

Pastor Emma N. J. Nwosu

PRAYER THAT GOD MUST ANSWER

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KJV means King James Version of the authorized version of the Holy Bible.

DEDICATION

How contagious are thy aroma,

Oh mother of faith.

Hours upon hours of thy agonizing

Though, I slumber by your side

Groaning on your knees in holy fret,

See what you made of me.

- Emma N. J. Nwosu

This poem and book are dedicated to my mother;

Janeth N. Nwosu, who taught me to pray and trust God.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In this last edition of this book, I am at a loss as to how many people I should acknowledge for their immense support in the journey heavenward under the Prayer Network for Universal Revival (PNUR).

First and foremost is my wife, Joy, who continued to stay with me when all left. She helped me to reduce the shock and loneliness I felt when all I held dear departed, even friends whom I thought our lives were eternally bound together because of what God used me to do in their lives.

Secondly, the three sisters - Ijeoma, Glory. How I long for you every day. The forces of destiny have forcefully separated us. Perhaps, someday we will laugh over it.

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Also thanks to Dr Kontein Trinya and THE PREACHER family in Port Harcourt. All PNUR friends and partners.

Finally, all who have continued to trust God for what they are convinced I must become in His hand. I may not know you but your labors in the secret place of prayer testify for your existence.

Emma N.J. Nwosu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEDICATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FORWARD

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER ONE Prayer That God Must Answer

CHAPTER TWO Power In the Word Of God

CHAPTER THREE Power In The Name Of the Lord

CHAPTER FOUR In God's Programme; Out Of God's
Will

CHAPTER FIVE Grant Me Justice

CHAPTER SIX Fight For It

CAPTER SEVEN Faith for A Miracle

CHAPTER EIGHT Jesus Christ Heals You

CHAPTER NINE Praying With Power

CHAPTER TEN Testimonies

FOREWARD

When men do not pray, they perish. A prayerless person shouldn't answer a Christian. A prayerless church is dead. When prayer is not offered on behalf of any nation, they go into exile.

Unfortunately, the problem with our world today is not that they do not pray. For example, in Nigeria, people are always praying. - Moslems and occult people alike. Before our national football team goes into action, they hold hands together and pray before the glaring eyes of the spectators. So, after all, everybody pray. So, the question is praying aright. Or in Bro. Emma's language, praying a prayer that God must answer

This book set my heart aglow. As I went through the pages tears dribbled down my eyes in self pity. I quickly understood why the Friday night Christian disco-sorry night-vigils, have not produced any result among many churches. I could pick out easily why many so-called prayerful Christians are still living miserable lives.

Bro. Emma is a dynamic and motivational preacher. He has preached in my church a number of times and on each occasion he set my heart aflame.

Prayer that God Must Answer is a book from the heart of a man who talks to and hears from God. If this book does not move you to pray and even pray a prayer that God has no choice but to answer, something is the problem.

Pastor Israel A. Njoku
Assemblies of God Church
Nigeria.

INTRODUCTION

I sincerely ask God' for grace upon the heart of the reader as he goes through this book, because the reader will discover some shocking truth. For example, the reader may discover that most prayers that he had said in the past and sat down patiently waiting for answer have not crossed his ceiling board not to talk of heaven.

*When you spread out your hands in prayer
I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer
many prayers, I will not listen (Isaiah 1:15).*

Could it be that this is the state of many prayers we make in our churches and prayer cells? Yes! There are people I know that can pray and pray for months with fasting. Yet, their position does not change. Even some Ministers discover that after laying hands upon the sick for about 30 minutes, nothing happens. They now tell the sick person to claim they are healed by faith. I am not outrightly saying God cannot heal that person as he goes home but I am a bit skeptical about that opinion. A close look at the scripture will tell you what I mean.

While physically on earth Christ once faced an embarrassing situation. In His absence a man had brought his son to His disciples. The young man had suffered from demonic affliction from birth and needed to be healed. No matter the number of His disciples and how long they prayed, this is the man's observation –

Lord, have mercy on my son... I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him - (Matt. 17:15-16).

The gospel of Luke made it a bit more pathetic -

I BEGGED your disciples to drive it out, but they could not.

(Luke 9:40)

How would you feel if you were that father? Would you walk away in faith and believe that child is healed? There is an account where people prayed and fasted and there was no answer. What was the reason?

3. *Why have we fasted, they said, and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves and you have not noticed?*

4. *You cannot fast as you do today and expect your voice to be heard on high. (Isaiah 58:3-4)*

Could it be that the reason why many prayers we say don't receive immediate answer is not because God is asking us to wait for some time? Could it be our voices are not heard on high?

We have Bible examples of men who prayed and their voices were heard on high and their answers were immediate. Men like Moses who prayed and water came out of the rock and Manna fell from heaven. Joshua prayed and the sun stood still for about a full day. Elijah prayed and fire fell from heaven, he was also the first man in the Bible to raise the dead. Daniel's intercession opened the way for Jewish exiles to return to their country. Apostle Peter prayed and the dead came back to life and Paul prayed and Elymas was stricken with blindness.

There is one wonderful example where Jesus himself

41 *So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father; I thank you that you have heard me.*

42 *I know that you always hear me but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me"*

43 *When He had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"*

44 *The dead man came out (John 11)*

The stone mentioned in verse 41 signifies hindrances to prayers. If the stone had not been rolled away, it's either that Lazarus couldn't have heard Jesus or the by-standers who took away the grave cloth wouldn't know his new state.

Many prayers we have said have been blocked out by stones and answers from God have also been hindered from manifesting.

My prayer is that by the time you have read through this book those hindrances will be taken care of.

I have witnessed such great manifestation of God's power in my ministry. They are presented here to encourage you, not

to arrogate any honour or glory to me. I want to believe that after reading these testimonies you will rise in holy zeal and pray a prayer that will be heard on high.

The messages here are messages I have preached one time or the other, and people wished they could get a copy of the written sermon or the audio cassette but couldn't. One truth is that I don't write sermons. I just stand behind the pulpit and whatever the Lord gives me, I pass to his children. At times 10 minutes to my time to preach, I do not have my text yet.

The reader can now understand that I cannot give him word-for-word of the message he once heard. What you are about to read is prepared to meet your need of the hour. They are not borrowed from any preacher or book. The titles may be same with the ones you have heard before but you are among the first to hear it spoken this way.

I would wish that the reader bow his head at this point and ask God to address him individually and open the eyes of his blindness. Also ask God for the Spirit of prayer, because at intervals I will call you to pray.

CHAPTER ONE

THE PRAYER THAT GOD MUST ANSWER

TEXT: 11 CHRONICLES 7:13-14

- 13 *When I shut the heavens, so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people.*
- 14 *If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

If Christians will allow the Holy Spirit to lead them in their prayer, maybe we will be seeing His wonderful works much frequently. But because we don't, we make so much noise which we call prayer and turn around to challenge God for not answering. Yes, when invited as a minister to pray for the sick, most of us block our ears from the voice of the Holy Ghost with our screaming of "Holy Ghost Fire!" and "Blood of Jesus", then fall guilty to Job 33:14-

For God does speak now one Way, now another, though man may not perceive it.

If only prayer warriors and ministers would take some time to listen, they could hear God say, "Why are you crying out to me?" (Exo. 14:15). Yes, if we would pay attention to what God is saying, we could possibly make our exhausting prayers more pleasant. I once stood beside a man who had been paralyzed for more than a year. Before I started to pray, I sang some worship songs and listened to the Lord, the instruction was that I should command the man to walk. Immediately I said, "I command you to walk in the name of Jesus", I stretched out my hands to him, he took hold of my hands, stood-up on his feet and began to walk.

A brother once took me to pray for a man who had been bed-ridden for many years. The man was paralyzed from his neck downwards but speaks with clarity not for a man in his condition. Except for his head and his tongue, every other part of his body was like dry leave. As we arrived there, the brother introduced me and our purpose of visiting and swung into prayers. He was screaming and matching all over the room while I tried to receive instruction from the Lord. When I got the answer and steps to be taken to resolve it, the

efforts I made to make the brother stop praying so that we can pray in line with the Spirit failed. At last I discovered that if I continue my efforts to stop him, I could injure his feeling and since he was an old friend to the sick man, it will give a negative effect to our mission. I gave up, hoping to come back some other time but before then the man died. What a loss?

There are many problems in our lives which we want to pray out but have not applied the right words. From our text, we discover that God can shut the heavens. This is what most believers do not want to believe. When their business begins to fail, they immediately begin to bind the spirit of ill-luck. What do you expect to have in your business when you don't pay your tithe, but use the proceeds from that business to entertain prostitutes, oppress the poorer folks and even sponsor ungodly enterprises? Why wouldn't God shut the heavens against a young lady who hawks her body like groundnut as she goes in frantic search for a husband? The Bible says that God will destroy those who destroy his temple and we are God's temple (I Cor. 3:16-17)

Many Christians don't believe that God can send devourers. When they begin to experience leaking pocket -any money

they make goes to armed robbers, police case and the like - they immediately begin to attack Satan. Let it suffice to say that God can also send plague to the land. Plague here means sickness, diseases, e.g. AIDS etc. God says He can send these things.

All the same He does not send them without reason. One of the reasons for which God can close the heavens, send devourers or send plague is when His house is neglected - When we neglect the work of God and sincere worship of God.

9 *You expected much, but see it turned out to be little.*

What you brought home, I blew away. "Why?" declares the Lord Almighty, "Because of my house, which remains in ruin, while each of you is busy with his own house.

10 *Therefore, because of you the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops.*

11 *I called for drought on the fields and the mountains, on grain, the new wine, the oil and whatever the ground produces, on men and cattle, on the labour of your hands (Haggai 1).*

A second reason God can unleash these things is for unchristian attitudes among believers. In fact they hinder healing.

1 *Whenever I would heal Israel, the sin of Ephraim are exposed and the crimes of Samaria revealed. They practice DECEIT THIEVES BREAK INTO HOUSES, BANDITS ROB IN THE STREETS;*

2 *But they do not realize that I remember all their evil deeds. Their sin engulf them; they are always before me*

(Hosea 7) (Emphasis are author's)

Hosea 14:1 has this to say-

“Your sins have been your downfall”

The writer of Psalm 39 discovered this truth after all his efforts to get healing failed.

1 *I said, “I will watch my ways and keep my tongue from sin.*

9. *I was silent; I would not open my mouth, for you are the one who has done this.*

11 *You rebuke and discipline men for their sin; you consume their wealth like a moth.*

I mean that brethren should call sin, "sin". No matter who commits it or under what circumstances they are committed; sin is sin. God desires an honest attitude in our prayers. "Surely you desire truth in the inner parts." (Psalm 51:6). So let's face the facts when approaching for deliverance, healing or soliciting God's intervention in our circumstances.

The third powerful hindrance to prayer is what I call the "WAILING BLOOD OF RIGHTEOUS ABEL." We can recall that Cain killed Abel. I believe God overlooked this sin for a longtime, until He declares, "Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground" (Gen. 4:10). The tense "CRIES OUT..." suggests that the wailing blood would not rest until it is avenged.

This is confirmed in Heb.11:4. After many years the Holy Spirit reveals that Abel's blood still speaks against all children of wickedness. I want to warn the reader against the sin of oppression. Some women oppress their house helps and treat them like slaves. Some masters after keeping apprentices for six years or more find it difficult to help them start their own business as agreed. Some Force men use their uniform to oppress, even to the point of putting innocent

men in prison. Even Lawyers go to court and through bribery and falsehood acquit a wicked man and put an innocent man in trouble; yet others use their offices to hinder the promotion of their counterparts. The Bible says that unpaid wages and oppression will eat like rust - literally, acid.

- 1 *Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon you.*
- 2 *Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days.*
- 4 *Look, the wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty.*
- 5 *You have lived in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourself...*
- 6 *You have condemned and murdered innocent men, who were not opposing you (James 5:1-6)*

Did you read where it said that their cries have reached the ears of the Lord? How then can you pray and receive? If you have been living this way, the blood of this people will wail continuously against you and you will never prevail. No

matter how many days you fast, your voice cannot be heard on high. Except through restitution, no amount of confession and penance can save you from the consequence of this sin. You have to beg that person for forgiveness and restore whatever you have taken. In fact, you have a lot of trouble if the person is dead because though he is dead his blood still speaks (Heb. 11:4). In that case, the only way to come out of it is by turning your life to Christ and making restitution to your church or to a minister who can pay the price of lifting you before God in intercession. Then claim your forgiveness by faith.

Then you would have come to Jesus Christ the mediator of a new covenant and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. (Heb. 12:24).

Prayers that God must answer are prayers said from a sincere heart, not lip service. God says that if His children called by His name - that is if Christians would take four steps in their approach to God, that He will hear them from heaven, forgive their sins and heal their land.

The four steps are these:

1. HUMBLE THEMSELVES - Humility in my own definition is being original. Being what and who you are. Without humility or humbleness of heart, all your prayers are noise. When such people pray they begin to recount to God all the wonderful things they have done for God and present that as a guarantee for their miracle. Such people deceive men of God with false pledges and lie to them to make them pray more for them.

A youngman I used to know would pray like this -“Lord, it is written that if I pay my tithe, you will open for me the windows of heaven. Why have you not opened it? Lord, it is written that I will be the head and not the tail. I will be the first and not the last and...”

Go to what I call the new wave Pentecostal Churches that is the kind of prayer you hear them say and because that is the way of the world - they want to be the head and not the tail (covetousness) - you see such churches full overnight. But with whom? Dupes, prostitutes, bribe takers and givers etc.

If you are worshiping in such churches I want to advice you to stop deceiving yourself with that Pastor. If both of you

don't repent, there is no better place for you but hell-fire on the judgment day. If you want to be the first, the head and the leader, nothing is wrong with that but Christ recommends his pre-requisite (Matt. 18:1-4).

In fact, I want to state here that none of those people who make all that noise about prosperity believe in prosperity as much as I do and I believe I have experienced real prosperity more than most of them. May I boast in the name of the Lord. In my first year as a full time minister who started without a church or any financial sponsor, I wrote and published a book, the second year I got a flat I am now living in and married one of the most beautiful women whom this generation can boast of. You need to see me dress to get a true meaning of what I am saying. I am not against prosperity; I am against disrespectful arrogance in the name of prayer.

*God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble
(James 4:6).*

When people start to say such self-centered prayers, they remind me of the man Lucifer in Isaiah 14:12-15. Check-out

Lucifer emphasized himself five times for selfish exaltation and what did God do? He opposed him.

No amount of giving you have made is enough on its own to guarantee your miracle. In fact what you give was given to you originally by God. (1 Chronicles 29:14). So, when you persuade God, be careful the language you use. Do it in humility. There is nothing wrong for a child, after obeying his father to come back to ask for his lunch. Only recognize that the lunch as well as the child belongs to the father. We cannot bribe God and we cannot force God to do what He does not want to do.

One of the great pastors in this country wrote what I call “the satanic prayers of the new wave Pentecostal movement”- God, if you don't heal me you are not God. If you cannot feed me, you are not God. You said the desire of the righteous shall not be cut off. So, if you don't send me to America you are a liar etc.

I want to warn the reader of the so called gospel books in the market today. Some are written by occult in the garb of gospel ministers. (2 Cor. 11:13-15), some are written by those who borrowed from the books others have written,

without having a heart conviction of what they wrote. Yet, we know of a truth that men of God write books. So, when you go to the bookshop make your choice prayerfully.

Humbleness of heart is one essential thing for answered prayer. We need a right understanding of who our God is and who and what we are before Him. This will help us channel our prayers in a way that can touch God's heart.

