

WINNING INVISIBLE BATTLES

David O. Oyedepo

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978-2905-32-1

Published in Nigeria by:

DOMINION PUBLISHING HOUSE

3RD PRINT - JUNE 2007

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***All Scripture quotations are from the
King James Version of the Bible,
except otherwise stated.***

Introduction

On May 1st, 1981, the Lord spoke to me in an eighteen-hour long vision. In that vision, I saw the blind, the lame, people in rags, men in pain, weeping and wailing. The vision was so real and powerful that I joined them in crying, because I couldn't bear to see the level of agony they were going through. At the end of this terrible, ugly and agonizing sight, God said to me:

“From the beginning it was not so. Now the hour has come to liberate the world from all oppressions of the devil through the preaching of the Word of faith and I am sending you to

undertake this task.”

This was my marching order for a worldwide liberation commission.

Wickedness is real; and forces of wickedness abound all around us today. But, I have good news for you, if you are a child of God: you can overcome all the forces of wickedness! Read what the Scripture says in 1 John 4:4:

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Though the whole world lies in wickedness, and evil acts are the order of the day all around us, you need not fear, for you are born to overcome them all. Scriptures abound that testify

of your victory over wickedness, if you are born of God.

A sister shared the testimony of her miraculous deliverance from the hands of ritual killers. Three other people were set ablaze in her presence; they died groaning into eternity. Their offence? Nothing! They just happened to have innocently boarded a vehicle, not knowing it was conveying them to their place of death, instead of their desired destination. Sheer wickedness! But this sister was exempted, because she is a child of God.

I'm sure you also have heard one story or the other of other gruesome deeds, ritual killings, cold-blooded murders, armed robberies, injustice,

witchcraft and what have you. These have become the rule, rather than the exception in our cities and villages today. No doubt, there is a noticeable upsurge in evil acts the world over, as foretold in the Bible, which tells us that as the end draws nearer, the wicked will do more wickedly.

Jeremiah 17:9 tells us that the heart of man is *desperately wicked*. This is why evil is multiplying daily. In the midst of it all, however, God has designed His children for triumph and victory over all acts of wickedness. Again, read what the Bible tells us:

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world,

even our faith.

Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 John 5:4-5

True, we are living in this wicked world, but God has perfected His plan for us to live above the tyranny of the devil. He has equipped us with all it takes to overcome the forces of wickedness that abound in the world today. The purpose of this book is to reveal to you God's plan of victory over the wickedness of Satan, and to equip you with the arsenals for his defeat. God has provided us with all we need to win all the battles that may come our way, for He always causes us

to triumph in Christ Jesus (2 Cor. 2:14). All we need do now is to discover them and be fully armed against the evil one.

God has sent me to tell both you and the whole world that whatever you might be going through now, “*In the beginning it was not so.*” By divine commission, therefore, I make bold to declare to you that whatever is not part of your true nature in God must give way. Anything in your life that is other than “very good” is not part of your original nature at creation, and so, must give way (Gen. 1:31). No! It is not your heritage, so you must not be identified with it. Your health, career, finances, family, and relationship with others

must be “*very good*”.

The Lord also said to me: ***“I will set men free by your hand. As you go in obedience to My commandment, no captive will escape this commission.”***

It is in the unction and confidence of this commandment from the Lord that I bring you the good news you will be reading about on every page of this book.

My mission on earth is well defined: it is to see the devil constantly being humiliated, and Jesus glorified! I am sent to see men, who have long been shedding tears, start shouting for joy, to see the barren carry their own children, the poor exploding into untold wealth, and troubled homes

become peaceful. I am sent to see all oppression of the devil destroyed in the lives of men.

Friend, I am glad to inform you that the battle with Satan, the enemy, was finished long ago! You can walk into liberty, if it is your choice. You can win every battle that comes against you. You don't have to remain sick, frustrated, in reproach or shame. You have been called unto glory and virtue, not to shame, reproach or pity. If you're walking along the street and someone calls a name that is not yours, does it attract your attention? Likewise, from now on, sickness, barrenness, failure and poverty will no longer be identified with you. Beginning from

this hour, everyone that sees you will know that you are the seed that the Lord has blessed. No mark of the enemy will remain in your life anymore!

As you read this book, open up to the light of God's Word, which is able to bring about a forceful and positive turnaround in your present situation, no matter what it may be. Revelation places man in a position to exercise his God-given authority. Don't be stranded in the realm of information; rather, hunger for revelation, which is what will bring about a revolution.

Right now, I speak by the Spirit of the Lord, that every veil on your eyes be torn asunder, in the name of Jesus! I

command every stronghold of the enemy in your life to give way, so that the light of God's Word will penetrate your heart, and shatter whatever darkness may be lurking around you, in Jesus' mighty name, Amen!

Chapter 1 - The Nature Of Wickedness

*And we know that we are of God,
and the whole world lieth in
wickedness.*

1 John 5:19

The devil has unleashed his wickedness upon the world since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden. The above scripture testifies that every part of the world is living under the bone-crushing weight of the devil's wickedness. You don't have to look very far to see the manifestations of the

desperate wickedness that lies in the hearts of men, put there, of course, by the devil, who is called "*The Wicked*".

We understand from verses like Numbers 23:23, that vices, such as divination, enchantment, witchcraft, etc. abound in the world. Everywhere you turn today there is murder, injustice, and other forms of wickedness that only the wicked, himself, can engineer. Yet, God's Word makes us understand that the wicked will do more wickedly still. Revelation 12:12 says:

...Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a

short time.

There is an increase, a multiplication of the wicked deeds of the enemy, because he knows that his time is running out here on earth, and that Jesus will soon come to take His beloved people home. As a result, he is frantically unleashing his evil vengeance on God's creation. That is why there is a noticeable upsurge in wicked deeds, the world over. He is getting angrier by the day, as, his time gets shorter, and so, is visiting his wrath upon the human race.

Thanks be to God, however, that the story does not end there! We are not at the devil's mercy. God has made adequate provision for us to be

triumphant over all his evil machinations. All the devil has in store have no power over the children of God! What is the strength of darkness in the presence of light?

The first part of the scripture quoted at the beginning of this chapter says, "*And we know that we are of God...*" This is our hope and confidence. We are able to overcome the wickedness in the world because we are born of God (1 Jn. 5:4). The wickedness in the world is not meant to have a hold on those who are children of God. This is because the Greater One lives in us. We are meant to be triumphant always. Though the thoughts in the heart of natural man are

evil continually, and it is the devil that is channeling his wickedness through them, in all these things, we are more than conquerors through Jesus Christ, our Lord!

Satan - The Enemy

It seems there is more mention of Satan's name than God's everywhere in the world today. Many people don't seem to understand a thing about Satan, who he really is, and what he can and cannot do. Multitudes live under the fear of his activities, even shrinking in fear at the mere mention of his name.

Satan is not omnipresent! He wasn't on mount Carmel when Elijah challenged his throne. Unfortunately, however, through his many vain devices, he has constituted himself into a threat. But he is nothing but a finished devil; he is a mere master-

deceiver! The devil was not a force to be reckoned with in the early Church, as the apostles were fully aware of his devices. To them the devil had no power, only tricks and devices, as he is the subtlest of all that God created.

We are made to understand from scriptures that our adversary is the devil. Whether he uses human vessels or inanimate objects, he is our only scripturally acknowledged enemy. If you know how to deal with him, you will live an enemy-free life. Anything that comes your way would be referred to as a trial of your faith, not an oppression of the enemy.

The Lord told me that the reason people have so many problems is

because they are not conscious of the indwelling power of God in them. So, the enemy takes advantage of this, causing everyone to keep begging and binding Satan. But for you to be fulfilled in Jesus, you have to know how weak the devil is, and put him where he belongs. You just have to accept the fact that you have been placed above him. Friend, we need instructions to be free from vexations and destructions.

I want to show you the devil's true picture and how powerless he is. He cannot derail God's eternal purpose for you. If you can see and understand this, you will become a terror to him and his evil kingdom. A long time ago, I

bought a toy leopard for my children. They were afraid when I first threw it on their bed, but their attitude towards it changed after they touched it several times. In the same way, your attitude towards the devil and all his wickedness will change if you can understand what I'm about to share with you now.

We have so promoted the devil that he has made himself a little king over the affairs of many in the Kingdom of God. There are some Christians, whose major reason for having a relationship with God is so they can overcome Satan. But there are some of us that have become so used to the powerlessness and nothingness of

Satan that we speak with such inexplicable confidence. The devil has not been a concern to me for several years now.

It is important that you know who your enemy is. The common thing people think and say is that they are being troubled by one form of bad luck or the other that was passed down to them from their ancestors. Some others claim one old woman (popularly known to be a witch) in their village is responsible for their problems in life. Yet, others have other strange opinions and ideas about their situations. People are always trying to explain away the source of their problems. But, the Bible makes it clear who your enemy is:

Be sober, be vigilant; because your ADVERSARY THE DEVIL, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

1 Peter 5:8

Your enemy is the devil; not that witch, nor that herbalist, nor colleague in your office. No! It is the devil. Many people find it difficult to believe this truth, because their minds have been so programmed to believe that other people are responsible for their problems. Can you imagine that they are even deceived into believing that God is the cause of their problems and misfortunes? The point is that the devil will want to keep you from identifying him as your enemy, because he knows

that the moment you do, the battle is as good as won.

God is not your enemy. If you're born again, God is your Father, and His thoughts for you are thoughts of good and, never of evil (Jer. 29:11). God is always programming good and success for you. Believe this! The devil is the enemy. He keeps accusing you before God. He has sworn that nothing will go well with you. He does not want to see you progress; instead, he wants to ruin your business. He is always mounting pressures on you, just to keep you away from God. He is not interested in anything good coming your way. His thoughts towards you are completely and continually evil! Just as God is

light, so is Satan the devil darkness. Just as there is no darkness in God, so there is no light in the devil. He is complete and absolute darkness (Isa. 60:2)!

I want you to realise the level of hatred the devil has for you. He has no atom of love for you whatsoever. He, not human beings, is your archenemy, ever-waging war against you (Eph. 6:11). I'm emphasizing this point because the devil has continually used this lie to blind the eyes of many, disorganizing and disintegrating homes and families. The husband thinks his wife is the reason for his setbacks; meanwhile, the wife also harbours the destructive conviction that her husband

is her greatest problem. That's the devil at work! He perpetuates his evils through his agents, whom the Bible calls "*principalities and powers, rulers of the darkness of this world and spiritual wickedness in high places*" (Eph. 6:12). These are not human beings, so stop looking at human beings as your problem. Get hold of the truth that Satan the devil is the enemy. It will change your whole outlook, and you will be able to channel your spiritual energy in the right direction.

Why Did God Create The Devil?

Many ask this question, sometimes in their hearts, and sometimes openly. “Why did God create such an enemy to trouble mankind?” You too, may have wondered.

Friends, the truth is that God did not create Satan as a devil at the beginning. Satan was created perfect in beauty, having tremendous glory in heaven. In fact, he was the highest in the hierarchy of angels, and had the unique assignment of covering God’s throne. Here is how the Bible describes

Lucifer (his name before he fell):

Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.

Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.

Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God;

thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

Ezekiel 28:12-15

He became Satan, the devil, when iniquity was found in him. He was, consequently, cast out of heaven unto the earth. It took violence to eject him; he was forced out from heaven (Rev. 12:7-9). From then on, he has determined to fight against God, always pitching his tent against Him and His people. That is why he is your enemy.

Going through scriptures, you will discover that he is always at variance

with God's plan. He went into the Garden of Eden to tempt Adam and Eve, causing them to rebel against God. He corrupted the world till it became so evil that God had to destroy it by flood (Gen. 6). He smote Job with sickness and robbed him of all his children and possessions. When Daniel prayed, he sent one of his fallen angels to withhold the answer to Daniel's prayer, which God had immediately released (Dan. 10:12-13).

Satan is traditionally anti-God. He is constantly on duty to ensure that he does not lose the battle, yet he keeps losing! Every evil in the world today is the devil's handiwork. God never tempts any man with evil (James 1:13;

Job 34:10); God will not destroy what He created.

Satan's 3-Fold Mission

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, to kill and to destroy...

John 10:10

The thief referred to here is the devil, your enemy. He will not come physically to break into your house or to snatch your car, but he has ways of stealing things from you, including your money, time, health, and even property.

You have to know that Satan is the unseen hand behind every evil thing. Any time you're attacked by sickness, he has come to steal your health, joy, peace, comfort, money, and ultimately,

your life. He is desperate about this. His ultimate aim is to destroy you, because he is the enemy. Satan is your only scripturally acknowledged enemy. This is the truth.

Chapter 2 - Your Path To Victory

The knowledge of who you are in God and His provisions for your victory are everywhere in the world today very crucial in the battle and subsequent victory over wickedness. Knowledge is the reason why two different Christians would react very differently to the same harassment of the devil. Their reaction to the attacks and wiles of the devil is dependent on the amount of strength each one possesses; and knowledge is the source of strength. The Bible tells us that:

A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.

Proverbs 24:5

Your knowledge that the enemy cannot hurt you is what puts you over him whenever he is trying to flex his muscles around you. Proverbs 24:10 tells us:

If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

The truths you are learning now, by the Spirit of God, may not be of much use to you immediately, until “the day of adversity” comes. Even in the natural, soldiers don’t train for warfare at the warfront; their training is concluded before they get to the battlefront. In the same way, soldiers

of Christ must increase in knowledge against the days of adversity, so that when the enemy strikes, they will rise up to the occasion and not be chicken-hearted.

Nothing can take the place of knowledge (of the Word of God) in your fight against the devil's wickedness. You must never be caught fainting over any issue of life. That will mean you haven't prepared well in advance your loins haven't been girded with the truth of God's Word in that area and your strength is small.

We are in a battle against the forces of darkness, which specialize in perpetrating wickedness. That is why God said, in Isaiah 43:2:

When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

God says He will be with us, “When”, not “If” we pass through water and fire. It is certain that days of adversity will come. The enemy, like a lion, will roar around you, but the knowledge of God’s Word that you have acquired over time is what will put strength in you, to enable you confront and overcome him.

Stop weeping. Don’t be disheartened. Have you ever heard of a soldier, who bursts into tears on the

battleground at the sound of a gunshot? What are you doing with tears in your eyes at the threat of your subordinate? A drum full of tears cannot move a molehill. What you need is the knowledge of how to subdue the enemy's incursions. Tears hold no hope for victory. Even God is not moved by your tears. What moves Him is His Word, spoken in faith from a heart full of knowledge.

Knowledge both stabilizes and strengthens (Isa. 33:6), whereas weeping and anxiety destabilize. When you have knowledge, the things that move others will not move you. You are not a reed planted by the riverbank; you are a house built upon the solid

rock. Wickedness is multiplying on the earth, but God says there is a way out for His children. Knowledge is what shows you that way out. Seek after knowledge, therefore, and challenge the forces of wickedness to their faces.

Anything that prevents what you deserve in God from getting to you constitutes wickedness, and God has no hand in it. Far be it that the Almighty should do wickedness. You must know that God will not rob a man of what he deserves, nor will He treat any man unjustly; He is the God of justice. Every wicked act around your life is a direct manifestation of the devil. Jesus came to bring an end to the reign of the wicked one, and has this to say: “*All*

power is given unto me in heaven and in earth” (Matt. 28:18).

The enemy doesn't have the final say; Jesus, our Lord, has the final say in every issue of life. The knowledge of this truth should dry up your tears.

Jesus Fixed Him!

I have good news for you: you can live a devil and wickedness-free life! Jesus settled that for you already. He said in John 10:10:

...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Jesus has delivered to you all that it takes to overcome the devil and win every battle or challenge that comes your way. Way back in Genesis, God

said:

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; and it shall bruise thy (Satan's) head...

Genesis 3:15

Bless God, it happened! The greatest event in world history was the drama at Calvary, where Jesus, the Son of the Most High, died. The most unusual things (both physically and spiritually) happened that day. Though it was the tragedy of all ages, much more, it was also the deliverance and absolute emancipation of the world from the bondage of Satan.

More things happened on the cross than most people know. As Jesus hung

on the cross, great things began to happen in the realm of the spirit. He took the place of man in sin, sickness, poverty, death, and every imaginable, evil thing in the world. He was God's sacrificial Lamb for man's redemption from the hand of the chief slave master, the devil. Jesus not only carried our sins on Himself, He also carried the whole world's diseases and sicknesses, pains and afflictions. Every evil thing in this world was laid upon Him (Isa. 53:4-5). So when Jesus said, "*It is finished*" in John 19:30, He finished your battles against sin, difficulties, and every form of evil.

Not only that, Jesus also went to hell. He met the devil on his own

ground. It is a spiritual law that anyone found with sin at death must go to hell (Ezek. 18:4; Lk. 16:22-23). Since Jesus took on your sins and mine, it became imperative that He should go to hell; otherwise the deliverance of the world would not be complete. **Isaiah 53:9** tells us:

And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death...

Peter also confirmed this in Acts 2:25-27:

For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my

flesh shall rest in hope:

Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

If Jesus had not gone to hell, then we would still have had to go there, as His sacrifice would not have covered that area. His presence in hell was part of the divine assignment. He went there and finished the work of defeating Satan. It was in hell that Jesus cemented our victory, and sealed the devil's doom of defeat. He took the keys to hell and death, and rose victoriously (Rev. 1:18)!

In hell, Jesus spoilt, defeated, and stripped principalities and powers of all their power. Before then, the devil

had the power (key) of death. But when Jesus entered hell, He fixed the devil for good, and destroyed all his powers (Heb. 2:14). Hear how Apostle Paul puts it:

And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Colossians 2:15

Jesus did a very neat job! He finished everything as it was written of Him, and rose triumphantly. This is the springboard for our victory over Satan. Jesus fixed Satan! He took you out of the house of bondage and brought you into abundant life (Jn. 10:10). He restored you back to your original position as God's man on the earth.

Jesus restored everything that man had lost in the Garden of Eden. He has now put all things back into your hand. The victory over Satan and all his agents and his wiles is total - spirit, soul, and body:

...But by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Hebrews 9:12

It was a perfect job (Heb. 10:12,14)! Jesus now has the key of David, that opens and no man can shut, and shuts and no man can open (Rev. 3:8). Having, thus, lost every bit of power to our Lord Jesus Christ through the drama at Calvary, Satan is now left with nothing! No power is left for the

devil. Romans 13:1 says, “*There is no power but of God*” and Psalm 62:11 corroborates this truth:

God has spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God.

