of our world is covered or filled with atmosphere. We breath in its air and this allows the energy to flow within. You stop breathing, you die. You need air. It is the one substance no one can do

without.

Few however, are aware that the will, emotions, intellect and spirit of every man on this planet, are also dependent on the spiritual air or atmosphere around them. It affects their mood, thoughts, decisions, interactions and outcome of their life.

Sadly, the prince of this atmospheric influence is evil and dark, and actively conducting negative energy towards their personalities and spirit. The negative energy is to produce a violation of God's preset spiritual laws.

The consequence is spiritual defeat and ultimately spiritual death. The spiritual defeat is evidenced in the failures and calamities experienced by mankind. Refuse to accept the negative energy flow.

Resist it by unleashing the energy within, supplied by the Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 2:2

WHEREIN IN TIME PAST YE WALKED ACCORDING TO THE COURSE OF THIS WORLD, ACCORDING TO THE PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR, THE SPIRIT THAT NOW WORKETH IN THE CHILDREN OF DISOBEDIENCE..



Out Of Darkness



It is recorded for our understanding and imitation, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.”

In the beginning, God faced darkness and commanded the light out of darkness. This is how He deals with darkness. That is how you got saved. The Apostle Paul puts it this way, “For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.” Did you see that? God commands light to come out of darkness. He fixes His gaze on the darkness and unleashes His command. Then as a result, “...the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.”

The commanded light then shines in darkness and darkness is unable to seize, overtake or arrest it. And therefore flees from the light. What kind of darkness are you facing on this eighth day of this month? Don't flee from it. Command the light to shine out of that darkness.

You are about to shift. Things are about to change!

SCRIPTURE READING: GENESIS 1:1-3

IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH. AND THE EARTH WAS WITHOUT FORM, AND VOID; AND DARKNESS WAS UPON THE FACE OF THE DEEP. AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD MOVED UPON THE FACE OF THE WATERS. AND GOD SAID, LET THERE BE LIGHT: AND THERE WAS LIGHT.



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

Spiritual Timing



Every day is not the same. All days and moments are not equal. They are not identical twins.

In fact the scripture says, “To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven.”

All of God’s purposes for your life has its own time. You must discover your purpose, along with its time.

Purpose without knowing it’s time, is just frustration. Knowing spiritual timing is vital and empowering.

Wise people understand and know that purpose manifests within time. And therefore they spiritually discern the time, as it relates to purpose.

Solomon said, “...and a wise man’s heart discerneth both time and judgment. Because to every purpose there is time and judgment...” Accurate decisions are strongly dependent on discerning the right time.

Today, ask and find the grace to discern the timing around your life, so that you can redeem or capture it.

SCRIPTURE READING: GALATIANS 4:19

MY LITTLE CHILDREN, OF WHOM I TRAVAIL IN BIRTH AGAIN UNTIL CHRIST BE FORMED IN YOU,



Why Not Now?



Spiritual timing is a spiritual art that you must master, to be preeminent in this spiritual life. In other words, you must know when to execute the assignments which God gave you. It is important to execute everything in its season and time. As it is written, “He makes all things beautiful in His time.” Patience and rhythm are required. Hastiness must be shunned and patience used to train the soul. However, that said, there are times when the right time is out of the conventionally perceived season. In other words, “now!”

Jesus, in the gospel John, told the disciples that it is time to act. He urged the disciples to use their spiritual eyes and see that the harvest had ripened already. There had been an acceleration in the maturing process, due to the watering with the words of God. The move of God in Israel, through Jesus, had matured the harvest before its season. Such is the power of the Word of God, working in the Spirit.

Has such a working been taking place in areas of your life? Will you lift up your eyes and see the greater works that can be done now, rather than later? You may have been expecting “normal” but the word of God, by His Spirit have been working with great speed. Will you release that declaration and make that move?

Why Not Now? The fields are ready for you to harvest.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 4:35

SAY NOT YE, THERE ARE YET FOUR MONTHS, AND THEN COMETH HARVEST? BEHOLD, I SAY UNTO YOU, LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST.



FRIDAY, APRIL 11

The Man Within



We are dealing with the man within man's spirit. The inner man is paramount. A man who neglects his spirit sabotages his eternal destiny.

Without your spirit you cannot know or communicate with God. As it is written, "God is a spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth." God cannot be worshiped in the flesh nor pleased by the flesh. He is only contactable through the spirit of man. Know that. Settle that.

You therefore need your spirit man strong. Your spirit man is your spiritual residency in the realm of the Spirit. A strong spirit is required to survive, let alone thrive there.

Hence, the Apostle Paul prayed for the Christians to be made strong with power in the inner man, by God's Spirit. This strengthening produces a day by day renewing or invigorating of the inward man.

How do you allow the power to make your spirit strong? This is primarily done by praying exceedingly in an unknown tongue. This was Paul's wisdom to the Christians at Corinth.

Start today with making your inner man strong.

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 3:1

THAT HE WOULD GRANT YOU, ACCORDING TO THE RICHES OF HIS GLORY, TO BE STRENGTHENED WITH MIGHT BY HIS SPIRIT IN THE INNER MAN.



Think Independently



At one time, we looked at the following account, “Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread, neither had they in the ship with them more than one loaf. And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod. And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have no bread. And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened? Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember?”

Jesus made one statement and the disciples immediately began to apply group thinking, by reasoning among themselves. Group thinking is yoke-thinking: It equalizes. All discoveries and advancement demands an independent thinker. The Lord’s disciple, Peter, was an independent thinker. When asked, “...whom say ye that I am?” He answered, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” He did not consult, he knew and answered. His opinion of Jesus was not formed by group thinking. He knew by revelation. He drew his own conclusion by inner knowings. How do you draw your conclusions? Consultation or revelation?

Jesus gave the very important prophecy as a result of Peter’s expressed revelation. Jesus said, “I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” Hell overcoming prophecies are not released because of group thinkers. The independent thinker is the one who will lead the prevailing. Are you the independent thinker among your peers or just a group thinker? Think independently.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 8-14-18

NOW THE DISCIPLES HAD FORGOTTEN TO TAKE BREAD, NEITHER HAD THEY IN THE SHIP WITH THEM MORE THAN ONE LOAF. AND HE CHARGED THEM, SAYING, TAKE HEED, BEWARE OF THE LEAVEN OF THE PHARISEES, AND OF THE LEAVEN OF HEROD. AND THEY REASONED AMONG THEMSELVES, SAYING, IT IS BECAUSE WE HAVE NO BREAD. AND WHEN JESUS KNEW IT, HE SAITH UNTO THEM, WHY REASON YE, BECAUSE YE HAVE NO BREAD? PERCEIVE YE NOT YET, NEITHER UNDERSTAND? HAVE YE YOUR HEART YET HARDENED? HAVING EYES, SEE YE NOT? AND HAVING EARS, HEAR YE NOT? AND DO YE NOT REMEMBER?



SUNDAY, APRIL 13

You Are Free



Freedom is a precious gift and grace afforded to us of our Father. Nothing is as precious, as a soul free from the entanglements of their world and its ways.

There is a promise of a higher life for humanity. A life free from sin. Free from the slavery of the law. A new life is on offer to every man. This new life is an “in-breathed” life, a life energized with the energy of God.

This life is yours now, dear brother and sister. No more waiting, it is yours now. The Holy Spirit dwells in you as a Christian. He is God’s grace and energy manifested in you.

We want you to see that every prison door has already been opened.

Today, just walk out of that habit, that limiting situation, that condemnation.

Look to Jesus. He that the Son has set free is free indeed.

SCRIPTURE READING: ROMANS 8:21
BECAUSE THE CREATURE ITSELF ALSO SHALL BE DELIVERED FROM THE BONDAGE OF CORRUPTION INTO THE GLORIOUS LIBERTY OF THE CHILDREN OF GOD.



But Thou O Lord



At one time or other Christians encounter adversity. During such a time everything may seem adverse. Maybe such a time may come for you this month.

You will need to possess a certain type of revelation. The true story is told of a certain man of God who faced a severe life threatening situation, brought on by his own son. That man wrote in his own words, “Lord, how are they increased that trouble me! many are they that rise up against me. Many there be which say of my soul, There is no help for him in God. Selah.”

Things looked bleak but then the man realized there is a big “But.” These were his words, “But thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.” That was it. He was untouchable, no matter who and how many were gathered against him.

Cheer up. Let this be your revelation. “But thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.”

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 3:6

I WILL NOT BE AFRAID OF TEN THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE, THAT HAVE SET THEMSELVES AGAINST ME ROUND ABOUT



TUESDAY, APRIL 15

Make Room



Jesus gave a call in the Book of Revelation, “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”

Jesus wants to come in and sup with you. He wants the opportunity to fellowship and get comfortable with you. Yet, for Him to do that, you must make room for Him at the table of your heart.

It is not an uncomfortable toleration of Him. He is not coming to visit. He wants to abide and mingle with your soul, your personality, your thoughts, desires and day-to-day activities.

You must make room for Him. Start by a deep desire for Him. Imagine life with Jesus. What will it be like to be Jesus conscious, on a whole new level? Now you have begun making room for Him.

Soon His sweet voice will start sounding and abounding in your heart.

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 24:28-29

AND THEY DREW NIGH UNTO THE VILLAGE, WHITHER THEY WENT: AND HE MADE AS THOUGH HE WOULD HAVE GONE FURTHER. BUT THEY CONSTRAINED HIM, SAYING, ABIDE WITH US: FOR IT IS TOWARD EVENING, AND THE DAY IS FAR SPENT. AND HE WENT IN TO TARRY WITH THEM.



Heart-Talk Truth



It is baffling to realise how truth is obscured in the world. What is even more staggering is how many people deceive their own hearts, with beliefs that are unfounded. You must quality control your heart-talk. You will never expand in life beyond your heart. The heart-life governs the extent and eternal influence of your life. As it is written, "...out of it are the issues of life."

In a world, where most are believing and peddling lies, learn to speak the truth in your heart. It is the truth you know, celebrate and walk in that makes you free. Furthermore, speaking the truth in your heart is a prerequisite for abiding in the manifest Presence of God. Your open communication with God is maintained that way.

David said, "LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart." God desires truth in the inward parts and responds by revealing Himself, through wisdom in that kind of heart.

Today, transform the quality of your heart. Learn to speak the truth to yourself, in your heart and then with your mouth. Continue in it. Celebrate it and excel in it. For blessed is the man in whose spirit there is no guile.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 15:1-2

LORD, WHO SHALL ABIDE IN THY TABERNACLE? WHO SHALL DWELL IN THY HOLY HILL? HE THAT WALKETH UPRIGHTLY, AND WORKETH RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND SPEAKETH THE TRUTH IN HIS HEART.



THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Count Your Blessings



David said, “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits...”

The man of God, David, was instructing his own soul not to forget all the benefits of the Lord. He did not want to “šâkah” which means ‘to be oblivious.’ David was determining to always remain conscious of God’s goodness, by actively blessing the Lord for every area of blessing that he was enjoying. He did this by mentioning each and every blessing by name. He went on to say, “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” David would even elaborate more throughout that Psalm.

Let us stir ourselves today to imitate David and do what the old song writer, Johnson Oatman Jr. said:

“Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your blessings, see what God hath done;
Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.”

There is merit and power in giving God thanks. Praise is indeed the fruit of our lips, giving thanks.

Praise Him this weekend: for your many blessings. There is more on the way.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 103:2-5

BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, AND FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS: WHO FORGIVETH ALL THINE INIQUITIES; WHO HEALETH ALL THY DISEASES; WHO REDEEMETH THY LIFE FROM DESTRUCTION; WHO CROWNETH THEE WITH LOVINGKINDNESS AND TENDER MERCIES; WHO SATISFIETH THY MOUTH WITH GOOD THINGS; SO THAT THY YOUTH IS RENEWED LIKE THE EAGLE’S.



The Cross, Thy Victory



Prophetic Utterance by Ryan A. Jacobs - October 2016:

*I see strong winds blowing
as God's glory He'll be showing.
A cloud shall appear over the multitude and shining within that
cloud and many dwelling places shall be set alight.
For God's glory shall shine bright as in Him you surely delight.*

*Delight thyself in Him and drink from the overflowing stream.
It is time to begin to dream.
New beginnings will I give for all who will receive
for this is the portion of the saints: God's glory they do gain.*

*I take away the sorrow. I take away the pain.
And all that will remain is My goodness, in which you will exclaim.*

*It is time to praise the Lord
for I have delivered you with My sword.
It is time to give Him thanks
for He is about to burst your banks.
Overflowing joy your portion. Do not doubt, just believe.
My glory is yours to receive.*

*Shout for joy I have foiled the enemy's ploy.
All the works of satan I did destroy.
And now you can have fullness of joy. In My presence do rejoice.
I will not force you, it is a choice.
An overflowing life I did prepare and this is My desire for you to share.
Now let go of every care and step out of the devil's snare.
See the truth: he has been defeated. On Calvary's cross the victory gained and your enemy
shamed.
I, My throne have claimed.*

*In this be your talk.
In this be your walk.
This is the victory you have been looking for.
This is what I have in store for all who would enter in by this holy door.
My flesh. My Blood. There is no other way to gain heaven's glory.
My people this is My story:
My blood for you I did shed.
On Calvary's cross thy Saviour bled
and rose for thee victoriously.
In thy stead gained the victory.
Now ready for you to claim
and spread throughout the world My fame.*



SATURDAY, APRIL 19

The Battle



Heaven and hell wage a heavy battle concerning you. That battle we call, “the right to ignite.”

The tongue is an instrument or conduit of the spiritual world. It is that thing which connects the visible with the invisible.