Yet, O Lord, you are our father we are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand (Isaiah 64:8)

Let the above passage tell you your identity. God is our father, yet Lord. The word Lord here means Jehovah, the same meaning with YAHWEH, the Hebrew name of God which the Jews were afraid to use. This is the name the Lord God said we should not use in vain. When Christ came He told us that this sovereign Lord is also our father. Seeing that the one you are talking to is the maker of heaven and earth before whom angels bow and all the heavenly beings worship, will He lose His place in heaven or His authority on earth if an ant like me die without cause. May be you can now understand the above passage better when Isaiah said: "we are the clay, you are the potter". Does that register now? Clay has no right to query that potter for what kind of work he does- whether good or bad.

“But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so, the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him” (Jer. 18:4)

How fortunate we are that our God is a good God, otherwise, what would be our state, if what He decides to make of us is bad, perhaps a grasshopper or a cockroach? What will you do?

- 9 *Woe to him who quarrels with his maker, to him who is but a potsherd among the potsherd on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, “What are you making? Does your work say, 'He has no hands'?*
- 10 *Woe to him who says to his father, “What have you begotten?” or to his mother, 'what have you brought to birth?' (Isaiah 45)*

Beloved, God is sovereign. You have no right to query his work. Whatever you get is by grace. If He gives you nothing, He wouldn't have committed any sin. He made you, He keeps you and He has the right to do with you whatever He chooses. Some ministers teach that God said we should command him in Isaiah 45:11. That is not true. Check that passage in other translation other than King James Version-

(which is the translation they quote); you will discover that that statement is a question. Reading from verse 9 to 12 will help you agree with me.

I am not saying we should not approach his throne of grace with confidence. My opinion is that if we know who and what we are and whom we are talking to in our prayer' that will help us assume a right attitude to our prayer. Yes, we will be humble.

Even when Job lost everything, he knew he received everything he had from God and if God decides at last to take them back, He still deserved worship. (Job1:20-22). Without humility you cannot pray.

And Pray:

- 1 O God, the nations (the heathen - KJV) have invaded your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple, they have reduced Jerusalem to rubble.
- 2 They have given the dead bodies of your servants as food to the birds of the air, the flesh of your saints to the beasts of the earth.
- 4 We are objects of reproach to our neighbours, of scorn and derision to those around us.

- 5 How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever?
- 8 Do not hold against us the sin of the fathers; may your mercy come quickly to meet us, for we are in desperate need.
- 9 Help us O God our Saviour, for the glory of your name deliver us and forgive our sins for your name sake.
- 10 Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?"
(Psalm 79)

You may have wondered why prayers of men of old moved the hand of God. They prayed in humility. They recognized who their God is and who they are. Does that not contrast the kind of prayers we say today? And when our screaming and wailing do not cross our roof, we attribute it to "Principalities and Powers". That may not be all the truth. I am not preaching against praying in high tones because the author is among the noisiest ministers of this generation. I am talking of the heart attitude.

AND SEEK MY FACE

When you start to pray in humility, the Holy Ghost takes control. That is why the Bible says, "He gives grace to the humble". He will tell you there is an unconfessed sin, if there

is a mountain or a giant to be pulled down, He will give you pattern. To seek the face of God demands humbleness of heart too. It means you have to lay aside all you used to believe and go to God for knowledge. Perhaps, you have always thought that the poverty in your family has been caused by witches and wizards, God may tell you that your father snatched a widow's land, that unless you restore it, you will not prosper. You may have felt that the failure in your business has been as a result of some charm your neighbour buried against you; God may tell you it is because you buy stolen goods, cheat your customers and do not pay your tithe.

You may have the feeling that mermaid spirits have - hindered your marriage; God may tell you it is because you keep jumping from one man to the other in search of a wealthy husband or that you have bad manners which repel the men. It may even be that when others get married you don't rejoice with them. You may think your persistent failure in your examination is as a result of ancestral curses; God may tell you that you don't take your studies serious. The cause of premature death and barrenness in your family may be as a result of the several abortions you sponsored and involved yourself in.

As a deliverance minister, I have seen a lot of people place themselves in bondage and accuse the devil and their ancestors. But when I try to correct this wrong impression they are offended. Many people who dropped from plenty to poverty is as a result of the way they handled their money and refused to help others in need. But when the Lord shuts their heavens (Haggai 1:19-10), they begin to accuse invisible forces.

Humility will help you seek God's face in sincerity and accept the truth of the matter. This is exactly where I disagree with some land liberation ministers. They think the ancestors committed the sins and their children are suffering (Ezek. 18:2-10).

The truth is that God will be unfair to let the sins of the ancestors of a born-again Christian weigh him down. It says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come" (2 Cor.5:17).

As we go to God for deliverance, divine intervention or whatsoever, let us start by looking into our own lives before we start looking outside.

TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS

By now you would have known where seeking God's face would land you. A man who prays humbly and seeks God's face humbly will end up doing two things -

(1) CONFESSION:

But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me a sinner ' (Luke 18:13).

He will prostrate, he will weep and loathe himself (Ezekiel 20:43). He will recognize his short comings. He will understand that only grace had kept him alive so far, and then he will cry out "Lord, have mercy on me, a wretched sinner". Nothing can stop his tears from flowing. He will understand that Christ had paid for his sins on Calvary tree and he was nailing him a second time to that cross (Heb. 6:4-6). I once saw myself in this light. I knew, unless Christ helped me I would die. I wept till my tears flowed like a river. That was when God touched me and wiped my tears away. May God give you grace to know you have sinned and lament for this sin. And may his loving hands wipe away those tears when you cry.

(2) PAY BACK:

But Zachaeus stood up and said to the Lord. "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possession to the poor and if I have cheated anybody of anything I will PAYBACK four times the amount" (Luke19:8).

Yes! A man who prays in humility and seeks God's face in humility will willingly payback. There are no two ways to it. You must return the money you stole from that company; you must go and tell that girl's parents that she was right when she said you impregnated her, you must tell that your friend that you were the one who turned her husband's heart against her. You must give back the land you snatched from that woman and those poorer folks. Yes, you must make restitution. If you don't, I have warned you earlier of the "wailing blood". It will continue to speak until you land in hell-fire. It will speak against your children and grand children. So, make-up your mind to pay back. Even now ask God for the grace to pay back.

[You may bow your head in a brief prayer before you continue. Talk to God from your heart about what you have read].

When you have obeyed God's four conditions for answered prayer he says, "then will I hear from heaven..."

Does that say something to you? Can you now understand why after your seven days of dry-fasting still no reply from heaven? Despite those mighty prayer warriors you took to your village, nothing has changed. It is because a stone covers your tomb and Christ demands that it must be rolled away before He can say anything to you. Listen, reader, I wish God opens your eyes to the deep meaning of Isaiah 59:1-2. A man could be in a desperate condition, tormented in the fire of affliction; he keeps on crying out to God. God is sorry but he cannot hear him and when he does and stretches his arms to help he cannot because sin would not allow him.

Thank God He will forgive if we confess. Only let us return to God from our heart and he will forgive. He is faithful, once you confess, be rest-assured he will forgive (1 John 1:9). Don't let the devil tell you otherwise.

AND HEAL YOUR LAND

Amen! God says He will heal your land himself. Don't worry about those demons, they will go. By the time you have gone through this book they would have all gone.

You already know what to do. Bow your head and. surrender to God in prayer.

Humble yourself and pray and seek God's face and repent and then make that request.

CHAPTER TWO

POWER IN THE WORD OF GOD

Forever, O Lord, THY word is settled in heaven (KJV)

PSALM 119:89

In the beginning of the Bible we read God speaking things into being. He said let there be light and there was light. He called for the sun and moon, animals and fishes, plants of various kinds and all these came to be. In fact, whatever God says, stands, they are irrevocable; for there is no power to contend with the Lord of Host.

Therefore, our text tells us that His word, once spoken is settled. What lesson do we learn from this? God has the final say in every matter. It does not matter what the position of things are with you. It does not matter how sick you are, it does not matter how poor you are. Your family life may be in jeopardy, you may be living a life that is full of trials and persecution. But what does God say about you.

We know God's view about us through the Bible. The Bible is God's word written down as revealed by the Holy Spirit. The

same Holy Spirit who revealed Christ as the word of God made flesh revealed the Bible as the word of God written. Therefore, whatever Christ would have said concerning you if he were still physically on earth are what the Bible says.

We know that God speaks good concerning us, yet the Bible warns us about things that can make God's speaking concerning us not come to pass. These things hinder us from tapping the abundance of God's provision for us. They are - doubt, cherished sin, unforgiveness and hatred.

(a) DOUBT:

Doubt is one thing God cannot work with. God expects his children to believe in him. God expects us to trust him totally. The Bible has this to say: -

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek him (Heb. 11:6)

One has to have faith in God for Him to move on ones behalf. James has this to say: -

But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed

by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord. (James 1:6-7)

We can see clearly now that even though we ask God for things in tears, that doubt will not allow God to do that which we ask.

(b) CHERISHED SIN:

This is the sin you like to commit. Though you know it is sin, you don't want to leave it. The word of God has this to say:-

If I had cherished sin in my heart the Lord would not have listened (Psalm 66:18)

We have a God whose eyes are too holy to look upon sin. Sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:1-2). Sin makes us weak before our enemies, so that we fall before them (Joshua 7:11-12).

The Bible says that if we put away the sin that is in our hands and allow no evil to dwell in our tent, then we will lift up our face to him without shame; we can stand firm before our enemies and not fear. The result is that we forget our troubles and dwell in God's favour (Job. 11:13-19).

Only those who confess their sins and are willing to reject them receive mercy from God (Prov. 28:13).

(c) UNFORGIVENESS:

The Bible says that we all have sinned (Romans 3:23). We are born sinners and as we saw above God cannot work with sin. So before God can do anything about our bad condition, He must in His infinite mercy forgive our sin. But the Bible says that unless we forgive others their sins against us God will not forgive us (Matt. 6:14-15). When you kneel to pray, forgive those who sinned against you, so that your father in heaven will forgive your sin (Mark 11:25).

We can see that here again God places the key to our answered prayers in our hands. Do you want God to forgive your sins and say something good about you?

Forgive those who wronged you.

(d) HATRED:

The Bible says that anyone who hates his brother is a murderer (1 John 3:15). It is a known fact that God warns us not to kill and if we kill our brothers how can we expect God's favour? Therefore, if you expect God to say something good about you, do not hate others.

“LOVE” is a command that must be obeyed. (Jn. 13:34)

“LOVE” is a debt that must be paid.(Rom. 13:8)

“LOVE” is Godliness because the Bible says that
God is Love (1 John 4:8).

We can see from above that the key to good things from
God is in our hands. If we obey God's command the effect of
the word of God in our life is for good.

The Bible says: -

*Tell the righteous it will be well with them, for they will enjoy
the fruit of their deeds (Isaiah 3:10)*

We read in Heb. 4:12 that the word of God is a two edged
sword. This implies that there are two ways the word of God
can influence people's lives. One face is unto favour as we
saw in Isaiah 3:10 but in verse 11 we see another face of the
word of God which is unto wrath.

*Woe to the wicked; disaster is upon them! They will be paid
back for what their hands have done (Isaiah 3:11)*

In this study we cannot overlook the other face of the sword
of the word of God. If we are disobedient to God, the effect
of the word of God in our life is unto paying us for what we

have done. God is a God of justice. He will not pay the good person evil and will not pay the evil person good.

As we see in the text, God has spoken a word concerning us which is settled. What determines what you get from all the words He has spoken is the kind of life you live. If you are living a sinful life His word to you is -“Repent or you perish” (Luke 13:5). It further states “There is no peace” says the Lord “for the wicked”. That could be the reason for your sickness, demonic attacks, poverty etc. If at this point you confess your sins His word still says - He is faithful and just to forgive all your sins and cleanse you from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9) then it says: -

My eyes will watch over them (you) for their (your) good and will build them (you) up and not tear them (you) down; I will plant them (you) and not uproot them (you). I will give them (you) a heart to know me that I am the Lord. They (you) will be my people, and I will be their (your) God; for they (you) will return to me with all their (your) heart. (Jere. 24:6-7).

(Brackets are the author's)

Now you can see that your destiny is in your hands. The two-edged sword which is the word of God is also the power of God manifesting in your life.

Sin makes the sword strike you with the edge unto wrath. But if you confess your sin today and turn away from them, the sword will strike you with its face of favour. It says that if you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good fruits of the land (Isaiah 1:19).

Have you ever, consciously received Christ in your life as your Lord and personal Saviour. If not, do so now. Pray this way and the word of God which is settled in heaven shall say permanent good concerning you. You shall become a covenant child of God (You can pray this way).

“Dear Lord, thank you for loving me and sending your only begotten son to come and die for my sin. I hereby repent of my sin of rejecting you in the past and serving the devil. I receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and personal savior I renounce and reject the devil and his cohorts. All old covenants, initiations, I renounce. Every token or image of mine in his kingdom I give over to Holy Ghost fire. Every of their property which I hold I return to them and sever all contacts. I hereby surrender my spirit, soul and body to God through Jesus Christ and here and now receive the Spirit of Christ; in Jesus name - Amen.”

CHAPTER THREE

POWER IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

TEXT: PROVERB 18:10

The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe (NIV).

A brief study of the Hebrew patriarchs may surprise you. Adam, the first man under the sun, whom the Lord visited in the coolness of the day, did not know God's name till he died. Noah whom the Bible said became a heir of the righteousness that is according to faith by building an arc at God's command did not know God's name till he died. Enoch whom the Bible said walked with God until he was taken to heaven alive because he pleased God, did not know God's name.

Can you imagine Abraham, the father of faith, Isaac the heir of the promise, Jacob, chosen by God to be heir of promise? These men did not know God's name till they died. Although God revealed Himself to them as the Lord Most High - El-Shaddai, they did not aspire for anything closer. The children

of Israel lived in Egypt, crying under the heavy yoke of the Egyptians but did not know the name of the God whom they were calling to rescue them.

How true is this of Christians today? It is a common feature today in the household of faith to see those who are mouthing some wonderful Hebrew words which are supposed to be God's names but because they have no revelation of the power of those names their condition does not change. God will obviously not manifest himself to those who do not seek him from their heart.

The Bible reveals why many people suffering today do not get succor from the Lord, even if they cry for many years.

- 9 *Men cry out under a load of oppression, they plead for relief from the arm of the powerful.*
- 10 *But not one says, "Where is God my maker, who gives songs in the night.*
- 12 *He does not answer when men cry out because of the arrogance of the wicked.*
- 13 *Indeed, God does not listen to their empty plea; the almighty pays no attention to it. (Job 35 -NIV).*

Take note that although these men are under heavy loads of oppression, verse 13 calls their cry empty plea. We may say that such people use God's name as a talisman. Like the Israelites in 1 Samuel 4. They were fighting with the Philistines; when the war was highly against them, they did not enquire of the Lord to discover why it was so. The Bible said that they sent men to bring the Ark of the Covenant into their camp. And when it was brought, they gave a shout of joy and placed the ark in the hands of the very men whose sin was causing their downfall before the enemy - Hophni and Phinehas. The result is that their enemy defeated them and took the ark from them. This means that God cannot manage that sin in your life for as long as you cleave to it. For as long as you are in love with that sin, God cannot be a party.

The Lord says that it is true that he lives in a high and lofty place but He also dwells with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and revive the heart of the contrite (Isaiah 57:15). When you call upon the Lord, what does he expect of you? Honesty and humility, for he further says "This is the one I esteem; he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word" (Isaiah 66:2b). If we really desire God to answer our prayers, we must be

willing to obey Him and mend our ways where there is need. What does it mean to tremble at God's word? To be careful to obey Him. To search the Bible, not only to know God's promises of blessing but to heed to God's warning of impending curses if we disobey.