Thus, the devil is a toothless bulldog. He legally has no more power with which to hurt you. Sadly, however, many Christians, including ministers of the gospel, don't know this amazing truth of Satan's total defeat. Consequently, there are lots of demon-casting, deliverance “specialists”. I never argue with the devil, because of a superiority complex built into me through the revelation of the mysteries of God, which the Holy Ghost has

given me. I live so free of Satan's threats. I, not him, determine what happens around me.

The devil is not the one we have been called to worship. But what do we see today? In the name of casting him out and fearing his tactics, people end up, more or less, worshipping him. You hear such statements as: "I can see a devil on this platform; he has seven heads and three tails." This is not possible in any church where I'm the pastor! Even if you have one million devils, they must wait for you outside the gate. In 1984, a sister named Angelica was being followed about by a swarm of insects. These praying mantises followed her everywhere she

went - into vehicles, to the market, everywhere! It was an embarrassing situation.

One day she came to report this to me at the office. But, as she stepped through the gate of the church premises, the insects stopped following her; they stayed outside the gate! After she told me her predicament, I asked her, “Where are the insects now?” She said, “Outside the gate.” I said, “Come and show me.” But, as we approached the gate, the insects began to recede! The closer we got to them, the farther away they moved! By the time we got to the gate, they had taken off for their dear lives, and that was the end of the sister’s trouble!

Knowledge is reflective. The Bible says wisdom makes the face of a man to shine. In the kingdom of darkness, light is always the master. When you receive God's Word, it sets up a divine illumination around you such that all devils learn to respect you.

It is important that you realise that the issue at hand is not the devil, but you. It is time you begin to appreciate your spiritual values, so you can use the understanding of these basic Bible truths to reign on the earth. Yes, there is a devil; his name is Satan. But, thank God that he is not your master! There is a devil, but the Bible says if you follow God, right in the presence of this devil and all his wickedness, He

will prepare a table before you, and even make your cup run over. The devil will merely be watching you in utter helplessness!

The number one result of the death and resurrection of Jesus was the seizure of power, not only on the earth, but also in heaven. Hence, Jesus boldly declared in Matthew 28:18:

...All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

All powers now reside in one man, and His name is JESUS. Walk in this settled truth. Despise any theory that says there is power somewhere else that can stop you from doing what God has sent you to do or be. That's why Jesus confidently commanded us to,

“Go ye therefore and teach all nations...” (Matt. 28:19).

The only thing mentioned about the devil in the Word of God is his defeat. Therefore, he is not your problem. The Bible says he roars like a lion, but he's not one; so don't get carried away by his tricks. This “devil this, devil that” mentality has robbed many of their great destinies. All power in heaven and on earth has been given unto you. It is no longer with any witch, wizard, occultist or government. From now on, any time the devil sticks out his neck, simply tell him, “Stop faking it, you don't have it!”

I pray that God will help you understand that what destiny has in

store for you is an already-settled issue. The only person that will determine whether it works out or not is you, not the devil (whether in hell or high places). When you can see this truth, it will become cheap to handle all life's affairs with confidence. We are going to displace every work of the devil with the cheapest ease and relaxation through the application of the manifold wisdom of God (Eph. 3:10). Our days will see the brightest and greatest triumph over the kingdom of darkness (Isa. 11:9). So, it is time to become power-conscious in our walk with God. Know that the greater power dwells in you. Therefore, give yourself a sense of superiority over the cruel

forces of Satan, the enemy.

Satan's True Position

Let me show you this true picture of Satan from scriptures; it will help you walk in triumph all the days of your life. The Bible tells us, in Romans 16:20:

And the God of peace shall bruise Satan **UNDER YOUR FEET** shortly...

Satan, your adversary, has been placed right under your feet! This should give you a sense of authority. Satan is not your equal at all; he has no basis to contend with you. He is under you, and so should be given instructions and commands – “Satan, stop there! Loose him and let him go!”

There is an organisational hierarchy

in every business setup. The person under takes instructions from the one above. Instructions don't pass from below upwards, but from above down. So, the devil is not the one to determine what happens; you are the one to do so. He is not to give orders, but to receive orders.

Ignorance of this truth is the master blockage to man's breakthrough and victory in life. You might be saying to yourself now, "Oh, I wish my case was as simple as that. The devil has been oppressing my family for the past four generations. No one among us has ever scaled through life without rheumatism. It is in our blood." Sure enough, because of your ignorant

belief, the devil goes ahead to make sure everybody in that family has what has been confessed, since you have opened the door for him to do so.

If you are born again, you need to know that even if everybody else in your family suffers rheumatism, you are now a new creature; old things are passed away, and all things have become new. You now belong to a new family, a heavenly one. So you cannot be afflicted with any plague or disease from your earthly lineage. Your lineage has changed! You were once darkness, but now you are light. God commands you to, “walk therefore as children of light.” Galatians 5:1 tells us:

Stand fast therefore in the liberty

where with Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Satan is only able to push you around because you have not put him where he belongs. The Bible says that we should “give no place to the devil.” You have, however, placed him so highly that God has no choice, but to leave him where you have put him. The only enemy you have is under your control; he is to take instructions from you, because you are above him. When you issue orders, he must obey, because you are superior to him by virtue of redemption. In every battle, you have the final say. It’s time to become less devil-conscious. Stop all

this, “It’s the devil”, morning, afternoon and night. Stop seeing the devil in everything! The place you give him is where he will occupy.

Jesus set the pace for us. In His sojourn here on earth, He never had any discussion with devils. All He did was to determine what happened to them. He always had the final say; He called the shots. “Go!” “Come out of him!” was all He ever said to the devil and his cohorts, and that settled it. He controlled the affairs of His Kingdom. Likewise, you are above every wicked force of this world (Eph. 1:20-23). Yes, all! You are now sitting where Christ sits (after He rose from the dead)- far above principalities and powers, and

every (not some or most) name that is named - be it spells, curses, enchantments, whatever - not only in this world, but also in hell.

All things are now under your feet! You just need to walk in the consciousness of the authority that this truth confers on you. Satan is neither a watch for you, nor is he your headache. John Avanzini said, "When you kick a dead dog, the movement it makes is as a result of the force you exerted in its direction." You don't beg the devil; you command him.

I once visited a church, and there was this little boy who had been talking ceaselessly for about five days. The pastor-in-charge had conducted all-

night prayers to deliver the boy, but all to no avail. When they told me what the problem was, I told them, “Tell him to stop”, but they replied, “We’ve been telling him!” For five days? I then said, “Bring me the boy.” When they brought him, all I did was to command him to stop talking, and that was it! All the boy needed was contact with somebody who knew his worth as a god. Authority is what determines the winner.

It’s time to display your true nature. Don’t appeal or beg. All things are now under your feet- by the lifting power of redemption, not by your making. You don’t owe any devil any apology. It’s time to take your stand,

give instructions, and every devil must obey. God won't bruise him until you put him where he belongs, and that is under your feet!

From now on, begin to walk in the consciousness that you are made of real power, and that what you say matters, not only in heaven, but also on earth. You are not meant to be a struggler, but a king, born to win. You are not meant to be a beggar, so wake up and take charge!

You Are Seated In Heavenly Places
But God, who is rich in mercy, for
his great love wherewith he loved us,
Even when we were dead in sins,
hath quickened us together with Christ,
(by grace ye are saved;)

And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:4-6

If you are born again, you are now seated in the heavenly places, where there is no place for Satan. It's a place where he has no say at all. Hear what the Bible says in Revelation 12:7-9:

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole

world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Satan has no power to prevail in the heavenly places. He was cast down to the earth from there, along with his angels. That is why God had to remove you from the earthly realm. The Bible says in Colossians 1:13 that God has translated you from the kingdom of darkness to that of His own dear Son. Therefore, Satan has no right to prevail where you are now (in heavenly places). In fact, the Bible tells you to rejoice!

Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you,

having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

Revelation 12:12

But if you remain on this earth, you are in Satan's domain, and should, thus, be ready for his attacks and wickedness. As long as you remain earthly, you are prone to his attacks and oppressions; but if you walk in the consciousness that you dwell in heavenly places, then he will leave you alone. You ought to walk in the consciousness that you are out of Satan's reach if you are born again.

Friend, this is one of the great virtues of redemption - you have been placed where the devil has no say. If he has placed any evil mark on you, then

you need to tell him off! He has no access to where you live; he is darkness, and you are light!

Satan just goes to and fro deceiving the whole world that he can reach anybody. It's not true. Jesus said, in John 14:30, "*...For the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.*" Jesus was never ill or oppressed in anyway when He lived here on earth. They couldn't reach Him on the numerous times they attempted to kill Him. Satan keeps deceiving people, making them believe that he's the god of this world. That's not true! He was the god of this world, until Jesus fixed him and took "all power" from him.

There are two kingdoms - the

earthly and the heavenly; the Kingdom of light and the kingdom of darkness. Satan has no access to the Kingdom of light, and there is no place for him in the Kingdom of heaven. So where you are seated today, by virtue of redemption, is definitely far above where Satan operates from, so he should no longer be your concern! Be conscious of your new position in Christ, and violently establish it in your life. You are no longer dust for the devil to feed on. You are now outside his domain. Whatever operates on earth has no more power over you, in the same way that Enoch was translated (removed from the earthly realm) that he should not see death, for

God took him (Gen. 5:22-24).

As you realise your new status in God and embrace the responsibilities that go with it, you will soon find yourself on your way up. Enoch walked with God and was not; he did not see death. From now on, you will no longer see any form of death, in Jesus' name! Exercise yourself in a qualitative walk with God. Tell yourself right now, "I am destined for translation. There is affliction and destruction here on earth, but in the heavenly places there is triumph, joy, peace, and success. That is where I belong. I was once earthly; but as Jesus came into my life, I became heavenly. Lord, show me what it takes to walk in the reality of heaven,

and I will walk in it. I will no more see death. I am determined to walk with You. What You say is what I will obey, and what You command is what I will go for.”

Now make the following declaration boldly:

“I am far above all principalities, powers, dominion, might, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but in that which is to come. Jesus raised me up and made me to sit together with Him in heavenly places, where no room can be found for the devil. Here is the verdict: Satan, you have no room wherever I’m seated. You have no room in my home, business, body, or in my children!

There is no more room for you wherever I am.”

Submit yourself therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:7

Chapter 3 - See Who You Are!

If you are going to walk in victory over Satan, you must be fully aware of your identification with Christ in every stage of His redemptive work. When you know your redemptive rights and positioning, then you will develop and constantly carry a victory mentality. Until you know and have an understanding of who you are by virtue of your new birth, you may still remain in the bondage of Satan, which Jesus has set you free from.

It becomes easy to appropriate your

liberty when you know the following things:

You Are A New Creation

If you have accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord of your life, then you have become a new creation. You are brand new, not an adjustment of your old self, or a modification of your old status. Christ's redemptive work confers a new status on you, which also grants you entrance into God's class; you come into a new status of being.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

By your new birth, you become

accepted in the beloved - the family of the Father God. God declares you righteous. He is now your real Father, and you are His real son (Jn. 1:12). You are God's offspring; you are His loved son. You occupy a special place in His heart. You have His nature, His life, His Spirit, His faith, and His love (Ezek. 36:26). Everything God is and has is now made available to you (Eph. 2:4-6). He comes into you with all His strength, glory, and majesty, and makes you strong in Him.

You also become one with Christ; a joint-heir with Him (Rom. 8:17; Gal.4:7). What you lost in Adam in the beginning, you have regained in Christ. You are now restored to your former

place of authority and dominion. By virtue of your new class of being, you can now hold sway over every situation in life. You are as invincible as God. No devil can defeat you if you stand in your proper position in God. You have God's nature now, and have been declared more than a conqueror.

God took you out of the powers and kingdom of the devil, and translated you into the Kingdom of the Son of His love. This is a mystery, but it is also the truth, and is real. You are no longer that person whom it was so cheap for the devil to cheat, oppress, and afflict. Now you can boldly say to him, "Satan, get lost!"

You Are Translated

You were also translated into the Kingdom of God at salvation.

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.

Colossians 1:13

There are all forms of evil in the kingdom of darkness. All manner of sicknesses, afflictions, embarrassments, torments, and bad luck hold sway there. Its inhabitants have no source of help, as long as they continue dwelling therein. The Bible calls them the children of disobedience. They are ruled and

governed by the devil, who continually lords it over them, and they cannot protest, as they have no right to. Their will has been submitted to the devil. They are servants of sin (Rom. 6:16), held in bondage by the devil.

But you are no longer under the devil's domain; therefore, he has no more control over you or your affairs. The blood of Jesus that was shed on the cross of Calvary has delivered you from that realm, and translated you into the Kingdom of God. You have been brought out of darkness into light. You have become a partaker of the life and nature of God the Father God (2 Pet. 1:4). The highest class there is is God and His family; and this is where

you now belong.

I would like you to be aware of the beauty of this translation, as the essence of Christianity borders on it. Until you experience it, you remain a terrestrial being, and everything that functions here on earth will work against you and destroy you. So, seek to experience your translated position. Satan has no access whatsoever to this Kingdom unto which you have been translated. It is the Kingdom of light. There is no place for him there, because he is “the darkness”. That is why God commanded us to cast him out from wherever we find him operating (Mk. 16:17).

Friend, it's one thing to be

translated, and another for you to be aware of your translation. May the Lord give you understanding!

You Are Peculiar

Every cleansed person is a peculiar treasure; they are no longer common (Acts 10:15). You're bought with a price - the precious blood of the Lamb. You belong to royalty; you're the holiness of God, chosen to show forth His praises on earth.

You are peculiar! Different! To be envied! Strange! A special breed!

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God...

1 Peter 2:9-10

Now, your ways are past finding out (Jn. 3:8). You're a sign and a wonder, decked in God's holiness, and showing forth His glory on the earth. Sickness should see you and run. You are no longer to be tossed about by every evil wind of Satan. But if you don't know all of this, you will live and die like mere men!

You Are Above All

John 3:31 tells us that:

He that cometh from above is above all...

That is to say, you are above everything happening on this earth - failure, disease, sickness, poverty, depression, frustration, rejection, barrenness, miscarriage, life's threats, etc. Because you're from above, where you are seated with Christ in heavenly places, you are above all the evil found on earth.

You Are A Winner

Victory comes along with your new nature of redemption. This is because God's nature (which you now carry) is contrary to defeat and failure. You are God's son, produced after His kind; so you're in His class. You're a god here on earth (Ps. 82:6); you are a born winner! By virtue of your new birth, you have been declared a winner in every battle of life. You have a winning covenant with God your Father, Who has destined you to win always.

You are destined for great exploits in victory from now on. There is no fight, however fierce, and no battle,

however tough, that you cannot win. You can have as many victories as the battles you are faced with, as long as you abide in God and know Him intimately. There is no limit to what God will do to give you victory over Satan. The case of David and Goliath is a good example. You cannot count, for example, how many people, nations, and kingdoms God has had to destroy in order to bring victory to the physical nation of Israel. Therefore, know that God is committed to your success.

You are His very seed, the apple of His eye, so stop looking down on yourself. God is out against anybody and anything that is against you (Gen. 12:3). He will not allow you to be

tossed around by anybody, group, government or authority. You are a sensitive issue in God's programme. There is a touch-not decree on you, based on the covenant.

Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked him at the sea, even at the Red sea.

Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known.

He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up: so he led them through the depths, as through the wilderness.

And he saved them from the hand of him that hated them, and redeemed

them from the hand of the enemy.

Psalm 106:7-10

God will not tolerate your being messed-up or treated anyhow. No! It's not part of the covenant. Those who attempted to wrong the people of Israel paid dearly for it. Those who attempted evil against Moses, even in the camp of Israel, paid for it, too. God will do anything to protect you, even if it means destroying others for your sake.

For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

For, behold, I will shake mine hand upon them, and they shall be a spoil to

their servants: and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me.

Zechariah 2:8-9

You are born of God, so nobody can take advantage of you and go free. God is interested in your winning always. If the physical Israel can win all their battles with impunity, you too can do much more than that. Because you're born of God, you are not permitted to lose or programmed to fail. You can win always, because the Greater One lives in you. He is at work in you, and is greater than all your life-battles. So you can stand in the face of any challenge and assault of the devil, and say to him: "Satan, get lost!"

“Ye Are Gods!”

This is a fundamental, powerful truth, that, if allowed to sink into your heart, will make you unshakable, immovable, triumphant, buoyant and blossoming all the days of your life. It will become a foundation that cannot be shaken. I've never seen a man come in contact with this truth and still be tossed about.

The enemy hates this truth, so he'll do anything to frustrate you from receiving such a revelation and putting it to work. But I pray that the God of heaven, the great provider, will provide you with such enlightenment in your heart, and deliver to you all that this

truth contains.

I have said, YE ARE GODS; and all of you are children of the most High.

Psalm 82:6

This is the dominion scripture of the saints. Get it once, and you will live by it forever. This scripture was a turning point in my life. Thank God it came early in my Christian life, so I didn't have to be cheated for long. There is an anointing upon the revelation of this scripture that will establish you in permanent authority over Satan. If you understand the mystery of this verse, then you will be in complete charge over the affairs of life!

Ye are gods! This is the basis for

the supernatural: you are no longer human, but superhuman, super, extra-natural. You should no longer see yourself as an ordinary human being. That's not the truth. The truth is that you are a son of God, and as a result, you are a god. The son of a goat is a goat, and the son of a man is a man. Therefore, the son of God can't be anything else but a god, because in the law of creation, everything produces after its kind. That does not exempt God. So, ye are gods!

Jesus re-echoed this statement in the New Testament, thus affirming its authenticity:

Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, YE ARE

GODS?

John 10:34

If you can grasp this truth, every devil will see you and clear off the way! This is the fundamental secret of all my victories in life. Don't tell anybody, "Bishop Oyedepo said, 'I am a god.'" It is not me who said it; it is God, your Father. If you don't want to die as a mere man, or fall as the princes, accept the totality of this scripture that cannot be broken.

Others may call it blasphemy, but Jesus calls it "*the scriptures.*" It is more profitable to believe the scriptures than all the gossip in the world. If you don't want to fall like the princes, or fail and be defeated like

ordinary men, then accept your peculiarity, and walk in it forever. For as long as you live, refuse to accept anymore that you are an ordinary human being. From henceforth, detest this lie, as it concerns every sphere of your life – in your business, career, ministry, family, etc. Instead, accept your divinity.

Whatever is contained in God's divinity is yours to enjoy. Let others experience whatsoever they like, your portion is only what the divinity of God carries - His peace, joy, wisdom, life, health, strength, etc. In your family, for example, you can enjoy the peace of God that passeth all understanding.

Life will take a new turn for you

when you operate in the understanding of this unusual realm of the supernatural. Ye are gods! This is a vital truth that reveals your divinity, placing you in the very class of God. Every devil will bow to you with this truth in you. Whatever God can break through, you too will break through. Whatever God can handle, you too will be able to handle.