Did not God speak? And what He spoke did it not stand fast?

Holy Spirit and evil spirits vie for control of your tongue. God wants your tongue tamed and the devil wants it wild.

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit first moved upon the tongue and their speech changed to heavenly. The apostle of James tells us “Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.”

Let heaven have your tongue.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 15:4

A WHOLESOME TONGUE IS A TREE OF LIFE: BUT PERVERSENESS THEREIN IS A BREACH IN THE SPIRIT.



At This Time



Know the time you are living in and you will be effective in what God has called you. Knowing the time is vital.

Many have lost a sense of the time they are living in. They have forgotten that they are living in the last days.

They play games and trying methods, thinking these will do the job of glorifying Jesus. No, it will not. Only by the Holy Spirit can we get the job done as He would have it done.

Jesus said, “Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.”

God does not want His people to sleep. He wants you awake, alert and alive. Wake up today! Many will wake up too late.

He said “watch (stay awake) for you know not what hour your Lord will come”.

Get to work today. Start by getting the word in you and His Spirit on you. Then you will see His Spirit flowing through you, to whosoever will receive.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 24:32-33

NOW LEARN A PARABLE OF THE FIG TREE; WHEN HIS BRANCH IS YET TENDER, AND PUTTETH FORTH LEAVES, YE KNOW THAT SUMMER IS NIGH: SO LIKEWISE YE, WHEN YE SHALL SEE ALL THESE THINGS, KNOW THAT IT IS NEAR, EVEN AT THE DOORS.



MONDAY, APRIL 21

An Unequal Yoke



Yokes were used on oxen in the early farming industry, to harness the combined strength of more than one ox. The yoke was used to join the oxen so that they can move forward together, using the joint force of their movement. The bible speaks of an unequal yoke. And describes unequal yoking as combining different creatures together, which have different proportions, natures and focus.

It is written, “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

Those different creatures are described as believers, unbelievers, righteousness, unrighteousness, light, darkness, Christ, Belial, idols and the temple of God. The aforementioned are call spiritual “creatures” if you will.

As a son and daughter of God you are commanded to separate yourself from other creatures, so that the Father can recognize and accept you. And so that you can fully access and partake of your spiritual inheritance. Never allow an unequal yoke to hinder and kill your potential. Come out from among them.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 6:17-18

WHEREFORE COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARATE, SAITH THE LORD, AND TOUCH NOT THE UNCLEAN THING; AND I WILL RECEIVE YOU. AND WILL BE A FATHER UNTO YOU, AND YE SHALL BE MY SONS AND DAUGHTERS, SAITH THE LORD ALMIGHTY.



The Works



The Lord Jesus said to His Father, “I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.”

This summed up His life. John tells us that Jesus’ last words on the cross were, “It is finished.”

Jesus knew the works that the Father gave Him and when these were accomplished. Do you know the works that Jesus gave you to do in your lifetime? Will you know when you have finished all the work?

Lets talk about this year. What works did the Father give you to finish before this year is over? You must know the scope of works given you for this current year.

Cry out to God until this revelation dawns on your spirit. There is eight months left in the year. You must finish the work given to you for 2025.

So that you, like Jesus, before the end of this year can survey the works of God given you for 2025 and exclaim, “It is finished!”

Take stock today. It is time for greater works.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 17:4

I HAVE GLORIFIED THEE ON THE EARTH: I HAVE FINISHED THE WORK WHICH THOU GAVEST ME TO DO.



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Eat The Works



The gospel of John tells us, that on a certain day, Jesus was wearied from His journey and sat down to rest. The disciples left their Master there to go get some much needed nourishment (food) for themselves and Him.

Upon their return, they found Him animatedly ministering to someone. Nevertheless they begged Him to eat, knowing the wearied state that they left Him in when they went to get Him some food.

Jesus now told them that He already got some strong nourishment from a source that they did not yet know. That source was the actual work which the Father willed for Him. It is in doing God's will that we are energized to do more of His will.

Such is the energy derived from doing the works that God gives you: These can energize your body in a way that natural food cannot.

This year's portfolio of works, which He gave you, will energize you to finish this year strong and reach the top of the mountain. And this with outstanding victory!

Go ahead and eat the works which He gave you. It is your true energy.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 4:34
MY MEAT IS TO DO THE WILL OF HIM THAT SENT ME, AND TO FINISH HIS WORK.



Established Thoughts



Often the will of God and His mandate for greater works, can become a heavy burden to some people. They may know the work that God gave them but where to start seems to elude them.

Often they start by trying to guess where to begin. They then blindly launch out on their assignment, often with disappointing results. Some get so discouraged by their failed attempt, that they resolve that maybe it was not God's will. Action should never have been their first act.

Our counsel to those people is to commit the accomplishment of the works of God, to God. And then to start thinking. Think about this, if your mandate is from God, then He first thought about it. So it takes God-size thoughts to grasp and start executing His mandate. The first reaction to God's mandate is to get into a thinking session with the Holy Spirit and just think (with Him). As you think, commit everything to Him, trusting He will supply the energy, wisdom and favor for completing His mandate.

Jesus needed His spirit to complete the spiritual aspects of the redemption work, outside of the body. And therefore committed His spirit unto the Father. You should commit your work unto the Lord and your thoughts will be done, in your work just as it is in your mind.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS :16:3
COMMIT THY WORKS UNTO THE LORD, AND THY THOUGHTS SHALL BE ESTABLISHED.



FRIDAY, APRIL 25

Hearing Weekend



The bible says in the gospel of Luke, “And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret,” The people were pressing upon Him to hear Him speak. There must have been something that they discovered in His speech. After all, the Lord Jesus said, “... the words that I speak unto you, they are

spirit, and they are life.”

Such were the power of His words that the scripture records a few verses later, “...so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities.”

The people discovered that they were being healed as they listened to the words of Jesus. All they had to do is believe. Once they believed, hearing would be given them. Hearing brings faith and faith the answers their need. Paul, the apostle, explained it to the church at Rome, in Romans 10:17.

The words of Jesus, especially spoken by His anointed vessels, minister’s spiritual substance. Paul said, “Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.”

Make this weekend a special one of pressing to hear the word of God. You will discover that you are healed, delivered, answered and changed.

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 5:1

AND IT CAME TO PASS, THAT, AS THE PEOPLE PRESSED UPON HIM TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD, HE STOOD BY THE LAKE OF GENNESARET,



Things



These are famous words, “...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.” The Lord said that the good things that He prepared for those who love Him lies beyond their natural perceptions. These things are

veiled.

Those who love Him are also ordained to have a privileged life. As it is written, “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”

What a life?! It is a life where every single thing is in your employ, working to grow your investment in life. Even so every adverse thing seeking to work against you, will find itself actually working for you! Your life, dear brother and sister, consists of things: those things God prepared for you [and even the things the devil aims at you]. All these things are unavoidably going to work for you. Things are working for you in 2025: all things.

Our exhortation to you today is to uncover those good things set out by God for you. The beauty of life is in those things.

SCRIPTURE READING: ROMANS 8:28

AND WE KNOW THAT ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THEM THAT LOVE GOD, TO THEM WHO ARE THE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE.



SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Praise Your Way Out!



Job once said, “Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.”

Job had everything and then in a moment of extreme devastation lost everything. Yet in an example of true commitment to God, he responded, “Naked came I out of my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.” The bible says, “In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.” Job knew to praise God and not charge God.

There may be moments of contradiction which you will face in this life. Don’t neglect to remember what David said, “I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.” David had many battles but the Lord delivered him each and every time.

Praise was David’s key to victory. Be like David and pick up the key of praise with your mouth and bless your way out of every storm of adversity.

The psalmist encouraged his own soul with these words, “Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.”

This year, praise your way out!

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 42:11

WHY ART THOU CAST DOWN, O MY SOUL? AND WHY ART THOU DISQUIETED WITHIN ME? HOPE THOU IN GOD: FOR I SHALL YET PRAISE HIM, WHO IS THE HEALTH OF MY COUNTENANCE, AND MY GOD.



Be Not Entangled Again



The bible tells us that we are children of the free. There is a glorious liberty we have been bought into. Freedom that is tangible: an evidenced freedom. This type of freedom should never be surrendered. How is it possible for one to give something like this up?

Men begin to falter when they begin to take for granted their freedoms and begin to compromise its values, its truisms. We see it in society where many societies are giving into threats and manipulations and compromising its hard fought freedoms. Take free speech, it is being redefined and ancient boundaries or landmarks being removed. New ideas are telling men that the right to express biblical views is hate speech. Whereas speaking against the Bible is considered freedom of speech and these kinds of acts should be protected.

Jesus earned your freedom to walk free from sin, bondage and the tyranny of satan and the world. For purposes of manifesting and enjoying your liberty, He gave you His Spirit.

Decide today, that you will always follow the promptings and directives of the Spirit of Liberty and never slip into bondage again.

SCRIPTURE READING: GALATIANS 5:1

STAND FAST THEREFORE IN THE LIBERTY WHEREWITH CHRIST HATH MADE US FREE, AND BE NOT ENTANGLED AGAIN WITH THE YOKE OF BONDAGE.



TUESDAY, APRIL 29

The Reaper



The Lord Jesus mentioned that there are two primary roles involved in the harvest on the earth: He that sows and He that reaps.

The sower sows but does not immediately see the fruits. He has to wait for the harvest season. Then there is the reaper whose domain is the harvest season and whose activity is reaping. Jesus was sending His disciples into a field planted by the sowers. The fields were ready for harvesting and they were the appointed and commissioned reapers.

In your day it is like that. The sowers have been sowing prayers for many years in anticipation of your arrival. They prayed for an extraordinary generation to arise. They labored in the fields and in various industries, setting the tone for extraordinary works. They knew that God had greater things to be done by the hands of His children. They knew the light must shine brighter. Yet they retired without seeing the fruits of their labor. Why? They were the sowers: the foundation layers. All their work was setting the stage for you.

You are the reaper. Standing on shoulders of giants, you will accomplish great things, with great speed. You are a reaper. You are to be the branch that shoots out, that excels at the end of this age.

Supernatural speed is yours. You are in the “now” season, the season of reaping. Greater workers will you now do.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 4:36-38

AND HE THAT REAPETH RECEIVETH WAGES, AND GATHERETH FRUIT UNTO LIFE ETERNAL: THAT BOTH HE THAT SOWETH AND HE THAT REAPETH MAY REJOICE TOGETHER. AND HEREIN IS THAT SAYING TRUE, ONE SOWETH, AND ANOTHER REAPETH. I SENT YOU TO REAP THAT WHEREON YE BESTOWED NO LABOUR: OTHER MEN LABOURED, AND YE ARE ENTERED INTO THEIR LABOURS.



Maintain Your Resolve



For most people, the start of every new year, is filled with new year's resolutions. Most people in their determination to achieve, start off with a bang. There is usually a strong push from mid-January till mid-February. At that point the year's winds, demands and threats start to introduce themselves. These contrary winds come to dictate rhythm and direction. These come to challenge and test the resolve.

Most people, under the pressure of these threats, begin to waver and question their expectations for the year. It is easier at that stage to resign and sink into familiar ways. At this stage of the year, refuse! Thunder your resolve! Declare, "It will be unto me this year, according to what God has said! I refuse to reduce my vision and redirect my course."

Then resolve to maintain your rhythm and stride. To hell with the devil! He is not going to stop you this time. King David experienced this in his day, even in his well resourced position. However, David knew how to ask for the Holy Spirit's help. He prayed, "Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not." David refused a year of slipping, stumbling and falling down. And he knew that if it happens, the important thing is to get up again. As it is written, "Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand."

Today, let the prayed words of David be your words, "Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not."

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 17:5

HOLD UP MY GOINGS IN THY PATHS, THAT MY FOOTSTEPS SLIP NOT.

GET YOUR COPY

TODAY

"You are sent for the preservation
and preparation of nations and
generations."



ON SALE

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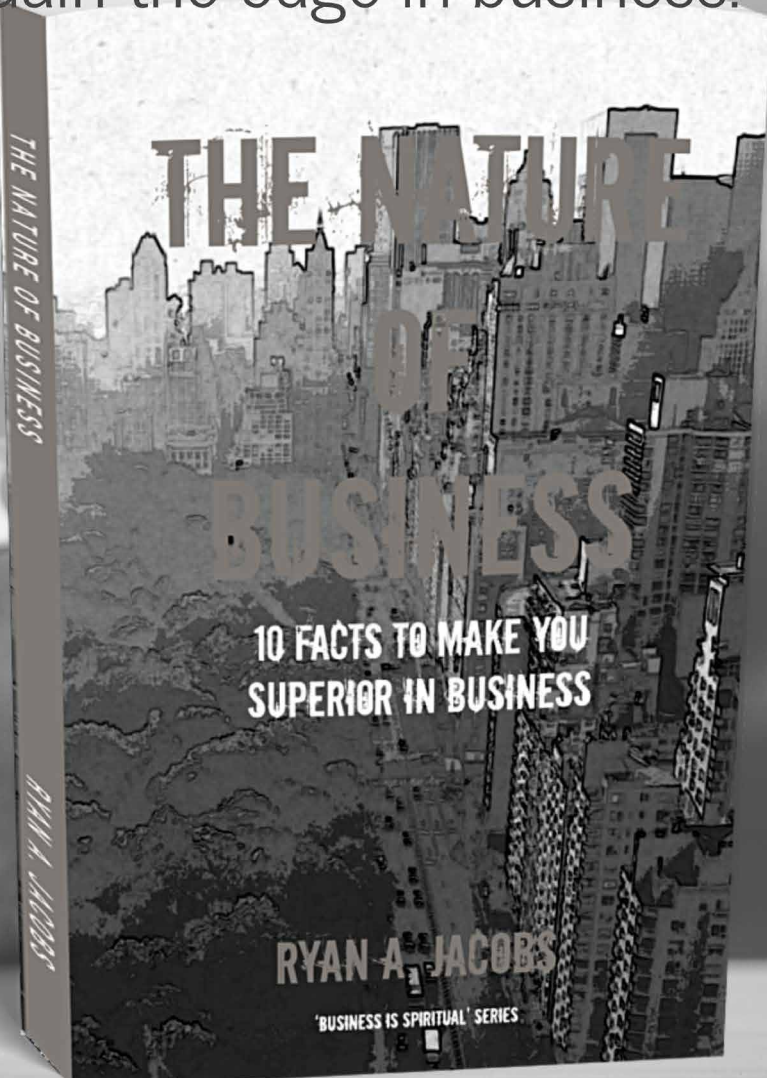
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TODAY



“Gain the edge in business.”