Well, we were talking of men who faithfully served God but did not know His name. They followed Him as He revealed Himself in their lives. Hence, God deals with men on their levels. So He counted them righteous through their faith.

This continued until Moses came into the scene to demand for God's name.

Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, "the God of your fathers has sent me to you", and they ask me, "What is his name ". Then what shall I tell them? (Exo. 3:13)

I believe that was the most polite way Moses could have asked the question. Another way could be, "The gods of Egypt have their names, the gods of the Midianites, among whom I live, have their names and I have heard that the gods of the Babylonians also have their names. So, you, what is your name?"

We see that God did not shy away from that question. It is clear that those men who walked with God earlier did not know his name because they did not ask.

It is in answer to this question that God revealed himself by the name "I AM THAT I AM" I interpret this to mean the unchangeable-changer. He was the God that met Abraham and blessed him, met Isaac and blessed him, that met Jacob at Bethel and made a covenant with him, he is the God that is talking to Moses here and he is the God to be revealed in ages to come. He is the God who does not shy away from the words spoken. Once He has spoken, he is under oath to fulfill it. It does not matter how long you have been under oppression of the enemy; it does not matter how hopeless your condition appears, believe God for his word and it must come to pass.

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep His covenant (Deut. 7: 9)

The above passage brings us to the covenant name of God - Jehovah. He said to Moses:

And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty – El-Shaddai, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them. (Exo. 6:3 KJV)

The name Jehovah is God's covenant name. He only revealed himself by this name when it was time for him to fulfill his covenant to the Patriarchs. So, we hear children of God calling him Jehovah Rapha - which means the Lord who has made a covenant of healing with me (Exo. 15:26). It is then a surprise that people mouth this name but remain unhealthy. Others cry out Jehovah Jireh, which means the God who is under covenant with me to provide all my needs; yet, a surprise that their needs are not supplied.

To understand this we may try to understand what covenant is. A covenant in my own language is an agreement between two parties or more to work towards a common goal or under a particular condition, with each party expected to fulfill a part; and the covenant is sealed by a token or a sign which will serve as a reminder to the parties. In a situation where a party fails to fulfill his part the covenant is said to be broken and the token is presented as evidence. We discover that God called Abraham from his father's house, and he obeyed and God promised to raise a people from his seed who were

to be called his people. This people are to obey God's command.

The token of this covenant is circumcision of every male child at the age of eight days. Abraham and his seed fulfilled the first part of the covenant which is circumcision and time came for God to deliver them from the hands of the Egyptians and God revealed himself by the name Jehovah - the Lord of covenant. He therefore, delivered the Israelites by the authority in this name.

Another instance is God's covenant with the house of Levi-
My covenant was with him, a covenant of life and peace, and I gave them to him, it called for reverence and he revered me and stood in awe of my name. (Malachi 2:5)

We may deduce from the passage above that God revealed himself by the name Jehovah Shalom - the Lord my peace. The Levites stood in awe of this name Jehovah, therefore, they got God's blessing due to reverence.

But for you who reverence my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in his wings (Mal.4:2).

From the above we may deduce that when the Levites revered the mighty name Jehovah, God revealed Himself in

their lives as Jehovah Rapha. I guess that the Levites did not have need for drugs because God healed all their diseases. I am a living witness to this kind of healing. We can now understand why the Lord warns us in Exodus 20:7 that we should not misuse the name of the Lord our God. KJV- says we should not take his name in vain.

God's name should not be used for exclamation or as a talisman if we want to experience the power in that name. We should understand what God demands of us as we mouth that name.

We can now look at our text with a better understanding. It says that "The name of the Lord is a strong tower" This implies that like a tower that has been built into a stable foundation is immovable, so is the power in the Lord's name. You can move from it but it cannot move from you. His standards are ever the same and sure. It is the duty of he that is righteous to avail himself of the protection of this tower. Righteousness in this case is simply doing that which is right. And what is right? To run under this strong tower for protection; running under means living in reverence to God's mighty name, to abstain from all that tend to take that name

in vain. In psalm 91 we can catch a glimpse of what the Lord means:

1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most high will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

So, we see that we first begin to dwell in the shelter of the Most high - his mighty tower which is his name, Elolam- before we can rest under His shadow. The word "REST" suggests a state of security and peace of mind. Hence, once a child of God takes cover under God's name in faith by living according to His laws, that child of God can now dwell in safety. Verse 3 makes this clearer.

Surely he will save you from the fowlers snare and from the deadly pestilence.

This means that all the trouble common to not man will not be your portion. When there is economic crisis epidemic, they will not harm you, for the Bible further states

8 You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.

Who are the wicked? Those who do not reverence the name of the Lord. Therefore, have not availed themselves of the protection of the strong tower. They are exposed to all kinds

of troubles and demonic harassment. As they refused to serve the Lord while the Lord blesses them they are forced to serve their enemy, who will put a yoke on their neck until he has destroyed them (Deut. 28:47-48). They are also in danger of hell fire if they do not repent.

The Bible reveals that if we actually need salvation or deliverance, there is no other name among men by which we may be saved if not the name of Jesus Christ. (Acts 4:12) and that God has declared this Jesus, crucified and raised from the dead, Christ - Saviour and Lord (Acts 2:36).

9 Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave him the name above every name.

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.

11 And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the father (Phil. 2:9-11).

I don't care what the occult say. I don't care what any other religion or sect has to offer. This is the word of God. The name is exalted by God Himself. Demons, witches and wizards don't have a choice but to obey. Salvation is in no other name for any body or group of people. If a particular person or group has not heard of Jesus, it does not exempt

them. That is why the gospel has to go round the world before Christ comes the second time. Any other way leads to destruction in hell fire.

God demands that every knee should bow to the name of Jesus Christ. Here is one instance when God does not care what you believe. For example, the calendar all over the world reads from the day Christ came into the world. Soon it will be two thousand years and even devil obeys that calendar. God Himself lifted that name to the highest place and no one can bring it down. This is to fulfill a prophecy.

In the last days, the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as chief among the mountains, it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it (Isaiah 2:2)

Mountains here signify place of worship - today's religions and cult groups. The Bible says that in these days we are in that the mountain of the Lord's temple; the place of worship of our God which is in the Lord Jesus Christ shall be lifted higher than the other places of worship. It further implies that whatever demonic kingdoms are up to, whatever their plans and desires are, they are subject to the power in the name of Jesus Christ and so must obey. My prayer is that you

discover the power in the name of Jesus Christ today and be able to apply it to every situation in your life. You don't need to be disturbed over what the enemy is doing or saying. At the name of Jesus every knee must bow. The Bible says - Device your strategy, but it will not stand, for God is with us (Isaiah 8:10). It further states, if God be for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:3 1).

You must lie rest assured in Christ for it is written *“Be still and know that I am God.” (Psalm 46: 10)*

Jesus Christ is therefore, the Lord who heals you- are you sick? Take cover under that name Jehovah Rapha and claim your healing. Is there a problem in your life that has defied every other remedy? Take cover under the name Elshaddai - the Almighty God and receive the solution. Are you harassed by demons? Take cover under the name Adonai - the Lord my master or sovereign Lord of my Soul-and declare the devil a trespasser and expel him by the authority in the name of Jesus. Do you have a need that only God can meet? Take cover under the name Jehovah Jireh- the Lord my provider.

Remember all those names you call God, even in your vernacular, apply faith to it and it is a strong tower. There the devil can do you no harm. There, there is fullness of power.

Christ paid for this authority and the evidence are the nail wounds on His palms and feet. 'It is written:

14 Having cancelled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.

15 And having made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross (Colossians 2).

It further says:

14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity. So that by His death he might destroy him who holds the power of death - that is the devil

15 And free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death (Hebrews 2:14-15).

You can see with me that the work of your deliverance and salvation was done on the cross of Calvary.

That is why it is written:

The life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one life. (Leviticus 17:11)

This is confirmed in this passage-

- 5 *Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See the lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll..."*
- 6 *Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the centre of the throne (Rev. 5:5-6)*

He (Jesus Christ) is the atoning sacrifice for our sins... (1 John 2:2)

Your life is hidden with Christ in God (Col. 3:3)

Your life is in the blood of Jesus Christ which was offered on the eternal altar of heaven as a price paid for your life and therefore, you have every right to live because Christ lives.

The name of the Lord is a strong tower. Why not avail yourself of the protection of this tower and be safe? Take cover under this tower.

To pray, begin to remind God of His wonderful names which relate to your needs and problems and ask him to manifest himself in the name. Remind him that you are under covenant with him through the blood of Jesus Christ. Christ commands you to ask in his name. Begin to ask and expect a miracle. He is Jehovah- Shammah - the Omni-Present God. He is here with you and can do it now. Don't allow the devil cause you to doubt. Remember God cannot lie. So, as you ask from Him, believe He will do it for you and now.

CHAPTER FOUR

IN GOD'S PROGRAMME; OUT OF GOD'S WILL

- 20 *After all this, when Josiah had set the temple in order, Neco, king of Egypt went up to fight at Carchemish on the Euphrates, and Josiah marched out to meet him in battle.*
- 21 *But Neco sent messengers to him saying "What quarrel is there between you and me, Oh king of Judah? It is not you Jam attacking at this time, but the house with which I am at war God has told me to hurry; so, stop opposing God, who is with me, or he will destroy you".*
- 22 *Josiah, however, would not turn away from him, but disguised himself to engage him in battle. He would not listen to what Neco had said at God's command but went to fight him on the plain of Megiddo.*
- 23 *Archers shot King Josiah and he told his 'officers, "Take me away; Jam badly wounded."*
- 24 *So, they took him out of his chariot, put him in the other chariot he had and brought him to Jerusalem where he died.*
- 2 CHRONICLES 35:20-24

We first read of Josiah in 1 Kings 13. A man of God who came from Judah confronted Jeroboam and those with him where they were burning incense to the calf idol they had made. The man of God prophesied that God was to raise a king from the house of David called Josiah who will destroy the altar at Bethel and carry out the judgment of God against the priests and people who worshipped at that altar. Jeroboam in defiance to the word of God, commanded that the man of God be arrested but at this point God laid seal to the word of the prophet by manifesting his power and that humbled Jeroboam.

It is possible that Jeroboam thought Josiah will be born very soon and then he will come to contend for the throne with him. But many years passed yet no Josiah. Jeroboam died and his generation expired, no Josiah. I guess most people forgot about the prophecy.

We may forget but God never forgets. He will always remember what he spoke and bring it to pass. There was a time He promised Abraham a male child when he was in his forties. A time came when Abraham and his wife thought it

was not possible but God who spoke brought it to pass. Let God promise me and I will not worry because it must come to pass.

So after many years, when Israel had wandered far from their Lord and God, an eight year old king came to rule from the family of David and his name was Josiah. We can say here that king Josiah was in God's programme. He set out immediately to do those things spoken of him by the man of God from Judah. He put down the high places of Baal and Asherah that was in Israel. He destroyed the altar at Bethel, and dug up the bones of the priests who ministered on the altar and burnt them on it. It was a period of great reformation in Israel.

He held a record Passover which the Bible said had not been equaled by any since the days of Samuel. Not even David or Solomon met his standard of Passover. He also cleaned up the temple and put it in order. In fact, Josiah performed excellently.

When Josiah had done all this, a time came when he walked out of God's will. As we saw in our text, king Neco of Egypt received a divine mandate from God to make war against a

particular people, not Judah. King Josiah for a reason best known to him went out to resist Neco. Although, Neco warned Josiah that he was carrying out God's instruction, he would not listen and that led to his death.

The fact that Josiah was called of God before he was born, ordained of God and enthroned by God did not protect him when he walked out of God's will. The Bible says that the name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run under it and are safe (Proverbs 18:10). Here we see that the great name of the Lord is like a tower. A tower is standing at a place and the righteous are the ones to avail themselves of the protection of this tower by running under. This means that although God is able to save you by the power in his name, like he did for the man of God from Judah when Jeroboam tried to harm him but when the man of God wandered away from the will of God by doing that which God told him not to do, he stepped out of the protection of that powerful tower and there met his doom (1 Kings 13:20-22).

What happens to a man when he walks out of God's will vary from person to person but no one gains anything good from it. Look at Moses whom the Lord himself declared to be a faithful man in all His house, a man who talked with God face to face and beheld God's glory, when he walked out of

God's will at Meriba. Moses had enjoyed divine protection before now. Those who opposed him were punished by the Lord but when they arrived here, the Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron on account of water to drink. When Moses and Aaron turned to the Lord, he told them to gather the Israelites at a rock in the desert and speak to the rock to bring out water for the people to drink. Moses and Aaron did just more than that. They gathered the people and began to call them dirty names. The Lord had commanded that Aaron and his sons should proclaim a blessing upon the children of Israel (Number 6:22-27) but here Aaron and Moses call them “rebels”. God's instruction was for them to speak to the rock but they struck the rock, may be to prove to their countrymen that they have extraordinary powers above them. So, did not give honour to God.

Here, there is warning to Pastors who see nothing wrong in cursing their flock. God can do whatever he likes with his flock; he can punish them or call them anything but the Pastor, like Moses and Aaron are mere servants. They have no such liberty. Any Pastor who does this no matter the reason he has, will incur the wrath of God.

Moses and Aaron were in God's programme to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt and into the promised land but when they walked out of his will, they also walked out Of the strong tower, God commanded that they must not enter the promised land and they did not.

Men in God's programme but out of God's will.

Balaam was one such man. He was a man of God who, according to the Bible, saw the vision of God with his eyes open. Then Balak invited him to come and place a curse upon the house of Israel, who are the people of God. Although God warned him not to, he went and tried to do so. The Spirit of God overcame him and he proclaimed a blessing instead. He died for it (Numbers 31:8).

Although Balaam knew the will of God, his closeness to God made him look down on him. That is one thing that happens to ministers of the gospel. There is really a time you feel you have known God enough to know how he operates. That is the most dangerous time in ones ministry because you see such person taking God for granted. He starts doing whatever he likes and soon starts claiming God's glory. I have to state here, once anybody has known God all over,

then God ceases to be God. Jehovah God is incomprehensible. You wouldn't know him enough. It is the side of himself that he revealed to you that you know. That is why you see different people giving God different names in the Bible and every where today. When he provided for Abraham, he called him Jehovah Jireh. When he helped Moses in a war, he called him the Lord my banner- Jehovah Nissi. When he saw Haggai in distress and helped her, she called him Jehovah Roi. When he revealed himself to Jacob at Bethel and made a covenant with him, he called him El-Bethel - God of Bethel. Even today, many people have different names which they call God according to his attributes in their lives. So, fear the Lord and obey his commands. Balaam was a man in God's programme but walked out of his will and met his doom.

Samson was in God's programme. Before he was born, an Angel of God went to his parents and announced his coming. He came for a mission which was to deliver the children of Israel from the oppression of the Philistines. He came and began to mess around with Philistine women. Delilah betrayed him. In effect, we see a man anointed by God in power working as a slave in the hands of those he came to conquer. Samson was in God's programme but

walked out of his will. Even when he rose to avenge his eye, he had to die with the heathen Philistines which was a disgraceful thing for an Israelite leader.

Saul was in God's programme. A great man of God, Samuel, anointed him king of Israel when he was nothing. God was with him in all he undertook. He won a battle against his heavily armed Philistine enemies without a weapon. By his side was one of the greatest of Old Testament prophets whose every word the Lord honoured (I Samuel 3: 19).

A time came when Saul disobeyed the instructions of this great man of God and treated him with contempt. He carried out a sacrifice which was not lawful for him to do. Another time God gave him an order to carry out God's vengeance against the Amalekites. He was told to kill everything and everybody there. Saul disobeyed; he left the king of Amalek alive. He also left some women and cattle.