I got to my hometown one day and was told one of my cousins had gone insane. For days he could not recognise anyone, not even his mother, nor would he speak to anyone. But when I got into the room where he was, he rose up and greeted me! He didn't know his mother, nor anyone else, but when the

son of God entered, he knew! I ordered that he be dressed-up and put in my car, saying, "Let me see the devil in hell that has the guts to enter my car with him." By the time we got home, he was fast asleep, and that was the end of the insanity! That devil left him as soon as I entered the room he was in.

Light doesn't struggle with darkness! But as long as you remain human, you are in darkness already. I didn't need to lay hands on that boy, or to speak in tongues. All I did was just appear, and madness bowed out! That is what is called the manifestation of the sons of God.

You are worth several things, including being a terror in the world.

Be conscious of the authority that is in you, and use it to promote the Kingdom of God here on earth. Be the one harassing the devil; walk in power and authority.

I met a one-time local government chairman at an airport lobby, and recalled the last time I met him. He said to me that day, “They have brought a report that your church is disturbing the people in the area.” I said to him, “Send the report to me.” He said they were going to sit concerning the issue, and I told him they should go ahead. He then asked, “But why is the church in a residential area?” And I replied him, “Why are your mosques not in the bush?” I

banged hard on his table, warning him not to dare anything, otherwise he would be a dead man, and I walked out with authority - all because I am strange! Even when I met him again at the airport lobby, he was too full of awe, to be at ease before me.

Just In The Form Of A Man

For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

Acts 3:22

When the Lord sent Moses to Pharaoh, He did not send him as a mere man. **Exodus 7:1** says:

And the Lord said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh...

Jesus came and was God unto the world. He came as God in the form of a man. And hear what He said to His disciples (which includes every

redeemed child of God), “*As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you*” (Jn. 20:21).

If you connect the above scriptures together, you will understand that you are only in the form of a man, you are not made of human stuff; there is something strange about your makeup. The day you gave your life to Jesus, you received another life. Whereas, you had human life before, now you have eternal life, which is the God-order of life. So you now operate the God-order of life within the form of an ordinary structure, which is your body. Therefore, understand that the same way Moses confronted Pharaoh is the same way you are to handle Satan in

anyway he presents himself. It wasn't Moses that got Israel out of Pharaoh's hand, it was the Greater One in him! From now on, when the Pharaoh of this world (Satan) presents himself, look at him and pity him. Tell him, "Pharaoh, this is another Moses, the New Testament one. Now, get lost, in Jesus' name!"

One day while driving back from Ibadan (in western Nigeria), a soldier pointed his gun at me at a checkpoint, threatening to shoot me. I told him, "You are too small!" And immediately, his gun dropped from his hand. The next thing he said was, "I am sorry." Friend, another life has been infused and injected into you; it is eternal life -

the very life of God. The Bible calls it “*this treasure in earthen vessels*” (2 Cor. 4:7).

A true understanding of God living in us will translate us from the realm of human limitations, and put us right where things will work for us, as they would for God. If you don't have an understanding of the truth that “Ye are gods”, then you will not be able to put situations on earth under control. If you approach spiritual battles as a human being, you are bound to fail, because the flesh profiteth nothing. It is the spirit that quickeneth. By strength shall no man prevail, the Bible say.

Isaiah 59:19 says:

When the enemy shall come in like

a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.

Note that it's not a man's height, status or the strength of his natural muscles that will lift the standard, but the Spirit of God on the inside of him. This is the only way man can successfully put the enemy, Satan, where he belongs.

I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.

All of you that are the children of the Most High God are gods. "All", not "some" or "few". But because you don't know this, you are prone to die like men, and fall like one of the princes.

You must know that you are no

longer a mere being by virtue of your new birth, but a peculiar being in human form. Everybody is free to be plagued by diseases, but not you. Everybody is free to be frustrated in their various endeavours except you. The nobles of the earth may have no place to put their seats, not you. **“I have said, ‘Ye are gods’!”**

You must put this revelation to work. Know it, understand it, and walk in its’ reality. Work it out! The knowledge of the Holy God, and the consciousness of His nature flowing in your veins is your staff of office on the earth. For diseases to obey you, for sicknesses to bow to you, and for poverty to give way to you, you must

carry this consciousness about - that you are indeed a god in the form of a man. Without it, you lose control. You shall no longer lose control, in Jesus' name!

Chapter 4 - Our Covenant Covering

There is also a divine covenant that guarantees a covering for every believer against the cruelty that is in the world. A covenant is a contract agreement involving two parties, and is guided by certain terms that are binding on both parties. In this case, God is on one side of the covenant, and the believer, on the other. We know from scriptures that God abides faithful (2 Tim. 2:13). His own part of the covenant is guaranteed, because He is unchanging and constant. Man is the

variable party. God always has respect for whatever covenant He cuts with man.

Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty.

Psalm 74:20

Believers often tend to waver in fulfilling their own part of the covenant because they are not aware of all it has to offer. And we know that an unstable man has no hope of enjoying the benefits of the covenant. God, however, is very reliable and serious about it. That's why He said, in Psalm 89:34:

My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

God is eternally committed to His covenant; He watches over His Word to perform it. The believer on his part must respond to the covenant by first locating its terms, and then abiding by them. Dear friend, do you know that there is an eternal covering over you? Only the power that is strong enough to break the covenant of day and night is strong enough to break the covenant of protection God has cut with you. Are you surprised? Don't be, because that is what God says in Jeremiah 33:20-21:

Thus saith the LORD; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season;

Then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers.

Oh that you would appreciate this truth, that as long as the day and night run their normal (daily) courses, God's covenant of protection over you against the devil's wickedness remains in force. Note that there is no mention of the devil in all this. That is because, as far as God is concerned, he is a non-issue. True, he is visiting his wrath upon creation, but you are spared; you are exempted! You are spared because there is an eternally-secured covenant covering over you. The devil that

couldn't stop you from getting saved
cannot stop you from being preserved
from evil.

Let me add here that every Word that proceeds from God is a potential covenant. Every promise He makes in His Word is a covenant, as long as you fulfill your own side of it. That's what He means in Psalm 89:34, when He said He will not alter anything that proceeds from His mouth. It's as simple as that, dear friend. God's Word carries His person, and so becomes a covenant if you faithfully fulfill your part of the deal. He is ever-constant.

Consider the following scriptures that guarantee your protection against the wickedness of the enemy:

And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.

Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered?

But thus saith the LORD, Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children.

And I will feed them that oppress

thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I the LORD am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob.

Isaiah 49:23-26

Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish.

Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not

find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought.

For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

Isaiah 41:10-13

Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;

2 Thessalonians 1:6

The Word of God is the final authority on any issue, and it has spoken the above truths concerning you. Embrace them.

The Covenant Terms

Having established that there is a covenant covering over every redeemed child of God, let's now look at some of the terms that we must fulfill, in order to enjoy the benefits of protection. Since God is a covenant-keeping God, Who does not change, what does He expect from us? Psalm 91:1:

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

The first condition that must be fulfilled is to dwell in God's secret place, which refers to being born again.

When an unbeliever appropriates God's Word and allows Jesus to come into his heart, he supernaturally enters into the secret place of God, where the devil can never hurt him. Your sonship registers you for perpetual triumph over the attacks of the enemy.

This covenant covering is like that which natural Israel enjoys today. No matter his learning, every Israeli automatically enjoys the covenant God made with Abraham so many years ago, as soon as he is born. God's faithfulness in keeping His covenant with Abraham is an earthly replica of our access to our Father's covenant, which is with as many as are His children, through the new birth in Jesus

Christ. Just as God still keeps His covenant with the nation of Israel today for Abraham's sake, He also keeps His covenant of protection with His covenant children for Jesus' sake.

Ps. 91:1 has, however, been misunderstood by many Christians, who think that dwelling in God's secret place means being perfect. No! It is not so at all.

Look at it this way: since you became born again, have you really become so perfect that you don't require God's grace and His Word to help you become a better Christian? We are daily changing from one level of glory to another, as we seek to conform to the image of Jesus, through

the help of the Holy Spirit. If God waits until we are perfect before shielding us from the fiery arrows of the enemy, we would all be dead men by now. That was the problem Job had, that broke God's covering over him (Job 1:5,10; 3:25). He thought he and his children needed to be perfect before God could protect them. Fear broke the hedge of protection around him, his family and possessions.

As soon as you are saved, you become a member of God's family, and God will never allow the devil to prey on you. Some Christians even think that some afflictions they suffer as believers are God's punishment for things they did wrong as unbelievers.

Again, this is a lie of the devil. As long as you are born again, you are a part of God's family, a member of His household. Tell me, what devil is strong enough to break through God's covering over you?

Every saved person is protected in the secret place of the Almighty. Every child of God is protected from the onslaught of the kingdom of darkness. Live in the consciousness of this truth all the days of your life. By so doing, you are fulfilling one of the terms that will make the covenant of protection to work for you.

The second term of the covenant is found in Psalm 91:2:

I will say of the LORD, He is my

refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

“I will say...” It is not enough to be conscious of dwelling in the secret place of the Almighty, you must also keep saying it. Keep saying that the Lord is your refuge and your fortress. Say it from a heart that is persuaded about it. Keep confessing what God says about you in His Word. Say it to the hearing of the devil and all his agents. Say it when things are going on smoothly for you, and even when the devil is trying to harass you. Keep saying what God’s Word says about your life, health, business, and your walk with Him.

I spoke many of the good things I

am enjoying today, by the grace of God, into being a long time ago. God opened my eyes to this wonderful truth, and I've walked in it over the years. Don't keep mute; your closed mouth is what is responsible for the beatings you often receive from the enemy.

This point cannot be over emphasized. To fulfill your own side of the covenant of protection, you must keep confessing the Word of God. The Word says, "*I will say of the Lord...*" You are meant to keep declaring the power and might of the Lord to deliver you from the wickedness that is in the world. You are not supposed to be talking about the evil that the devil is perpetrating, which is what many do.

As you say of the Lord that He is your refuge and fortress, your shield and buckler, your protector and keeper, what will result is found in the next verse:

Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

Don't allow the devil keep you in bondage by attacking the simplicity of the Gospel. Don't be deceived into watering down the import of saying what God says about you. Whatever you cannot say, you cannot have.

Do you know another immediate result of confessing the Word of God as it relates to you? It sparks off angelic intervention. This is because

angels hearken not just to His Word, but to the **voice** of His Word (Ps. 103:20). When His Word is given a voice, angels go into operation immediately. When you lend voice to God's Word, you set angels loose to battle on your behalf. God will turn against your adversaries when you open your mouth wide and declare His Word. His angels that excel in strength will also "fight to the finish" on your behalf. This subject will be discussed in greater details in a later chapter.

In my life as a believer, I have been a "loud mouth" as regards saying what the Word of God says. Again and again, I have seen God intervene to back up His Word that I speak

fearlessly, even to the face of those who oppose me. Let me cite one out of very many instances.

Sometime ago, we were about laying the foundation of one of our church buildings in a city in northern Nigeria, when a message came from some government officials that we couldn't go on, because approval had not been given to erect the church building. It was obvious that they were out to make trouble and to disrupt God's work. But I knew better than to stand watching while the enemy took the glory. I knew from God's Word that I had to boldly contend for the faith, and refuse to be intimidated. I got an interpreter to interpret for me

while I spoke to all their hearing:

“We lay the foundation of this house today for the rise and fall of many (Lk. 2:34). Everyone that is against this house will fall for it.”

Those opposed to our building the church were all hanging around the venue of the ceremony, and were well within ear-shot. I told the interpreter to say it exactly as I was saying it. I also said, “Everyone that is for this house will be built up along with it.” When it was time to lay the foundation, I again said, “This one is to the falling and rising of many, in the name of Jesus.”

Do you know what happened? That was the end of the matter, and till today, no one has ever disturbed the

brethren in that place. Beloved, don't keep mute and watch the enemy rob you of what belongs to you. Open your mouth wide and make declarations from a heart full of trust and confidence, lest the covenant covering upon you becomes ineffective. God forbid!

The third term of the covenant is found in Psalm 91:14, which says:

Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

In order for you to enjoy the provisions of the covenant of covering, you must keep loving God. Love God with the whole of your heart; love His

Word, His house, His work, His Kingdom business, and even His presence. Then, in addition to that desire to please Him always, and God says He will deliver you from trouble. When God is able to see in you a heart that longs after Him, when He sees that He is uppermost in your plans and thoughts, then will He be provoked to make good His Word concerning you. He will go all out to see to it that He spares you, because you have set your love upon Him (Mal. 3:17).

Our Abrahamic Covenant Of Freedom

I want to show you another dimension of the covenant, which we have access to by virtue of our new birth in Christ. It is the Abrahamic covenant. In Genesis 12:3, God said to Abraham (the father of faith), because he pleased Him):

And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

God means to say in this covenant, “I guarantee you a covering against the

wickedness anyone intends against you. I'll simply turn it back on him." Now, how does that relate to us? Galatians 3:14 provides the answer. It says:

That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

The verse before it tells us of Christ's work of redemption that made verse 14 applicable to us. Jesus' death brought us into the Abrahamic covenant, among other things. Not only did Jesus rescue us from sin, He also grafted us into the Abrahamic covenant, which basically guarantees us a covering against the forces of wickedness. Isn't that wonderful? He

said, *“I will bless whosoever blesses you, and curse whoever curses you.”*

We need to allow God to do just that on our behalf, because many of us are too pious for that kind of battle. Remember though, that no gentleman has any hope of returning from the war front! You can't be more righteous than God, Who says that it is part of His righteousness to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you (2 Thess. 1:6). Give God a chance to curse those that curse you, that the blessing of Abraham might remain with you, and so that Jesus' death will not be in vain in your life.

Beloved, this is God's concern and determination; it is His plan for you.

Look at what He also said through Prophet Isaiah concerning you:

For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee.

Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life.

Isaiah 43:3-4

This is why I am not attracted to cults or secret societies; the covering in God's Word is stronger than what they all have to offer. You are probably wondering why some Christians still suffer all forms of wickedness in the hands of the devil, in spite of all these

beautiful promises from God. It is because they allow him to afflict them. They don't realise there is a covenant in force on their behalf, which they must consciously walk in. It could even be that they don't believe God's Word enough to appropriate it for themselves.

God says you are precious in His sight, and that He loves you. As a result, He is ready to give men's lives in exchange for yours, if they won't stop disturbing you. That's a great promise, and we must allow God to make good on His Word in our lives, so that the evil that abounds in the world will not touch us. The Bible declares that:

The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous, and the transgressor for the upright.

Proverbs 21:18

Need I say anything more? Friend, tell God exactly what you want; He is the God of vengeance. Stop watching the devil rob you of what belongs to you. You are a covenant child, and are supposed to remain unscratched in spite of all the wickedness that's in the world today. Don't give in to fear, because it is the snare of the devil. He is under you, and can only make empty threats; he is a toothless bulldog! You have overcome him through Jesus Christ our Saviour. God has not left you comfortless in this wicked world.

You are divinely covered!

Chapter 5 - Watch Out For Satan's Tricks

Having lost every bit of power to Jesus, Satan has resorted to the use of tricks and gimmicks to overthrow the faith of believers. **Genesis 3:1** says:

Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made...

His first appearance in scriptures brings to light what kind of a devil we are dealing with here. The Bible says he is the most subtle of all God's creatures. The term "subtle" connotes a trickster. This means he is a man of

tricks. We are not dealing with a mighty, powerful, and strong devil. No! We are dealing with a being that is an embodiment of tricks. No trickster in the world can compete with him. In fact, the Bible says that if allowed, he would deceive even the very elect (Matt. 24:24). He has enough deception to catch even God's chosen ones. So, we can see that we are not face-to-face with a challenger, in terms of strength, but one in terms of tricks.

But thank God we are also men of wisdom. To deal with a man of tricks, you've got to be a man of wisdom. It is because we are not all aware of his devices that he has been able to take advantage of some of us. *So, in this*

chapter, I will be highlighting some of Satan's tools of deception, so that you will not be ignorant, and so that you can avoid falling for them. Even the Bible warns us to be vigilant:

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

1 Peter 5:8

Satan never gives up; he is constantly at his three-fold ministry. He is ever-resilient, and ever-resolute. To and fro he keeps going. So you need to be alert; you need to constantly exercise spiritual smartness. The Bible advises that we be not ignorant of Satan's devices, but should watch out,

“Lest Satan should get an advantage of us” (2 Cor. 2:11).

Satan is not that powerful being he has often been portrayed to be. He is not rugged and fierce. He is nothing but a master trickster. The Bible tells us, in Ephesians 6:11 to *“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the WILES of the devil.”* Another word for “wiles” is tricks, or devices. When God says one thing and Satan says it is not so. That was the trick he used on Eve. This is how he operates mostly.

Now, let's identify some of his tools of deception.

Miscarriage

Somebody who had been believing God for a child, finally gets pregnant. Then, suddenly, she sees blood. This “sign”, according to her, means she has lost the baby. That’s the devil’s lie! Is it blood you’re pregnant with or a child? The blood you see is not miscarriage; you’re the one who gave it a name. That you’re discharging blood while pregnant has nothing to do with the child in your womb. What you’re seeing is excess blood that is looking for a way out!

The gifts and callings of God are without repentance. Children are a

blessing from the Lord. God doesn't withdraw whatever He has blessed people with. Did He not assure us in Exodus 23:26 that for those who serve Him, "*There shall nothing cast their young?*"

Don't allow the devil to enlarge any problem for you. Whatever it is you're going through is not peculiar to you alone (1 Cor. 10:13), so don't let the devil make life tense for you.

The Suffering Mentality

Jesus said, in Matthew 11:29:

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

This is what the Master has said; yet you often hear people sing such songs as, “It’s not an easy road we’re travelling on to heaven, for many are the turns (and bumps) on the way...” It’s the devil that told them this. The owner of the road, the Way Himself, the One taking us there, says it is easy! There are some, who believe that difficulty is the only thing that gives

meaning to Christianity. Suffering and sorrow, to them, is the only way to categorize righteousness.

Though you may see trouble on the way, the owner of the way says it is an easy road, that the journey to heaven is an easy one. Thank God for Jesus, we can walk in this truth, while we're here on earth.

“Hath God Said...?”

This was the devil's trick in the Garden of Eden. Till today, the devil is still attacking the authenticity of the Word using this trick. He tells you, “The Word may not mean exactly what it says.” Note that the devil has a voice with which he can engage you in a dialogue. The Bible calls it the voice of

the stranger (Jn. 10:5). You must know from experience how to discern the voice of the Shepherd from that of a stranger.