THURSDAY, MAY 1

Pray For Justice



In the gospel of Luke, the Lord Jesus shared a parable of a widow, in order to encourage unrelenting prayer. This is a famous story and preached on countless times. However, what she prayed the judge for is not often focused on.

What was she praying for? She was saying, “avenge me.” The word “avenge” used in that passage, is the Greek word, “ekdikeō”, essentially meaning, “to vindicate one’s right, to do one justice, to protect, to defend one person from another.”

In other words, that widow woman was praying for justice. She was provoking an unjust judge to dispense justice. Even in the days of Jesus on earth, the judiciary was not always fair and just. Hence, the length of time it took her to get justice through their justice system.

The judiciary was unjust in her day. Jesus said that God was not. He encouraged God’s elect through this parable, to pray for justice. The Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge [meeting out of justice for] His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him...”

It is okay to pray for justice. In fact, it is time to pray for justice on a grand scale. This kind of prayer is long overdue.

It is just to pray for justice. Pray for justice.

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 18:3

AND THERE WAS A WIDOW IN THAT CITY; AND SHE CAME UNTO HIM, SAYING, AVENGE ME OF MINE ADVERSARY.



Let's Go Work Today



The ability to follow through is vital for ensuring your eternal reward. The Lord Jesus told the following story, “But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard. He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not. Whether of them twain did the will of his father?”

In the above scenario, the one who actually did something was the one who did his father's will. The father's will involved doing as it involved literal work in his vineyard.

Similarly, our Heavenly Father's will requires 'doing.' God's will demands execution. We are not called to plan God's work but to do it. Jesus taught in the Lord's prayer, “Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.” Yet, He was the one actually doing the Father's will. As He said, “My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.”

The will of God demands to be done and the work cries to be completed. Only we can do it. This year, go beyond words. Never make commitments to God that you don't execute. Let the will of God be done - through you.

Execute the will of God within its “kairos” because the “chronos” is short. Let's go work today in His vineyard.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 21:28-30

BUT WHAT THINK YE? A CERTAIN MAN HAD TWO SONS; AND HE CAME TO THE FIRST, AND SAID, SON, GO WORK TO DAY IN MY VINEYARD. HE ANSWERED AND SAID, I WILL NOT: BUT AFTERWARD HE REPENTED, AND WENT. AND HE CAME TO THE SECOND, AND SAID LIKEWISE. AND HE ANSWERED AND SAID, I GO, SIR: AND WENT NOT.



SATURDAY, MAY 3

Your People



God primarily sent Peter to the Jews and Paul unto the Gentiles. Isaiah records what was told him by the Lord, “And He said, Go, and tell this people...” He was being sent to a specific people. This the practice of the Lord: to send you to a specific group or groupings of people.

You are being prepared to reach certain people. Are you aware of the people whom He wants you to reach? Jesus told Paul, “Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee...”

Paul would later enter God’s training process, to form him into the vessel which could effectively reach the Gentiles. Moses spent forty years shepherding sheep, who could not understand and communicate back in his human language. He was being sent to a stubborn people and he needed to be ready. Space will fail us to here to reflect on Ezekiel, Jeremiah and others.

Again, have you considered the group of people that you are being raised up, by God to reach? What are their mentalities, bondages, challenges, qualities and potential? Are they in abject poverty? Have you received the grace to raise them out of poverty? Are you busy being prepared? Whose deliverer will you be?

God is getting you ready to reach your demographic. Your people are not the ones that you come from but the ones you are being sent to you.

SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 22:19-21

AND I SAID, LORD, THEY KNOW THAT I IMPRISONED AND BEAT IN EVERY SYNAGOGUE THEM THAT BELIEVED ON THEE: AND WHEN THE BLOOD OF THY MARTYR STEPHEN WAS SHED, I ALSO WAS STANDING BY, AND CONSENTING UNTO HIS DEATH, AND KEPT THE RAIMENT OF THEM THAT SLEW HIM. AND HE SAID UNTO ME, DEPART: FOR I WILL SEND THEE FAR HENCE UNTO THE GENTILES.



The Right Paradigm



God can do more. A key in moving with God into the new is not to expect the same. We must train ourselves to expect the unexpected. Paradigm shifts are essential for moving into the next.

John, the prophet was the forerunner for Jesus. Yet, he mostly completed his mission with a wrong paradigm. He thought Jesus was going to replace Herod and Pilate, and sit over the kingdom of Israel, after having driven the Roman legion away. At the end John stumbled and became offended. He began to doubt Jesus and therewith the very essence of his own great call. It is written, “Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.”

John started out with, “He is greater than me...He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire...Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” Sadly, he ended up with, “Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?”

Don't be stuck in an old paradigm and miss your moment. Let no man steal your crown. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you, to always be found in the right paradigm.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 43:18-19

REMEMBER YE NOT THE FORMER THINGS, NEITHER CONSIDER THE THINGS OF OLD. BEHOLD, I WILL DO A NEW THING; NOW IT SHALL SPRING FORTH; SHALL YE NOT KNOW IT?



MONDAY, MAY 5

How's Your Pastor?



The Apostle Paul wrote, “But that ye also may know my affairs, and how I do, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, shall make known to you all things: Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye might know our affairs, and that he might comfort your hearts.”

Paul was asking the church at Ephesus to pray for him: that God would give him utterance and boldness to make known the mystery of the gospel. Then he went on to tell them that he would send Tychicus with an update on how he, Paul, was doing. The apostle understood that the church at Ephesus cared to know the state of man of God and without that knowledge their hearts remained uncomforted.

What a profound but often neglected revelation! The Christians understood that their well-being is directly related to well-being of the gifts of Christ given to them. The enemies of Christ know that. Hence, every persecution in history prioritized the apostles, prophets, pastors and teachers of the church. The devil works on the “strike the shepherd, scatter the sheep” principle. Apostate Christians neglect and attack their pastors. A church on fire protect and care for their pastors. You will find this trend in the ministry of Jesus, Paul, Peter and John.

Paul mentioned that he had the Christians at Philippi and Ephesus caring for him. Who does your pastor have? May we ask you one more question: How's your pastor?

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 6:21-22

BUT THAT YE ALSO MAY KNOW MY AFFAIRS, AND HOW I DO, TYCHICUS, A BELOVED BROTHER AND FAITHFUL MINISTER IN THE LORD, SHALL MAKE KNOWN TO YOU ALL THINGS: WHOM I HAVE SENT UNTO YOU FOR THE SAME PURPOSE, THAT YE MIGHT KNOW OUR AFFAIRS, AND THAT HE MIGHT COMFORT YOUR HEARTS.



Get Up



The scripture says, “Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.” The righteous can and do experience unfavourable and disagreeable happenings. In fact, many of them.

The word of God, furthermore, says that a righteous man can fall seven times, yet he will rise up again. Did you see that? Even a just man can fall but what counts is that you get up, every single time. No matter how much you stumble, just get up again.

David said, “But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.” God indeed is the lifter up of your head. He lifts up your head so that you can look up at Him, from whence comes your help. Now get up!

You defeats and failures will not determine your future. Your getting up will. Remember, “Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.” He delivers you out of them all.

This is our exhortation to you today: Don’t give up. Look up and get up! He is delivering you out of them all.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 24:16

FOR A JUST MAN FALLETH SEVEN TIMES, AND RISETH UP AGAIN; BUT THE WICKED SHALL FALL INTO MISCHIEF.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

Never Assume They Understand



How often in dealings with others, we assume how others will perceive our actions? How often were you wrong in your assumptions?

Moses learned this in a hard and painful way. Moses was called by God to deliver Israel. He then assumed that they believed and understood his calling to help them. Moses stepped in to deliver them but his perception of them was wrong. Their loyalties did not lie with him, as his did with them. Moses had to flee and it cost him forty years in a desert.

Never assume people believe in your calling and sincerity. You will be unpleasantly surprised. Joseph made the same mistake and his brothers sold him into slavery.

Jesus knew that His brothers did not believe in His calling and thus sanctified Himself from them, moving at His own pace.

Imitate, Jesus. Never suppose that they will applaud you. They might just stab you in the back.

SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 7:25

FOR HE SUPPOSED HIS BRETHREN WOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD HOW THAT GOD BY HIS HAND WOULD DELIVER THEM: BUT THEY UNDERSTOOD NOT.



The Boisterous



John, the apostle said, “I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.” He was telling them that they were strong. He used the Greek word, ‘ischyros’ meaning, ‘forcible, mighty, boisterous, powerful, valiant and being a strong man.’

What did Jesus tell us? He said that no man can plunder a man’s goods because the strong man guards his own. When one stronger than he comes, the stronger binds the strong man and spoils his house. The spiritual young men, which the Apostle John was addressing, was so boisterous, valiant and forceful that they overcame the wicked one. Devils were no match for them. Jesus was like that during His years on earth: He so resisted satan, that the devil had to abandon his attacks and hope to catch Jesus off guard, some time later. At the end, Jesus said, “...the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.”

The Christian life demands you to be strong. You too can be noted in the spirit as ‘valiant.’ It is a certain type of boisterousness because the word of God dwells in you. And is proven to be so because you overcome the wicked one. Many are bold on the outside but the devil knows there is no strength inside. He comes to test what is inside of you. You should be able to say, “the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.” It is what is in you. In you must be, the word of God living and abiding: That is the bread, the revelation of the word of God. So that when the devil comes for you, you will stand. Having done all, you will stand. And the devil will flee. That is how you will be truly and permanently free, from persistent satanic harassments. You are well on your way to becoming a boisterous spiritual storm that the devil will find too volatile to handle.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 JOHN 2:14

I HAVE WRITTEN UNTO YOU, YOUNG MEN, BECAUSE YE ARE STRONG, AND THE WORD OF GOD ABIDETH IN YOU, AND YE HAVE OVERCOME THE WICKED ONE.



FRIDAY, MAY 9

Praying With The Partner



The effective use of speaking in unknown tongues, is depended on partnering with the Holy Spirit.

We speak as the Spirit gives utterance but at the same time by an act of yielding our will. Therefore Paul said “I will pray with the spirit...I will sing with the Spirit...” It is indeed an act of will, a function of utterance and a display of faith.

Faith in God produces utterance from God. Every utterance in an unknown tongue is a manifestation of your partnership with the Holy Spirit.

You must now take that partnership to the ultimate level, in pledging your tongue to Him. So, the Holy Spirit can use your tongue for divine utterances, concerning the burdens and intercessions of His heart. Power with God flows from Partnership with God. Intercession is an intent and manifestation of that partnership with God.

Today, let Him pray through you for others, as He wills and chooses who you ought to pray for.

SCRIPTURE READING: ROMANS 8:26

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.



At The End



As we look at the beautiful making of King Solomon. What a powerful and intriguing man he became through God's grace, revelation and inspiration. God truly loved him.

However, in 1 Kings 11, the Spirit of God records some disturbing things, "But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites: Of the nations concerning which the Lord said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love...And Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and went not fully after the Lord, as did David his father...And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the Lord commanded. Wherefore the Lord said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant."

Solomon had some strange affections which led him to disappoint the God who loved him. At the end Solomon backslid and turn from the Lord God of Israel. His strange affections got the better of him and he departed from the fundamental instructions and ordinances of his Lord. He started out strong and ended up weak.

This year, do not allow your strong start and steadfast progress to be weakened at the end. Shun strange affections and remain true to God's instructions and ordinances for this year.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 KINGS 11:9

AND THE LORD WAS ANGRY WITH SOLOMON, BECAUSE HIS HEART WAS TURNED FROM THE LORD GOD OF ISRAEL, WHICH HAD APPEARED UNTO HIM TWICE



SUNDAY, MAY 11

Be Not Ashamed



Paul told his spiritual son Timothy “Be not ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner...” Ashamed followers deny Jesus. Paul knew that. It is the root of denial. Paul also interestingly associated being ashamed of the message with being ashamed of the messenger.

We have seen this in ministry several times. Certain people secretly benefit from the ministry and God’s power, yet are ashamed of the message. They fail to realize that the power is in the message. And so goes from them, their fruits. We have even encountered secret members of the church congregation. No one outside of the church knows they attend there. We call them “undercover brothers.” The secret service cannot compare with this type of cloak and dagger stuff.

Jesus said, “Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.” How can the Holy Spirit, cause someone to pray for you with any conviction, if you are ashamed of the same person? Have you ever thought about that? Let not your heart draw back. Live freely. Live with conviction.

Be not ashamed.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 26:75

AND PETER REMEMBERED THE WORD OF JESUS, WHICH SAID UNTO HIM, BEFORE THE COCK CROW, THOU SHALT DENY ME THRICE. AND HE WENT OUT, AND WEPT BITTERLY.