I have this feeling that people start walking out of God's will the very moment they feel secure. They feel they have come to a point when nobody can pull them down. Look at a man like Uzziah who followed God faithfully and sought God through a man of God called Zechariah. The Bible records that:

- 10 *But after Uziah became powerful, his pride led to his downfall. He was unfaithful to the Lord his God, and entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense.*
- 17 *Azariah the priest with eighty other courageous priests of the Lord followed him in.*
- 18 *They confronted him and said, "It is not right for you, Uziah to burn incense to the Lord that is for the priests, the descendants of Aaron, who have been consecrated to burn incense. Leave the sanctuary, for you have been unfaithful; and you will not be honoured by the Lord God. (II Chron. 26:10, 17-18).*

Verses 20 and 21 record what followed this confrontation. Uziah felt insulted. That is the way most people feel when they can't have their way, even if what they are doing is wrong. The Bible records that while this great man was raging against the priest, leprosy broke out on his forehead as a sign of God's displeasure with him.

When pride overcomes our conscience, we rarely care what we do to prove who we are. We may step on people's toes and impose injustice upon innocent men. Go to our prisons you will see innocent men who are dumped there because they had the gut to tell some men, who think they are gods,

what they did that was wrong. Even in our churches, it is a common thing to see members of the church board team-up against the Pastor because he once stood against their evil ambition. The Bible says this should not be.

David succeeded Saul. A man after God's heart; he loved God and God loved him. God established his throne and gave him victory on every side. He prospered in everything he undertook until he soiled his hand with innocent blood.

He lay with Uriah's wife while Uriah was in the war front fighting for his throne. When he discovered that Bathsheba - Uriah's wife was pregnant, he gave orders that he should be killed in the war front. Uriah died. David was called a man after God's heart but God's judgment came upon him though he repented of that work.

Proverbs 17:13 says - If a man pays back evil for good, evil will never leave his house. Uriah was defending his throne; he took his wife and killed him. The sword that killed Uriah came to rage in his house. Absalom killed his brother who violated his sister and became David's enemy up to his death. That David was a man after God's heart did not save him from the reward of his work.

Jehoshaphat was recommended by Elisha as a man he had regard for. God did many miraculous works in his time but Jehoshaphat became intimate with Ahab, the Lord's enemy and went to help him in a war. He almost lost his life in that war. His closeness to the house of Ahab must have encouraged his son to marry a daughter of Ahab. His son learnt Ahab's family's ways and turned away from the Lord.

The Bible did not say without reason that we should not be unequally yoked with unbelievers (II Cor. 6:14) because bad company corrupts good manners (I Cor. 15:33).

There are a few instances in the new testament of men who were in God's programme but went out of His will.

Judas Iscariot was among the twelve Apostles who were chosen after a whole night of prayers. He was trusted; hence, he was made the group treasurer. But Judas turned his heart from Christ and loved money. The Bible says that the love of money is the root of all evil. He sold his master and what a wonderful funeral he had. There was Ananias the husband of Sapphira who tried to deceive the Holy Ghost. One would expect that as the members of the first Spirit filled church, they would have been wiser.

Acts 4:36-37:

- 36 *Joseph a Levite from Cyprus, whom the Apostles called Barnabas (which means son of encouragement).*
- 37 *Sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the Apostle feet.*

In chapter 5, we read that Ananias also sold his own land but brought a part of the proceeds and claimed he brought all. This brought death to him and his wife. They were in God's programme but they walked out of his will. The reader should understand with me that envy for the name given to Joseph - Barnabas - must have motivated them to sell their land but because the intent was not holy they failed in the process.

The Bible has many instances of men in God's programme that walked out of his will and the result of it. Today many human beings are suffering many things they brought upon themselves by walking out of God's will. To walk out of God's will is to disobey God. We can see God warning the children of Israel in Deuteronomy 28.

- 1 *If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands that I give you today, the' Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.*

2 *He will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you' from one direction but flee from you in seven.*

The above promises were spoken to those whom God called his special people. Those whom he promised their ancestors - Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey. But when it comes to fulfillment, God calls for obedience.

So, the Lord went on to state that if those whom he had promised to bless walk out of his will, there is no alternative for the reward of disobedience.

15 *However, if you do not obey the Lord your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come upon you and overtake you.*

19 *You will be cursed when you come in and when you go out.*

You can see why the Bible says Isaiah 59:1-2 that our sins separate between us and our God. Disobedience does not bring anything good to the disobedient. Let's look at Jer. 18.

- 9 *And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built-up and planted,*
- 10 *And if it does evil in my sight and does not OBEY ME, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it.*

Can you now see why all those prophecies that had come to you in the past has not manifested. A man of God told you God will bless you with fruit of the womb or material blessing and it has not manifested, can you read the handwriting on the wall now.

One of the outstanding and the most important will of God for your life is that you be born again. The Bible says that without this you cannot see the Kingdom of God. God wants you to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. To bring about this God drew a programme from the Garden of Eden which was fulfilled in Christ Jesus. He gave Christ upon the cross of Calvary to die for our sins. According to his will you should avail yourself of this favour.

Apostle Paul puts it this way:

In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now, he commands all people everywhere to repent (Acts 17:30)

When the Israelites were in Egypt, God overlooked all they did there but once he led them out, he gave commandments they were told to obey. So, today you have heard his will and you are expected to obey. Even when Angels sinned against God by doing that which was not in his will, God did not leave them unpunished but threw them out of heaven.

I want to state here that it is not enough to memorize scriptures. One ought to be sure he is living in God's will which is what the Bible is all about. How can a prostitute pay her tithe and expect to reap God's blessing. Whether you are hiding in a Pentecostal or Orthodox church, the Bible says, there is no peace for the wicked and that the wicked will not go unpunished (Isaiah 48:22 and Proverbs 11:21). Luke 13:3 & 5 says unless you repent, you will perish also.

Some may say that if you give offering and pay your tithes, God's blessing will follow you. I agree with them to a point because the Bible says:

24 One gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

25 A generous man will prosper; He who refreshes others, will be refreshed (Proverbs 11)

We also know that giving is godliness because God gave his only son to us. But I wish to declare here that the Bible did not give room for partial obedience in the Kingdom of God. Disobey one, you are guilty of all (James 2:10-11). Therefore, the place we read in Deuteronomy talks of complete and careful obedience. What I mean is that giving on its own does not bring God's prosperity if it is not followed by obedience of other laws of God. If you give all you have but does not live a righteous life you will only inherit curses. That is why God told Joshua to read the Bible and obey so, that he may have good success (Josh. 1:7-8).

Let's see Job 22:21

Submit to God and be at peace with Him; in this way prosperity will come to you.

If they obey and serve Him, they will spend the rest of their days in prosperity and their years in contentment-Job 36:11.

That is the Biblical truth about prosperity and anything besides this is the devil's deception. There are those who think merely giving will bring God's blessing; so, are living frustrated lives. The Bible says that God's blessing will make you rich but “addeth not sorrow”.

What is your position with God today? Have you done something God said you should not do or have you left undone something God said you should do? That means opposing God. Neco said to Josiah, "If you oppose God, God will destroy you."

A look at I Kings 13 will shock the reader. The man of God who prophesied about Josiah died a most terrible death. God told him not to eat in that land nor return the way he came. But a false prophet deceived him and that brought him a disgraceful death in the land God exalted him. We learn that we are responsible for anything we do. We won't tell God somebody deceived us. God had given you conscience and His Spirit. You are free to use these things or ignore them and face judgment.

Are you born-again, then here is the other will of God for you.

11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men;

12 It teaches us to say "NO" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in the present age (Titus 2)

That is as clear as that. When you are saved, you are expected to live Godly lives. Some teach that once you are saved, you are saved forever. So, it will not be surprising to find such flying sticker that says "Believe it or not, I am a child of God." Beloved, you are supposed to live it out. There is also a warning for turning around from the truth or knowing the truth and then ignoring it.

- 4 *It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit.*
- 5 *Who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the Coming age.*
- 6 *If they fall away, to be brought back to repentance, because to their loss they are crucifying the son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace (Heb. 6:4-6).*

You can see with me the only place the Holy Spirit says it is impossible in the Bible. We have always read it said in the Bible that what is impossible to man is possible with God, but here the Holy Spirit speaks through the writer of Hebrews that if one abuses the grace of God and wanders from his will it becomes IMPOSSIBLE TO BRING HIM BACK TO REPENTANCE.

After obeying God's word, the next will of God is that you reap God's blessing. Surprisingly most Christians are ignorant of it, in that they don't go for it or expect it. The whole Bible is not on "dos" and "don'ts". There is item seven attached to it. Yes, there is refreshment too. The refreshments are even more than the moral laws. Let's see one;

25 Worship the Lord your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water I will take away sickness from among you,

26 And none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span. I will send my terror ahead of you and throw into confusion every nation you encounter. I will make all your enemies turn their back and run - (Exodus 23)

Do you see that God's will for you that are in his programme include healing and prosperity? When the passage above said that none will miscarry or be barren it means that everything you undertake will prosper. No bad luck, for you. You are a beloved of God, so all things are working together for your good. It says further:

*“For I know the plans I have for you” declares the Lord,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give
you hope and a future “-(Jeremiah 29:11).*

Beloved, it is real. It's not a preacher's sermon, it is the word of God. The Bible says, He is just and faithful to forgive you your sins and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

So, be sure that immediately you spell out your sin, He has forgiven. Now ask God for your heart desires.

Remember Jesus Christ is praying for you. (Hebrews 4:14& 16).

Let us approach the throne of grace with confidence...

This is God's will.

CHAPTER FIVE

GRANT ME JUSTICE AGAINST MY ADVERSARY

And there was a widow in that town; that kept coming to him with the plea, "Grant me justice Against the adversary". Luke 18: 1

Many talk about prayer but how many really pray. Call any theologian to tell you the need for prayer and he will excite you but to practice it is another thing. All through the bible from Genesis to Revelation prayer is emphasized and the prayer life of servants of God stands out for us to emulate. David said he prayed three times every day (Ps. 55:17) and Nehemiah said he prayed despite adversity (Neh.6: 9). But you hear "great preachers" underscoring the need for prayers. They would rather attend meetings. I hear many of them condemning fasting too.

The child of God should be careful. Most things we see in the church today are not Christianity. Most practices have nothing to do with the ways of Christ. They are strange fire.

In Leviticus 10 from verse one, the bible told a pathetic story. After Moses by God's direction and supervision finished the ark of the testimony, the Lord came down in a pillar of cloud and lighted the tabernacle with his own fire. The duties of the sons of Aaron included to supply this sanctuary with wood from evening till morning (Night prayer). Somehow Nadab and Abihu overslept and by day break there was not enough fire to burn the incense for the morning sacrifice. They decided to get fire from somewhere else to meet with the religious need of the hour. And the Lord broke out against them and destroyed them with fire. The first fire was from God but this one was from man. God would not accept it. Today in most churches I fear this is the case. Spiritual carelessness is dangerous, and has great negative consequences.

You can now understand why Jesus decided to tell his disciples a parable that will motivate them to pray without ceasing. To always be fervent in prayer. He chose a picturesque that will help us understand the urgency and need.

i. A Widow- A widow is vulnerable. When the bible talks of a widow it is referring to somebody who is too weak to

defend herself. This one has a case in court and some powerful element stands to persecute her and she called him the adversary. The adversary is stronger. Only the powerful hand of justice can deliver her. But to go to the law is to ask for justice. Christ was trying to let his disciples know that when approaching God, we should press with great urgency and plea as a widow who had no other help. I wish to state that one of the major hindrances to answered prayer is when we have option B. We have something else to fall back to, in case God does not answer our prayer. That makes prayer a routine, worse of all when our alternative will not glorify God. The scripture says, a double minded man can not receive anything from the Lord (James 1 :8)

ii. A Judge- who feared not God, neither considers man. That is a picture of balanced justice. In Nigeria the symbol of the judiciary is an image of a blindfolded woman, with a scale balance at her left hand and a sword at her right hand. It means that balanced justice, which is God's kind of justice, can not be influenced. In Joshua chapter 5 verses 13-15, Joshua was leading the children of Israel against the Amorites and he saw a man dressed ready for war standing some distance from him. Out of curiosity he confronted the man to know on which side he belonged.

“Neither, “he replied, “but as commander of the Army of the Lord I have come”.

Many erroneously believe that God will tilt justice for their sake. As in the above example, Joshua was doing the Lord's business. The iniquity of the Amorites has come to the point of divine judgment and Joshua was the human instrument. Even as we saw later, it was God fighting his own war.

Jesus wanted his disciples to understand that persistent prayer will only produce result if we are on the side of righteousness. If the woman wanted the judge to tilt justice to her side, the judge would not have listened to her.

“Grant me justice...” was her plea.

Some of us go before men of God with lies thinking God will listen to his servant for any reason. At times the reason for the fasting is to get God's servant or protection against somebody whom we have spitefully offended.

“When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives. James 4:3

When we ask for something from God and there is undue delay, before we persist, let us take a critical assessment of our stand before God and our fellowmen. The widow's plea

was righteous yet she could not get immediate help but she pressed on. She did not say, "Perhaps it is not the will of God to answer." She did not go about complaining of the judge's unfaithfulness. She pressed on. She knew resolutely that if she did not get help from the judge, she could not get it elsewhere.

iii. The adversary- An adversary is a bit worse than an ordinary enemy. An enemy may just hate and keep out of you but an adversary is always out to undo you. He is always fighting by words of mouth or weapons of various degrees. If he feels he is not getting the result he desires he starts casting stumbling blocks on your way like in Isaac's case, when he opens a well, the adversary blocks it, (Thank God) he kept opening more wells until the adversary could no longer keep pace with him. The scripture says that if you fall in the day of adversity your strength is small. That means that if the adversary is able to hinder you or pull you down; it is because naturally you are weak. It is not the adversary that pulled you down but he only helped to expose your weak point. (Prov.24: 10).

You may say, "What do you mean preacher?" You see the bible says, "Never give a foothold to the devil" (Eph 4:27). How? Be strong in the Lord and his mighty power, so you

can stand against the schemes of the adversary (Eph 6:10-11). So, why? Because your adversary goes about like a roaring lion seeking whom to devour. (1 Pt.5:8).

You see the chief adversary, general controller of the league of the adversaries; yes, there are many adversaries but headed by Satan. In fact, the word Satan means adversary. And the bible says he does not sit in a place but goes about. You see that? He goes about and that is why Christ would want the church to go about in search of souls because if you don't get to them, Satan will get to them and if he does he will carry out his three-pronged ministry against them.

TO KILL, TO STEAL, TO DESTROY

Just as every good and perfect gift comes from our God, every dirty and evil thing comes from the ruler of the kingdom of darkness. When you see any dirty thing happening anywhere in the world, it is from the devil the adversary. So, let's see the different ways he operates.

THE ADVERSARY CALLED

a) Sin: The truth is that most men do not know how evil sin is and why God and his kingdom have to see it as a

crucial matter that must cost the Christ his own life. Sin is evil, sin destroys. Sin has rendered many great visions abortive. Sin has paralyzed many great dreams and potentials. It is unfathomable the number of ministries that sin has ruined. Sin is a major adversary.

Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your SINS HAVE HIDDEN HIS FACE FROM YOU so that he will not hear. Isa 59:1-2 (Emphasis author's)

Here sin has been playing the part of prayer hindrance. We would not be able to say how many prayers have not received answer as a result of sin.

When I say sin, you would say why not repent and come out of it. I want to humbly confess that in my own life there are sins, which defiled solution until I started to cry, "Grant me justice against my adversary".