Satan also specializes in tricking people to displease God. The Bible refers to him as the man of sin. He succeeds in afflicting people by making them displease God. It is true that the Bible says, *“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”* (1 Jn. 1:8-9). But what the devil tends to do is to make people not to recognize sin for what it is, so he can steal their possessions. He

corrupts people, so that they end up displeasing God. Hebrews 3:13 calls this “*the deceitfulness of sin.*”

Everywhere the Bible talks about deceit, know that the devil is behind it. Once the devil gets you to displease God, he can handle you; for if God be not for you, anything can be against you. But if God be for you, no devil can be against you (Rom. 8:31).

Watch out for the devil’s ministry of deception! It will enlarge in this end-time, so much so that it will even overtake some prophets. Matthew 24:24 says:

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it

were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

The devil's aim in using this trick is to get men and women off-track.

“That's Too Simple!”

But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:3

You hear the Word of God, and in all simplicity of heart and with faith you receive it with all joyfulness, believing God for the promised blessing. Then Satan comes and whispers to you, “Do you really think it's that cheap? That's too simple to be

true.”

Many have fallen victim of this voice from the pit of hell. Jesus gives a clear description of this in the Parable of the Sower (Mk. 4:15). The devil deceives people with his “That’s too simple” trick that they never get much profit from the Word of God; and as a result they drop off.

The simplicity of the gospel is incontestable. For example, you are either simply saved or you’re not saved at all. You are either ready to be simply healed by hanging on to the Word of God that guarantees your healing, or you will not be healed at all. It is like that in all facets of the Christian life. This is because somebody already paid

the price on your behalf (Isa. 53:5-9).

“There’s A Faster Way Out”

The devil has hastened many out of God’s abundance and plan for their lives through this trick. He mounts such unbearable pressure on them until they get impatient, worried and anxious, and consequently, take wrong steps and make decisions that end in frustration and failure.

After you have done the will of God and you are patiently waiting for God to fulfill His promise, Satan may whisper in your ears, “There’s a faster way out.” You must not fall for this trick. God’s Word assures us that God is not slow, as men count slowness. The Word of God is quick and

powerful. And Isaiah 28:16 warns us that, *“He that believeth shall not make haste.”*

You should know that “Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit” (Eccl. 7:8). So, relax! The Word of God is quick enough to bring lasting solution to all life’s problems. God said, *“I will hasten my word to perform it.”* So, *“Though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry” (Hab. 2:3).* So, give no room to anxiety, or you stand to lose every promise of the Lord.

“Like A Roaring Lion...”

The devil also specializes in

breathing threats in every form. Think of how Goliath held the whole of Israel spellbound with empty threats (1 Sam. 17:10-11). Think also of Rabshakeh's messages to Hezekiah, "I will make you to drink your urine. Which among the gods of the nations have delivered his land from my hand?" he yelled. "What is your confidence?" (Isa. 36:4-20).

These were mere threats, just to create fear in the hearts of the hearers; and fear, we know, begets a fall. This was Job's testimony in Job 3:25: "*The things I greatly feared have come upon me.*" Now, say aloud: "God has not given me the spirit of bondage again to fear, but of power, love, and of a sound

mind.”

The devil is not said to be a lion; he just likes to roar like one. I once read a commentary by an anointed servant of God, where he said: “Even if he (Satan) were to be a lion, he ought to be old by now.” A study of lions shows that an old lion has no ability to pounce on its prey. It, however, instills fear in its’ prey by roaring, and then walks majestically towards it. The old lion has lost the smartness required for him to pounce on its’ prey, but it still has a loud voice. This is why the phrase “*Fear not*” is repeated 365 times in the scriptures.

Fear paralyses initiative. The devil, just like an old lion, keeps roaring.

That's all he can do. However, you have to be aware of who you are, and that the Greater One lives in you. The devil is not a lion. He only roars like one. Whenever he roars, let the voice of the Shepherd rise higher in you, and the stranger will give way. As soon as he (the stranger) hears you roaring the Word, he will flee away from his hiding place (Ps. 18:44), because the voice of the Lord is greater than the voice of many waters (Ps. 93:4). The devil must not hold you to ransom with his empty roars.

Everything you fear, you end up experiencing. If you live in the fear of failure, you will end up a failure. If you live in the fear of death, death will kill

you long before the number of your days is fulfilled. If you live in constant fear of tomorrow, you will not enjoy your today. Jesus pushed aside the wailings and mockeries of the “lion”, and went ahead to fulfill His mission of raising Jarius’ daughter from the dead. Hannah pushed aside Peninnah’s mockery, made her way into God’s court, and laid hold on His promise of fruitfulness. Peter had no business looking at the storm on the sea. Had he kept his eyes on the Master, he would have continued walking on the sea.

The devil roars, so as to cause diversion on your path of faith. But you must keep your eyes fixed on Jesus and your ears tuned in to the voice of the

Lion of the tribe of Judah. Your weeping has come to an end!

Accuser Of The Brethren

...For the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

Revelation 12:10

Satan is also an accuser. He goes around accusing saints, pointing accusing fingers at them daily. He goes around telling people they are doing the wrong thing, or reminding them of past wrongs they have done. He does this so he can frustrate them and make them miserable.

Today, many Christians are suffering under this accusation ministry of the devil. He tells them

such stories as, “There was something you did four years ago that is the cause of what you’re going through now.” And he goes on and on like that, until he robs them of their confidence. And without confidence you can’t overcome.

If, while going out one day, you tell your child, “ I’m going out now, but I don’t want you to go play outside.” But, as soon as you leave, your child not only goes out to play, but actually rides his bicycle and sustains a near-fatal injury. What will you do as a parent? Will you club him to death or shoot him with a gun, simply because he disobeyed you? Or will you rush to his bedside at the hospital, full of

concern for his welfare and safety? If you won't do the former, why then do you think God will club you to death for that wrong thing you did?

Even when praying for some people today, they have one hundred and one reasons in their heart why their troubles should still remain. This is as a result of the numerous lies the devil has told them. So, rather than a breakthrough, the situation remains, and you hear such comments as, "Normally when a thing like this happens and you pray and fast and it doesn't seem to go; who can tell what God is planning?" Such a person has concluded that there is a plan by God for him to suffer, and this plan is

settled in heaven. Some others have accepted some strange beliefs, such as, “My temperature is usually high during the harmattan season, especially by 6.00 p.m.” That is the devil all out to get you to believe an error and, by so doing, cage you in. Friend, don’t allow the accuser of the brethren to weaken and wound your confidence. Watch out for his lies.

“That Thy Faith Fail Not...”

And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:

But I have prayed for thee, that
THY FAITH FAIL NOT...

Luke 22:31-32

The devil cannot stand your faith;

he has no choice but to flee when your faith is at work. So, his target is to blindfold you from believing the truth of the glorious gospel of Christ. But, just as Jesus assured Peter in the scripture above, no matter the plans of the devil, your faith will shatter them.

Know that the devil is impotent, as long as your faith is at work. He will always respect you when he sees your faith. You are created a master. You are born a king and a priest, and wherever the word of a king is, there is power (Eccl. 8:4). That was why you could walk out of the kingdom of darkness without any hindrance. As soon as you believed the gospel, your faith shot you high above the enemy.

He stood at attention, as a sign of respect for your faith, while you soared majestically out of his domain. Your faith translated you straight into the Kingdom of God's dear Son, the devil's security forces notwithstanding.

If you were able to get away, with ease, from the prison headquarters, how much easier will you walk out on his agents at the suburbs of hell? If the operations at the headquarters could not stop your faith, then it follows that nothing more than your faith will set you free anywhere else. It is your faith that will translate you from the kingdom of sickness into that of divine health, and from the kingdom of poverty to that of prosperity. Your faith

has translating powers, so stick your faith out; for you are far above principalities and powers!

...And this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our FAITH.

Satan's "Night-Traps"

About 80 percent of the troubles that befall Christians come through dreams. They tell you things like, "Yesterday I slept, and I saw my son sick." You try to encourage that person, telling him that the faith of the parent sanctifies the son. But he or she would only reply, "No, what 'God' showed me in the dream was different from that!"

Beware of the devil's night traps.

That's what I call all those funny dreams many claim to have and believe that it is from God. It is nothing but the devil's snare- one of his deadly tricks to deceive the very elect.

I used to hunt for game when I was young, and we usually set the traps for the game in the evenings. We set our traps in the night-time when we knew the vision of the animals was next to nil, and without fail, they always got caught in those traps. This is the same way Satan sets traps for people through dreams at night. Many have been trapped into untimely deaths, accidents, and various misfortunes through dreams. The devil presents them with pictures that instill fear in

them, and very soon they are trapped. When what they feared later comes to pass, you hear them say, “You see! ‘God’ showed me this thing in the dream. When I dream, it always comes to pass exactly as I saw it!”

Beware of dreams; they are Satan’s traps! God said you are a creature of value, that you shall be the head and not the tail. This is the truth. He said you will have dominion on the earth; that you will be in charge. Sickness cannot threaten you; neither can fear harass you. He says if you do the things He tells you to do, then He will make your way prosperous, and you will have good success (Jos. 1:8; Deut. 28:-14). God didn’t say He will do all these

promises if you dream at night.

The Bible says your old men shall dream dreams. So, until you're old you're not permitted to dream dreams. Abraham saw a vision at the age of seventy-five. The Bible also says your young men shall see visions. That means you're still a young man at seventy-five. What are you doing with those evil dreams? They are nothing but snares. Come awake!

Dream Bible Dreams

We are not called to go to bed after a heavy dinner and have horrible dreams. Rather, we are called to dream dreams of a great future that agree with God's plans for our lives. The Word of God, the Bible, is God's dream bank (His dream for triumphant living), from where we can all draw health, peace, success, victory, etc. I am not talking about daydreaming or nightmares, but about Bible-dreaming, with light from heaven dawning on your soul.

I never had a problem starting my home, because I discovered in God's dream bank that, "*It is not good that*

the man should be alone” (Gen. 2:18). God, therefore, said, “*I will make a help meet to make life better for him.*” This makes it obvious that God did not design marriage to make life worse for the man. So, all that “For better for worse, in sickness and in health” marriage vows that people recite during wedding ceremonies is unscriptural, it is a curse! Tradition is an enemy of progress, and a destroyer of destinies. But, as long as your dream has its root in the Word of God, it has a future. The Bible is God’s dream book for man. Any dream outside it is a trap; so draw your dreams from “*The Book.*”

I had always known I was going to have plenty of money. How? From

“The Book”. Job 22:22-25 says:

Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.

If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, thou shalt put away iniquity far from thy tabernacles.

Then shalt thou lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks.

Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver.

I am glad to let you know that I have never borrowed, and will never borrow till I die. This is my dream. I am a giver, and so, I see a very prosperous future for myself. From

where? From “The Book.” This is not mere daydreaming. Your dream must have its roots in the Bible; otherwise it has no future. No matter your calling in life, the Bible is God’s dream book for you.

I caught a dream of old age from the Bible. God said “*The number of your days I will fulfill.*” And in case you don’t know the number, He said, “*With long life will I satisfy you*” (Ps. 91:16). Jacob was 147 years old when he died, and Joshua was 110. These were patriarchs under the Old Testament. I then said to myself, “If the ministration of death be so glorious, how much more shall the ministration of the spirit be?” If you

catch this same dream of longevity with me, you are bound to enjoy the same.

Bible dreams, unlike Satan's traps, are sealed with the blood of Jesus and tried in fire seven times. Whatever you see from Genesis to Malachi, and from Matthew to Revelation is available for your possession. This is what it takes to be restored to honour and dignity. For example, for those serving God, His dream forbids that you be barren or suffer miscarriage. It forbids that you carry any form of sickness and disease about. It also forbids that you be crushed by the enemy in death (Ex. 23:23-25, Deut. 7:14). A God-given dream makes you a winner and a ruler,

and it charts a glorious destiny for you.

Though our congregation was still under forty worshippers in 1984, I had seen, in Deuteronomy 28:1, that if I would diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord and do what He tells me, then God would set me on high above all nations of the earth. Note that He didn't say above my nation, but above all nations. I immediately knew I was not programmed for "local championship". I saw that I was an international personality, who was not going to die as a person, but as an institution. This was even when there was neither any comeliness nor form that anybody should desire me.

Dream Bible dreams, as what you

see today will determine what you become tomorrow! Jesus said, "One thing is needful." So, sit down and catch a dream, because any dream you catch from the Bible will lighten your burdens.

I caught a dream of divine health. I saw in my Bible that He himself took my infirmities and bore my sicknesses (Mt.8:17). I, therefore, knew I could never be a victim of sickness, because His dream for me is void of sickness. A dream is the number one requirement in God's magic formula for success. There must be a dream before one can begin to talk about fulfillment in life.

I would like you to know that triumph is your destiny, and that God is

concerned when you are dying under the weight of Satan's afflictions. You need to know how to play your covenant cards in order to excel and prevail over life's circumstances that may rise up against you.

There are people today who are obviously working very hard, but who have nothing to show for it. Every morning they are up and out on the streets. Yet, such people just can't locate what life has to offer them. Why? They lack a dream. Friend, we live in a dreamers' world. Dreamers reign on this planet earth. Without an authentic dream, you don't have a future. The Bible is God's dream bank from where you can discover your

future and design your destiny. Whatever you see in it is guaranteed as a dream that must come to pass.

Many years ago I saw from God's Word that redemption is not limited to the soul, but also covers the body (3 Jn. 2). I discovered that God is just as concerned about my physical life, as He is about my spiritual life. I also discovered from God's Word that when Jesus was being beaten (before He went to the cross), my body was rescued from pains, sicknesses and diseases. Except you can "unbeat" Him and remove the stripes from His body, nobody can succeed in placing sickness on me. I came out with a dream - I cannot be sick!

This is how you enter into covenant Bible dreams. They come through a discovery, an embracing of the truth, and an application of its demands. I have become an eternal enemy of sickness. I see sickness as a devil that must be cast out. I see my body as the temple of the Living God, so my dream for a healthy life is sealed. Stop announcing sickness!

Friend, none of my dreams have failed so far. The most authentic dreams any man can ever dream are Bible-backed ones: revelation imparted dreams. They never fail. The devil will not deceive you any more! You'll no longer be caught in his 'night-traps,' in Jesus' name.

Guard Your Mind

Your mind is such a crucial asset to a victorious life. The mind is so vital that it is Satan's main target for attack in man. This is because the mind is the eye of the man. What it sees and accepts shapes a man's life and determines his state. This is why the devil would rather have more blind minds than blind eyes. He can never succeed in flooring anyone whose mind he has not first held captive. For this reason the Bible warns us to:

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Proverbs 4:23

The New English Bible translation (**NEB**) says, “*Guard your heart more than any treasure, for it is the source of all life.*” Peter also reiterated this command in 1 Peter 1:13:

Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober...

There is no other way the enemy can reach you except through your mind; and the moment he is able to capture your mind he has got you. Romans 8:6 says:

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Jesus didn't come to paralyse your mind; rather, He came to upgrade it. There is a “spiritualizing” process of

the mind that makes the abundant life that Jesus came to offer us a reality. Hence, the enemy is constantly hunting for our minds. It is the base of his operations. When he took over Peter's mind, Peter became Satan on the spot. Jesus said to him, in Matthew 16:23, "*Get thee behind me, Satan.*" Peter no longer saw things the way God saw them; he stood against God in the arm of the flesh.

Every time you find yourself arguing against the Word of God, know that the devil is behind it. His ministry is to make you a captive, so you become an enemy of the truth. If he succeeds, you find yourself turning your back on the truth each time you

come in contact with it. Apostle Paul knew the devil's trick so well:

In whom the god of this world hath **BLINDED THE MINDS** of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

2 Corinthians 4:4

The principal access of the enemy into the believer's life and affairs is through his mind. The Bible says, "*Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot...*" (**Lk. 22:3**). So he lost his sense of value and decided to sell his master for a mere thirty pieces of silver.

Sometime ago, while on my drawing board doing some work, a

thought came to my mind, “Who says the devil is not powerful?” He then began to bring to my remembrance all the havoc my family had been through – “So and so who died, who killed him? The day you went on a journey and the car somersaulted, you think I didn’t do it?” That’s what the devil does. He attacks your mind by bringing all you can see around, to challenge all you claim to know. For somebody who is believing God for a child, for example, he reminds her, “What of the x-ray you took? Don’t you remember that your two tubes are blocked?” He constantly uses occurrences and situations around as points of reference. That is why the Bible recommends that we walk by

faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7).

Know this: there is no way Satan can get to you, except through your mind. Look at the rich fool for instance. The devil woke him up in the night, and said to him, “There is nobody like you in the whole of this community. You have enough to eat and drink, even if you don’t work till you die.” The man must have then stood up, looked at himself in the mirror, and said, “I know what I will do. I will pull down all my barns, and say to my soul, ‘soul, it’s time to relax.’ The devil had polluted his mind! Listen to his words —”I...I...I...” God became irrelevant to him. The devil made him displease God, so that

he could get him. Your mind is a battleground!

A young lady shared this interesting testimony with me sometime ago: While preaching one day, I was led by the Holy Spirit to ask people who desired to be married to stand to their feet. I then pronounced every curse and spell over their lives broken. This lady said, mysteriously, within a week, a young man approached her and asked for her hand in marriage. Prior to that time, somebody had once told her that she would never live to see her marriage. From then on, this lady took her mind off marriage. The devil had told her it was not possible to be married with the

curse that had been placed on her. Her mind was held captive, and she was no more expectant. She became a mental prisoner of the devil.

I Thank God that I have always known that what God says is final, no matter what other people may have said. There are some today who are still being held captive by what their parents said to them when they were in kindergarten. There are yet others who are expecting problems before they even arrived; they are already mentally prepared for trouble. For example, there are very few Nigerians, who believe one can have a family without troubles. You hear such statements as, “Do you know that even a born-again

Bishop, filled with the Holy Spirit, sent his wife packing the other day?”

Friend, your mind has to undergo rejuvenation. You need to come out of your cocoon of bondage. Tell yourself, “I’m not made for trouble; I’m made for peace. I’m not made for failure; I’m made for success.” You can’t run away from challenges. All you need do to defeat the enemy is to build up a strong resistance against him and all he may throw at you. If Satan can’t get your mind, he can’t get you. He has no access to your spirit. Your spirit-man is in union with God, but your mind is here, available to him.