Atmosphere



The scripture says, “Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise:”

The aforementioned are beautiful commands. A joyful noise creates a certain atmosphere. It is an atmosphere of celebration and victory. Gladness, singing, thanksgiving, praise and blessing also stimulates a similar superior atmosphere. An atmosphere in which God abides. God loves the right atmosphere. The atmosphere which you carry when you enter His presence must be agreeable with His.

You were created after His likeness. You also prefer a good atmosphere and are at your best in such a vibe. We all enjoy the presence of the Lord. The sense of His presence is the greatest and most enjoyable atmosphere. To have His tangible presence with us, we must cultivate the kind of atmosphere that He loves.

This year thank more, sing more, praise more, bless more and serve Him with gladness. Let your mouth know the joyful noise like never before.

That is God’s kind of atmosphere.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 47:1

O CLAP YOUR HANDS, ALL YE PEOPLE; SHOUT UNTO GOD WITH THE VOICE OF TRIUMPH.



TUESDAY, MAY 13

Your Goings



It seems every civil voice is bringing bad news: be at government, business, media and other knowledge brokers. The constant threat of instability is unsettling to most and unbearable for some. People are asking, “What have become of our world?” It seems that many countries are like a ship lost at sea. The waves and winds seems to be beating the ship mercilessly, without reprieve.

Now is the time to have Jesus Christ as the anchor for our souls. He said, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” King David, the psalmist said, “He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.”

What a reality for these times of uncertainty?! No global instability is going to unnerve you. God is setting your feet upon a rock. He is establishing your goings. You will be blessed in your goings in and your goings out. Blessed in the city. Blessed in the field. Blessed everywhere. Happy are you whose goings are established of the Lord. You have nothing to fear.

Today, think on how God is lifting and establishing your plans and expectations. Your goings will be established by God in 2025.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 40:2

HE BROUGHT ME UP ALSO OUT OF AN HORRIBLE PIT, OUT OF THE MIRY CLAY, AND SET MY FEET UPON A ROCK, AND ESTABLISHED MY GOINGS



Time For A No-Fly Zone



The Prophet Isaiah recorded God's words, "For thus hath the LORD spoken unto me, Like as the lion and the young lion roaring on his prey, when a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him, he will not be afraid of their voice, nor abase himself for the noise of them: so shall the LORD of hosts come down to fight for mount Zion, and for the hill thereof." Wow, the Psalm writer truthfully wrote, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance."

God was saying through Isaiah that He is so determined to fight for His own that He became lion-like in His behavior. His desire to fight for His people made like Him a hungry, roaring lion. Nothing would distract Him in His mission. Furthermore, His operation in defending and preserving His people, would cause Him to establish a no-fly zone over His people. As He would go on to say, "As birds flying, so will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also he will deliver it; and passing over he will preserve it."

When a country is at war, governments would often establish a no-fly zone over the region, to protect the people on the ground, from foreign flying objects. God was saying that He would deploy His own birds of prey to establish a no-fly zone over His people.

This week, be encouraged that the God, Who said, I am the Lord and I changeth not," is doing the same for you. May a spiritual no-fly zone become a reality over your life. Ask Him now and declare it. God will put His eagles [the shadow of His wings, the wings of His angels] over the atmosphere of your life. Every foreign flying object will be shot and torn down, over your life.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 31:4-5

FOR THUS HATH THE LORD SPOKEN UNTO ME LIKE AS THE LION AND THE YOUNG LION ROARING ON HIS PREY, WHEN A MULTITUDE OF SHEPHERDS IS CALLED FORTH AGAINST HIM, HE WILL NOT BE AFRAID OF THEIR VOICE, NOR ABASE HIMSELF FOR THE NOISE OF THEM: SO SHALL THE LORD OF HOSTS COME DOWN TO FIGHT FOR MOUNT ZION, AND FOR THE HILL THEREOF. AS BIRDS FLYING, SO WILL THE LORD OF HOSTS DEFEND JERUSALEM; DEFENDING ALSO HE WILL DELIVER IT; AND PASSING OVER HE WILL PRESERVE IT.



THURSDAY, MAY 15

Follow Thou Me



We live in an interconnected world. It is nearly impossible to not know your “neighbours” business and to be caught up in the related drama. Modern life is full of distractions, noises and voices. One voice is saying, “Listen to this.” Another, “Look here.” Others, “This is good but this is bad.”

To be an independent thinker is a very difficult task. Yet it is what is required to be led by the Spirit of God. Jesus, before His ascension, was restoring His disciple Peter, after he had previously denied Jesus. Peter after this recommission does the following, “Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.”

Peter turned his head and began to look for the face of his friend, John, to enquire about Jesus’ business with him. Jesus responded and admonished Peter that he should mind his own business and that His business with John, was none of Peter’s. Peter was again getting into his habit of being distracted, by his best friend’s business. He soon forgot that He must focus on Jesus for himself. He had previously depended on John’s walk with Jesus, to get information out of Jesus whenever he figured he could not. He previously ended up denying Jesus and weeping bitterly. Whilst John ended up standing at the foot of the cross, with Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Our walk with Jesus is more sacred and super exceeds every other friendship and relationship that we may have in this life. Paul wrote, “... study to be quiet, and to do your own business...” Striving to refrain from meddlesomeness whilst prioritising your life’s work, is key in pursuing Jesus, to greater spiritual heights. May God grant you direct access to the grace needed to do this.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 4:11-12

AND THAT YE STUDY TO BE QUIET, AND TO DO YOUR OWN BUSINESS, AND TO WORK WITH YOUR OWN HANDS, AS WE COMMANDED YOU; THAT YE MAY WALK HONESTLY TOWARD THEM THAT ARE WITHOUT, AND THAT YE MAY HAVE LACK OF NOTHING.



Moved With



Let us say this again, Jesus was moved with compassion for the multitudes. Both His healing ministry and His teaching ministry was energized by compassion for the ignorant and suffering. As it is written, “Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest. And

when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.” And again, “And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.”

Jesus knew that the people were being destroyed because of a lack of knowledge. He not only as an emergency, send them healing, He also desired to keep them free. And thus taught them, sometimes for days, none stop. What moves you? The apostle Paul said that the love of Christ constraint him and his team. And therefore they no longer lived for themselves but for Him that loved them and gave Himself for them. Every single person is moved by something. Some are moved by the values they acquired during their upbringing. Others are moved by the energy of their friends circle. Other people are moved by the drive within them for acceptance or affirmation. Many more people are moved by some other negative motivation. Countless are moved by lies they were told.

God, moved by His love for the world, gave His Son so that we could avoid death and enjoy eternal life. Again, what moves you? Be rightly moved.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 PETER 1:7

THAT THE TRIAL OF YOUR FAITH, BEING MUCH MORE PRECIOUS THAN OF GOLD THAT PERISHETH, THOUGH IT BE TRIED WITH FIRE, MIGHT BE FOUND UNTO PRAISE AND HONOUR AND GLORY AT THE APPEARING OF JESUS CHRIST:



SATURDAY, MAY 17

Guard For His Voice



Jesus said, "...he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice."

The Lord was talking about the effect of His voice versus that of a stranger. He mentioned that the strange voice acts like a thief and will not enter by the door, unless the porter permits him to. Porter means 'watchman or guard.' The ability of God's voice to enter the heart of a man, in order to lead him out, is subject to whatever or whoever is guarding the heart of man. The scripture says, "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

The following makes a big difference in recognizing the Great Shepherd voice: You must be on guard for His voice and not against a strange voice. Many Christians struggle to find His voice, to lead them out of the issues they are facing in life. This is simply because they are guarding in the negative. It is like a bank teller afraid of being deceived by fake notes and thus practices his discernment on fake notes. Those who are deeply au fait with the genuine can naturally spot the fake.

Shift to positive, guarding for His voice. How do we make that shift? The answer is given in scripture, "My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart." And again, "My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee." Wrap your daily pondering in scripture sayings and scenarios. And you will find your heart alert for more of the same. It is called inclining or leaning your ear into His voice. Soon you will hear His voice saying, "This is the way; walk ye in it."

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 10:1-5

VERILY, VERILY, I SAY UNTO YOU, HE THAT ENTERETH NOT BY THE DOOR INTO THE SHEEPFOLD, BUT CLIMBETH UP SOME OTHER WAY, THE SAME IS A THIEF AND A ROBBER. BUT HE THAT ENTERETH IN BY THE DOOR IS THE SHEPHERD OF THE SHEEP. TO HIM THE PORTER OPENETH; AND THE SHEEP HEAR HIS VOICE: AND HE CALLETH HIS OWN SHEEP BY NAME, AND LEADETH THEM OUT. AND WHEN HE PUTTETH FORTH HIS OWN SHEEP, HE GOETH BEFORE THEM, AND THE SHEEP FOLLOW HIM: FOR THEY KNOW HIS VOICE. AND A STRANGER WILL THEY NOT FOLLOW, BUT WILL FLEE FROM HIM: FOR THEY KNOW NOT THE VOICE OF STRANGERS.



I Would Not Have You Ignorant



Apostle Paul told the Thessalonian church, "...I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren..." To the Roman church he said, "Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren..." To the Corinthian church he said, "I would not that ye should be ignorant." And again, "... brethren, I would not have you ignorant." Paul did not like Christians to be ignorant. He saw it as a condition or disease to be eradicated completely. He traveled to distance lands, at great peril to reach the church. In his own words, "...thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea..."

He told the elders at Ephesus, "Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house." Why go to such lengths? Paul's simple answer would be, "I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren." That is also the spirit in which the 'Empowered Daily' is written.

Refuse to be ignorant. This year, get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1
NOW CONCERNING SPIRITUAL GIFTS, BRETHREN, I WOULD NOT HAVE YOU IGNORANT.



MONDAY, MAY 19

Engage The Spirit



For many the spiritual is foreign. Spirits and the world of spirits are an unknown world to most Christians. They seem to be indifferent to the spiritual world. It is like a sea fish being indifferent to the sea. That fish lives and breathes within that environment and its very existence is directly dependent on that environment. Similarly, the Christian is affected by the world of spirits. The first two verses of the bible says, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." Jesus describing the nature of God said, "God is a Spirit." If you claim that you are born again, you are directly claiming that you are born of the Spirit, you being a spirit. Jesus said this, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

Like the fish need water and birds the air, so every Christian needs a strong response and movement in the world of spirits. You need to be intentional in your dealings with the world of spirits, to be victorious in this era. The spiritual world will impose many adverse things onto man's natural existence and the sons of God need to deal with these issues at the source. The axe must be used at the root of the tree. Cut the devil where it hurts. Deal with the fruit by dealing with the root. And say, "No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever." The next morning the bible says, "And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots."

Learn to engage the spiritual world. And the next morning or some morning you will wake up and find things have changed. Why? You decided to stop looking at the fruit (circumstance) and decided to deal with the root cause (spirit realm). Deal with the root. Engage the spirit.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 3:10-12

AND NOW ALSO THE AXE IS LAID UNTO THE ROOT OF THE TREES: THEREFORE EVERY TREE WHICH BRINGETH NOT FORTH GOOD FRUIT IS HEWN DOWN, AND CAST INTO THE FIRE. I INDEED BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER UNTO REPENTANCE: BUT HE THAT COMETH AFTER ME IS MIGHTIER THAN I, WHOSE SHOES I AM NOT WORTHY TO BEAR: HE SHALL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY GHOST, AND WITH FIRE: WHOSE FAN IS IN HIS HAND, AND HE WILL THOROUGHLY PURGE HIS FLOOR, AND GATHER HIS WHEAT INTO THE GARNER; BUT HE WILL BURN UP THE CHAFF WITH UNQUENCHABLE FIRE.



Clay



We are dealing with the man within man's spirit. The inner man is paramount. A man who neglects his spirit sabotages his eternal destiny.

Without your spirit you cannot know or communicate with God. As it is written, "God is a spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth." God cannot be worshiped in the flesh nor pleased by the flesh. He is only contactable through the spirit of man. Know that. Settle that.

You, therefore need your spirit man strong. Your spirit man is your spiritual residency in the realm of the Spirit. A strong spirit is required to survive, let alone thrive there. Hence, the Apostle Paul prayed for the Christians to be made strong with power in the inner man, by God's Spirit. This strengthening produces a day by day renewing or invigorating of the inward man.

How do you allow the power to make your spirit strong? This is primarily done by praying exceedingly in an unknown tongue. This was Paul's wisdom to the Christians at Corinth.

Start today with making your inner man strong.

SCRIPTURE READING: JEREMIAH 18:1-6

THE WORD WHICH CAME TO JEREMIAH FROM THE LORD, SAYING, ARISE, AND GO DOWN TO THE POTTER'S HOUSE, AND THERE I WILL CAUSE THEE TO HEAR MY WORDS. THEN I WENT DOWN TO THE POTTER'S HOUSE, AND, BEHOLD, HE WROUGHT A WORK ON THE WHEELS. AND THE VESSEL THAT HE MADE OF CLAY WAS MARR'D IN THE HAND OF THE POTTER: SO HE MADE IT AGAIN ANOTHER VESSEL, AS SEEMED GOOD TO THE POTTER TO MAKE IT. THEN THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO ME, SAYING, O HOUSE OF ISRAEL, CANNOT I DO WITH YOU AS THIS POTTER? SAITH THE LORD. BEHOLD, AS THE CLAY IS IN THE POTTER'S HAND, SO ARE YE IN MINE HAND, O HOUSE OF ISRAEL



WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Three Hot Meals



Hunger is a powerful force and is one of the primal forces within man. Thus, the scripture states, “Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry.” If hunger is ignored for a protracted period of time, starvation will set in, eventually leading to death. So also in the spirit realm.