So, I find this law at work; when I want to do good evil is right there with me, for in my inner being I delight in God's law, but I see another law at work in the members of my body waging war against the law of my mind and making me prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. Rom. 7:21-23

Hebrews 12 verses 1 further says,

“Let us throw off everything that hinders and the SIN that so easily entangles and let us run....”

David cried in Psalm 19:13, “May they not rule over me”. Here again it is talking about besetting sin; that which, although you wish to throw off would not let you.

That was what destroyed Samson's ministry, Eli's family ministry, messed up David's family and reign. If you look through church history and world history as a whole you will see the damage the sin of sexual immorality has done. It is time to cry out to God, “Grant me justice.” Lord I have tried everything I know, I hate this sin it is embarrassing me Lord grant me justice. Why must they continue to frustrate my life and destiny?

b) Prayerlessness- Besides sin itself, no other spirit has achieved more for Satan than man's inability to turn to a loving father who is waiting for us to turn to him and receive help (Isa 45:22). I wish to state there are a lot of believers who would wish to pray but there is this cloud over their mind that hinders them. It is time to lay hand on your chest and cry out to God, “Oh Lord, grant me justice against this adversary. See prayerlessness for what it is. See it as an

adversary; plead with the Holy Spirit to deliver you from this evil force.

c) Spirit of procrastination- The future tense syndrome. I shall do it. Why not now and the bible says that a sluggard says that there is a lion outside. That is just to keep him from doing what he ought to do. Many people would have become very much more than they are now if only they can overcome indecision. This is the adversary keeping a lot of unbelievers from accepting Christ while they could and eventually they die in their sin. I saw in a church in Togo brethren who always have good ideas they could carry out but always defer it to future time.

This is what the Lord Almighty says: ***“These people say, “The time has not yet come for the Lord's house to be built”. (Haggai 1:2).*** Procrastination is a romantic adversary. While you are feeling its warm embrace it is squeezing you to death. Pray today, “Lord grant me justice against this adversary called procrastination.

d) Barrenness- One day Rachael, Jacob's wife could not take it any longer, she grabbed her husband and cried out, “Give me children or I die!” Being in the prayer ministry for years my ears have heard painful tales of women who go

about seeking fruit of the womb. Time and space will fail me to narrate the excruciating pain they go through, the mockery of neighbours and satanic agents whom the adversary uses to torture them. Such was the condition of Hannah (1 Sam 1) until one day she went into the house of God to pray for life or death. In this agony of spirit her carnal pastor stepped out to further taunt her with a gossip they have been spreading about her. "Woman when will you quit alcohol?" Being in the spirit she could not meddle with earthly gossips. She said, I have brought a petition before God. "Grant me justice against this adversary called barrenness" I wish to declare that that was the last time Hannah fought that adversary. God granted her justice.

Yes, there is another side of barrenness. Many have put so much effort into one business or the other over the years but have harvested nothing but barrenness. The scripture said there is not to be found one in your midst that is barren or that miscarries (Exodus 23:25-26) It is true that many people who go through this torment by the adversary called barrenness have never really seen it for the wicked foe it is, so, have not demanded justice from God. Why should one sow and not harvest? If you have sowed, then go and harvest. If it is not coming, demand justice.

e) Sickness/Diseases- I have seen this adversary empty family accounts into the river of hospital bills. The bible said that before the woman with bleeding got to Jesus, she had spent all she had on doctors (Mark 5:25-29). The man Aeneas in Acts 9 vs 32-34 had been bedridden for eight years. It means for eight years this man could not leave his house on his own and of course this is after many futile and costly efforts to get medical and spiritual help. The father of the boy with deaf and dumb spirit in Mark 9 said he had had the problem since a child and

22 “It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him”

This is the devil's ministry- to kill him. Sickness whether biological or spiritual came to kill but some people's life have been sealed up under God's covenant of mercy and so he paralyses them, making them useless to themselves and others. Instead of being a blessing they become a burden to those around, so that they wish to die.

That was the case of the Gardarene demoniac in Mark 5:1-20. The demons could not kill him and men could not save him. Unable to force his soul out of his body they carried him physically to the tomb. When the bible said he cut himself with stones, it was demons that were out to use any device

to kill him. But the bible said he cried out night and day among the tombs. To whom was he crying out?

To his creator, to the one who formed him in the womb and created him to serve him. He cried out to him. Here was a soldier caught before he could shoot one bullet. This man is actually created by God to evangelize his Decapolis and devil caught him and tried to kill him before he could take one step. But thank God, "Who can speak and have it happen when the Lord has not decreed it?" He was preserved but he kept crying "Grant me justice against this adversary!"

And he was heard. For within that time the Holy Spirit moved Jesus to leave a great crowd and cross over the sea to help.

Beloved, do not stop crying out. We do not know how long this son of destiny cried and it was like nothing was happening but unknown to him a panel was setup in heaven and the chief commander of heaven's army was dispatched to the rescue. We wouldn't know how many had been sent earlier and devil with his legion of demons frustrated them and kept our men bound. His potentials were bound, his ministry was bound, his future was bound and his very life was in bondage but God's hour has come.

Oh thank God he did not stop crying and decide now to omit suicide Thank God he did not broker a deal with the adversary to serve him forever. He cried! And God sent rescue in the person of Christ. Devil and the marine spirits tried to stop him as they would have stopped other rescue missions but Christ quelled the wind and storm and then got to the man (Mark 4:36-41).

The bible said he ran and fell at the master's feet and that was it. He was delivered and sent into the Decapolis to do that for which he was created.

Most sicknesses and diseases have demonic roots which ever ways the source, God grant me justice. I don't know if you are not praying yet.

f) Hard luck and Failure- These are the root causes of poverty. When one cannot receive help from people he cannot go far. The man by the Pool of Bethesda said he had nobody to help him (John 5: 7). I have known this adversary in my own life. At times you only need a little money to go into your promotion but no way. You can understand why covenantal curses use this medium to enforce their programme. Young ladies can't marry and the men can't

even feed themselves. Whichever way cry out, "Grant me justice!"

I believe I have made my point. It is a prayer that God must answer. God did not call you to seek him in vain (Isaiah 45:19) and he wills that you prosper and be in health (11 John 2) and he delights in the well being of his servants (Psalm 35:27)

At a point in my own life I declared fasting for forty days and by the tenth day the adversary was crushed.

God I pray today that you may grant justice to all who shall as a result of this message go into aggressive prayer asking for your intervention. Just as you intervened in my case and liberated me as it is today, do the same for them in Jesus name.

CHAPTER SIX.

FIGHT FOR IT

So she got up in the MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT and took my son from my side while I your servant WAS ASLEEP. She put him by her breast and put her DEAD son by my BREAST (1 Kings 3:20)

The wicked do not rest. Two nursing mothers were together in a room. One was able to sleep soundly but the other could not. She kept turning on her bed till she rolled over her baby. The baby would have possibly cried out but she did not hear until the baby died.

The Bible said that the wicked is like the tossing sea, a sea under tempest, a sea that does not know quiet or rest; they cast up mud and mire stirring up trouble for themselves and others. There is no peace for the wicked (Isaiah 59:20-21) The witches and wizards cannot sleep. Even when they try to, their eyes cannot close because of evil. Either they are out to foment trouble or that the evil they have done is after them. Perhaps, by struggle or sleeping pills they manage to sleep, their cursed souls cannot rest, so they still role on

their beds. One woman could not sleep because she was evil. She kept rolling even when her eyes were closed until she killed her child. The child here signifies destiny. Wickedness destroys the destiny of the wicked. The child of a woman is like the seed of a tree. The future of a tree is the seed. A tree that has no seed for reproduction will one day go extinct, no matter how many years it stays. So is a woman or a man that cannot reproduce. He will face the same fate. But the seed we are talking about now is destiny- the seed of destiny.

Sleep is good for the body. Even the Bible says that God gives those he loves sleep (Psalm 127: 2b). But from our text we see that it is in this time of sleep that the wicked ones operate. In Matthew 13; 24-30, the Bible says that a man went and sowed good seed in his garden. He sowed a trusted seed in his garden. A seed he knew what it will produce. The Bible says seed time and harvest time will never cease (Gen 8:22). Perhaps he sowed in the morning and sowed in the evening (Ecc.11: 6). A seed normally costs something. In fact, at times we sow when the item we are sowing is scarce. So, sowing is costly. Good sowers sow bountifully so that they can harvest bountifully.

The Bible point out again that while all men SLEPT, AN ENEMY went to work. He contaminated the field. Where he could not uproot what was sown; he planted something that will make the harvest unprofitable. It takes the wheat, as well as the corn, four days to germinate, but our sower went to sleep. If he had checked his field a day, two days or even three days after he sowed he would have seen the foot print of the enemy. He was contented he had done his part. He went to rest. But the devil as well as his agents does not rest. He goes to and fro on the earth, he goes about like a roaring lion (1 p 5: 8). So , while our sower slept he came upon his field and sowed poison into his destiny, he sowed frustration into his success, sowed leaking pocket into his finance, sowed tuberculoses, asthma, AIDS, diabetes, high blood pressure and all kinds of terrible diseases into his health. He sowed conflict, quarrels, strange man and woman, recalcitrant children, drug abuse, pornography, homosexuality, lesbianism and all manner of evil into his matrimonial home. While he slept he sowed seized result, striking teachers, riot in the campus, and cult conflict into his academic career. He sowed drunkenness, smoking and all kind of evil habits into his Christian character.

Why did the enemy sow this? Did they have quarrel before now? No! Child of God, No! You do not need to wrong him for him to do that. Devil and his agents have a three pronged assignment-TO KILL, TO STEAL, To DESTROY. That is the matching order that evil witch or wizard have, a mammy water priestess may promise you a baby but that is the matching order she has. An occult man may give you a free house, but this is the matching order he has, a native doctor may cure your running stomach but that is his watch word. He does not need to be offended to do it. The reason he was commissioned by Satan is to do such things.

I am tired of hearing Christians complain about what Satan is doing against them. If Satan and his agents do not do evil what do you want them to do? In fact, the principal reason they are attacking you is because you do not do same (1 Peter 4: 4) Until a Christian realizes he is in a battle field, arrayed against him are a formidable army of wickedness. It is wickedness because they are wicked. They employ both physical and spiritual weapons against him and against themselves. For even in the devil's kingdom they do not know peace.

Thank God that if God be for us nobody can stand against me. Thank God that no weapon formed against me shall prosper. Thank God when they propose their plans it shall be thwarted and their strategies shall not stand, and when they gather against me they shall fall for my sake and every tongue that rises against me in judgment shall be condemned, because no sorcery, witchcraft or spell or divination against the house of Jacob shall stand, for the shout of the king is in our midst. Yes, he that is in me is greater than he that is in the world. (Rom 8: 31 Isaiah 54:17, Isaiah: 8-10, Isaiah 54:15, Num 23: 23, 1 John 4:4) Who can speak and have it happen when the Lord have not commanded it (Lam 3:37)

Child of God, you need to wake up. An army is building up every day against you. When they cannot touch you, they go for your destiny. The man in Matthew's account would have spent a lot of time studying in the best University in America, made wonderful connections that got him a job in an oil company. Perhaps the woman pictured above, have denied herself many privileges of life to give her children good education. Yes, the man pictured above would have located his business in a very central location in town. The marriage we are talking about would have been contracted in a living

church and blessed by a powerful man of God. Despite all these, the time of harvest became a time of sorrow. Even though they had paid their tithe, and have been very committed in church, but the harvest was nothing to reflect the seed.

How did this happen? Why did this happen? How come what was originally set up for good turned out to bring evil? An enemy did it because the man who should have taken some rest and return to the duty post to keep watch slept off.

Back to our text, two women in a room alone had sons within three days gap of each other. One lay over her baby and he died and she devised a wicked plan, because the wicked cannot rest until they have done evil. Their feet are quick to rush into evil. (Isaiah 59:7)

It was in the midnight the exchange was done. That is the same time occult men wake up to make incantation, witches wake the same time to cast spells and pronounce curses. It is the time when most people who are roaming the streets aimlessly lost their destiny and potentials.

Did you lose something? For no reason you lost your job. You were so sure you were pregnant but suddenly it was no more. You had a wonderful health but suddenly you began to notice a strange disease. In the midnight, while men slept, the exchange was done. It was in the midnight. You saw a dog chasing you in the dream and you woke up to discover you have lost your potency, you were in the dream and somebody took some money from you forcefully and that was how you lost a contract. Perhaps a man stood in your way as you wanted to enter a house and dragged you away.

Beloved, sleep is good for the body but dangerous for the spirit and the soul. The woman woke up maybe by 3.00Am and discovered a dead baby by her breasts. At first she wept over the baby. The one that stole the baby was the first to come to console her. I said it in my other books, that when you suffer an attack, the witch or wizard is often the first to come to advise you. The thief could have advised her to bury the baby before day break saying "It was not worth mourning, why not bury him and believe God for another one", they would have advised her. The sister could not understand what had happened. She clung to the dead baby weeping and pondering why the faithful God who promised life will give her death. Why will the God who

promised promotion, give demotion?. God who delights in the prosperity of his servants, why did he leave poverty behind? The God who promised to take away the diseases of Egypt and to heal us of every affliction- because by his stripes we are healed- why did he offer sickness now? God who promised that everything I lay my hand to do shall prosper, why was there failure all over? The God who promised to feed me, why did he leave me hungry? The God who promised me a full life span, why do I see premature death?

No, something was wrong! She clung to the dead baby, waiting for day light. While the thief kept trying to discourage her with words that sounded as if comforting but its primary objective was to deceive. Deceive her to believe a lie. She would even sound religious. *All things work for good .God gave and he has taken, glory to his name. If this did not happen, do you know if the baby will eventually turn out to be a robber and kill his mother?*

“Give up!” says the enemy. *Give up! God is sovereign. Give up! Leave the church and look for help else where. Give up! Staying in the prayer cell has not been worth it. Give up!*

*Your Christian service has not been rewarding- Give up!
Give up!! Give up!!!*

Anytime you hear "Give up"! It is the enemies' voice. There is more hope for the living than for the dead. The enemy is out to deceive you. He has done the damage and now he is accusing you and your God. I say **DON'T GIVE UP!** Your miracle is only around the corner.

Go for daylight. Light means knowledge and real knowledge comes from the word of God. Go to the word of God. Our sister took the piece of trouble into the light and made a shocking discovery. ***Somebody has what belonged to another. This baby is not my baby. Somebody has taken my inheritance in Christ Jesus and has planted something else at my breast. What I have been enjoying does not belong to me. Somebody has robbed me. This is not what Christ paid for on the cross of Calvary. This dead thing; career and destiny, is not what my Lord and master paid for.***

When did you open the Bible last? The Bible said that nobody in the house of God shall be barren or miscarry. No

one living in Zion will say I am ill, the sins of the people there will be forgiven (Ex. 23:25-26,Isaiah 33:24)

I can imagine the woman cry out, ***“No! This is not my baby! Somebody has stolen my inheritance. Somebody has stolen my destiny. Somebody has stolen what belongs to me and has given me what belongs to her!”***

With my mind’s eye, I can see her charge at the thief,
“You deceiver, I know my God does not lie. I know my God is faithful. I know what my God has given to me. It’s just that you thief took it away and gave me what belongs to you. I am awake now and I have come to the light now. Give it back and now!” So the fight started.