Many whose minds are bound have accepted that trouble is a normal way

of life. But note that whatever you can't picture yourself getting into, you'll never enjoy, because the Bible says, "*The expectation of the righteous shall not be cut off*" (Prov. 24:14). So, don't look at your tomorrow and say, "What a bleak tomorrow." Expect great things, and that is exactly what you will get. To be able to do this, you need to renew your mind. You need to paint a mental picture of a glorious life that transcends the limits of your salary and family background. This is so important, that the Bible tells us in Ephesians 4:23:

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind.

Every evil work proceeds out of

your thoughts. The man who gets to the point of slapping his wife first had the plot planned out in his mind. So, what do you do to your mind to make it be able to resist the enemy's pollution? Your mind must be correctly tuned to God, to know exactly what to do per time. You need to "spiritualise" your mind. Remember that *"to be carnally minded is death: but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."*

Satan took over both Peter and Judas' minds. Thank God Peter eventually overcame, but Judas ended up a victim. Satan also took over Eve's mind, and she shifted her mind from God's commandment. According to Paul's writing to the Corinthian

Church, Eve was deceived; she wasn't overpowered (2 Tim. 3:13; 2 Cor. 11:3).

Isaiah 26:3 reveals a secret on how to guard our minds from the devil's infiltration:

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee...

If you give your mind over to the devil, he will steal your destiny; so be alert. When he comes to clog your mind with his wild and evil imaginations and thoughts, clear it up by praying in the Holy Ghost (Jude 20). Doing this will help ventilate your mind.

Your mind must be in active participation with your spirit in order

for the covenant to work for you. You must constantly have a spiritual perspective to life. It doesn't matter if the whole world seems to be swallowed-up in problems, they won't affect you, for to be spiritually-minded is life and peace. Never listen to what the devil is saying. Rather, be mindful of what God is saying at all times.

You might be telling yourself, "I want to enjoy life, I want to be in the will of God. But my mind seems to be an enemy of my soul and future." Let your mind be constantly filled with God's Word. Let God's Word give you a new thought pattern, let it affect your mind. You must see things the way God sees them. You must not be

overtaken by what is happening around you, but by what is written in God's Word. You must be spiritually-minded, as spiritually-minded people are people of exploits; they must enjoy life and peace.

The Bible tells us ,in Romans 12:2:

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God.

You need a daily renewal of your mind. It will help you to disregard the enemy and all his pranks. You will then find yourself looking at life with hope. When the devil comes to challenge you, tell him to get lost, and remind

him of what the Word of God says concerning the issue.

There was a woman, who had been informed by a physician that she had no womb. As far as the doctors were concerned, her case was already a write-off. My mind had already been sharpened by the Word of God when I visited them. I knew that the God, who made man is also a manufacturer of human spare parts. So, I turned to the woman and said, “Woman, the devil stole your womb, because when God made all things, He said they were ‘very good’. Every part was intact. The devil indeed came to steal, but Jesus came to give us back what the devil had stolen.” At this point I could see

her and her husband exploding in faith. I said to them, “Even if what the x-ray shows is correct, God has the answer. So, in the name of Jesus, don’t take another x-ray, just have a baby!” That settled it. I was somewhere for a meeting some months later, and there she was, sharing a testimony, with her baby in her hand!

Don’t ever let the enemy tell you your future has no meaning, because you are too valuable to God. The whole world cannot compare with the value of your soul, so you are very precious in the sight of God.

God is not behind your sufferings; rather, He is standing there to lift you out of it. He takes pride in your

success, He wants to brag about you; so don't let the enemy fool you into believing that nothing else matters, except getting to heaven. You are not only to get to heaven, you are to radiate His glory also upon the earth. But those with polluted minds can never see a future for themselves in this life. Their destiny is consequently lost to circumstances. They walk on in hopelessness and frustration. Your mind belongs to God, so keep it pure. Philippians 4:8 says:

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good

report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Think on good things only, for as the Living Bible translation renders Proverbs 4:23, “*Your thoughts shape your life.*” Any time you find yourself thinking trash, tell your mind to come back home, even if it means shouting out loud at yourself in public.

Our minds play a very great part in what becomes of our lives and future. So bring your mind into subjection to the Word of God. Know, also, that as much as your mind is the battlefield, it is also the victory ground; it is where your destiny is determined. What you think makes your tomorrow. What you

think determines the things you say, and what you say is what shapes your life. God is listening to what is going on inside you more than what you are saying with your mouth; so guard your mind with all watchfulness. Do what Apostle Paul tells us to do in 2 Corinthians 10:5:

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

Beware Of Depression

The dictionary defines depression as a feeling of utter hopelessness, despondency, self-disgust and loss of perspective. It is a mood swing into which a man is cast. And who is the author or source of depression? Satan, the enemy, of course! Depression chokes the brain and blinds the mind (Lk. 8:14; 2 Cor. 4:4). It is a very destructive weapon of the enemy, so it must be fought with everything you've got. It is a destroyer that makes victims of men.

Depression enters into the mind to block it from the light of the glorious

gospel. It chokes the Word out, making the mind unproductive. Your access to God's presence is blocked when you are depressed (Ps. 100:1-5); it disconnects you from the Father. Not only that, it also destroys your harvest. Depression brings a man under a curse (Deut. 28:47-48). Depression can equally destroy your health (Prov. 17:22). The moment you subscribe to depression, those things that should work inside you start to fail. It is the worst enemy of your destiny. Any day the devil can get you depressed, then he has spoilt your day.

Depression hinders your flight to your high places, as your joy is cut off (Hab. 3:17-19). It is a channel through

which Satan brings cares, worries, and anxieties to keep you down, so the Word of God becomes meaningless to you, and consequently unimportant. Move away from any depressed person, as he can also depress your life. Whereas sins are forgivable, depression has to be treated, because it is a sin against oneself, not against God. So deal with it!

Rejoice Evermore!

Joy is the key to our superiority over Satan. Whereas, depression makes victims of men, joy makes champions of men. That is why Paul told us in Philippians 4:4 to:

Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

Joy is a pace-setter in our Christian race. The more of it you have, the more victories you enjoy over Satan. The level of joy you operate in determines the level of exploits you enjoy. It makes you and God a formidable, invincible team, and establishes your triumph over Satan in any conflict of life. It is the only medicine for depression, as it is a means of ventilating your spirit. James 5:13 tells us to sing if we're merry.

When you're depressed you have no contact with God's presence, because a praise-full life is required to carry God's presence. Also, without joy you have no access to revelations (Isa. 12:3). And without revelation, there's

no faith, and without faith there is no victory (1 Jn. 5:4). Joy makes your day! If you serve the Lord with joyfulness and gladness of heart, Satan will have no access to you. He is out to move you against God; so keep him off your territory with joy - singing and making melody in your heart unto the Lord (Eph. 5:19).

Organise for joy and happiness. Programme for it. Fill your home with music, and live in constant gratitude and thankfulness to God. To take God for granted is to be grounded! Let your heart be filled with a ceaseless flow of thanksgiving and appreciation unto God, for to be “praise-full” is to be “win-full”. Heaviness is a spirit (Isa.

61:3). Satan calculates heaviness for God's people because he knows no one can stop the fiery acts of God when man is giving Him quality praise. So fight heaviness. Every time you can't find joy, the thief is at work. But a ceaseless flow of joy will cause your spiritual life to blossom. Engage in this "heavenly sense" in order to be free from depression.

Flee covetousness, for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he has (Lk. 12:15). The Bible tells us to rejoice in the Lord always, not in the things you have. Until you count all things but dung, your joy in the Lord will not be genuine.

It takes joy to operate in the

excellent spirit that makes for distinction. It takes joy to create a future. You belong to the order of joy by creation (Gal. 5:22), so let the fruit flow!

Chapter 6 - Combating The Storms Of Life

I make bold to say that storms are normal to living. Does that sound negative and different from what you believe? Well, that's the truth of God's Word, and the earlier you embrace it, the better for you. This is what the Bible says:

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations.

James 1:2

In other words, we are not to count it strange when storms and trials come our way, because they are to be

expected. No matter how anointed or holy you are, the storms of life will attempt you, in a bid to discomfit you. To count storms strange when they come amounts to submitting to defeat.

But the Bible doesn't stop there. It also tells us why these storms come our way.

Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

James 1:3-4

Think of it, even Jesus – the author and finisher of our faith, the Saviour of the world, the Bishop of our souls – also had His own share of the storms of

life. In Mark 4:35-41, the storms raged against Jesus' ship, and on other occasions He faced diverse trials and temptations. If the storms attempted Jesus, who then will they not attempt? If Jesus had to face storms, what makes you think we won't have to face them too?

No doubt, storms of life are part and parcel of our redemptive package. You don't need to commit sin to experience life's troubles. Remember Jesus never sinned, yet the storms attempted to destroy Him. The storms of life have access to anyone.

Do you realise too that every divine placement is preceded by great examinations? Before God can ever

place you in any position, He will first prove you, to determine what stuff you are made of. Just as no student is ever promoted in school without first sitting for and passing examinations, likewise no child of God ever moves forward without facing challenges.

To better understand what I'm saying here, you need to observe the kind of tests that steel, used for the construction of bridges, is subjected to. The steel is passed through a very tough test to ascertain its' strength. It's not the easiest thing, and I'm sure if steel had the ability to talk, it would have cried out! But you see, you don't just pick up any piece of metal and use it to build a bridge that is expected to

carry the weight of several tons of materials and vehicles for many years. It's the same way with every believer, who must go forward. He must undergo severe tests, to determine his strength.

Like the children of Israel, there will be the Egyptian taskmasters to contend with, apart from the divinely arranged Red Sea, the Jordan river, and the walls of Jericho, on your way to your Canaan. Though Joseph knew he was going to be king, he still had to pass through slavery and imprisonment to arrive at the top. Friend, the storms are not designed to destroy or overwhelm you, they are there to promote you; the storms are not meant to tear you apart, but to enthrone you.

Most of all, thanks be to God that every storm has an answer. No change is intractable, and there are several ways of solving every problem, if only you will maintain the right stance. It is what we see exemplified in the life of Jesus, in Mark 4:38. The storm was raging vehemently against the ship Jesus was in, causing it to be filled with water and begin to sink. But the Bible tells us that, in the midst of this contrary situation, Jesus was asleep on a pillow in the hinter part of the ship! Can you beat that? Jesus was asleep on a pillow in the midst of a very tempestuous storm. That speaks of perfect rest, and it is a demonstration of unalloyed faith.

Rest is the right attitude to exhibit in the face of storms of life. By rest, I don't mean complacency or outright inaction. No. What I mean is rest borne out of faith in God's saving ability and grace. Restlessness is the major reason dear children of God get overwhelmed by life's situations. But rest is the springboard for sweatless triumph, because it provokes divine intervention in your affairs.

Whenever you are confronted with any contrary situation, you must exhibit a deep-seated, heartfelt confidence in God's ability to deliver you from it, before you can ever expect Him to pull you over it. Jesus asked His disciples in verse 40, after He had

calmed the storm:

...Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?

Whenever you fear and panic, as a result of contrary winds around you, you are exhibiting faithlessness. You are doubting God's saving ability, telling Him He is not strong enough to fight for you and to defend you.

Rest is a direct result of faith in God and His Word. And do you know that everything in God's Word (the Bible) is finished and sealed for everyone who will dare to believe it. God isn't going to make new arrangements for your triumph that He hasn't already provided for in His Word. The promises in God's Word are

open “*to everyone that believeth.*” Unbelief or faithlessness, demonstrated by fear, is the only blockage to your experiencing the miraculous intervention of God in your affairs.

I can hear you saying, “I’ve done all I know to do, but nothing just seems to be working.” Well, despite how hard you have tried, I believe you haven’t made a headway yet, simply because you haven’t done the right thing! Peter and the others in that ship had definitely done all they knew to do before Jesus’ intervention; but their best was not good enough to solve the problem, because they didn’t do the right thing. Panic, tears and fidgeting do not solve any problem. Isaiah 30:7

tells us in simple language that:

For the Egyptians shall help in vain, and to no purpose: therefore have I cried concerning this, THEIR STRENGTH IS TO SIT STILL.

Your destiny is not in the hands of the Egyptians (unbelievers). Rather, when you sit still you draw strength from above to take the right steps in the direction of your triumph. Men of rest are men of triumph. Every storm can be calmed.

...In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength...

Isaiah 30:15

You can make a mess of the storms in your life by refusing to be terrified

by your adversary, the devil. The storm was real, no doubt, but Jesus treated it as though it wasn't there. Fear enslaves, but rest emboldens and gets you set to attack the negative situation. Exodus 14:13-14 makes us understand that God will fight for us when we hold our peace.

And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

Receive the impartation of supernatural rest right now, in the

name of Jesus. I loose upon you the grace to be still and hope in God, in spite of the raging storms, in Jesus' precious name. Every storm of life answers to your authority when you hold your peace.

Do you know why the knowledge of the truth I'm sharing with you now is so important? It is because life's challenges come suddenly and unannounced. Not only that, you will have to face them all alone. The toughest challenges that confronted saints of old were faced by each of them all alone. The toughest moment of Father Abraham's life was when he had to carry his only son, Isaac, to the slaughter slab. He had waited twenty-

five years to have him, and now God commanded him to go and slaughter the lad with his own hands! He faced that all alone, because he couldn't even tell his wife. When Peter denied Jesus, he was all by himself, face-to-face with temptations that led to his denial, and his strength (or lack of it) was exposed. The same thing happened to Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, where He travailed alone, because everyone else left Him to Himself.

That is why it is important you wholeheartedly embrace these words you are reading now, so that when the storms come to you alone (and they definitely will), you will have the right approach for triumph.

Rebuke The Contrary Winds

The next thing to do in combating the storms of life is what Jesus did in Mark 4:39:

And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

I don't know what the storms in your life are, but one thing I know is that it is time to challenge them. Having taken your rest in God, and with your heart stayed on Him for saving grace, it is time to address those storms. Rebuke the contrary wind blowing around you.

Every storm has ears to hear and a mind to understand and recognize the authority behind the voice that is speaking. Note that Jesus did not rebuke the devil here. No! He simply challenged the storm. He spoke directly to the situation and it obeyed, because storms are not hard of hearing. Business failure is not deaf, barrenness has ears to hear, confusion and lack also have ears, and so does every storm of life. It is time to rebuke every wind that is contrary to God's will for your life.

Note that Jesus did not stop at rebuking the winds. He said to the sea, "*Peace, be still.*" No wonder He taught us in Mark 11, to address our

mountains, not the devil, and not even God. We are to address the issues, the contrary situations and circumstances.

The power of life and death lie in your tongue, that's what the Word says (Prov. 18:21). Address that embarrassing situation right now. Say to it what you desire, that is in line with the Word of God. It is time to challenge your challenges. The storms you cannot address will not submit to you. Look at every storm and say, "You are too small to overcome me, because the Greater One lives on my side."

You have the same authority as Jesus, because He said greater works than He did we will do also (Jn. 14:12). Therefore, arise like Jesus did and

wield your scepter of authority, by rebuking the winds and speaking peace to the turbulence around you.

The conclusion of the whole matter is this: *Fear not!* Jesus is asking you right now, the same way He asked His jittery disciples, “*Why are ye so fearful?*” Fear destroys. Anything or anybody you fear automatically enslaves you. Have you forgotten that you belong to the order of the Lion of the tribe of Judah? The righteous is as bold as a lion, not as cowardly as a rat.

The knowledge of the truth will put you over, and the truth shall set you free. Embrace the truth of His Word now and live.

Chapter 7 - Engaging The Force Of Prophecy

There is nothing greater than the knowledge of the truth of God's Word, which is what sets free. Without the knowledge of the truth, you'll be groping in the dark, not knowing what next step to take. It's like using the wrong key to try to unlock a door: it is very frustrating. That is why you must open up for the truth of God's Word concerning how to do battle against the wickedness of the enemy.

Let me show you one weapon given to you by God to overcome the devil,

and how to use it. That weapon is prophecy. Ephesians 6:12 establishes the truth that we are engaged in spiritual warfare:

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

The phrase, “*We wrestle*” connotes a state of perpetual confrontation. It means we are engaged in warfare day and night, and it takes training in the Word of God to triumph. When Abraham was going to battle, in Genesis 14:14, the Bible tells us that he armed his trained servants. The Psalmist also says, in Psalm 18:34:

He teacheth my hands to war, so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms.

Pursuing the enemy without proper training by God amounts to risking your life. You must be trained and taught of God, to know how to subdue the enemy via prophecy, because the warfare is real and is raging continually. Thank God, however, that although battles are normal to living, triumph is also normal to Christianity. The battles are real, true; but the victories are also sure, because you have a predestination in Christ that forbids defeat.

What is prophecy? The first thing that comes to most minds is the picture

of a man or woman shaking uncontrollably (obviously in a frenzy), muttering some unintelligible and a few decipherable words. But that's not it. Prophecy is lending your voice to the truth of God's Word that is planted in your heart by the Holy Spirit.

The truth is this: prophetic confrontations with strongholds of the enemy that confront you will cause them to bow. No wonder Paul charged Timothy thus:

This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare.

1 Timothy 1:18

In order to properly explain the

effectiveness of doing spiritual warfare with prophecies, let us study the popular prophetic passage in Ezekiel 37:1-14. Verse 1 says:

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones.

Verse 2 makes us understand that the bones were very dry. Now, this was a very hopeless situation, humanly speaking. Dryness talks about lifelessness and helplessness. Remember, however, that the hand of the Lord carried Ezekiel in the Spirit of the Lord. That is the most effective state to be for prophecy to take place

and for it to have effect. Being in the Spirit of the Lord is the right springboard for doing prophetic battles. Every time the Spirit of the Lord comes upon you, you have an initiation into the prophetic realm for doing battle. Verse 4 says:

Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.

What Ezekiel held in his hands was the Word of the Lord. That was the substance of his subsequent declarations: “*Hear ye the word of the Lord.*” He spoke God’s Word to the hopeless situation.

When you are confronted with any

act of wickedness from the enemy, speak the Word of the Lord. Speaking the Word of God to contrary situations amounts to prophesying to those situations. Many of us know how to talk to God, quite a few, even know how to address the devil, but very few Christians know how to command life into the very dry situations of their lives.

There was no mention of the devil in this passage. The bones were said to be very dry, but who made them dry was not mentioned either, because it was of no importance. The important thing is to speak the Word of the Lord against every negative situation of your life. Verse 7 says:

So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

Did you notice the immediate response to Ezekiel's prophecy? He didn't pray, neither did he weep; he merely did as he was commanded – he prophesied, and the result was instantaneous!

You need to be able to differentiate between the time to pray and the time to simply make declarations based on God's Word. The bones were scattered and lifeless, but as Ezekiel prophesied, the bones came together, preceded by a great noise and a shaking.