The cravings of your spirit man ignored, leads to spiritual deprivation. In other words, when the craving of the inner man is ignored, spiritual hunger will dissipate from the soul. This leads to deprivation and lethargy, which turns into spiritual apathy: the end result spiritual death. Those suffering from spiritual lethargy and apathy live as victims of the spiritual wars in this life. They are easy targets for demonic spirits.

Avoid becoming a victim, by avoiding the process of spiritual decay. Cultivate your spiritual hunger. Feed your spirit at least three hot meals a day. The prophet Daniel did this. He prayed privately three times a day, every day. And studied and searched the scriptures fervently, until he began to gain prophetic insights and provoked heaven to move towards him, in power and revelation, more and more. It takes such a hunger to maintain your spiritual fervency, and to stay aglow and burning in the Spirit.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 107:9
FOR HE SATISFIETH THE LONGING SOUL, AND FILLETH THE HUNGRY SOUL WITH GOODNESS.



Wax Young



David wrote, “When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.” David mentioned something profound in that he found accelerated aging taking place within his body. His bones were getting old. The Hebrew word for bones is ‘ešem’ which means ‘bone, essence, substance, selfsame.’ The word ‘old’ is ‘bâlâ’ which means ‘to wear out, use up completely, decay or waste.’ He was finding his very essence decaying and being rapidly used up, through the burden of his unacknowledged sins and iniquities.

Have you ever seen someone look young and then the next time you see them, they seem to have rapidly aged? Many people rapidly age in body and soul because of this process. Often you see people young in age, yet worn out in soul. Their life seems to have been sucked out. Sin, iniquity and transgressions will undoubtedly cause this. Their silence is killing them. The world system can help men with cosmetics for the outside but is blind to see the true cause of rapid aging: unaddressed sin and iniquity.

David rescued his rapid decay, “I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.” He killed his rapid aging by killing his silence. He exclaimed the blessedness which he experienced afterwards, “Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.” Age renewal is a profound biblical subject: the above being one of the dynamic workings, practiced by the godly. Learn to harness and unleash its power.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 32:3-6

WHEN I KEPT SILENCE, MY BONES WAXED OLD THROUGH MY ROARING ALL THE DAY LONG. FOR DAY AND NIGHT THY HAND WAS HEAVY UPON ME: MY MOISTURE IS TURNED INTO THE DROUGHT OF SUMMER. SELAH. I ACKNOWLEDGED MY SIN UNTO THEE, AND MINE INIQUITY HAVE I NOT HID. I SAID, I WILL CONFESS MY TRANSGRESSIONS UNTO THE LORD; AND THOU FORGAVEST THE INIQUITY OF MY SIN. SELAH. FOR THIS SHALL EVERY ONE THAT IS GODLY PRAY UNTO THEE IN A TIME WHEN THOU MAYEST BE FOUND: SURELY IN THE FLOODS OF GREAT WATERS THEY SHALL NOT COME NIGH UNTO HIM.



FRIDAY, MAY 23

Be Ye Transformed



Jesus described that a specific narrow way leads to life. The word “way” that He used was the Greek word, “hodos” which in the main sense means, a “journey.” You are on a journey to a predefined destination. It is a transformational journey. Jesus said it is a narrow journey. Purpose and destiny are not instantly fulfilled. As the scripture writes, “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.” It is continuous transformation and not an one time event. It is indeed a journey. A journey of beholding the glory of the Lord: a never ending encounter, if you will. It is indeed eternal.

This is the beauty of it all: Jesus can be continually encountered. This is the true eternal life. Just as John told us, “And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.”

Communion and fellowship with the Holy Spirit, through His word, is the literal impartation of His eternal substance into man’s soul. His light penetrates and compacts into your eyes. You can never reason, imagine, view and intend the same way again. His view becomes your view; His intents yours, etc. This cannot be underscored enough.

Life is a transformational “hodos.” Be ye transformed.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 3:18

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.



Whatever It Takes



Have you ever seen one of those films where someone is stranded in the desert, and think that the hill in front of them is what stands between them and the oasis, only to reach the top of the hill and discover that there are countless hills between them and salvation?

In this life it can be like that. There are many peaks to surmount. Many battles to fight and many victories to rack up. This is a race of faith and endurance. It is a game of tactics and stratagems. It is indeed a battle of wits, if you will. It is you against the obstacles, limitations and adversaries. Paul, faced with great opportunity, exclaimed, “There are many adversaries.” In his seizing of the many God-given opportunities, he had to overcome the many devil-sent adversaries. At the end of his race he claimed total victory.

What will you encounter in your quest for total victory? The road is long. The challenge daunting, to say the least. Are you prepared to put up a good fight and slay the giants of spiritual impossibilities? In our school we prepare men and women for a career in spiritual warfare, in fulfillment of their mandate to take and occupy territories with Jesus.

Jesus knew that it would be very costly to follow Him and thus demanded that level of surrender, upfront. The one with true potential is the one who is willing and obedient to do whatever it takes, to gain proficiency and mastery in the realms of God. Nothing less will do.

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 9:57-62

AND IT CAME TO PASS, THAT, AS THEY WENT IN THE WAY, A CERTAIN MAN SAID UNTO HIM, LORD, I WILL FOLLOW THEE WHITHERSOEVER THOU GOEST. AND JESUS SAID UNTO HIM, FOXES HAVE HOLES, AND BIRDS OF THE AIR HAVE NESTS; BUT THE SON OF MAN HATH NOT WHERE TO LAY HIS HEAD. AND HE SAID UNTO ANOTHER, FOLLOW ME. BUT HE SAID, LORD, SUFFER ME FIRST TO GO AND BURY MY FATHER. JESUS SAID UNTO HIM, LET THE DEAD BURY THEIR DEAD; BUT GO THOU AND PREACH THE KINGDOM OF GOD. AND ANOTHER ALSO SAID, LORD, I WILL FOLLOW THEE; BUT LET ME FIRST GO BID THEM FAREWELL, WHICH ARE AT HOME AT MY HOUSE. AND JESUS SAID UNTO HIM, NO MAN, HAVING PUT HIS HAND TO THE PLOUGH, AND LOOKING BACK, IS FIT FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD.



SUNDAY, MAY 25

Guard Your Crown



The Lord Jesus said, “Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.” He warned the Christians in Philadelphia that they should not allow any man to take their crown. It is possible for another person to take your crown. This can happen if you fail to hold fast to what you have. In the case of the Christians in Philadelphia, they had a little strength and in that strength was keeping the word of His patience. Jesus warned them to hold fast to their strength and His word. For in keeping them their was reward. As it is written, “Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.”

This year, hold fast to what God has given you. Few can however hold fast to what they don’t value. Treasure what you have received in God’s Spirit. Paul told Timothy, “Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.”

What has God given you? Is it a form of sound words? Is it the move of the Spirit? Whatever is of God is worth holding fast to. From today, “...give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.”

Let no man steal your crown.

SCRIPTURE READING: REVELATION 3:11

BEHOLD, I COME QUICKLY: HOLD THAT FAST WHICH THOU HAST, THAT NO MAN TAKE THY CROWN..



Hide Yourself



The planet is experiencing days of troubles, with even more in sight. Turbulences are seemingly everywhere. Economic, political and social forecasts are touted as dire. We can respond in several ways. Some will take a mind-over-matter approach and deny unfolding events. Others will despair and relent.

Yet, there is a remnant of the prudent present on the earth. Of these it is written, “A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.”

Noah was such a prudent man. He had a direct communication line with God, via the secret place. It is written, “But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.” The man walked with God. He knew how to abide with God in the secret place of His presence. He has hidden there. Noah and his family took up refuge inside God’s will. Noah and his family did not drown with the rest.

Do not drown. Do not succumb to the rising tides. Do not let the storm surges carry you away. Refuse to dwell at sea level. Come up higher. Ascend to the hill of the Lord. Be established on the mountain of the Lord’s house. Hide yourself...there.

It is time to pray and prepare.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 22:3

A PRUDENT MAN FORESEETH THE EVIL, AND HIDETH HIMSELF: BUT THE SIMPLE PASS ON, AND ARE PUNISHED.



TUESDAY, MAY 27

Into Favour And Tender Love



The bible shares the story of Daniel who was caught up in a war. His side was the losing side and he was taken as a slave to the enemy's country, Babylon. He had a privileged life as a young man until then. Slavery or forced servanthood was thus like a life sentence. Yet, the scripture records, "Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs."

God caused the overseer to not only favour him but be compassionately fond of him and thus extraordinarily merciful towards him. God is able to do that. The favour and tender love did not originate with the man but came from God. The man was just being used to express it. Daniel would go on to rise to the top of Babylon. He lived like a prime minister instead of a slave. God can cause you to live like a CEO instead of a clerk. The same God can bring you into favour and tender love with anyone. He did it for Joseph too. Recognizing where God is at work and responding to Him in kind, is vital.

This "Daniel-experience" once happened to a young man in the eyes of Jesus, "Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions." Jesus "agapaō" him instantly which means 'to welcome, to entertain, to be fond of, to love dearly.' Yet the young man saw the Lord's request as reason for sadness. What could he have become in life and been for all eternity?

Today, he would have been living as an eternal prince! Not to be because he could not appreciate that God was the One doing the agapaō and yield to Him. May God bring you into agapaō this year and give you grace to respond in kind.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 10:20-22

AND HE ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO HIM, MASTER, ALL THESE HAVE I OBSERVED FROM MY YOUTH. THEN JESUS BEHOLDING HIM LOVED HIM, AND SAID UNTO HIM, ONE THING THOU LACKEST: GO THY WAY, SELL WHATSOEVER THOU HAST, AND GIVE TO THE POOR, AND THOU SHALT HAVE TREASURE IN HEAVEN: AND COME, TAKE UP THE CROSS, AND FOLLOW ME. AND HE WAS SAD AT THAT SAYING, AND WENT AWAY GRIEVED: FOR HE HAD GREAT POSSESSIONS.



Persuaded By The Absolute



We believe that the Word of God is 'The Absolute.' It cannot be argued. It cannot be debated. It is the Word of God. God said it. We believe it and that settles it. The Word is settled in heaven. As it is written, "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."

Jesus is the Word. Now settle the Word in your heart. Sanctify the Word in your heart. Do not reason about the Word. Do not argue about the Word. Do not think about the Word. Think the Word.

Too many people argue about the Word and too many think about the Word. That is why they never have what it says. It is time they start thinking, talking and acting the Word of God.

The problem with many of God's people is that they believe that His Word is forever settled in heaven but they never settle it in their hearts. Thus they never sanctify God in their hearts and therefore He cannot move on their behalf.

When you are persuaded by Him, through the sayings of His Word, you will become an unstoppable force. God will become undeniably evident through you. You will become an open book, openly showing His life and power. He watches over His Word to perform it in your life: Know that absolutely and act accordingly.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 119:89
FOR EVER, O LORD, THY WORD IS SETTLED IN HEAVEN.



THURSDAY, MAY 29

Not As Uncertainty



Paul said, “I therefore so run, not as uncertainly.” Nothing in a race is as inwardly debilitating as running uncertainly: Rhythm, energy and motivation would soon be lost.

Your heart and mind must be settled before the journey starts. So it is in life.

The Lord told the Prophet Habakkuk, “And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.”

Why? It provides a sense of certainty. Rhythm, energy, motivation and focus will flow from there.

Keep the vision steady and settled in your heart. Do not see double (vision), keep the vision single.

Double up the surge.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 9:26-27

I THEREFORE SO RUN, NOT AS UNCERTAINLY; SO FIGHT I, NOT AS ONE THAT BEATETH THE AIR: BUT I KEEP UNDER MY BODY, AND BRING IT INTO SUBJECTION: LEST THAT BY ANY MEANS, WHEN I HAVE PREACHED TO OTHERS, I MYSELF SHOULD BE A CASTAWAY.



Every Opportunity



We are told by scripture to make the most of every opportunity. Opportunities are being presented to you. These are divinely gifted moments or set times.

You must seize those with every ounce of spiritual prowess within you.

How do you do this? The answer is: be in the moment, all the time.

Lets look at such a moment in the life of Phillip, the Evangelist. “Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.”

Phillip was in the moment and responded to the Spirit immediately. Learn to always go with the Holy Spirit’s flow.

SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 8:39-40

AND WHEN THEY WERE COME UP OUT OF THE WATER, THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD CAUGHT AWAY PHILIP, THAT THE EUNUCH SAW HIM NO MORE: AND HE WENT ON HIS WAY REJOICING. BUT PHILIP WAS FOUND AT AZOTUS: AND PASSING THROUGH HE PREACHED IN ALL THE CITIES, TILL HE CAME TO CAESAREA.



SATURDAY, MAY 31

The True Testimony



To provide testimony is to bring forth evidence of what was personally witnessed, observed or experienced. The bible tells us there are those that bear false witness. Then there are those whose witness is true. None is so true as the testimony of God's Spirit. He is the Spirit of Truth.

He the Holy Spirit, throughout scripture, provides true evidence. Especially so within the Christian. How? He uses the conscience: Paul said, "I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost."

The conscience is used to provide testimony. The scripture says that faith is held securely within the container of a pure conscience. And that a good conscience forgone, causes shipwrecked faith and lost salvation.

Treasure the testimony of your conscience. It is the true testimony. The apostles valued it. So should you.