There is really a time family curses and covenants control a man’s life and destiny. There is really a time when the short comings of fathers and mothers influence a man’s life. There is really a time family background determines if you will make it to the next level or not. But a time comes when the child of God stands up to challenge what ever has been, to challenge their authority and legal standing. It is a time to throw off the yoke of the enemy. Isaac said to Esau,

Your dwelling will be away from the earth's richness, away from the dew of heaven above...But. WHEN YOU GROW RESTLESS, YOU WILL THROW HIS YOKE FROM OFF YOUR NECK. (Gen. 27:39-40)

What I am saying is that as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. (Gal 4:1-2)

Isaac gave no time table for Esau to remain under Jacob's rule. He said he can come out when he gets restless, when he is no longer willing to tolerate his control. Paul said in Galatians that it is as long as we are able to grow from childish Christianity to full sonship. Then you can command all those that have stolen your inheritance of son ship to pay back. Jesus will not pay the price again, you have to get crazy with the enemy and command him to give it back

We were not told how long they fought over the living baby, but clearly we see that both of them ignored the dead baby. You see that even the occult world do not want to have the ugly things devil parades. They do not need death, sickness, poverty, penury, frustration, failure, broken marriage and their likes. The reason they went to Satan is to get good

things. They were deceived to believe that Satan can give wealth. He gives them wealth but does not give them power to enjoy it. Devil is a liar and father of all liars (John 8:44) If you are reading this book and devil had deceived you into his service and now you want to quit, you can. Come to Jesus Christ. He will set you free and protect you and then empower you to crush Satan and his agents

Maybe they fought for one hour, two hours, twenty four hours, one week or one year. One thing was clear; the owner of the baby was not ready to give up until she got her baby back. How about you! If I tell you to pray now, will you be more concerned with how many hours I would want you to pray? If I say you should fast, would you be more concerned with how many days I will want you to fast? If this is your pre-occupation, then your destiny is not important to you. Your inheritance is not important to you. Your marriage is not important to you. Your health is not important to you.

The woman fought like a wounded lion; she pulled, she tugged, she bit with her teeth. and kicked with her leg, and punched with her fist. She put in everything she was worth into the fight. She screamed, and cried. She blocked her

ears to common sense of the doctors and neighbors. No wonder her case came before the King.

Many times I see people who say they are Christians sit opposite me to lick the wound they got from the enemy. They are willing to talk and talk. They want to appeal to my sympathy. Of what use is sympathy to a man in prison, pining away under devil's evil yokes? When I say sister, let us fight, brother we have to fight, pastor we have to fight, madam let us fight! Let us fight!! Let us fight!!! You see them begin to back out. They remind you they are on drugs, their boss will not allow them and they have other church activities. What did they come to hear from me? Empty consolation There is no need for consolation when your health is in devil's hold, there is no need for consolation when your finance is under devil's draconian hold, there is no need for consolation when your carrier, you destiny and future is under devil's hold. You do not need consolation. You need to fight. You must wake up and fight. Fight like you do not need to live. Devil is wicked. You need to meet him force for force, fire for fire, eye ball to eye ball. You need to fight. If you don't fight, he will steal your marriage, if you don't fight he will take your job, if you don't fight he will take your ministry, if you don't fight he will take your destiny.

Child of God, you just must fight! If you don't fight it means a life time of frustration and pain and lack and sorrow. Devil has it, fight now. He did not take it by mistake. He meant to rob you, that was why he took it. He knows you will never accept to serve him and he tends to make your Christian work full of painful stories and horrifying experiences. He tends to discourage others from being Christians as they observe the shameful state of your life. It was intended aggression and only a counter aggression will resolve it. Heaven will not come to do it for you. He has empowered you with everything necessary; ***At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow; what ever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven. What ever you decree on earth shall be done for you by my father in heaven. I give you the key of the kingdom; whatever you lock shall no one be able to unlock, whatever you open shall no one be able to shut. Holy Spirit is with us and the angels are out to do our bidding. All this Jesus paid for on the cross of Calvary. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God, to the pulling down of strongholds, casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself above the knowledge. Taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.***

You want me to continue? You are armed, you are equipped. Rise and fight! What has been stolen from you? Rise in holy anger! If it means seven days of prayer, if it means screaming like a madman; if it means shouting at the top of your voice, please do.

In Luke 23:23, the Bible said that it was the shouting of the Jews that prevailed at the judgment seat of Pilate. They just kept shouting until their shouting prevailed. I believe it was the shouting of this woman that attracted the soldiers who took them before Solomon, where she got justice. One wiser than Solomon is here but get serious.

Go into prayers now. Attack the altars where the transaction was done; attack the priests and priestesses that undertook the transaction. Torture the human agent who initiated the move. Are you not praying yet? Reclaim your baby, health, job, carrier etc, Satan stole it, you have to fight for it!

CHAPTER SEVEN

FAITH FOR A MIRACLE

- 1 *When he came down from the mountain side, large crowds followed him.*
- 2 *A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."*
- 3 *Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cured of his leprosy.*
- 4 *Then Jesus said to him; "See that you don't tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." MATTHEW 8:1-4*

Christ had just finished his long sermon on the mount and the Bible records that a great crowd rallied around him. I can see with my mind's eye a leper standing separate from the crowd. The Bible did not say he was struggling to touch the hem of his garment. The Bible did not say he shouted for help, the Bible did not say he climbed a tree like Zaccheaus. He did a very simple but

unusual thing at the time. He came and worshipped. Why worship? Why not introduce himself? Was worship the need of the hour? Here is a man suffering from leprosy. This may be his last Opportunity to meet Him, He that has the power to cure him of a disease that has lingered on for years. Yet he worshipped.

How often do you worship? For as long as the going is good and pocket is fat? For as long as there are no hospital bills to off-set? We learn here that before we can approach God with our problems, no matter how serious or how long it has been on us we should worship God. Worship Him because He alone is worthy of it. Worship Him because He created heaven and earth and you. It is his due. So, give it to him. Worship should be part of our Christian life. Worship God with songs and thanksgiving. Even when Job lost his Sons and property, the Bible records that Job worshipped. In worship you identify with God, expressing devotion to his Lordship. It is a command- worship God in the beauty of holiness.

Did the leper stop there? 'No!' Capital No! He had a reason for approaching the Ancient of days. He began to exercise his faith. He said something-

"Lord, if are willing, you can make me clean." Vs 2b.

Here is faith in action. The man said something. He was specific. He knew his need and spoke it out. Quite often I visit a prayer team. I mean those who answer prayer warriors. Hear them pray. They go on worshipping God and calling Him great names for hours, then they start confessing their sins for another two hours, then back to worship and confession of sin again. They will carry on like this for hours without asking for any specific thing. When they decide to ask they ask amiss-

*“God, we have been calling upon you
again and again, what is hindering
our prayers?. Are you not the God of Elijah?
Bra- bra-bra-bra.....*

Of course, he is the God of Elijah. Elijah prayed specifically that it will not rain for three and half years and God honoured his request. He prayed that fire come down from heaven and God honoured him. If you can be specific in your prayers, God will honour you.

Oh! That children of God should approach the throne of God and speak their minds, ask God for something. I mean say something specific to God. I like to ask you at this point, you that worship God every morning, you that confess your sins,

have you been specific about your request? The Bible says that God will do for you the very thing he hears you speak with your mouth. (Number 14:28) Stop recounting your failures. Stop recounting how many times your prayers were not answered. Go beyond calling God wonderful names and confession of sin. Do like the leper did. Present your case and be specific. Don't say "He knows all my problems." He wants to hear you speak out. He is your father. The leper spoke out and Christ acted.

Faith is not a physical thing. It is the manifestation of your spiritual person. That person in you that is like God. The Bible says that God calls those things which are not as if they were (Romans 4:17).

Yes the leper did not see any physical thing in Christ which guaranteed his healing but his faith said that Christ can make him clean of leprosy. Christ always says in the Bible, *"Be it done to you according to your faith."*

The leper took what I call three steps of faith for a miracle.

1) The leper knew there is nothing he could have done to help himself. He was convinced he can contribute nothing for his healing. Most believers approach God with their works. He contributed fund for building the church, he pays his tithe and offerings, he has trained some Pastors in Bible colleges and takes care of widows and orphans. The Bible says that all our righteousness are like filthy rags before God (Isaiah 64:6). Don't approach God with your works.

No! They are not enough. All have sinned (Romans 3:23). You are like that leper before God. Unless Christ cleanses you by his blood, you can not be clean.

We said that the first step of faith to your miracle is recognizing your inability to help yourself. You are powerless as long as your condition is concerned.

2) The leper believed that Christ had the power to heal him. He had no doubt that he that has just come down from the mountain has power to take away his leprosy. He was not hoping but was quite sure that if only Christ was willing he would be healed.

The woman with bleeding for twelve years had the same faith. She did not bother to introduce herself. She just went for the hem of His garment. The Centurion begged him to

Speak the word only. Jairus said if only he would lay hands. At times I see brethren who come to Christ to try their luck. They go from one prayer house to the other, then switch over to native doctors, and then medical doctors and back to the man of God. Some divide their faith between the anointing upon a man of God and Orthodox or native medicine. How can such receive from God? Bible says they are like a wave of the sea and should not think to receive from God - (James 1:6-8).

Place all your faith upon Jesus Christ and He will do it. He himself bore our infirmities and by his stripes are we healed. He is the word of God that was sent forth to heal our diseases and deliver us from our affliction. (Psalm 107:20). Elijah wondered how long the Israelites will waver between Baal worship and the only true God. May be the reason your miracle has not come is because you have not placed all your faith on him. May be you are not quite sure he can do it. HE CAN! Hear it now, Christ can heal you. He can deliver you, only have faith in Him. The Bible said - He that doubts cannot receive anything from God. Christ who did it for the leper, for the woman with years of bleeding is the one doing it today in my ministry. The Bible says that same Jesus of yesterday is the same today and will remain so forever

(Hebrews 13:8). He will not see you and change. The leper knew Christ had the power, therefore, he placed all faith on him and his miracle came.

3) The leper believed that there was no way Christ can pass him by without solving his problem because he is God of compassion. Yes, that is another thing; Christ is the God of compassion. The widow of Nain (Luke 7:12-16) did not have faith at all. Her faith expired very minute her only son breathed his last. She was escorting the corpse to the grave but Christ; the man of compassion stopped the funeral procession and restored the child to life. The NIV Bible says that his heart moved out to her. Go through your Bible you will always see Christ move by compassion. The same compassion which forced him to leave his throne in heaven to die for your sins on the cross is moving him every day to heal the sick and deliver those in demonic bondage.

In Matthew 14, the Bible records that Christ heard the news of his dead friend and relation. He withdrew to a solitary place in sorrow but when he saw the crowd that came seeking him with their problem - the sick, the blind, the afflicted - compassion overtook him. Later, he also fed them

all. Even now, if you will have faith in Christ, He will solve all your problems not one will be left.

He is God of compassion. He will not leave you in that bad condition. Compassion is part of Christ Jesus. Take away compassion from Christ and the Son of God is no more. Every minister that is really used by Christ must have compassion. If he is not, he is not used of the Spirit. The Bible says that if you have not the Spirit of Christ, you are not of his (Romans 8:9). Every Christian should therefore, be compassionate. Compassion will not allow you pass the sick without praying for them. Compassion would not allow you pass the hungry or the naked without helping them. Christianity without compassion is nonsense.

The leper knew Christ is compassionate, so he tarried for his healing. What else do we learn here. If the unbelievers were sure you care for them they would have long repented. Your attitude toward them determines if they will attend fellowship or not. Show compassion, yes, be like Christ. The leper knew that Christ cannot pass him by without doing something about his problem, he fell and worshipped.

If you will adopt these steps of faith for a miracle, be sure your miracle is now. Say to Christ - I cannot help myself, you

have the power to help me and because of your great compassion you cannot pass me by without healing me.

Christ is always willing to do it. Like he stretched out his hand to touch the leper that day and the man was made clean, he will stretch his hand to touch you right here. Only believe. Exercise your faith now and receive your miracle.

Bow your head quietly and apply this four steps of faith for a miracle in your condition. (If you are sick, lay hand upon your forehead as you pray).

CHAPTER EIGHT

JESUS CHRIST HEALS YOU

- 32 *As Peter traveled about the country, he went to visit the saints in Lydda.*
- 33 *There he found a man named Aenas, a paralytic who had been bedridden for eight years.*
- 34 *“Aenas”, Peter said to him, “Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and take care of your mat”. Immediately Aenas got up.*
- 35 *All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. ACTS 9:32-35*

The Rev. Awuzie shocked me when he told me I would not go to the crusade with him. The driver of the car that carried him drove out and I walked back to my room wondering. It was a three day crusade and that meant I have to be alone at home for the period. Thank God for the Holy Ghost; I was not disturbed but felt an inner peace as I lay down and began to worship God.

As early as 8am the next day a Volkswagen Beetle car drove into the church premises. One of the passengers came down asking for Rev. Awuzie. I walked over to him and asked him why he was asking for the man of God. He pointed to a woman in the car whom he said needed prayer. I told them to take her into the church building and I went back to my room and turned to God in prayer.

The reader may wonder why I didn't just lay hands on the woman and heal her. I wish to state here something that most people who come to me and even other ministries don't know. There are cases that shock a healing Minister to the bones as this one. In fact, no matter how possessed a person may be, I prefer dealing with demons to praying for the healing of some biological problems.

In the case of demons, I am always too sure they will leave at my command. They just must leave. They cannot help it. Staying is dangerous for them, they know as a child of God I have every authority over them. Yes, the Lord Jesus Christ says:

"I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the powers of the enemy; nothing will harm you "Luke 10:19."

When I confront demons I see myself already as a winner, and that is what I am. My Lord and Master has defeated them and has passed all his power and authority over to me. I am an Attorney to Jesus. With all the rights of the attorney bestowed on me I am more than equipped for the job.

This is exactly what most Christians do not know, they think they should receive a new authority for every new demon. They believe if a demon meets them when they have not, fasted, they have to allow the demon mess around until they have fasted and then come and confront the demon. Others think that the power to destroy demons is reserved for few individuals. So, when they have to deal with a demon they have to run to such people. In a case they -can't see Evangelist "A", they have to rush their brother to Pastor "B" and if he is not there they hurry to Prophet "C". If there is any disease that needs urgent attention among believers, it is IGNORANCE. Believers are good at reciting a lot of the word of faith without believing those words. No wonder Apostle Paul would write - "I would not leave you ignorant...", "I don't want you to be ignorant..." I have this feeling that the- man of God had the same problem with his flock as I have with mine today.

I repeat myself at every miracle session. I refer them to many Bible passages, I let them see me use it but in the end they are still ignorant. At many occasions somebody sits opposite me for counseling and ask a question~ that forces me to want to know if he was a believer. Often t. my dismay he has been about five years in the Lord; with three translations of the Bible in his house yet, has not read it said in the Bible. "I give you authority".

I wonder how those fellows have managed to read through Luke 10 without seeing verse 19. Yet it is in his Bible and he comes to me to hear it repeated.

Like I said earlier, the problem with believers- is not demons, sickness or even-sin. The problem is ignorance. You can put it this way, LACK OF KNOWLEDGE. Little wonder the scriptures say in Hosea4:6 -

"My people perish for lack of knowledge".

Christ believes it also, for He said: - *"Are you not in error because you do not KNOW the scriptures or the power of God? "(Mark 12:24)*

Knowledge here is that which comes from your inner man, that which comes from the heart. The heart determines what

you call faith or fear. God is interested in the heart before the mouth. Even demons react very little to what you say with your mouth, if it does not come from the heart. All you say with your mouth that does not come from the heart is either hypocrisy or madness.

You can walk into a lot of churches and hear them verbalize the scriptures and yet their position does not change. It is because they are talking from their lips without contacting the heart. So each time you pray check and see if you are talking from your heart or your lips, because out of the overflow of the heart the mouth (should) speak. Once we begin to read the Bible from our heart and believe them in our heart and use them from our heart, we will start to experience the power in the word of God. Christ owes no compliment to those who render him lip service - Matt.15:8.