The Lord said to me, “This is the missing axe-head that makes many believers struggle through life, instead of triumphing, as contained in the covenant.” Prophecies make for sweatless triumph over the enemy’s devices. No stronghold of wickedness can resist the power of prophecy when you declare God’s Word from a convinced and faith-filled heart.

Verse 8 tells us that sinews and flesh came upon the bones, as well as skin. But they were lifeless. Ezekiel was told to prophesy again in verse 9, but this time, to the winds to breathe upon the lifeless bodies, so they would live. He obeyed in verse 10:

So I prophesied as he commanded

me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

The Bible says in Isaiah 1:19, *“If you be willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land.”* Obey God’s Word today, and prophesy to your spiritual life, your marriage, health, finances, etc, and see the life of God surging through them again.

Ezekiel prophesied to the winds, and worthlessness became exceeding greatness! If you know how to use this weapon of prophecy, out of your seemingly worthless situation will come forth greatness. Prophecy to that embarrassing situation; it is not of God. Prophecy will bring you into

covenant with God, and separate you in a confused world. The reason you have been held down this long is because you haven't known the right step to take concerning the negative situations confronting you. This is what you must do now. Jesus said:

For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Mark 11:23

You have an open cheque; fill in exactly what you desire. Don't stare at

the mountain, and don't retreat from it either. Instead, "*Say unto the mountain...*" Prophecy unto it by declaring God's Word concerning you in relation to it. Remember that Ezekiel was in the Spirit of the Lord when he made those declarations that worked so powerfully.

What then does it mean to be in the Spirit of the Lord? It simply means to be spiritually-minded and act as God commands. Therefore, when you want to prophesy against situations in your life, you speak words that God commands you to speak, words that do not negate His Word. You declare exactly what God has said concerning that situation. As you do this, you are

not speaking mere words, but words that can turn the situation around in your favour.

The foundation for doing prophetic battles is to come alive spiritually, and to know what it means to carry God's presence. Be so spiritually sensitive that you know when God's hand is upon you and when He's leading you to take a step or speak a word. This happens as you tarry in God's presence and get addicted to studying His Word for instructions.

Declarations made under such divine circumstances cannot but produce in line with the Word of God. There is this song we often sing: *“Every time I feel the Spirit moving in*

my heart, I will pray.” Thank God for prayer, but when the Spirit came upon Ezekiel, he prophesied God’s Word as he was commanded. No wonder he got the overwhelming results he got. Also, when Saul came into the midst of prophets in 1 Samuel chapter 10, the Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and what did he do? He prophesied. Every time you sense the hand of the Lord upon you and you are in the Spirit of the Lord, release prophetic utterances to deal with circumstances that come your way.

The Word of God has a prophetic nature that makes a mess of life’s mountains and negative circumstances, providing triumph with ease, as if the

battles are not real (2 Pet. 1:19). The more sure word of prophecy talked about here causes light to shine forth in whatever dark area you are confronted with, until it makes a star of you. The Word of God is the light that shatters every form of darkness. It has been tried and is pure. God has delivered this great tool of prophecy into your hands, to turn your very dry bones to an exceeding great army. This is your God-designed route to the top.

God's Word is the most sophisticated and effective computer in the world! If you feed it in and call it out, it will answer to you, making the devil of no importance in your affairs. This package is yours; lay hold on it,

because prophecy is the ladder that takes you to your destination. Lend your voice to God's Word.

Some Results Of Prophecy

When we echo God's Word in prophecy, the following results will definitely come to pass:

The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

Psalm 29:4

The first result of prophetic utterances is the release of power for accomplishment. God confirms His Word that is spoken from a convinced heart by making sure that there is accompanying power to accomplish the desired result. He also backs it up with His majesty.

The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.

Psalm 29:5

The next benefit is that the toughest of cedars will bow to the Word of God. No matter how tough or impossible a situation may seem, the Word of God will break it. Nothing can resist the omnipotency of His Word when you speak it forth. All strongholds of life will surrender and do His will. Verse 6 says:

He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn.

At the sound of the Word of the Lord, every mountain will skip out of

sight. They will jump and leap very quickly, never to return. That's not all; verse 7 also says:

The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire.

Glory to God! Even the fiery furnace set up to consume us will part for us to go through, unscratched, at the voice of the Lord! Remember, the three Hebrew boys in Daniel chapter 3? No matter what is happening to everyone else in the world, no matter the intensity of heat, you can walk through the fire untouched, via prophecy. It is time for you to begin to believe for your covenant distinction, through prophetic battles.

Whenever the voice of the Lord is

uttered via prophecy, there are no more tales of woe. Rather, every time His people gather together, they will only be speaking of His glory and His wondrous deeds (verses 8-9). When you say what God says, He becomes committed to its fulfillment.

The scriptures are prophetic packages, sent by God to shatter your darkness and cause your star to rise. The devil came against Jesus with the intention of making Him fall like Adam did. But Jesus began to shoot arrows of prophecy at the enemy, saying, "*It is written...*" and before long the devil departed. Any time you say, "*It is written...*" or "*Thus saith the Lord...*" you are shooting arrows at

the enemy, and he will definitely depart. You don't have to be in a frenzy, close your eyes, or even look pious to prophesy. The Word of God that you speak under the influence of the Holy Spirit, by the divine illumination of your inner man is prophecy and it will liberate you.

Your Tongue Has Fruits

Your tongue is a seed of creation that has been programmed to bear fruits for you.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Proverbs 18:21

Only those who know and appreciate the use of the tongue can eat the fruit thereof. In the natural, if you don't know how to plant your seed, it will not grow. If you want a maize harvest and you place a maize seed on the carpet in your house, guess what will happen to it? Your guess is as

good as mine.

How forcible are right words! but what doth your arguing reprove?

Job 6:25

Right words are true words, and the “truest” words are God’s Words. When you speak the truth of God’s Word, you are sowing seeds of truth that will germinate and bring forth the fruits of your desire. Don’t trade this knowledge for anything under the sun. Co-operate with God to plant seeds of His Word via prophecy, and reap a harvest of plenty in God. The prevailing wickedness in the world is under your control; learn to do battle with prophecy and see your star rise ,to the glory of God.

Chapter 8 - Engaging The Force Of The City Of Refuge

In Numbers 35:9-15 and Joshua 20:1-6, God instructed the children of Israel to set aside some appointed places known as Cities of Refuge. The essence of these cities was to provide a place of refuge for anyone, who inadvertently killed someone and was being pursued by the avenger of blood. Anyone who mistakenly kills somebody could run to any of these cities of refuge and be protected from the killer (avenger of blood).

In this book we have talked about

God's commitment to our safety in this wicked world. The avenger of blood, in our case as Christians today, is the devil, the wicked one. But unlike in the Old Testament times, you don't need to commit any wrong before he starts chasing you and wanting to get rid of you. His three-fold ministry revolves round stealing, killing, and destroying.

But there is a city of refuge in God, where you can run to for covering from the evil one. As the end draws near, the wicked will do more wickedly, but the city of refuge is your shield against the wickedness of the wicked. No city can be more secure than the city of refuge, because it is where God dwells.

Where or what is the city of refuge

in our present day? It is called Zion, the assembling place of the children of God. I believe God has respect for places. That's why the Psalmist said:

For the LORD hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation.

This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

Psalm 132:13-14

Zion is a God-ordained place of refuge for the oppressed; it is the place of appointment with God. That is where God takes time to relate with His people; it is a New Testament Shiloh. Zion (the place where God meets with His people) is God's office. He said, *"This is my rest forever; here will I dwell."* That means He stays there.

The Lord is asking me to tell you that you will do yourself a world of good by keeping personal appointments with Him in Zion, apart from regular church service times. These appointments will provide greater covering and guarantee against the wickedness the devil targets at you. He said, *“You must have greater respect for My holy habitation, where I have chosen to put My name, for your personal cover and refuge.”*

When Hannah stood before the Lord to ask for a child, it was not during regular service, but at break time! Others were feasting outside, but Hannah was keeping an appointment with the Lord. No wonder God heard

her cry and delivered her.

Let me echo God's Word again. He said, "*My people should begin to respect My habitation for their covering and refuge against the avenger of blood.*" God has put His name everywhere His people gather together in the name of the Lord Jesus; that place is known as Zion, His dwelling place. Everywhere you see people being drawn to God, Himself, and getting saved, healed, transfigured and blessed generally, is God's habitation, and He is the One drawing them there.

Zion is not an ordinary geographical location; it is God's habitation. It is the city of refuge,

where God keeps appointment with His people and guarantees them refuge from the wicked one. Jesus said, in Matthew 11:28:

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

If you are cheated, oppressed, robbed or deprived in any way, He said, "Come unto Me and seek redress; come and I will defend you." Don't come for general services only; keep appointments with God in Zion, and see Him rise to fight for you. If anything is not going right with you, don't sleep over it, otherwise it will eventually overwhelm you. Go to God in Zion and report to Him. Even Jesus

our master showed us an example in Luke 2:49, when He asked His parents:

And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

He was referring to His staying back in the house of the Lord after His parents had left for home. It was Jesus' custom to hang around in His Father's house, and He has left us an example, that we should follow in His steps. So, we also must take delight in abiding in God's house more often than we do (which is usually only on fellowship days).

Do you know why David never lost a battle? He was an ardent churchgoer. He was so addicted to God's tabernacle

that He went there to pray three times daily, and to worship seven times a day! That means that he always appeared in Zion ten times a day. Is it any wonder then that God subdued all David's enemies under his feet? He even had some enemies among his own children, but God brought him through it all, safe and sound. His victories cannot be unconnected to his constant appearance in Zion, the city of refuge. He took delight in going to God's tabernacle for personal worship.

There is no respect of persons with God; if you also get committed to appearing in His city of refuge more often, He will also give you rest on every side.

Benefits of Appearing In Zion (The City of Refuge)

God is a God of purpose. If He established the cities of refuge, then there's a reason for it. So let's now examine some of the attendant benefits of the city of refuge.

The first benefit of appearing in God's city of refuge is renewal of strength.

They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God.

Psalm 84:7

Every time we go to God's house,

our strength is renewed, causing us to leave His house refreshed and strengthened, both inside and outside. Zion is the place to go for renewal of strength when you are weary and tired. Even when you feel great, you still require additional strength to forge ahead in life. God's house provides a covering of strength and vitality for His children, who make constant calls there. The more you appear in Zion, the more strengthened you become.

Another benefit of appearing in Zion is found in Hebrews 12:24: we have access to the blood of sprinkling that speaks for us. The blood of sprinkling provides a covering for us against the wickedness of the enemy.

Every time God's people appear in Zion, angels are present, whose job it is to sprinkle upon them the blood of the Lamb that is always speaking good things concerning the believer.

That blood speaks healing, peace, protection and every good thing. It is impenetrable by the avenger of blood, because we overcome him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the Word of our testimony. There is a continuous sprinkling of the blood in Zion, so that whenever a child of God appears there, whether alone or with others, he is sprinkled with the precious blood.

Truly, Zion is a mysterious ground. It is like the place where God appeared to Jacob in a dream, when he saw

angels ascending and descending upon a ladder that reached from heaven to earth. Jacob woke up from that dream and said, “*Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew it not*” (Gen. 28:16). Zion is the Bethel of the New Testament, where God communes affectionately with His people, bringing them refreshing. The blood is continually sprinkled there, to establish God’s covenant of covering.

A woman attended one of our crusades with her son, who was urinating uncontrollably, due to a leaking bladder. As they both stepped through the gate, the leaking stopped mysteriously, though no prayer had yet been made for the boy! The woman

watched with amazement as her son sat quietly through the service without wetting his trousers or asking to be taken to the toilet. The blood of sprinkling that was present there spoke healing for the boy. No avenger of blood should take advantage of you anymore, because you have your Father's house for a refuge.

Remember what God told Joshua about the city of refuge? He said when the avenger of blood comes pursuing the innocent killer, the elders of the city of refuge will confront the avenger of blood and stop him from getting at the innocent man, who is already in the city of refuge. The blood of sprinkling is our present day "elder", that stops

the devil from afflicting us.

God also said anyone who takes refuge in the city of refuge would remain there until the death of the high priest. Thank God, however, that Jesus Christ, our High Priest, never dies; hence, our refuge in God is eternal. Aren't you glad, dear child of God, that your Father has made so much provision for your protection against the wickedness that is in the world?

Another things God does for us in Zion is outlined in Isaiah 25:6-8. There, God removes the veil or covering that causes one to be lost and directionless. He opens the eyes of His people to hidden truths about their lives and His Word. Zion is a place of

revelation, where all confusion is dispelled. Many times, dear children of God have prayed and sought God's face concerning certain issues, but there is just no light coming forth as regards what to do. Everything appears to be shrouded in mystery and secrecy. You need to tarry a while in God's sanctuary to pray, study His Word, and commune with God, so that His promise of removing the covering on His mountain will be established.

Appearing on the mountain of God only during service times does not make you a full partaker of the benefits that abound there. I have seen God lift the covering over some issues in my life, as I tarried in His sanctuary,

and oh, how fulfilling life has been! How cheap living has become! Friend, you must make out time to be with the Lord in His sanctuary over that issue that has appeared to defy all spiritual solution. What you require is an eye-opening by God, showing you how to combat it.

We are also told that on the mountain of God (Zion):

He (God) will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.

Isaiah 25:8

This verse makes us understand

that there is enough security in the city of refuge to keep us alive. Death is swallowed up by God, and the believer is set free from its claws. God also wipes away tears caused by the wicked from off the faces of His children who appear on His holy mountain. Begin to look at every issue of your life from a spiritual perspective, and then cooperate with God to launch an attack on every unwanted situation, as you run into His city of refuge today. The Bible reiterates the above truth in Psalm 46:1:

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

God is a city of refuge and a bulwark of support in times of trouble.

There is something about His house that keeps you safe in a stormy world. Read that whole Psalm, and see the fearful things God is able to do in Zion. Everything gets an answer in Zion (Ps. 48:2), meaning that the city of refuge holds the answer to every question. That is why it is said to be beautiful for situation.

God is known in her palaces for a refuge.

Psalm 48:3

Remember that the life of the gospel is in taking it raw, as God utters it. Why don't you embrace the Word of God and stop living at the devil's mercy. All the battles that are raging in your life are not yours; they are the

Lord's. Therefore, run to His city of refuge for covering, allowing the blood of sprinkling to speak for you. If anyone is sick in your home, bring them to the altar of God, because that is His dwelling place. If you receive a letter that's not carrying good news, go there and spread it before Him, and ask Him to defend you. God is known in the palaces of His city of refuge against witches, principalities, powers and all forms of wickedness.

Don't allow the devil to blindfold you to the truth of this simple Gospel. Take it raw and apply it as such. It works like fire. The city of refuge is there for you to run to for protection and safety.

Chapter 9 - Engaging The Ministry Of Angels

The ministry of angels has been in existence ever since God created the world. When man was made, the Psalmist says he was made a little lower than the angels (Ps. 8:5). That means angels occupy a higher realm of being in terms of strength, intelligence, vigour, power and might, than man. The wonderful news, however, is that their higher realm of operation is for the liberty and comfort of the saints!

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who

shall be heirs of salvation?

Hebrews 1:14

Angels are sent to minister to the saints. Indeed, there is something principally missing until the angelic dimension of our redemption is brought to light. There are areas a Christian will never cross into until this dimension is in place. Just as all the other benefits God has for the Church are packaged in mysteries, angelic intervention is also packaged as one of the most sophisticated mysteries of life. Until such mysteries are unfolded, the Church cannot utilize or enjoy them.

The ministry of angels is available for our protection and victory over the

forces of wickedness, and the Holy Spirit is given to reveal to us the things which are freely given to us by God. Until we know that they are given to us, and what exactly they are meant to do for us, we cannot fully enjoy their services. This is because in the Kingdom of God to which we belong, we reign by knowledge.

Who, then, are angels? Why are they so relevant to Christian life? What exactly do they do, especially in our bid to overcome the devil and his wickedness? How can we experience them or put them to work? It is my prayer that as we examine this mysterious ministry, the scales over your eyes will fall off, so you can see

the reality of their presence, and put them to work effectively.

Who Are Angels?

The angels of God are also referred to, in the scriptures, as the hosts of heaven or the heavenly hosts. They are real personalities. They are not mere ideas or mythical figures. Angels are spiritual personalities, with physical impact.

Just as the demonic world is invisible, so also is the angelic world invisible. Angels cannot be seen, yet they are all around us. Their physical impact is undeniable. Although you cannot see them, there is nothing the angels of God do not see. You cannot touch them, yet they touch people. You

cannot handle them, yet they destroy kings. The Lord assigned just one angel to go ahead of Moses to Egypt, and he alone tortured a whole nation.

The angels of God are invincible. This aspect marks the point of departure between angels and demons. Only the hosts of heaven excel in strength (Ps. 103:20). There was war in heaven once upon a time. Michael and his angels fought against Satan and his fallen angels. God used His serving army to confront Satan's retired and ill-equipped one. Satan could not prevail, and there was no more place found for him in heaven (Rev. 12:7-9). The angels of God always have absolute victory in any conflict,

flushing out the opposition completely. Angels have never been known to fail. There is nothing that can rise up against you that matches their strength. They constitute the most efficient bodyguards for the saints.

Apart from excelling in physical strength, the angels also excel in intelligence. In describing King David's wisdom, the widow of Tekoah likens it to that of angels (2 Sam. 14:20). In his writings also, Lester Sumrall said very stoutly, "We need to establish the idiomatic expression, 'As smart as an angel', to acknowledge the wisdom and intellect of angels."

What, then, is the relevance of these invisible, excellent beings? Do

we need them as latter day Christians,
who are`filled with the Holy Ghost
anoointing?

The Relevance Of Angels

A look at the lives of the men of exploits in the Bible reveals that they all enjoyed angelic companionship. An angel appeared to Moses and spoke to him. An angel appeared to Gideon, telling him that he had come to finish the battle for him. Abraham also encountered an angel, who paved the way for the realisation of his destiny. Lot was safely led out of Sodom by an angel, just before the city was destroyed. Daniel excelled in strength and operated the wisdom of angels because he had such sweet fellowship with them. Remember Peter, who was

locked up in prison? He was freed and led to safety by an angel. Recall, also, the man John, who saw what was impossible for natural eyes to see; he said an angel showed the entire book of Revelation to him. There is almost no man of worth in scriptures who did not have a physical, tangible, evidence of angelic companionship. And God has said:

For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Malachi 3:6

It follows that what He did yesterday, He will also do today. All through the scriptures, there are a total of about 300 references to angelic

appearances and operations. The New Testament contains 165 of this number, and the book of Revelation, alone, contains 65 references.