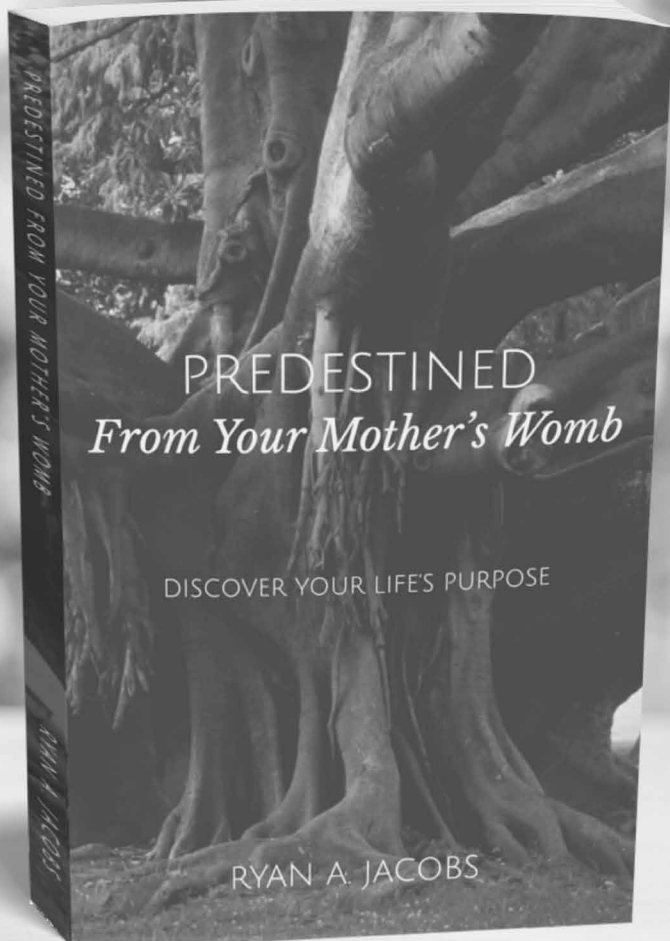
SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 1:12

FOR OUR REJOICING IS THIS, THE TESTIMONY OF OUR CONSCIENCE, THAT IN SIMPLICITY AND GODLY SINCERITY, NOT WITH FLESHLY WISDOM, BUT BY THE GRACE OF GOD, WE HAVE HAD OUR CONVERSATION IN THE WORLD, AND MORE ABUNDANTLY TO YOU-WARD.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 1

The Power Of One Accord



The bible shows the power of “one accord”. In the book of Acts, we are told that the company of Christians with one accord, lifted their voice to God.

Lets see it, “And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them...”

It goes on to record that God the Holy Spirit shook that place. What makes such an accord possible? The answer is apostolic leadership and the response to such leadership.

We see in the above passage that the scripture says, “their voice”, singular and not “voices”, plural. When the doctrine is one, the people will be one.

There God will shake the place and change the multitude. May you find yourself in such an “one accord”.

SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 2:42-44

AND THEY CONTINUED STEDFASTLY IN THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE AND FELLOWSHIP, AND IN BREAKING OF BREAD, AND IN PRAYERS. AND FEAR CAME UPON EVERY SOUL: AND MANY WONDERS AND SIGNS WERE DONE BY THE APOSTLES. AND ALL THAT BELIEVED WERE TOGETHER, AND HAD ALL THINGS COMMON;



An Unction That Functions



It is written, “ But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.” The unction is God’s anointing flowing through you in the now.

A Christian should always operate in the now of God or the present leading of God.

It is therefore very important to not short circuit the unction. However many Christians do. Some do not even know how this happens. The unction is short circuited when you speak and act contrary to what the anointing teaches.

The anointing carries a built-in operating manual consisting of the logos of the grace under which it was received. The anointing was received (past tense) and teaches the Christian to operate in Him in the present (tense). The word of God fine tunes the unction and makes the power of God to function through every time.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 JOHN 2:27

BUT THE ANOINTING WHICH YE HAVE RECEIVED OF HIM ABIDETH IN YOU, AND YE NEED NOT THAT ANY MAN TEACH YOU: BUT AS THE SAME ANOINTING TEACHETH YOU OF ALL THINGS, AND IS TRUTH, AND IS NO LIE, AND EVEN AS IT HATH TAUGHT YOU, YE SHALL ABIDE IN HIM.



TUESDAY, JUNE 3

Set To Live The Foretold Life



The Apostle Paul (formely known as, ‘Saul of Tarsus’) was living a life of religious zeal, thinking that he was living for God. At the same time he was unknowingly persecuting the same God.

Then one day he had an encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus. It is then that he discovered the life he was meant to live. Paul describes this in his own words, “For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews’ religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it: And profited in the Jews’ religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb, and called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen...”

Jesus, in His apprehension of Paul, communicated to him His purpose, calling and the life foretold by God concerning him. From that moment Paul set his face to live no other life than the foretold life. Nothing would from then on be allowed to distract or deter him from living that life. He put it this way, “I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.”

Today, set your face to live the foretold life. Be fully committed to live out that story which God foretold about you. Nothing else will satisfy.

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:12

NOT AS THOUGH I HAD ALREADY ATTAINED, EITHER WERE ALREADY PERFECT: BUT I FOLLOW AFTER, IF THAT I MAY APPREHEND THAT FOR WHICH ALSO I AM APPREHENDED OF CHRIST JESUS.



Community in Heaven



Yesterday, we looked at the foretold life which is the apprehended life. Paul, in his elaboration on this kind of life, mentioned a number nuances of that life.

One of those qualities is that the community or commonwealth of that life is in heaven. The apprehended life is a registered life. It is a life officially registered in heaven. It is part of a heavenly citizenship.

Paul explains that the administration of the affairs and commonwealth of the foretold life happens from heaven. That kind of life is under heaven's constitution and is subject to heaven's form of government and laws, being administered accordingly.

It is very important that you realize and understand the above. The foretold life, although lived out here on earth, is not an earthy life. It is a life driven and sustained by heaven. Do not mistake the foretold life as earthy, else you will “miss-live” your life.

Today, start to execute your heavenly citizenship. Allow your life here on earth to be governed and directed by heaven's constitution, laws and norms.

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:20

FOR OUR CONVERSATION IS IN HEAVEN; FROM WHENCE ALSO WE LOOK FOR THE SAVIOUR, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.



THURSDAY, JUNE 5

Unlock It



The apostle Peter said, “Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:”

All things that you will ever need is already given you by the power of God. You need knowledge and understanding to unlock it. Jesus called knowledge a “key” Paul’s prayer for the Ephesian Christians is a bold indicator of how we enter into the divine inheritance.

We enter by knowledge and understanding. What knowledge? What understanding? That is the question. Here the scripture answers clearly, “the knowledge of the holy is understanding.” There you have it!

Knowledge of the Holy One, opens the understanding to enter and experience all the realms of God. Desire to know the Holy. He will grant you the desires of your heart.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 9:10

THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM: AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY IS UNDERSTANDING.



Give Us Our Daily Bread



Jesus will cost you. To follow Jesus acceptably, you must enter the narrow gate and stay on the narrow way. This equals strain, constraint and restraint. Yet your experience of life will be joyous, broad and expansive.

Life in God is a wonder-filled venture and adventure. Such is the foretold life. Many are unconvinced that it is so and thus strive to create their own destinies, out of their reservoir of ambitions. Refuse to feed yourself on the fantastical folly of today's generation. Instead, make the Father's will your daily bread. It is called "the bread of mystery" and comes from above. This is true "angel's bread."

The beings from heaven feed on the Father's will. Jesus said, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." And of the angels it is written, "Bless ye the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure." God feeds the angels with mystery, in other words, "manna." God attempted to sustain and satisfy the children of Israel with the same in the wilderness, as it is written, "And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven. Man did eat angels' food..." Yet, they refused to be fed on revealed mysteries.

The Christ-life within is the mystery of God's will revealed. Let this life (-style) be your cry and your daily bread. Join us now as we pray, "Give Us Our Daily Bread."

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 4:31-34

IN THE MEAN WHILE HIS DISCIPLES PRAYED HIM, SAYING, MASTER, EAT. BUT HE SAID UNTO THEM, I HAVE MEAT TO EAT THAT YE KNOW NOT OF. THEREFORE SAID THE DISCIPLES ONE TO ANOTHER, HATH ANY MAN BROUGHT HIM OUGHT TO EAT? JESUS SAITH UNTO THEM, MY MEAT IS TO DO THE WILL OF HIM THAT SENT ME, AND TO FINISH HIS WORK.



SATURDAY, JUNE 7

As In Secret, So in Public



The Lord said unto Joshua, “There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.” God gave Joshua a profound guarantee: No man would be able to withstand him all the days of his life. And that God will be with him as He was with Moses.

How did Joshua find such favor with God? Joshua had a history with God and Moses. Joshua was the servant of Moses, the man of God. Joshua also had one specific habit which revealed the pursuit of his heart. The following verse explains, “And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.”

Joshua was not interested in Moses’ public ministry to the people but in his private ministry unto God. Joshua would emulate to be with God as Moses was with God. This so moved God that God said, “Now I will be with you as I was with Moses because you have been with Me as Moses was with Me.” The secret of every servant of God is in the secret place. Have you realized this? As you are with God in secret, so God will be with you in public.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 6:6

BUT THOU, WHEN THOU PRAYEST, ENTER INTO THY CLOSET, AND WHEN THOU HAST SHUT THY DOOR, PRAY TO THY FATHER WHICH IS IN SECRET; AND THY FATHER WHICH SEETH IN SECRET SHALL REWARD THEE OPENLY.



Walk On The Wind



The scripture says that God makes the clouds His chariot and He walks upon the wings of the wind. These are God's preferred mode of transport. What are yours? God has good taste and He chose to travel that way.

Similarly, in the spirit we ,as His children, should imitate His ways. You too can travel in the Holy Spirit using the wings of prayer, ushering your communion with Him to the very throne of God. From there your life can move beyond the limitation of human systems and connections.

You can make progress in leaps and bounds if you can learn to fuel your progress by prayer and praise. Do not crawl, run, leap and fly. In prayer, the Holy Spirit empowers you in this higher way.

It is from there that God's energy will enable your success and open many impossible doors before you.

It is time to walk on the wind.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 104:3

WHO LAYETH THE BEAMS OF HIS CHAMBERS IN THE WATERS: WHO MAKETH THE CLOUDS HIS CHARIOT: WHO WALKETH UPON THE WINGS OF THE WIND:



MONDAY, JUNE 9

Your Dwelling Place



Jesus said, “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me.” How do we practically prevent our heart from being troubled?

The answer is a simple one and directly related to Jesus’ next statement, “In My Father’s house are many dwelling places. I go to prepare a dwelling place for you.”

Where you dwell in this life and in this year matters. Did not Moses in Psalm 91 teach us that? He said, “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.”

David said “Thou shalt hide me in the secret place of Thy presence.” And the apostle John said “Rejoice ye heavens and ye that dwell in them.”

A trouble-free disposition is determined by your spiritual location. Are you dwelling in your Father’s dwelling places?

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 14:1-2

LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED: YE BELIEVE IN GOD, BELIEVE ALSO IN ME. IN MY FATHER’S HOUSE ARE MANY MANSIONS: IF IT WERE NOT SO, I WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU. I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU.



Having A Prolonged Life



A name identifies and can reflect inherent character. At least this was the case in bible times. We saw Jacob effectively execute the wrestling prayer. He would not let go of God until He blessed him. God changed his name and thereby his fortunes. A name can determine destiny.

The name Jacob meant “to be behind, to supplant circumvent, assail and overreach” His name was clearly a self-fulfilled prophecy up to that wrestling moment. Jacob for once did not try and overreach or trick. He stuck to the rules and got a new name. Israel meant the one who prevailed with God and came out first. With that name change, Jacob went from the youngest to the eldest in a moment.

Jacob knew the pain of a name and thus renamed his younger son to Benjamin (meaning: son of my right hand/ strength) from the one his mother gave him which was Benoni (meaning: son of my sorrow)

Can you spot the difference? You may need a new spiritual name or identity. Wrestle until God grants it.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 10:27

THE FEAR OF THE LORD PROLONGETH DAYS: BUT THE YEARS OF THE WICKED SHALL BE SHORTENED.



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

Your Spiritual Bandwidth



The Apostle Paul mentioned that a Christian's heart can be narrowed or enlarged. It is written, "O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged." This directly affects the strength and breadth of spiritual flow.

You may call it spiritual bandwidth. A Christian can receive from the Spirit via broadband or narrow band. Off course broadband is exponentially better: more can be transmitted, faster.

According to Paul, both the transmitter and the receiver should be on a similar bandwidth to avoid spiritual throttling. In the case of the Corinthian congregation, they were seriously narrowed in their heart. Although Paul was using broadband to transmit, the Christians were limited by their lack of bandwidth.

Are you on broadband connection with unlimited data or being throttled on your cheap narrow band connection?

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 6:11-12

O YE CORINTHIANS, OUR MOUTH IS OPEN UNTO YOU, OUR HEART IS ENLARGED. YE ARE NOT STRAITENED IN US, BUT YE ARE STRAITENED IN YOUR OWN BOWELS.



The Straitened



We saw yesterday, that Paul told the church that although the apostles' mouths were open and enlarged, that the Christians were narrowed within themselves. What a frustrating state! Imagine the apostles being full of power full of revelation, full of grace and ready to impart it all but the recipients actually conditioning themselves to receive as little as possible. That was the case two thousand years ago and is still today.

Why are certain Christians narrow within their hearts? We believe this begins to happen when people depart from the basics, such as an open and prepared heart. Remember our Lord's parable on the sower.

Another cause is the problem of a secondary connection. We have found this to be very prevalent in the lives of the spiritually frustrated. Off course offence is another narrower of the heart, along with the wrong associations.