What have I been saying? Luke 10: 19 means exactly what you read there. Don't add or take anything from it. Don't interpret anything else from it. What is written is written. It also includes you. Yes, if you believe in your heart and confess with your mouth... (Rom. 10:9) all those demons will go forever. You don't have any reason suffering under them. All you have to do is tell them to go and they go. Remember

Christ said, "Ask for anything in my name and you have it". Did you read that right? Ask and believe and you shall receive. Now, let's say one plus one and that equals two. In Luke 10:19, He has given you every authority and in John 14:14 he calls you to ask in His name. So, what are you waiting for? You are not sure it includes you. Well, it does. The Bible says so.

Let the saints rejoice in this honour and sing for joy on their beds. May the praise of God be in their mouths and a double edged sword in their hands, to inflict vengeance on the nations and punishment on the people, to bind their kings with fetters, their nobles with shackles of iron, to carry out the sentence written against them (Jer. 10:11 and Luke 10:19).

This is the glory of all the saints. (Psalm 149:5-9).

You can repeat it to yourself as many times as you wish. Are you still procrastinating? I can imagine somebody say, "I am not a saint. My church doctrine says only Paul, Peter and some men in the Bible who died many years ago are saints". Beloved that's not true! The Bible calls you the righteousness of God (II Cor. 5:2 1). The very moment you believed in Jesus Christ and accept Him as your Lord and

Saviour, you are made righteous by grace through faith. Yes, Christ is the end of the law. So, that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes (Rom. 10:4). That is clear enough now. You are a saint. Hear that? You too, are as good a saint as Apostle Paul was. Don't mind what your church doctrine says; believe the Bible. That is, the true doctrine for anyone who answers a Christian.

Begin to exercise your authority now. Begin to bind those demons and cast them out. Trample means to exercise authority. You have to use that which you have. Don't be afraid of them anymore. He that is in you is greater than he that is in the world.

Let us go back to my story. I know you wonder what I saw about that woman that made me go for spiritual help on my knees. First, she had a colour that I have never seen on any living person. You may say pale if my use of the word yellow does not suit your vocabulary but that's what she looked like. There was no demon physically present with her but I could sense their presence all over. She could not walk and so had to be supported from both shoulders. Some other inexpressible things added to my shock as I knelt down.

Here is one thing I want you to learn. The devil know very well that God hates doubt and that is one thing he first throws at you when there is a job that needs to be done with God's support. As I knelt, some Bible passages raced through my mind.

James 1:6-7 - He that doubts should not think he can receive anything from God (My Paraphrase) Hebrews 11:6 - He that comes to God must first believe that He is there and able and rewards those who approach him with all their heart (My Paraphrase).

Mark 9:23 - All things are possible for he that believes. (My Paraphrase)

Mark 11:23- I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain (sickness or whatsoever), go, throw yourself into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen; it will be done for him. (My Paraphrase)

I knew it was the Holy Spirit that was at work in me. He reminded me further that God did it in Paul's and Peter's ministries and is still doing it-in other people's ministry today.

So, He will do it today. Yes, the Bible says "*I, the Lord, do not change...* (Malachi 3:6, and Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever. (Heb. 13:8).

With these words of God boiling inside me, I sprang to my feet. You see why the Bible says that those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength. Instead of going to be encouraged by those who lack encouragement themselves or to be consoled by those in dire need of consolation, why don't you turn to the Lord? Open your Bible and you will find powerful words of a powerful God that will do nothing but strengthen you. The Lord Jesus says:

If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink whoever believes in me, as the scriptures has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.

(John 7:37-38).

You see why you should always turn to Christ for support. If you have experienced real thirst that is the way I feel when a case is brought to me and I look inside myself. Even into my old and rotten anointing. Anointing I received last year or even yesterday. To me it is old and rotten. I need fresh anointing for everyday's work. Since the living water which

gives life is always available why go on to stale or even stinking water that have overstayed in the reservoir? I go for fresh anointing every day. Once I have turned to Jesus Christ something normally happen. The first thing I experience is that my doubt evaporates. I am before He that has every power and is willing to satisfy my thirst for a fresh anointing. The Bible says, "He cannot lie" because there is no need he should lie. It is not in his nature to lie.

The second thing I experience is that my faith explodes. Like you saw above, those Bible passages reminded me who I am in the Lord. I am reminded of the fact that Christ has given me every authority and that all I have to do is exercise it.

The third and most evident of all is an in-filling of the Holy Ghost. At such occasion if you look into my eyes you will see clearly that I am drunk. Really drunk! If somebody wants to quit alcohol and drugs and wants a substitute, recommend Holy Ghost. Holy Ghost makes you real "high". There are times when I feel that way but nobody to heal nor demons to cast out; I go about looking for them. Yes, that's what the Bible teaches. It says that from within them shall flow rivers of living water. When it begins to flow everybody can see it. The Bible records an occasion when Peter's shadow healed the sick. You know what happened? The anointing was

flowing even through his shadow. At times Apostle Paul allowed it flow upon a piece of cloth and when the cloth touched the sick, they were healed. I have experienced this in my own Ministry at times. You can always notice the power of God flow out and change the destiny of all those around. Their bad positions are changed for the better. Christ said the same of his anointing and I know that is the authority He had given to me.

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to preach the goodnews to the poor He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour (Luke 4:18-19)

That is the essence of the anointing, not that I go showing off with it. So, immediately I rise from my knees the fourth and only thing happens, the bad position is changed for the better. The poor hear Goodnews. Quite often I open the scripture to that helpless and hopeless situation; I let the victim and the bad position know that the unchangeable changer has come. I let them know that Jesus Christ has come to do it again. And if he starts wondering where is the Jesus Christ I was talking about, I introduce HIM.

I ask the sick person to believe and accept Christ Jesus as his Lord and personal Saviour as I have done and the Jesus Christ I am talking about will come into him and dwell and take control.

I am sure since Christ came into me fully I have never been sick. So, I don't take drugs. Ask anybody who knows me as a minister.

“And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who lives in you” (Romans 8:11)

Whether you believe it or not I have told you the truth. I have that faith and Christ has remained my healer. Jesus Christ repeatedly says in the Bible “Be it done to you according to your faith” (KJV). If your faith is in a man of God, if you are able to place your faith on the living word of God which is called the perfect law of liberty, let it be done to you according to your faith. The word of God says that God sent his word to heal our infirmities and to deliver us from all the afflictions and bondage of the enemy (Psalm 107:20) and it further explained that Jesus Christ was the word that God

spoke in the beginning of creation and was later made flesh and dwelt among men, (John 1:1-3 and 14).

Let us see this mystery. The Bible said that in the beginning of the creation the earth was void and without form, although the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the terrible situation until God spoke his word and things began to happen. You know what that means? Life without Christ is void and without form. The Holy Spirit may be all over you but He cannot bring anything positive out of your life. That is why the preacher would encourage you to be filled with the Holy Spirit after you have received Jesus Christ. This combination in your life is the total man. This is the fullness of God's power in you. In this position, God calls you to speak the word and it must come to pass. God commands you to bind the demons and they will be bound and loose your brothers and they will be loosed.

So, after preaching the goodnews to the poor, I go on to proclaim freedom. Yes, I let the sick person know of his new position. I let him know why he must be healed right away. I tell him to expect it. This teaching that, "If you don't have it, fake it", I don't know where they got that teaching. I read in Mark 16:18 that the believer will lay hands on the sick and

they will be healed. When I pray for people I expect them to be healed. I don't say I force them to be healed. I know they will be healed because God does not lie. He said they will be healed; so they will be healed.

There was an incident when I went to pray for a man who was so sick, you would think he was suffering from AIDS. He was merely skin and bones, could not stand or move his body with ease. According to them he has been like that for two years.

Bro. Emeka Nnacho who is my team-mate in PNUR took me to his bed side and introduced him as his old friend. After preaching the goodnews to him, I proclaimed freedom for him, but when it came to release for the oppressed which is the third point, I told him to stand. Bro. Emeka could not believe his ears. I know he thought I was not using my eyes. He tried to let me know that the man had never stood for two years. I told him to watch and see. Unable to bear the sight, he excused himself. When he came back, there was the man standing on his feet. The Bible says we don't walk by sight but by faith.

After I have proclaimed freedom, the next thing is release for those in bondage and I know they must be released. If they

don't get healed or delivered, I don't fool myself. I tell God outright and continue to pray until they are healed. He (God) is watching his word to perform it. When there is no healing God himself is surprised.

Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the disease of my people? (Jer. 8:22).

Many people have interpreted Gilead to mean many things but to me Gilead signifies divine covenant. Remember that that is the point Jacob separated from the cruel and heathen Laban to go to the Promised Land. At the point the captive (sick person) renounces old sinful ways and makes a vow never to return to the dirty past, the power of God should start working in such, person to bring a change of position and that change is for the better. That is what the anointing has come to do because the Bible says "No one living in Zion shall say I am sick" (Isaiah 33:24) and further states, "Upon mount Zion there shall be deliverance" (Obadiah 17 KJV). At times people tell me, "I am getting better" I don't accept it as all the good news. The Bible says, "They will be healed". I keep praying until they are healed.

When the sick person says, "I am healed", I go over to the next point and that is to proclaim "the year of God's favour". A sick man is not healed and he that is healed is not sick. When you say you are healed, why remain in the same position you were when you were sick? Why don't you rise up and tell the devil and the world that Christ has set you free. If you do, you will be made whole.

How did that sound to you? BE MADE WHOLE.

Being healed and later made whole; that is Jesus Christ. Ten lepers were healed but only one came to say "Thank you Jesus" and he was the only one made whole (Luke 17: 11-19 KJV). That is, only the one who came back to express his gratitude got complete and total healing; and that meant only him retained his healing. Many healings don't last because those healed would not testify to God's goodness. It is like a man just discharged from the hospital but would not go back to see the doctor, that means the drugs the doctor would give him for his period of recuperation would not reach him.

You have been healed to join those who proclaim the year of God's favour. Tell the world who healed you. We like to refer our friends to the best hospital or hotel in town but find it difficult to tell them the best doctor who heals without price

and without cost. Tell the world the Lord is good and you are a witness.

My story must continue. When the Lord filled me, I walked immediately to the sick woman in the church and preached the goodnews to her, she was already born again. The only difference was that nobody had told her she could get healed immediately. I have met some wonderful preachers. They believe in the Holy Ghost but find it difficult to believe in the manifestations of the Holy Ghost They believe the Bible but don't believe that what happened in Bible days can happen today. It will not be strange seeing that one taking paracetamol tablets after a message with the title "I am the Lord that healeth thee." I read something in the Bible which I have being asking God to bring to pass in my Ministry. Matthew 8:16 says "He healed them all". I know God will do it for me. A situation where five thousand sick persons are brought and I will be able to heal them all. I am expecting it. The Bible says I will be able to do more than Christ did if only I believe in Him.

It is a pity some ministers in the process of praying for the sick worsen their condition.

Quite often before I come to pray for the sick, I have to fight the doubt built in by those who came earlier. The devil would say to the sick man - "He is just another one. Are you not tired? Tell him you are not interested". The sick person has to fight the temptation of turning down the prayer. It is not a good thing. Why do you go to worsen the person's condition by going unprepared spiritually? You, better invite a brother who is divinely prepared for it. God will still bless you. Why go and begin to pray for the efficacy of the drugs? Where did you read that in the Bible? I am not against prescribed medicine but the order God will adopt to heal the sick is totally His business. Just pray for healing and leave the work to God.

There is another group, who go to preach their church and doctrine to the sick. They load the mind of the sick person with enough negative arguments to resist any scriptural teaching. Others instead of ministering healing, criticize other people who pray for the sick, at the end they don't heal the person. Job 13:4 has this to say: -

*You however smear me with lies, you are worthless physician, all of you.
physician all of you.*

King James Version of the same passage says:

Ye are forgers of lies, ye are physicians of no value.

I like to warn brethren to watch out for this kind of people. They do more harm than good whether you are sick or not. Christ says, "Be careful how you listen". Anything out of what the Bible says may not help you.

Thank God our sister had enough faith in the word of God. So that when I presented the goodnews, she accepted it. I proclaimed freedom for the captives and she was there with me. I called her to the exercise of that freedom and we bowed our heads in prayer.

I heard myself praying in tongues. I don't try to pray when I have difficult cases. I allow the Holy Ghost to do it. I heard Him praying powerfully through me. I heard Him mention Paul and Peter. Then He went on to mention Finney and John Wesley, then I understood what He was saying to God. He was reminding God of what he did in these men's Ministries. Then the woman fell off her seat and shouted out, "I AM HEALED". She stood up and began to change for the better. I continued to pray till she began to sweat. We all began to sing and worship the Lord who heals the sick. Once again he has turned around the captivity of Zion. It was

at this point that her husband told me that the woman's blood percentage was nineteen percent. But looking at her colour, we were sure God had multiplied her blood.

There is nothing God cannot do. What is impossible with men is possible with God. You can believe him for your own miracle here and now.

The title of our message says "Jesus Christ heals you". It was a glorious morning when Peter walked on the soil of Lydda and to the bed side of Aenas. A man who had been bed ridden for eight years was to hear the message that would change his life for better. Peter was armed with nothing but the assurance he had in the MAN he had walked with for three and half years. The man he had seen perform great signs and wonders. The man Jesus Christ never fails.

Peter had his faith in Him, so he proclaimed his message "Jesus Christ heals". Yes, that was all the stuff Peter was made of. No doctrine, no knowledge of what biological insufficiencies are there in Aenas' body. He declares in Acts 3:16 concerning the cripple at the Beautiful gate.

By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through Him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.

I love that proclamation. He didn't say the doctor's prescription or the seven days dry fasting. Simple faith in the name of Jesus Christ. Why not put your own faith in His name and be healed? Why are you still hanging unto one thing or the other?

Mary and Martha almost lost their opportunity to witness the greatest manifestation of God's power in the book of John. This was because each time Jesus tried to do something Mary will either quote sociology or Biology. One time she thought it was too late, but Christ assured her it is never late with him. No matter how long that problem has been on you, Christ can solve it today, only have faith. Yes, because He lives, you are alive and I am alive. We are assured that with Christ we will never die. He is the LIFE GIVER. Even when I put off this body of clay, I shall live in heaven with a heavenly body. He says:

I am the resurrection and life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this? (John 11:25-26.)

The question is for you now. Do you believe this?

Remember, it will be done for you according to your faith. Like many of us, at this point Mary swung into theology. Although, she called Him Christ, her faith was not from the heart. Here we see her again at the tomb when, Christ asks them to roll away the rock which covered the grave. She swung to medical science. Who knows if she was a doctor? She started reminding Christ of what doctors say. When the brain does not function for 30 minutes, it decays. So, in her opinion there was no more hope for Lazarus as he would have decayed totally after four days in the grave.

Here Christ teaches us how to use the shield of faith to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the enemy. The flaming arrows of the enemy are doubt, fear, limiting God -that is saying what God can do and what He cannot do. It is only your faith in the finished work of Christ Jesus at the cross of Calvary that can defeat these arrows.

So, brother Peter taught us that through faith in the name of Jesus Christ we are able to do all things. We shall be healed and be able to heal others. Jesus heals you. You can repeat it to yourself as many times as you can.

Take note of what Aenas did when he heard the goodnews. He believed and obeyed. The Bible says he stood up immediately. Can you see that he was expecting his healing and when it came, he claimed it by faith, and exercised his faith "Aenes got up". So if Jesus Christ heals you, what are you doing on the sick bed. Why don't you shout "THANK YOU JESUS" and jump up.