Friend, angels are an essential and relevant part of God's package for the redeemed. The anointing cannot replace the services of angels. Jesus Christ was born of the Holy Ghost and had the Holy Ghost anointing (without measure), yet He needed the services of angels. Jesus believed in angels and enjoyed their ministry, even as the Son of the Most High God. He knew no sin, yet He needed the services of angels even before His birth.

An angel announced His coming to the world (Lk. 1:30-33). When He was

born, a mighty host of angels announced His arrival to the shepherds (Lk. 2:8-14). When danger loomed after His birth, an angel told Joseph to move to Egypt with the baby Jesus, that the scripture may be fulfilled (Matt. 2:13-15). After the devil left Jesus on the mountain of temptation, angels came and ministered to Him (Matt. 4:11). Angels were also there with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matt. 26:53-54).

One of the most pronounced events at resurrection was the angelic operation that rolled away the stone placed at the mouth of Jesus' tomb:

And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord

descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

Matthew 28:2

The enemies of Jesus placed the stone there, so they could stop His resurrection. There was no thought of it ever being moved. I cannot tell what kind of equipment was used in placing the stone there, but an angel just came and rolled it away. Two angels were later seen at the head and foot of where Jesus was laid (Jn. 20:12), symbolizing the two cherubs over the mercy seat. At Jesus' ascension, the angels were again present, comforting the men that watched Him being taken to heaven, and declaring that Jesus would come

back again the same way he was taken up (Acts 1:10-11).

Jesus was sent after the order of Moses (Acts 3:22), who prophesied His coming. Jesus came after the order of Moses, and we have come after the order of Jesus. Therefore, if Moses' ministry enjoyed angelic ministrations, and Jesus' ministry also employed angels at all its phases, then we are to be ministered to by angels, as well. God said to Moses:

Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.

Exodus 23:20

There are things prepared for us in

this generation also, but we do not have any hope of getting there without acknowledging the ministry of angels. They are the heavenly forces made available to us by God, to bring His plan and purpose for our lives to pass. In order to do this, they will need to cut off every form of wickedness around us.

Take a look at God's description of angels in relation to you:

And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.

But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?

Are they not all ministering spirits,

sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Hebrews 1:7,13,14

Is it not exciting to know that these flames of fire are available to meet your needs, as an heir of salvation? Angels do more than sing in heaven; they wage war on the earth. Every redeemed soul has a company (not just one) of these excellent spirits at his disposal. They are not sent to sit down with you; they are your powerful and militant ministers. Let us examine their ministry in detail.

They Make The Word Of God Effective

Angels, those fiery forces of heaven, are the performance company of God. They follow the Word of God, to make it produce results.

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

Revelation 19:11-16

The scripture says His name is

called The Word of God, and the armies of heaven followed the Word. In the Bible, the phrase “*the Lord of Hosts will perform it*” is used frequently. That phrase is used whenever an outstanding prophecy is given, which cannot be humanly explained or performed. Isaiah prophesied that a virgin shall conceive and bear a child called Emmanuel, and that the zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform it (Isa. 9:7). God uses the angels (His hosts) to bring His Word into effect. When God was going to terminate Sarah’s barrenness, He sent an angel (Gen. 18:10). The same thing happened when Elizabeth’s barrenness was terminated (Lk. 1:11-20).

The angels of God are empowered to carry out anything that drops from the mouth of God. They are the assault company that deal with every opposition on the way. They always get the answer, and always return triumphant and victorious after every act.

They Do God's Pleasure

Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do His commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his Word.

Bless ye the Lord, all ye hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.

Psalm 103:20-21

In the course of making the Word of God effective (i.e. doing His commandments), the angels minister God's pleasure to the saints. God said:

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

3 John 2

This is an instance of God's pleasure, His will for you. The angels are there at your service to bring to pass for you anything that is the will of the Father. They are committed to obeying God's commands. You can send them to carry out whatever God has commanded concerning you.

The Word of God says:

Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.

Isaiah 3:10

It also says there shall be no peace for the wicked, and suffer not the witch to live (Ex. 22:18). Who said these? The Lord. What are the angels to do? They are to enforce God's

commandments. Therefore, their job is to kill witches and choke the wicked, so that it may be well with the righteous. As a tither, God's commandment is to rebuke the devourer for your sake (Mal. 3:11). The angels, therefore, go ahead to see that no devourer escapes the judgment of God. The Word says:

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bossom...

Luke 6:38

It is the angels' duty to carry out God's Word here, by organizing men to give to you. They go around to mobilize funds for you.

The will of God for you is a sound mind, for He has not given us the spirit of fear (2 Tim. 1:7). Since the angels do God's pleasure, we see an angel go to Daniel primarily to establish this command:

And He informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding.

Daniel 9:22

Knowing this now, you can go ahead to locate all that God has said concerning you, and the angels have a responsibility to ensure that they are established when you instruct them to do so.

They Cause The Saints To Walk In Evil-Free Paths

Friends, there is an evil-free zone in life. This is made possible, among other things, by angelic intervention on every side. When you realise the dignity of God's name and the greatness of His power, He is committed to ensuring your all-round safety. The angels are charged to keep you, such that even the toes of your feet are not permitted to be hurt:

Because thou hast made the LORD,
which is my refuge, even the most
High, thy habitation;

There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

Psalm 91:9-14

Confess the above words to yourself, saying “I”, “my” and “me”

wherever the scripture has “thou”, “thee”, etc.

God has directed the angels to keep you in **all** your ways. That means they are in charge when you are travelling, sleeping, working in the office, selling in your shop, going to and from church - in **all** your ways! Your family, your business, and even your academic pursuit are in their charge, because they gave Daniel skill and understanding. As you plug into this ministry of angels, you walk in the evil-free path of life.

They Are A Defence In Conflict

The Psalmist said the God of Jacob defend thee, send thee help from His sanctuary, and remember all thy offerings. Some trust in horses, others in chariots, but God will be a defence for those who walk in the covenant. When others are falling, they will be standing upright, because God is their defence (Ps. 20).

David kept the angels so busy, that he never lost any battle all his days. He often pursued his enemies with angels:

Let them be as chaff before the

wind: and let the angel of the LORD chase them.

Let their way be dark and slippery: and let the angel of the LORD persecute them.

Psalm 35:5-6

Jesus also utilized angels in times of conflict. He stopped Peter from carrying out any act of defence on His behalf, saying that He was able to call upon God for the release of 72,000 (12 legions) angels to defend Him, if He so desired (Matt. 26:53). In 2 Kings 19, we read of how just one angel went on a defence assignment, and killed 185,000 Assyrian soldiers. If just one angel could kill that much, then imagine what 72,000 angels can do on

your behalf, because we also have access to whatever Jesus had access to while here on earth.

Every time God has a battle to fight, He sets the angels loose. Satan waged war in heaven, but the angels of God prevailed against him. If Satan caused conflict in heaven, he would not be afraid to do the same in anybody's home today. However, angels are all the security we need. That was Jesus' style.

They Are A Permanent Hedge Of Protection

Angels form an impenetrable hedge of protection around every covenant son and daughter of God, making them “touch nots” to the devil. Job was so blessed with this angelic hedge of protection that Satan had to complain to God about it:

Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

Job 1:10

Unfortunately, Job was unaware of this hedge of protection, and so lived in fear, thus making it easy for the devil to attack him (Job 3:25). You need to be aware of the angelic shield around you and all that you have. It is ever-present. The Psalmist said:

The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

Psalm 34:7

The word “encampeth” is in the present continuous tense, implying that they are always there. After Elisha prayed for his servant’s spiritual eyes to be opened, he saw the mountains round about them full of horses and chariots of fire (2 Kgs. 6:17). That was

the angelic hedge.

Friend, angels are real! They are always there. They are invisible forces, with invincible capabilities, sent to minister to us. The devil knows it, so why not use it against him. Say to him now:

“Satan, you have no more inroad into my life and affairs. I have the angelic hedge around me, around my house, around all that I have. Satan, shut up there; you cannot get in here. The defences of God are round about me. Your wicked plans will no more work. I can see the angels encamped around me, to deliver me. God has given them a charge, and they are obedient fighters. They will hearken to

the voice of His Word; they have a job to bear me up upon their wings. They will make it possible for me to tread upon the lion and the adder, and nothing shall by any means hurt me. I am fully surrounded.”

They Deliver The Saints

The angels of God will bring you out of whatever prison the devil has shut you up in. Daniel was thrown into the den of hungry lions, but the Lord sent His angel, who shut the lions' mouths. Daniel was the only one who saw the lions' tongue and lived to tell the story. I can imagine him taking a ride on their backs! He was so sure of the ministry of angels that he dared the king to allow justice take its full course. The lions must have approached him wagging their tails like pets, all thanks to angelic intervention.

In the book of Acts, we read of

Peter being locked up in prison. I believe the saints were praying in Mary's house for the angels of God to penetrate the prison and bring Peter out. While they prayed, the angel of God indeed hearkened to their voices:

And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

Acts 12:7

Peter was asleep between two soldiers when the angel appeared, yet the guards were unaware of what was happening. Just by raising Peter up, the chains fell off on their own, and as they

went out, all doors opened of their own accord as well; they did not have to use keys. The angel led Peter safely out of prison, and when he knocked on Mary's door, the praying saints disbelieved Rhoda's report, saying it must be Peter's angel at the door, not Peter himself.

Peter's deliverance was the neatest in history. There was no mention of his case in court, and he did not have to get out of town. He simply went on with his crusade. The deliverance involved more than just being released from prison. He was in town, yet could not be touched, because whosoever the Son of God shall set free is free indeed. That is God's commandment

concerning you. The angels ensure that you are free mentally, spiritually, socially, and financially, because that is their job.

They Secure Your Destiny

When God was going to rescue Israel from Egypt, after over 400 years of bondage, He sent an angel ahead of Moses to lead them out of Egypt into Canaan. Every redeemed child of God has a glorious destiny, which God prepared, even before they were born. He said that the people He has predestined, He has called, and those He has called, He has justified, and those He has justified, He has glorified (Rom. 8:30).

You have a glorious future, and an angel has been given charge over your life, to ensure that you get to that great

place prepared for you. Satan tried to mess up the destiny of Joshua, the high priest, by putting filthy garments upon him. But the angel of God ordered their removal and a change of garments for him (Zech. 3:1-5).

There is a guardian angel assigned to you. In times of crises, you should call on angels, who are responsible for seeing that God's plan and purpose for your life is fulfilled. Jesus said that even children have angels, who behold the face of His Father in heaven (Matt. 18:10).

In Lagos, a woman shared the testimony of how her runaway housemaid returned with all her stolen goods (which were anointed),

confessing that she had done some evil against the family. She said she tried to kill one of the woman's children, but that a man drew a sword and warned that if she dared it, she would be crushed. That man with the sword was the child's guardian angel.

God said eyes have not seen, ears have not heard, and no man's heart has conceived the things that have been prepared for them that love God (1 Cor. 2:9). The devil is all out to contest the glorious and enviable destiny of the saints, as Paul confirms in 1 Corinthians 16:9.

For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.

There is a place prepared for you. Satan is mad about it, but he cannot do anything about it, because the Word of God has gone forth – I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not be able to stop it (Matt. 16:18). The angels are among God's provisions to clear off all adversaries in your way.

There is a place of no sickness on this earth; there is a place of super-protection; there is a place of super-success. Whatever place God has prepared for you in redemption, your angels have a duty to get you there.

From now on, see yourself as indestructible, just as the Word of God cannot be broken. By the ministry of angels you shall tread upon the lion and

the adder unhurt. By their ministry, no evil can befall you, nor any plague come near your dwelling. The angels of God are round about you and all that is yours. Angels are present help in times of trouble, keeping off all adversaries in the path of your glorious destiny in Christ Jesus. They are always around to establish the will of God for your life.

Note, however, that although they are positioned by God to minister to you in the various ways discussed, you have the responsibility of putting them to work or turning them on in order to fully appropriate their ministrations. It is also necessary to remind you that angelic ministrations are limited to saints only. That is, their ministrations

are restricted only to people who have been saved and sanctified by the blood of the Lamb, and have their names written in the Book of Life. In other words, you have to be born again before you can enjoy the ministry of angels or get them to work on your behalf or at your request.

How To Put Your Angels To Work

Through Knowledge

The number one way of putting your angels to work is through knowledge. We reign by knowledge in the Kingdom of God. There is no shortcut. If you desire liberty, then knowledge is it. Nothing works like the knowledge of the truth, because God cannot deny Himself, and His Word cannot be broken.

The subject of angels is a very sensitive one. No one can claim to have a grasp of it without first having to do some deep studies. You need to launch into the deep waters of the Word when dealing with things that cannot be

physically seen. How much of your inheritance, as an heir of salvation, you enjoy is determined by knowledge. God is no respecter of persons, and He will not do anything until you know it. So, your knowledge of the existence of angels and what they can do for you is the first step to making them work for you.

Confidence

The second step to unlocking the doors of angelic intervention is confidence. The devil knows that once your confidence is out of place, you seal off angelic activities on your behalf; he will fight your confidence with all he has. As soon as Job's confidence was shaken, Satan had an access to afflict him. Job could not trust the God, Who had blessed him so greatly and kept him, hence, his fears eventually came upon him. Let us take instruction, as we consider the lives of those who by their confidence, turned on the angels.

In Genesis 24, Abraham sent his

servant on a mission to find a wife for his son, Isaac. A difficult task indeed, but hear what Abraham said – “*The Lord of heaven shall send his angel before thee*” (verse 7). Abraham was so familiar with angels, that he was sure of what they were capable of doing. He gave the instruction and held his peace. The story concludes by telling us that the Lord did exactly as Abraham had said. The angels, indeed, went before Abraham’s servant, who met Rebecca fetching water at the well, and that was it; he got a wife for his master’s son! Everything was in order, by reason of angelic intervention activated by confidence.

A story found in Isaiah 36 and 37 is

a very classic illustration of how the devil operates. The king of Assyria was set to wage war against Judah, and his first strategy was to attack king Hezekiah's confidence, thus hindering angelic intervention:

And Rabshakeh said unto them, Say ye now to Hezekiah, Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, What confidence is this wherein thou trustest?

Isaiah 36:4

Rather than let you place your trust and confidence in God, the devil always seeks to make an arrangement with you (vs. 16). When you are faced with any kind of challenge, know and believe that it is always darkest before

dawn, so do not give in to Satan and his gimmicks.

When God intervened on Hezekiah's behalf, His first command to Hezekiah was, "*Be not afraid*" (Isa. 37:6). Then an angel of the Lord responded to the switch of confidence, as Hezekiah and his men stood firm:

Then the angel of the Lord went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

Isaiah 37:36

The three Hebrew boys in Daniel, chapter 3 were also able to turn on angelic ministrations on their behalf

through confidence. King Nebuchadnezzar had built a golden image of himself, and commanded that all the inhabitants of Babylon must bow down and worship the idol whenever trumpets were sounded. The punishment for disobedience was to be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. The three Hebrew boys refused to bow and they were brought before the king to defend themselves. But hear their reply to the King:

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning

fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

Daniel 3:16-17

The king was filled with fury at their response, and ordered the furnace to be heated seven times more. But the boys' confidence was in place, and the angels were triggered off to act on their behalf: they arrived in the furnace ahead of the boys. Instead of burning the boys, the heat of the furnace burnt to death the soldiers, who threw them in. On the boys, the heat of the fire had a cooling effect, instead.

The three boys placed their confidence in God, Who is a consuming fire, and they came out of the furnace unscratched. As long as

your confidence in God is in place, Satan is displaced, and the angels take charge by going to work on your behalf. They are the present help in times of trouble. Friend, if you will not bow, you will not burn.

Daniel was another person, who triggered off angelic intervention through confidence. Due to his God-given favour with king Darius, the other presidents and princes grew envious and sought to destroy him. They lobbied for a decree ordering everyone to worship no other god, but the king himself. Daniel, expectedly, rejected such an order, because he was fully conscious of where he came from and to whom he was connected, even

though he was a captive. He confidently told the king to allow him face the punishment of being thrown into the lions' den. Of course, the angels immediately intervened on his behalf, as he said the following day:

My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

Daniel 6:22

The angel arrived at the den ahead of Daniel, just as in the case of the three Hebrew boys. A second later would have been too late.

I have had a few encounters with

angels myself. Sometime in 1984, I was driving from Kaduna at about 2 a.m., with three other fellows. We were all chatting in the car when suddenly, I noticed that we were on a terribly narrow bridge, and a big truck was coming in our direction. The bridge was too narrow for two vehicles to be on it at the same time, and there was no other place to turn to, other than the river beneath. As soon as the men saw the situation, all the loud talking stopped, and the car was as silent as a graveyard.

Then the Word just blossomed in my heart – “*He shall give his angels charge over you.*” I immediately said in my spirit, “There is no point driving

this car into the river. God, whether from under or from above, both this car and all of us in it, who are on assignment, must cross over.” I was so confident; nothing shook within me. How we crossed that bridge I cannot tell, but we did without having any mishap. The sighs of relief from my fellow passengers literally shook the car after we had crossed.

Confidence is a principal key that turns your angels loose. Before you arrive at the point of confrontation, they are already there to ensure that no evil befalls you. Confidence in God will always make the angels work in your favour. Paul the apostle said:

For we are the circumcision, which

worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

Philippians 3:3

David, who enjoyed many angelic ministrations, said, “*My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad*” (Ps. 34:2). Peter was so confident, that he slept so soundly just a day before he was scheduled to die. He was so soundly asleep that the angel had to tap him before he woke up. That is confidence.

It is time to begin to make your boast in the Lord. If you are going for a meeting or an interview, for instance, say, “The angel of the Lord, go before

me to dignify my appearance and put in my hands the things that I desire.” Speak it just like Abraham did, and settle down to see results. The writer of Hebrews said, “*Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward*” (Heb. 10:35).

Through Prayers

A third way of activating the angels to work on your behalf is through prayers. Attempts were made to kill Jesus eleven times before His final death on the cross, yet He always escaped without a scratch. None of His bones were ever broken, and we know what His secret was (Matt. 26:53). Jesus always prayed to the Father, and a special dispatch of angels was sent down to Him on the spot. Every time He called on the Father, the angels came on assignment, and He, passing through the midst of them, went His way.

We have access to whatever Jesus had access to, because He said before He left, “*As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you*” (Jn. 20:21). Jesus revealed to us how He escaped premature death. You can also pray to the Father, Who is a present help in trouble, and He will send you more than 12 legions (72,000) of angels to come to your rescue. Jesus suffered no loss. You too ,can pray the legions of angels down, to stop whatever is not written concerning you.