Today, determine to increase your bandwidth and move to spiritual broadband.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 6:12
YE ARE NOT STRAITENED IN US, BUT YE ARE STRAITENED IN YOUR OWN BOWELS.



FRIDAY, JUNE 13

God is Bigger.



The Psalmist said, “For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land.”

It is by the mouth of the Prophet Jeremiah that it was declared, “He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding. When he uttereth his voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens; and he causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth: he maketh lightnings with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures.”

No matter what happens in this world and the next, God is Bigger: Is it lockdown? God is Bigger. Is it economic decimation? God is bigger. Is it sickness? God is bigger. Is it relationship failure? God is bigger. Is it disappointment? God is bigger. Never allow circumstances to harden your heart. Rest in God today. He made you and will preserve you by His wisdom. Nothing will outgrow God. God is bigger. He always was and forever will be Bigger.

As you enter this weekend, know this: God is Bigger!

SCRIPTURE READING: JEREMIAH 10:12-13

HE HATH MADE THE EARTH BY HIS POWER, HE HATH ESTABLISHED THE WORLD BY HIS WISDOM, AND HATH STRETCHED OUT THE HEAVENS BY HIS DISCRETION. WHEN HE UTTERETH HIS VOICE, THERE IS A MULTITUDE OF WATERS IN THE HEAVENS, AND HE CAUSETH THE VAPOURS TO ASCEND FROM THE ENDS OF THE EARTH; HE MAKETH LIGHTNINGS WITH RAIN, AND BRINGETH FORTH THE WIND OUT OF HIS TREASURES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

Pursue Holiness



We are commanded by new testament scripture to pursue holiness, “Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord”

What a powerful truth. No man will see the Lord, if they don't have holiness.

We are further told to perfect holiness in the fear of God, in order to experience the realities of sonship.

So how do we get holiness? The scripture says that the Father God discipline us as sons, so that we can partake of His holiness.

Welcoming His chastening is a sure way to pursue His holiness, and thus partake of the same. Pursue holiness today and everyday.

The pure in heart shall see God.

SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 12:14

FOLLOW PEACE WITH ALL MEN, AND HOLINESS, WITHOUT WHICH NO MAN SHALL SEE THE LORD:



SUNDAY, JUNE 15

Time To Prostrate



The Psalmist said to bow before Him and to worship at His footstool. All the angels, elders and living creatures fall prostrate before Him.

There is such a life in the Spirit. A life of worship. A life of intimacy. It is your life to live. Will you live it? Are you willing to live it? Jesus said that God is a Spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth.

Those dedicated to lives of worship know the power of the secret place. They become unbeatable and undeniable as Moses explained in Psalms 91.

Moses lived the prostrate life. So must you. Moses knew the secret place. So must you. Moses knew Him face to face. So must you.

This year you must live the prostrate life. Lay on your face this year and there will be no opportunity to lay on your back (in a coffin).

The prostrate life is the prolonged life. Start living it today.

SCRIPTURE READING: REVELATION 7:11

AND ALL THE ANGELS STOOD ROUND ABOUT THE THRONE, AND ABOUT THE ELDERS AND THE FOUR BEASTS, AND FELL BEFORE THE THRONE ON THEIR FACES, AND WORSHIPPED GOD,



Customs



We are told that Jesus had certain customs for example, it is written, “And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.” Luke furthermore tells us that Jesus often withdrew to desert places

and prayed.

Spiritual customs like these, not only build structure but also allows for the build-up of momentum and spiritual endurance. Jesus was a man of customs. God is still a God of spiritual customs.

How about you? Are you a man or woman of energy-producing spiritual customs? Why not start a new custom this week? Why not spend this week of the month in deep prayer and contemplation? It could determine the way your next quarter will go. It may even save your life, career or business and prolong it. Such is the supernatural power of spiritual customs.

The Holy Spirit is ready to give you some fresh and higher grade spiritual customs, for the third quarter of this year. Are you desirous and ready to seek Him for those instructions? We certainly are.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 1:35

AND IN THE MORNING, RISING UP A GREAT WHILE BEFORE DAY, HE WENT OUT, AND DEPARTED INTO A SOLITARY PLACE, AND THERE PRAYED.



TUESDAY, JUNE 17

Life's Rhythm



In physical movement, such as running or walking, rhythm is important. The same applies in performing arts such as singing and dancing. Even our bodies function in rhythm, especially the heart. Life requires rhythm. When we settle into a good rhythm, life in that season becomes easier. Some have said, “Man is a creature of habit.” Actually, man is a creature of rhythm. Your heart tells you so.

Tragedy and trauma comes to disrupt rhythm. A disrupted rhythm leads to a disrupted life, which in turn causes anxiety or stress. That said, your rhythm can easily and often be disrupted. Knowing how to quickly get back into rhythm is absolutely vital. We have found that the best way to restore rhythm is to quickly get back to the Beginning. Who is the Beginning? Jesus is the Beginning. He is the One who put man into rhythm at the beginning. As it is written, “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.” Man’s heart started to beat at that instant.

Today, get back into prolonged private prayer with the Lord. It is the beginnings of fresh rhythm. We will talk a bit more about the nuances of this tomorrow.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 40:31

BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY; AND THEY SHALL WALK, AND NOT FAINT.



Restored Rhythm



Yesterday, we dealt with the importance of rhythm and the impacts of disrupted rhythm. We also mentioned that getting back into prolonged private prayer with the Lord is the beginnings of fresh rhythm. Consider Jesus, who ensured sound rhythm in ministry by prolonged fasting and prayer. To enter the rhythm of the passion, He spent prolonged hours of prayer in Gethsemane. Prayer helps to unburden and reset the soul. As it is written, “Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.”

Not only does prolonged hours of prayer allow the soul to unburden and unbundle, it positions the soul for what it needs to re-rhythm. It is God’s articulated breath which re-rhythm’s the soul, to its optimum pace and state. Off course God’s articulated breath is His voice. His voice rests the heart. All burdens and strife cease at the sound of His voice. That is what Psalm 23 talks about. The Good Shepherd leads by His voice and His sheep respond and follow only His voice.

Elijah strove to enter the place of God’s voice after Jezebel disrupted his rhythm, by her threatenings. Elijah became wrapped up again in his calling and anointing, after hearing God’s voice: now his soul found its rest.

Today, spend prolonged hours in prayer to hear His voice say, “This is the way...”

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 KINGS 19:12-13

AND AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE A FIRE; BUT THE LORD WAS NOT IN THE FIRE: AND AFTER THE FIRE A STILL SMALL VOICE. AND IT WAS SO, WHEN ELIJAH HEARD IT, THAT HE WRAPPED HIS FACE IN HIS MANTLE, AND WENT OUT, AND STOOD IN THE ENTERING IN OF THE CAVE. AND, BEHOLD, THERE CAME A VOICE UNTO HIM, AND SAID, WHAT DOEST THOU HERE, ELIJAH?



THURSDAY, JUNE 19

Learn of Me



“Learn of Me”, He said. What an invitation this was! The Fountain of wisdom and Creator of all living things was giving such a glorious invitation. God, who once said, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge,” was now giving the hearers the opportunity to escape destruction. This is great grace.

God’s people were being destroyed by the toil and heavy burdens of their way of life. The daily grind was wearying them out. They were grinding to a halt. In the face of this bleakness, Jesus unleashed His words, “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

There is something called the easy life where the burdens are light weight. Life is not burden-less but can be burden-light. The world cannot give this kind of life but Jesus does. The world only offers the hustle and tussle. Jesus offers [the] rest and it is wrapped in His gracious words, “Learn of Me.”

Are you up for the burden-light life? Are you game for the easy yoke? Then come to learn of Him. The class of 2025 is open.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 11:28-30

COME UNTO ME, ALL YE THAT LABOUR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST. TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU, AND LEARN OF ME; FOR I AM MEEK AND LOWLY IN HEART: AND YE SHALL FIND REST UNTO YOUR SOULS. FOR MY YOKE IS EASY, AND MY BURDEN IS LIGHT.



One Life



Years ago we heard a man of God say, “One life for Christ is all I have.” What a simple, yet profound statement. We only have one life and we should live it well. There is only one way to achieve a life well lived and that is to live it for Jesus. To live it for Jesus means to live it with Jesus: in every motive, thought, word and action.

We have to live with eternity in mind. That same eternity that has been set in our hearts. Many people live for fleeting things, only to reap the wind after all is said and done. The apostle Paul said, “For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” And again, “...He died for all, that those who live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto Him who died for them and rose again.”

As a Christian, live unto Him in motive, thought, word and action. Do not afford yourself the opportunity to live any part of your life outside of Christ. You would be doing yourself an injustice, to live moments outside of Jesus.

This year beckons to be lived in, with and for Jesus. Are you ready?

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-16

FOR THE LOVE OF CHRIST CONSTRAINETH US, BECAUSE WE THUS JUDGE THAT IF ONE DIED FOR ALL, THEN ALL WERE DEAD; AND THAT HE DIED FOR ALL, THAT THOSE WHO LIVE SHOULD NOT HENCEFORTH LIVE UNTO THEMSELVES, BUT UNTO HIM WHO DIED FOR THEM AND ROSE AGAIN. THEREFORE, HENCEFORTH KNOW WE NO MAN ACCORDING TO THE FLESH; YEA, THOUGH WE HAVE KNOWN CHRIST ACCORDING TO THE FLESH, YET NOW HENCEFORTH WE KNOW HIM SO NO MORE.



SATURDAY, JUNE 21

Exactly



Earlier this month we dwelt with Martha and Mary. Particularly, the Lord's statement to Martha, "But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Mary was unknowingly preparing for a moment of God's intervention in their lives. The hearing of the word of God was imparting hearing and hearing bringing faith. She was being prepared for a kairos moment.

Kairos is the moment of God's intervention in your life. It is the moment that the answer comes, that the promise is fulfilled, etc. Capturing your Kairos moments for 2025 is most needful. We are told by Paul to redeem the time. These are Paul's words, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." That word 'time' is the Greek word 'Kairos.' The kairos redeeming life is called the circumspect walk and is lived by the wise. The word 'circumspectly' used by Paul is the Greek word 'akribōs' which means 'exactly or perfectly.' God wants us to walk precisely in this world. It's an exact science: this walk with God.

Live 2025 exactly, making the most of every kairos moment presented to you.

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 5:15-16

SEE THEN THAT YE WALK CIRCUMSPECTLY, NOT AS FOOLS, BUT AS WISE, REDEEMING THE TIME, BECAUSE THE DAYS ARE EVIL.



Teach Me



Have you ever wondered what and where you would have been if you knew nothing? What a miserable life it would have been if you could not interpret anything that your eyes and ears perceive. Who taught you that a tree is a tree, or that the sun is the sun, or how about men and women, the animals, etc.?

Somebody helped you as an infant to put a label on all these things. Who taught you to read, write and count? We all had teachers. Whether our parents, guardians, school teachers or other members of our community. We were all taught the basics to some degree or other. The knowledge that enlightened us came through some form of teaching.

Knowledge enlightens but who carries that light to enlighten us? The Teacher. As it is written, "... he began to teach them many things." All growth starts with hunger. Think about it. It is true. So you must have a hunger to learn. Your hunger to learn begins to pull knowledge towards you. That knowledge is carried by a teacher. You must have the humility and boldness to sincerely say to the teacher, "Teach me?"

Many are too proud and unenlightened to pull on knowledge in that way. Don't be counted among the many.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 6:34

AND JESUS, WHEN HE CAME OUT, SAW MUCH PEOPLE, AND WAS MOVED WITH COMPASSION TOWARD THEM, BECAUSE THEY WERE AS SHEEP NOT HAVING A SHEPHERD: AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM MANY THINGS.



MONDAY, JUNE 23

Pray For Your Pastor



Paul, the apostle, was not ashamed to ask for prayer for himself. He told the church at Philippi that their prayer will turn things around for him.

Praying for their pastors, is the most neglected discipline of Christians. Most pray only for themselves and their loved ones. They think this is what matters most and consume their prayer lives with such.

However, the bible states “strike the shepherd, scatter the sheep” If the devil can strike the pastor, he can automatically therewith destroy the congregation members lives. It is killing all the birds with one stone.

Your spiritual well being is dependent on your pastor’s well being. And it is there where hell concentrates its major efforts.

So today, neglect not to pray for your pastor.

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 6:18-20

PRAYING ALWAYS WITH ALL PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION IN THE SPIRIT, AND WATCHING THEREUNTO WITH ALL PERSEVERANCE AND SUPPLICATION FOR ALL SAINTS; AND FOR ME, THAT UTTERANCE MAY BE GIVEN UNTO ME, THAT I MAY OPEN MY MOUTH BOLDLY, TO MAKE KNOWN THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL, FOR WHICH I AM AN AMBASSADOR IN BONDS: THAT THEREIN I MAY SPEAK BOLDLY, AS I OUGHT TO SPEAK.



Not Without Signification



The scripture says, “There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification. Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me.” There are many voices and sounds, none without meaning and none without signification. Every voice is signifying something. Every voice seeks to communicate something. Maybe it is a tiding of joy, happiness, sadness, grief or perhaps a conveyor of direction or other information.

You need to have the ability to understand the voice coming to you. Your understanding of the sound you hear helps you to discern its place in your world and the proper response to it. Some sounds can be ignored and is not meant for you. Perhaps you hear a voice calling out to someone around you. It may not be relevant to you and can therefore be ignored.