"I am the Lord who heals you" is the most powerful declaration I have seen in the scriptures. It works for me in all situations. Whether spiritually or physically, whether financially or materially. "He heals you". Do you believe this? He sent forth his word and heals you and me.

"JESUS HEALS YOU"

Say it to yourself as many times as you wish and claim your healing. Why not jump up in prayer and ask Jesus Christ to heal you and now.

CHAPTER 9

PRAYING WITH POWER

20 Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Feast.

21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus."

22 Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

23 Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

24 I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

John 12

Welcome to the last chapter of this book. There is a saying that it is better to teach you how to fish than to feed you with fish. I do not want to leave you with the impression that the author is some superman. I want to guide you to the point of supernatural power. This power is the presence of the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit fills you, serving God becomes a joy. Your blindness

will depart. You will no longer be in the company of those who say that miracle is not possible for today, because you will begin to see miracles in your life and ministry. You will quit the company of those who think that ministry is about eloquence. The kingdom of God is not about talk but POWER (1Cor 4:20)

Trying to do the Lord's work without the Holy Spirit's power is not only boring but suicidal.

The above scripture paints a sorry picture of the man of God Philip before he was spirit-filled. Some seekers had come to see Jesus; for this was their request. Such a request should have enabled Philip to showcase the Jesus characteristic he had gathered after almost four years of close walk with Christ. Note that these men had not met Christ before this time. They were simply looking for the attributes and not the person. What I mean is that they were looking for the one who will do for them what the many gods of the Greeks could not do. They were looking for the one who will give to them what the many sacrifices and ritual of the Jewish religious system could not give to them.

I make bold to say that today, many people go about looking for Jesus. They want the one that rebukes sicknesses and

they disappear, they want the one that rebukes demons and drive them out, so that man declared insane, would walk free again. They want the one that proclaims the word of God with power and authority. They are looking for the one who will show them compassion when they are in need and rescue them from Satan's oppressive rule. That is what men are looking for.

It is unfortunate that many of us do not understand this point. People are not looking for perfect painting of the man Jesus Christ. Hanging it on your altar will not meet their needs. They can buy it from any religious shop on the street.

They are not looking for a historic analysis of who he actually was; history books can take care of that. They are not looking for the house he was born and the kind of cloths he wore Archeologists will take care of that.

They are not looking for where people talk about Jesus. Most religions in the world do a lot of that- either against or in support.

Let my reader understand from the above scripture that men are still yearning for an encounter with Jesus, the son of God. Do not mind the distractions that Satan has placed at

every juncture, the human spirit cannot find peace until it meets with his maker

Back to our message; when those men came calling, Philip misunderstood what they were looking for, he hurried to Andrew. A question that should had brought celebration, created confusion. It looks like what happens in our churches today. Jehovah's Witness and the Adventists should hear me right; people are looking for encounter, not argument. They are saying- we have heard of the miracle working Jesus, is He still alive today? And they need an answer. I wish that we try to give them the answer. Is Jesus dead? Is He gone comatose- that is, He is no longer with his people? That is the answer they want.

Philip and Andrew created more problems by keeping those men standing outside there. I feel the men would wonder, "Why is it that you shake like that? Did we say something wrong? Why are they calling for a conference on what the bible really says about Jesus? That is not why we are here. We came to see a person, not a conference. We came to see a person of power and deeds, not some men who keep us standing on a queue for hours. We heard them talking

about him, now we have come to see him and they are shaking and scampering like scared rats.

Philip and Andrew went to Jesus and did what junior pastors do today. I guess they fell on their faces and called him, "Daddy". They smiled in a knowing way, to make Him know that their ministry has become so popular that the knowledgeable Greeks are now looking for them. "Yes," Jesus asked, "Why are you shaking like that? Did some soldiers attack you?"

"No, man of God, No. we are only shaking with excitement. God has begun to answer your many prayers. Out there are some Greeks, yes, Greeks who came from far away Greece. They say they want to see you. So, we kept them standing out there, so that they will know they have come to see an important person. Yes, sir, they said they want to see you-Jesus".

At this point Jesus was broken in His spirit. "What! Philip and Andrew, I have stayed with you three years' I have taught, prayed for you and with you, sent you to heal the sick and drive out demons in my name. And here today, after all I have done, some strangers still cannot see me in you. They

could not see me in you, Philip and Andrew. If I go out there to minister to those Greeks who came here, who will minister to the Greeks in Greece? Who will minister to the Chinese and Japanese? Who will minister to the Africans and Indians? I have been teaching and training you that men will see me in your lives but one thing is remaining- THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Then Jesus exposed the greatest secret of the ages- unless a grain of corn drops and dies, it remains alone. Jesus knew all of the training and teaching in his bible school can not achieve the desired result until the disciples are filled with the Holy Spirit.

Let every theologian hear this, let every child of God know this, let every bible teacher and pastor learn this, without the baptism of the Holy Spirit, Christian ministry- the one that represents Christ well- is not possible.

By Luke 24: 48, even though they were born again having been washed clean by his word (John 15:3, 1 Pt 1:23), He told them not to try to do the work for which he had trained them, until they received an enduement of power from above. He re-echoed this in Acts 1:4-8. Jesus taught it and

the Apostles practiced it. There is a measure of the Holy Spirit a Christian cannot have until he receives the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

For the sake of argument, you can read Acts 8:14. The converts in Samaria had been baptized in water, but had to be prayed for to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

It is interesting to note that it was that cowardly Philip that was the pioneer of the work in Samaria. What happened? You can read up in Acts 2:1-4. Philip was in that meeting and the result is a onetime coward was able to invade a whole city all by himself.

The main speaker in Acts 2 was another coward who denied his master before a girl serving meals. He even swore he never knew Jesus, but here he confronted a great crowd and declares that Jesus is the messiah.

What happened? They received POWER.

Most testimonies you have read in this book will seem like mere stories cooked up to help me sell my book, if you have not come in touch with this power. Remember I said earlier

that doing the Lord's work without the baptism of the Holy Spirit is suicidal.

If you have noticed each time Jesus holds a healing service, the bible will indicate that evil spirits came out of many screaming. While Philip preached in Samaria, the same was the report, while Peter ministered that was the report. Today each time a genuine servant of God ministers, he has to contend with demons. This power is not only available to pastors and evangelists; it is for every child of God.

In my first year as a healing and deliverance minister, people in my home town came to warn my mother of the danger of allowing her son cast out demons. About that time a young man in a neighboring town had cleared a forest dedicated to demons, intending to build a church there. He went mad and roamed the streets naked. They referred to this as they warned my mother. Mother understood that if God be for me, nothing can be against me, and she told them so.

The fear is well founded; the sons of Sceva (Acts 19:13-16) tried and had a similar experience. Attempting the Lord's work without this power is suicidal. I used to know a young man who was running ministry, I did not know he did not

have this power until I and my wife went to minister in his gospel crusade. We saw him taking all kinds of drugs after the meeting. After screaming he would be sick.

Your prayer life will not amount to anything if you do not have this power. This power helps us in our prayer (Rom 8:26-27). Before I came in contact with this power I could hardly fast 6-12, but now I can carry on for days. Without this power witnessing will be difficult, but this power gives you boldness. That was what the brethren asked for in Acts 4:30-31.

You see, like I said earlier, it is like you are drunk. The people who saw the disciples on Pentecost day could see drunkenness. Just that it was not with alcohol. This power is the only thing that intimidates demons, not screaming or singing, not memorizing scriptures or anointing oil. Even Jesus Christ the son of God did not venture into the ministry without this power (Act 10:38)

Many people have their testimony of how they came in touch with this power, but I will share mine.

If you remember, I told you how I was staying with the servant of God, Rev. Stanley Awuzie. I don't know about now, in those days he did not believe in speaking in tongues. He made mockery of those who spoke in tongues. I must confess he manifested a level of the spirit's power and drove out demons. I loved him and the things God was doing through him, but I have heard that when the Holy Spirit fills a person, he speaks in tongues. I did not have anybody to stand by me as I have stood by many today, and guide me on how to have this experience. So, I resorted to pray every night from 9pm to 1am. I would sing praises and worship for three to four hours. My heart was crying out to God. By day, I read inspired Christian books. I believe I did this for more than twenty days. Rev. Awuzie had a noisy dynamic prayer life that spurred me on.

One night at about 1am, I suddenly noticed that the night was darker than should be - I was outside on the open field- and the spirit of worship rested heavily on me. Then I lost control, I noticed sparkling light like stars around me and then this light shone in my soul. I insisted on continuing my worship but could no longer sing in English or my native tongue. I heard myself singing in a strange language. This

carried on for about an hour and then I was able to sing the same song in English:

You are the Almighty God

You are the Almighty God

Ancient of days

The God Almighty

You are the Almighty God

I can't describe the joy that filled my heart. I began to worship in tongues, prayed in tongues and spoke in tongues. That was the outbreak of the power. In that area I stayed, scorpion stings were common. But when I laid hands on the victims at the point they were stung, the poison went right back to the point they entered and disappeared. When I am preaching, the presence of the spirit was manifest to heal the sick. Many people got healed listening to me preach without me praying for them. When I discovered this, if some sick or demonized person was rushed in while I was preaching, I just tell them to lay them down. To God's glory before the end of the message they were healed.

I went to preach in crusades organized by some churches in a rural area. Crickets were sent by the demons of that area

to frustrate the programme. They were bouncing on the moderator's body and on the gospel singers. Little children were running around in the crusade ground to catch crickets- they eat them in that area.

The coordinator of the crusade came to ask what I will do, because he feared that the people cannot concentrate to hear me. I told him to hand me the microphone. I prayed and started preaching, before the first five minutes into the message; there was no single cricket on the crusade ground.

A young lady who was certified insane got healed as I laid hands on her. Some cases stopped instantly but some I needed to pray for more than one hour. Rev. Awuzie had taught me that in praying for the sick, I needed to be patient until I see results. Some occult men in the area I lived had to force my landlord to send me away after their efforts to attack me failed. The greatest of my testimony is this; I have retained this presence for more than fifteen years now.

That brings me to the next thing. Like I said earlier, once anointed continue to discipline yourself. Too much food kills anointing. Sexual immorality kills anointing. Too much talking kills anointing. Anger, malice, bitterness, envy and hatred kill

anointing. Unnecessary competition and imitating other people's ministry kill anointing.

Another wonderful news- you do not need to fast like I fasted or sing for many nights to be filled now. You can just go into prayers and begin to thank God for having brought you to the end of this book. If you followed this book from the first chapter, all you need to do is to ask the Holy Spirit to fill you now. Pray the prayer below:

Holy Spirit, I believe you are here.

My heart is ready,

I am eager and hungry for you

I open-up to you now

Fill me

Fill me Holy Spirit

Fill me Holy Spirit

Just concentrate your mind on him and continue to ask him to fill you. Remember, you are the one that will speak in tongues. When you feel His presence on you begin to speak in tongues. Do not worry what you could be saying; the Holy Spirit is on you now because you have come to the **Prayer That God Must Answer**

PRAY-ON

CHAPTER TEN

TESTIMONIES

WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

I got to know about Evangelist Emma Nwosu and the Prayer Network for Universal Revival in August 1997 when my wife was pregnant and went to TOTAL CARE Medical Centre in Owerri for ante-natal check-up.

Before my wife's encounter with Evangelist Nwosu, a medical doctor- Gynecologist in another hospital confirmed that the baby in my wife's womb was "bridged" and as such my wife would be delivered of the baby through caesarian operation. My wife was worried about the development while crying aloud to Evangelist Emma Nwosu at TOTAL CARE Medical Centre.

While the man of God was praying for my wife, the child became engaged and my wife noticed that there was a change in her body. She went back to the gynecologist who confirmed that the child was no longer "bridged" but engaged for normal delivery. The child, a bouncing baby boy was delivered safely in my LIVING -ROOM at about 1 .30am on 10th September 1997.

On 22nd June 1998, Evangelist Emma Nwosu came with a member of his Prayer Ministry to my house for a night vigil. In the course of the prayer, the man of God prophesied that God was going to bless me with a contract before the ending of the month of June 1998. I was awarded a contract of about 1.2 million naira with N350,000.00 (Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand naira) part payment by the customer.

It amazes me that God is using such a young man to do these great miracles in people's lives. My prayer is that the Almighty God would strengthen him the more to continue to be a vessel of honour unto the Lord in Jesus name, Amen.

-Bro. Ifeanyi S. Onyebueke.

JESUS THE LIFE GIVER

Our child had convulsion and after some efforts to get her healed failed, we rushed her to Total Care Hospital. That was when Bro. Emma was there. In the morning it became clear that with man all hope was lost. The prayer team prayed for her until at a point my wife who was watching the child cried out: "My child is dead! The nurses began to leave

the room where the child was. Then Bro. Emma came in and took the child to his room and I went and informed my people and even phoned my brother who was in Israel and told them that my daughter had died. When I came back to the hospital with those who came to help me remove the corpse, I saw my wife playing with my daughter. I was told that after Bro. Emma took the child to his room and prayed for her, she was revived. Since then, my child has been healthy.

I give God all the glory for the way He used Bro. Emma to take away sorrow from my family. At that same time my child was sick, my business had problem but after he prayed for me, I saw the mighty hand of God in my business. To God be the Glory in Jesus Name, Amen.

-By Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Egbuleh

JESUS, A MIRACLE WORKER

My pregnancy had stayed above ten months. The other ministers I had visited said I was under a curse from my home and that unless they went there with me to make

prayers, the baby in the womb will die and I may die also. As at that time my husband and I had not even enough to eat with our two children. So, we were not able to foot the bill for those prayer groups.

In that state of confusion our landlord and his wife told us that a young man had told them to visit his pastor and we should come along with them. That was how we came to know Bro. Emma. To our surprise, Bro. Emma did not agree with those other groups. According to him, as a man of God, he had to loose whatever the devil had bound and need not to visit my home town to do it.

I found it difficult to believe what he was saying. It was true we were visiting him for prayers we were still consulting with those other prayer groups. At another time, Bro. Emma said that I should call my husband that he wanted me to deliver that day but I went and never came back. Sincerely speaking, I did not have much faith in what he was saying.

One day I went to my doctor and heard a shocking news that the child in my womb was dead and I was to undergo operation to bring it out. It was like a bomb shell on me. "Myself to undergo operation! I do not have food to eat, from

where will I get money for operation?" The doctor tried in vain to induce the child to come out. He told me to go and call my husband so that arrangements can be made for the operation.

I thought of Bro. Emma, and felt very guilty but something in me said, God has been using him to help others; God can still use him to help me. With my eyes full of tears, I took a commercial cyclist to Emma's office. Luckily for me, he was there. I told him. Then he said, "I forgive you. Sit down I will pray for you".

As he prayed for me the baby in my womb began to move. That was the days he was at Totalcare Hospital and Ministry. He handed me over to the Matron of the Hospital. To cut my story short, in less than one hour, I gave birth to a baby girl who is alive till this day. She is approaching her first birthday. The three sisters named the baby Glory and we all give God all the glory in Jesus Name, Amen.

- By Mr. & Mrs. Albert and Carol Duru

About the Author—

The author is the founding president of Prayer Network for Universal Revival (PNUR), a Christian ministry praying and working for revival in today's church. God has used him in bringing salvation. Deliverance and revival to many across the globe. He has authored among others, PASTOR LUKAS' CHURCH- Story of the pastor who visited Hellfire, Confronting Witchcraft in the Neighborhood, The Right Ways to Fast and Pray, How to be Delivered and Remain Delivered, The Nazirite; God's Response to Decay and Complacency, Who Told You that You are Necked?

He and his wife oversee a little flock in Port Harcourt called Door of Hope Christian centre. They are blessed with four children; Jachimma, Kassey, Nouvelle and Possible.

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