Then there are voices emitted towards you. If it is of the devil, resist it steadfast in the faith. If it is of God open your heart and obey Him. We all need to hear the voice of God. His voice carries the most significance and meaning for our lives. We need to hear Him more in 2025 than any other year before. At The Empowered Church we sing a prophetic tune which goes like this, “O Father speak to me. Let me hear the sound of Your voice.” Let this be your prayer today and every day.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 SAMUEL 3:7-10

NOW SAMUEL DID NOT YET KNOW THE LORD, NEITHER WAS THE WORD OF THE LORD YET REVEALED UNTO HIM. AND THE LORD CALLED SAMUEL AGAIN THE THIRD TIME. AND HE AROSE AND WENT TO ELI, AND SAID, HERE AM I; FOR THOU DIDST CALL ME. AND ELI PERCEIVED THAT THE LORD HAD CALLED THE CHILD. THEREFORE ELI SAID UNTO SAMUEL, GO, LIE DOWN: AND IT SHALL BE, IF HE CALL THEE, THAT THOU SHALT SAY, SPEAK, LORD; FOR THY SERVANT HEARETH. SO SAMUEL WENT AND LAY DOWN IN HIS PLACE. AND THE LORD CAME, AND STOOD, AND CALLED AS AT OTHER TIMES, SAMUEL, SAMUEL. THEN SAMUEL ANSWERED, SPEAK; FOR THY SERVANT HEARETH.



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

Ask For The Right Thing



The bible tells us of a certain blind man named, Bartimaeus. Begging use to be his way of life. One day Jesus went to Jericho and was encountered by Bartimaeus on His way out. Bartimaeus was so shamelessly persistent and insistent that Jesus stopped and called for him. Jesus, upon Bartimaeues' arrival asked the following, "What wilt thou that I should do unto thee?" The scripture tells us the man's response. It is written, "The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight."

There was a definite question and in response a definite request. Although his problem was evident, he still needed to know and voice his specific request to the Lord.

It shows that a specific need or problem does not ordinarily mean that our prayers will be for God to meet that need. Bartimaeus could have asked for money as he was a beggar. Yet, he asked for the solution to the root problem, that forced him into the beggar lifestyle.

Do you know your real need from God? It is important to know the answer to that question. Ask God for the one thing that will help you follow Jesus better in the way. Bartimaeus, after receiving his sight, was now able to see Jesus and follow Him in the way.

It is time to follow Jesus in the way, better. It is time to ask for the right thing.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 10:51-52

AND JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO HIM, WHAT WILT THOU THAT I SHOULD DO UNTO THEE? -- THE BLIND MAN SAID UNTO HIM, LORD, THAT I MIGHT RECEIVE MY SIGHT. AND JESUS SAID UNTO HIM, GO THY WAY; THY FAITH HATH MADE THEE WHOLE. AND IMMEDIATELY HE RECEIVED HIS SIGHT, AND FOLLOWED JESUS IN THE WAY.



Sanctuary



God told Isaiah, “Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.” God would be a sanctuary to Isaiah in the then upcoming national crisis, if he would set apart and consecrate the

Lord of the angel armies Himself. In other words, God would then dispatch the warring angels to form a sanctuary for Isaiah.

We are here reminded that God did the same for Elisha, “When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked. “Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. As the enemy came down toward him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, “Strike this army with blindness.” So he struck them with blindness, as Elisha had asked.” No enemy could move against Elisha and prevail. His sanctuary was able to act and counter-act on his behalf.

You need a sanctuary for 2025. God wants to be your sure sanctuary this year. Only do what Isaiah did and what the Apostle Peter said in his epistle, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts...” Right now, make that commitment to God, that you will fear only Him, that you will value His opinion and narrative above all other things, and obey Him accordingly. He will surely be to you a sanctuary in 2025.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 PETER 3:15

BUT SANCTIFY THE LORD GOD IN YOUR HEARTS: AND BE READY ALWAYS TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO EVERY MAN THAT ASKETH YOU A REASON OF THE HOPE THAT IS IN YOU WITH MEEKNESS AND FEAR:



FRIDAY, JUNE 27

Surrender It To Jesus



Miracles are supernatural interventions. They are beyond nature. Nature cannot produce miracles, God is the miracle creator. Jesus is the greatest example of miracle working. From the ministry of Jesus, one can see that every miracle starts with what you have. God uses what you already have for the miracle. Jesus, when multiplying the loaves and fishes asked, “What do you have?” In His first miracle He

used the water and the water pots that was already there and turned water into wine.

Elisha, the prophet, asked the same question, “What do you have?” We read the following account, “Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen. And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil. Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few. And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full. So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out...Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.”

Every miracle starts with you and is effected by action and instruction. You want a miracle? Look no further than what you have. Even Little becomes much in the hands of God. It starts with what you have. Surrender it to Jesus.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 KINGS 4:1-2

NOW THERE CRIED A CERTAIN WOMAN OF THE WIVES OF THE SONS OF THE PROPHETS UNTO ELISHA, SAYING, THY SERVANT MY HUSBAND IS DEAD; AND THOU KNOWEST THAT THY SERVANT DID FEAR THE LORD: AND THE CREDITOR IS COME TO TAKE UNTO HIM MY TWO SONS TO BE BONDMEN. AND ELISHA SAID UNTO HER, WHAT SHALL I DO FOR THEE? TELL ME, WHAT HAST THOU IN THE HOUSE? AND SHE SAID, THINE HANDMAID HATH NOT ANY THING IN THE HOUSE, SAVE A POT OF OIL.



Command



The Roman centurion came to Jesus and said, "... speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed." The Lord Jesus, Creator of the universe, was amazed at the statement and commended the great faith expressed by it. The centurion's reasoning was this, "For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it." The centurion understood command structures and how these convey and direct both authority and power. The man had the fundamental understanding necessary to benefit from God's power here on earth. The only thing now was to add faith and bang! - the power of God was his to experience.

He received the faith when he heard about Jesus: what the Lord was saying and what the Lord was doing. He knew that Jesus must then have rank and commanded in the invisible realm: Lordship, in other words. The centurion believed in Jesus and faith came to him by hearing. He then acted on his faith by coming to Jesus. His faith by this act was proven to be alive.

Jesus marveled at this man's great faith, held up by the man's basic, yet profound understanding. The Lord Jesus then unleashed His command. Thus it is stated, "And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour."

Faith and its miracles work by command. Commands work when you are under direct command. Let us repeat this, "[Your] commands work when you are under direct command." The Roman centurion understood this. Do you

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 8:10

WHEN JESUS HEARD IT, HE MARVELLED, AND SAID TO THEM THAT FOLLOWED, VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, I HAVE NOT FOUND SO GREAT FAITH, NO, NOT IN ISRAEL.



SUNDAY, JUNE 29

Our Mystery



You were born again into mystery. You were born again into another world. The world of the born-again Christian is not a world of the familiar. It is indeed a world of mystery. Jesus told Nicodemus, “Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.” The man was struck with wonder. His mind could not grasp what was being communicated. It is written, “Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?”

Upon hearing this, the scripture says, “Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness. If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?”

Nicodemus had become a master of the familiar. Israel’s God was a God of mysteries, the invisible God. Nothing about Him was and ever will be familiar. Nicodemus and his colleagues seemed to have forgotten that. The kingdom of God is one of extreme mystery: from believing Abraham, Jacob, David and all the prophets. Nicodemus’ spirit could no longer grasp the mystery. He had forgotten the true faith of the forefathers.

Christianity is an even greater supernatural mystery: truly born from above. The church was born of a mighty rushing wind. And established supernaturally by the fathers: the apostles and prophets. Let us hunger for, treasure and celebrate the mysteries.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 3:7-9

MARVEL NOT THAT I SAID UNTO THEE, YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN. THE WIND BLOWETH WHERE IT LISTETH, AND THOU HEAREST THE SOUND THEREOF, BUT CANST NOT TELL WHENCE IT COMETH, AND WHITHER IT GOETH: SO IS EVERY ONE THAT IS BORN OF THE SPIRIT.



Your Course



Your movement towards your destiny in life demands full commitment towards your course. In university, clear success was dependent upon your commitment towards your course of study. You may have had in mind to change route the following year but had to commit to the current course, so that you not waste that current academic year.

So it is in the more serious matters of life, especially in your dealings with God. Consider the woman with the issue of blood, blind Bartimaeus, the woman whose daughter was grievously vexed with a devil, the woman who anointed Jesus and many others. They all had to decide and fully commit to their chosen course of action. Else, their faith would not have stood up to the test. Living in the now and for the future requires a full commitment to the course. Jesus called His twelve disciples into the course of discipleship and they left all to follow Him. They were fully committed to the course, so that there might be a hope of a transformed future. Partial commitments would not do.

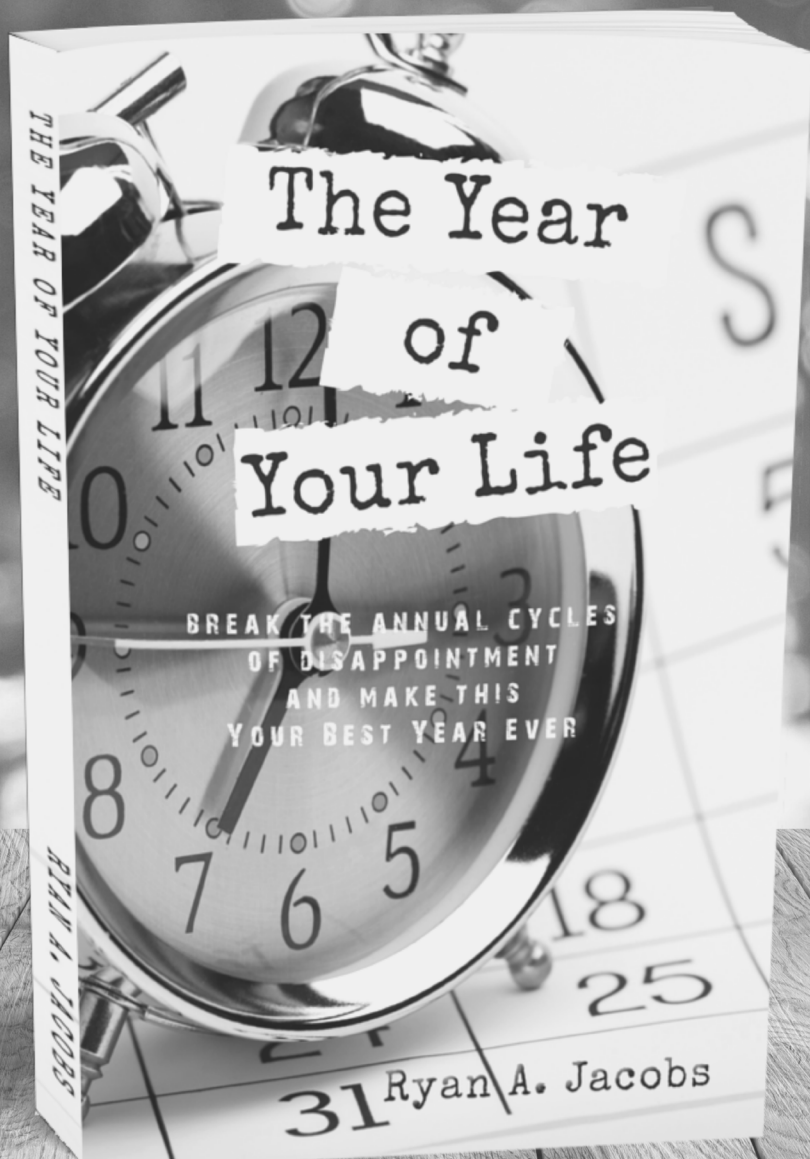
Paul charged his spiritual son Timothy, “Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.” Timothy had to commit himself one hundred percent to have any hope of a fruitful outcome. Nothing less would do. Paul said of himself, “But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.”

Paul knew what it would take to finish his course. Do you? Are you committed to your course? How committed are you? Nothing less than wholly will do.

SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 20:24

BUT NONE OF THESE THINGS MOVE ME, NEITHER COUNT I MY LIFE DEAR UNTO MYSELF, SO THAT I MIGHT FINISH MY COURSE WITH JOY, AND THE MINISTRY, WHICH I HAVE RECEIVED OF THE LORD JESUS, TO TESTIFY THE GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD.

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DECIDE

Prayer of Salvation

We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying this:

“O Lord God, I come to You in the Name of Jesus Christ. Your Word says, “...whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Acts 2:21).

I ask Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to come into my heart, to be the Lord of my life. I receive eternal life into my spirit. According to the bible in Romans 10:9, “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved, “I declare that I am now saved; I am born again from above by God’s Spirit; I am a child of the Most High God! I now have Christ dwelling in me! I now walk in the consciousness of my new life in Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord!”

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please contact us:

Website: www.enpoweredchurch.com

Email: info@enpoweredchurch.com

Ryan & Debra Jacobs

Ryan is a life strategist, prophetic voice, business consultant and author. He has been mentoring marketplace people in their vocations and careers for decades. Ryan has served at various national and multinational companies for +20 years. He is also known for walking in the demonstration of the power and realms of God. Ryan is the author of 'Predestined From Your Mother's Womb', 'The Nature of Business', 'The Year of Your Life' and 'Career Surge.'

Debra is an author, mother, leader and industrious creative, with a strong prophetic gift. Her vision is to raise up unique Jesus-focused women, who live with spiritual vision, purpose and dignity. Debra is the writer of the daily instant-blog, Arise Debra and the life changing personal growth guide book for women, 'The Power-Filled Woman.' Endeared not only for her focus, creativity and ability to turn chaos into order but also for her gentle spirit.

Ryan and Debra Jacobs are also the Founders and Leaders of The Empowered Church.

They are passionate about Jesus, the revelation of His Person, the manifestation of His Presence, the demonstration of His Power and the Perfection of His Church.

Their mission in life is to change the way generations see and know Jesus.

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