Command Them

The fourth key for releasing the angels to work in your favour is by commanding them. The reason it seems angels are sometimes not at your service, despite everything, is that there is no order from you. It is not enough to bring them down, you have to activate them by your commands. God said, “*Concerning the work of my hands command ye me*” (Isa. 45:11).

We order the angels of God to take action, according to our desires. A perfect instance of this is seen in Elisha’s story, when he prayed that his enemies should be struck with

blindness in 2 Kings 6:18. The angels went into action according to the word Elisha spoke.

Jesus described the angels as harvesters. If the words we speak are seeds, it means the angels harvest our words by bringing them to pass. Your tongue is the key that turns them on. Anything you say is what they do. That is why God warned Moses to “beware of him” (Ex. 23:21). We are also warned thus in Ecclesiastes 5:6:

Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands?

This is a very powerful clause in

the ministry of angels. I wish people took more note of it. In giving orders to the angels, speak life all the time. Say only what God has said. *“This is the day the Lord has made, I will rejoice and be glad in it”* and the angels will go ahead to enforce this order as you say it daily.

As you step into your office, say to your angel, “Open my office doors today for favour, such that anyone who comes in will regard me as a person to be loved, appreciated and rewarded.” When you say, “I cannot be sick”, your angels see that as a decree, and go to organize your divine health. I have been saying that I cannot be hospitalized for many years, and some

people actually got angry with me- but it has not changed my stand. I keep saying, "I cannot sleep in any hospital bed; it is too narrow for me. I have no business lying in a hospital." My angels hear me, and they have been carrying out my orders.

Begin to put the angels to work effectively. The supernatural security arranged around you is so impenetrable; Satan has no answer to it.

The Name Of Jesus

Yet another way of calling on the hosts of heaven on your behalf is through the name of Jesus. When you invoke the name of Jesus, you trigger off the angels. The Bible says, *“Let all the angels worship him.”* Therefore, at the mention of His name, they step in on the spot to do His pleasure. Also, as you call upon the name of Jesus in faith, a strong tower of angels is built around you. The Bible says, *“The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe”* (Prov. 18:10).

In a situation where you cannot

think clearly or remember any scripture, just invoke the name of Jesus. There is no emergency under the sun that can overcome that name. A Christian was once involved in the world's most ghastly plane crash. According to his testimony, as he called on the name of Jesus, he miraculously came out of the plane to safety through a hole, which was naturally impossible to go through, considering his size. His guardian angel pulled him out to safety when he invoked the mighty name of Jesus.

My wife and I were on a trip, when our car began to swerve off the road. My wife started saying, "In the name of Jesus" repeatedly. I told her that

calling it once was enough, as all hell cannot contain the mention of that name. The car was still moving off course, but I declared boldly, “We will not hit the concrete”, and we did not. That is the attitude that gets your angels excited. It is your turn to engage them.

Jesus said that of anyone who is ashamed of Me and My Word, I will also be ashamed of him before My Father and His angels (Mk. 8:38). That means His angels respond to His name and Word. Do everything in the name of Jesus. Before you go to bed, say, “I go to bed now, in the name of Jesus.” Don’t say it quietly; say it loudly and boldly, then your angels will line up for

action.

Friends, the angels are there for you to use in battle against the evil forces of wickedness. You have also been given the keys with which to release them. First you acquire knowledge, then you build up your confidence in God, you then pray them in, command them to action, and invoke their arrival by calling upon the name of Jesus. I would like you to believe God that with the angels on your side, the battle is over. When Gideon saw that an angel drew out his sword, he asked him, "Are you for us or against us?" The angel replied, "I am here to finish the battle." The angels are there to draw out their swords against all your adversaries.

They are ever around you. They are flames of fire, riding upon horses and chariots of fire. Satan knows it, so use it against him.

Is there any area of life where you want to see your angels in action? Now call them on. I don't want you to put it off till the future. Jesus said, "*Don't you know that if I pray my Father, He will give me presently...?*" Do you want to see the visible, tangible angelic hand in your affairs? It is available now, so call them in!

Young men and women looking for their marriage spouses, the angels will bring them to you. They will organize the restoration of every broken home and ensure the re-awakening of every

drowning business. The angels will roll away every stone that has, hitherto, locked you inside a cave, and turn every fire burning around you to coolness. They will also shut the mouth of every lion about to swallow you up, in the name of Jesus.

Begin now to prophesy angelic presence, angelic operations and angelic intervention in all your affairs.

Chapter 10 - Engaging The Anointing Oil Weapon

The anointing oil is a mystery of the end time, packaged by God for the endless victory of the saints. Though not a popular topic, we cannot overlook the role played by the anointing oil in our battle against the evil one and his wickedness.

God introduced this mystery in Exodus 30:23-31, when He gave Moses the details of how it was to be mixed. However, the mystery was not just for the Old Testament; it is for “*throughout your generation.*” Seeing

that we belong to the lineage of Israel through the death of Jesus Christ, as revealed in Galatians 3:14, the anointing oil is as relevant to us now as it was then. Therefore, we can no longer take for granted the significance of the anointing oil and its overwhelming effect.

The Church of Jesus Christ must begin to appropriate the significance and uses of this divine instrument of power, to see the finger of God move supernaturally in the affairs of men. Diverse testimonies abound of the wonders of the mystery of the anointing oil. You cannot afford to remain ignorant anymore. The anointing oil is a vital tool in our fight

against wickedness, and it is given to us by God for this purpose. Get acquainted with what it has to offer you in regards to your safety and protection from the wicked. Money cannot buy what it will produce for you. Discover the mystery of the anointing oil. It will put you over, always!

What Is The Anointing Oil?

The anointing oil is no ritual or magic wand. It is not a symbol, a religious rite or doctrine. It is not a chemical product, neither is it mere oil. It is the Spirit of God, mysteriously packaged in a bottle. It is designed to communicate the power of God, bodily. It is the power of God in your hand, in the person of the Holy Spirit.

The anointing oil is the power of God placed in a tangible form in man's hand, to make an open show of the devil. It is what it takes to be out of every grave. It is God's wisdom for man's rescue! It is the all-purpose drug

for all ailments of life. It is the might of God. No gate can close against it, rather, every gate lifts up at its appearance. It is a sign-producer for all realms of needs. It has what it takes to go through life with absolute refreshing. It is a covenant mystery.

Using the anointing oil is what it takes to be absolutely free of the harassments of the devil; It destroys all discomforts of life. It is God's standard against every invasion of the enemy. It is a carrier of mysterious virtue. It is a channel through which God's finger is brought to bear on our human limitations. Things and situations, which otherwise would pose a problem, become cheaply accomplished as the

oil paves way for the manifestation of the finger of God.

The Medium Of The Holy Spirit

Talking about the anointing of David, as king, in 1 Samuel 16:13, the Bible said:

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward.

David was anointed with oil, but what came upon him was not oil, but the Spirit of the Lord. The anointing oil is a medium through which the Holy Spirit is invoked to intervene on behalf

of man. It communicates the personality of the Spirit of God, for His direct, personal intervention.

The Holy Spirit goes into manifestation when the oil is applied. Through the medium of the anointing oil, the beneficiary can enjoy the supernatural ministry of the Holy Spirit in various dimensions. We know that no situation can be above the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit is invoked, He goes all out to prove that He is the finger of God. No challenge of life will require more than what the Spirit of God can afford.

The anointing oil is the miracle needed to go through life without sweat, and overcome all the forces of

wickedness targeted at you daily.

It Is God's Standard

...When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.

Isaiah 59:19

The Spirit of the Lord came upon David when he was anointed with oil. It follows, therefore, that when the anointing oil is applied in any situation, the Spirit of the Lord goes into operation as God's standard against every invasion of the enemy. He puts up a solid barrier against the enemy. It is a red line the enemy must not cross!

There is no enemy that can

humiliate the standard of God. The anointing oil is God's standard in your hand, to keep the enemy where he belongs - far from you, out of your life, home, and affairs (Isa. 54:14). No devil in hell can resist the authority loaded in the anointing oil!

It Is God's "Craft"

God said to Israel, whose generation is entitled to the use of the anointing oil:

Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel: according to this time it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel, What hath God wrought!

Numbers 23:23

What is witchcraft when we are talking about "Holy Ghost craft?" The anointing oil is the "craft" of God. It will swallow other forms of craft. It is able to turn any charm or poison to vanity. Did you not see God's "Rod craft" swallow witchcraft in Pharaoh's

palace (Ex. 7:11-12)? God has not changed. The anointing oil is able to swallow up whatever is sent to hurt or torment you.

The anointing oil is an instrument that displays God's ability among mortal men. It will give a man, or any object upon which it is poured, an immunity against any form of evil. It is able to smoothen every roughness on the road to your destiny, raise up any dying business, resurrect any collapsing career, and reverse every ancestral family curse. It makes a way for the plan of God for your life to find fulfillment.

The Anointing Oil Is Biblical

The anointing oil has its root in the Old Testament and also has a New Testament confirmation in Jesus' ministry. We also see its Pentecostal confirmation in the writing of James to the body of Christ. In both the Old and New Testaments, the oil has always been known as an instrument of extraordinary and divine performance.

In the Old Testament, Exodus 30:23-25 tells us what the anointing oil is made of.

Take thou also unto thee principal spices, of pure myrrh five hundred shekels, and of sweet cinnamon half so

much, even two hundred and fifty shekels, and of sweet calamus two hundred and fifty shekels,

And of cassia five hundred shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, and of oil olive an hin:

And thou shalt make it an oil of holy ointment, an ointment compound after the art of the apothecary: it shall be an holy anointing oil.

In the New Testament, the Bible tells us in Mark 6:12-13:

And they went out, and preached that men should repent.

And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them.

Jesus showed that the anointing oil

was no mere Old Testament ritual when He sent His disciples out armed with bottles of the oil. He must have said to them as they went, *“Take this along with you, and use it whenever you need the direct personal intervention of the Holy Spirit.”* He gave them the oil solution for sicknesses and diseases.

In the days of the Apostles also, James understood what Jesus taught them about the power in the anointing oil when He was with them, and passed the same on to the Church. In James 5:14-15, James tells the Church:

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him

with oil in the name of the Lord.

And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up...

If you want to see the Holy Spirit intervene personally on your behalf in the realm of deliverance, then anoint the sick with oil, in the name of Jesus, and he will be raised up.

What The Oil Does

As stated earlier, the anointing oil is a mysterious weapon given to the saints for earthly triumph. A clear illustration of this can be seen in the life of king Saul after he was anointed king over Israel in 1 Samuel 10. After Samuel anointed Saul with oil, many strange, but wonderful things began to happen to him.

Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?

When thou art departed from me to

day, then thou shalt find two men by Rachel's sepulchre in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say unto thee, The asses which thou wentest to seek are found: and, lo, thy father hath left the care of the asses, and sorroweth for you, saying, What shall I do for my son?

Then shalt thou go on forward from thence, and thou shalt come to the plain of Tabor, and there shall meet thee three men going up to God to Bethel, one carrying three kids, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine:

And they will salute thee, and give thee two loaves of bread; which thou shalt receive of their hands.

After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where is the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp, before them; and they shall prophesy:

And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man.

And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee.

And thou shalt go down before me

to Gilgal; and, behold, I will come down unto thee, to offer burnt offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days shalt thou tarry, till I come to thee, and shew thee what thou shalt do.

And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.

And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

1 Samuel 10:1-10

The Anointing Oil Enthrones

In Israel, no king reigned, nor did any priest stand in the priestly office without first being anointed with oil by God's chosen vessel. We see Samuel in the above scripture anoint Saul king over Israel. Every redeemed child of God belongs to the Abrahamic lineage through Jesus' finished work on the cross (Gal. 3:13-14). So what applied to them then still applies to us today. Therefore, no saint can reign as king or serve as priest without first being anointed with oil.

Who is a king? A king is one who is in a position of authority in his domain.

Thus, when the oil comes upon a person, it brings down the unction that puts him in authority. Many Christians are suffering today due to lack of enthronement, via the application of the anointing oil.

The oil is what enables the priest to stand in his office to minister before God and man. It is what enables a king to be enthroned. It establishes the enthronement of the saints of God above depression, oppression, and whatever barriers and oppositions are mounted by human forces and circumstances of life. You need the oil in order to confidently stand in your office and be what God wants you to be. It is God's plan and ordination to

bring you and me into the realms of power in the days in which we live.

The Anointing Oil Also Changes a Man's Status

Everything about you is made to experience the majestic presence of the Lord when the oil is applied. The anointing of the Holy Spirit, when transmitted through the oil, marks a new beginning for the recipient. Just the previous night, David was a rugged shepherd boy; but the following day, he was an anointed king! The anointing catapulted his position from the sheepcote to the throne.

The anointing changes a man's status and places a tag of honour on

him. It takes a man to a new realm of dignity. Saul, the son of Kish, was a miserable ass- seeker, who suddenly, by the anointing, became a captain (1 Sam. 10:1). His lifting came by that same anointing. *“Then shalt thou go on forward from thence...”*

He also entered into a new realm of dignity: *“And they will salute thee...”* By reason of the oil that came upon him, men saluted him; no one could mock, fight, or spit at his face. They did not insult or accuse him either, but saluted him! That is what the anointing does. It launches you into a new status. Where you had hitherto been despised, you start enjoying honour and respect when the oil comes upon you.

The oil marks you out for distinction, and confers on you a baptism of dignity in your walk with God. That you are saved does not mean you should be reproached. We are not called unto shame; we are called to glory and virtue, that is, honour and dignity (2 Pet. 1:3). They spat on Jesus' face so they could decorate yours. Everything He suffered, He suffered in your place. He took your place in shame, so you can take His place in glory. When the oil comes upon you, no man shall be able to stand before you to insult you. Whatever they say can only be done behind your back; and when they see you, they will bow to you, because of the unction you carry,

which can be seen by all.

The Anointing Oil Also Brings Favour

By the same anointing Saul received, he entered into favour. The Bible says:

And they will salute thee, and give thee two loaves of bread; which thou shalt receive of their hands.

1 Samuel 10:4

“And they will give thee...” That is favour! *“In His favour is life”* (Ps. 30:5). The anointing marks you out for favour. You will not need to beg; rather, they will greet you and give to you. *“Thou shalt receive of their hands...”* You do not reject favour; you

take it.

You are also turned into another man by the anointing.

And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man.

1 Samuel 10:6

When the Spirit of God comes upon a man via the mystery of the anointing oil, he is literally turned into another man. Did you see how that unction took a miserable ass-seeker from one place of honour to another, until all that had been positioned for him came into place? The anointing guided and directed him, until everything that was written about him came to pass. In the

same way, when you are guided and directed by the Holy Spirit, you are on your path to profiting. Therefore, labour to receive this powerful ministry of the anointing oil.

When thou art departed from me to day, then thou shalt find two men by Rachel's sepulchre in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say unto thee, The asses which thou wentest to seek are found:

1 Samuel 10:2

The anointing oil is able to restore to you all that is lost or stolen by the enemy. Friend, the mystery in the anointing oil is able to restore to you whatever is missing in your life. Those things you have been looking for, that

are affecting your person and making you bow down on the inside and making you shed private tears shall be restored to you! Certain things you have lost, perhaps in your family or business- by the anointing oil, it shall be told you that they have been found! That childless situation that has taken you from place to place and from doctor to doctor, shall be cured, in Jesus' mighty name!

The anointing oil also commands signs. Verse 7 of our text tells us, "*And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee...*" The anointing oil is a sign producer, handed down by the Almighty God for all generations of Israel. When in a daring challenge,

have you not heard people say that it will take a miracle? The anointing oil is what it takes.

The oil sets landmark events. It is a sign-producer for all realms of needs. The anointing oil is able to end all frustrations of wickedness in your life. When it touches the barren, she becomes abundantly fruitful. When it touches anyone chained by the devil, the person is automatically set free.

Thank God you have access to what it takes for your freedom from and eventual victory over the wickedness of the devil. Let your faith rise up, and take it as one who knows that he is holding in his hands a covenant mystery, not an ordinary chemical.

Note that there is no sickness or disease of any kind that can escape the power in the anointing oil. Here are some living proofs:

“I was born with the sickle cell disease, and for a long time, I suffered many things. In February this year (1994), at the anointing service of the monthly Breakthrough Seminar, Bishop David Oyedepo told us to take a capful of the anointing oil, that it would mean divine health forever. I said, ‘Lord, this is it! It is going to be forever!’

I forgot all about it, until the day we had to go for a lab test in my office. One week later, when I collected the result, my blood group read AA. To the glory of God, my blood group which on

September 17th, 1980, read genotype SS (sickle cell), now reads genotype AA (normal blood group) on March 17th, 1994.”

- Sis. D.

“Sometime last year, my son had a terrible cough. We began to go to hospitals for a cure, yet to no avail. When my family travelled abroad, they did a check-up on him, and diagnosed tuberculosis. My wife was disturbed, as she spoke to me on the phone. When I recommended the anointing oil, she thought the case was rather too serious for that. But I knew the anointing oil could do it.

When they came back, I worked up my son's faith and referred him to the

anointing oil. I told him, ‘Take a capful before you go to school in the morning, a capful in the evening before you go to bed. And when you take it, just say, “Thank you Jesus.” And, to God be the glory, within two weeks, my son was completely healed!’

- P. O.

With the anointing oil in your hand, you are enthroned over sickness and diseases, just as these brethren were.

The oil also brings the ministry of the Comforter into operation on your behalf. The Holy Spirit is God’s agent for comfortable living. He is ordained of God to comfort men and make them comfortable by breaking the chains and yokes of the wicked off their necks. His

name is called, "The Comforter". You are not permitted to sorrow when you come in contact with Him; neither are you permitted to be cheated or robbed. Whatever makes life uncomfortable is not permitted to touch you.

After one of our anointing services, one of the pastors, who attended the meeting took the anointing oil to his church, and on Sunday decided to anoint everyone in his church. In the church that day were two little children. They are twins, but one was crippled. His crippled legs were anointed. Later, their father was working in the farm behind their house, and suddenly, what did he see? The crippled boy had walked up to him!

The unhappy situation in their life was dealt with, thanks to the ministry of the Comforter!

Another woman anointed her husband's house, and was restored back to her rightful place. Her husband had been going after another woman; but that unholy association was destroyed that same day, after she anointed the bed where the evil act was carried out. When the man came home with the other woman that day, they started quarrelling and fighting, and the strange woman had to leave, while the legitimate wife was restored to her rightful position. Thus, the threat on her marriage was dealt with.

The anointing oil is what it takes to

be absolutely comfortable in life. A man whose business was slow in yielding profit anointed his signpost, and people started flooding into his office. A brother received a letter terminating his appointment. He anointed the letter and went back to the office. The same people started apologizing to him for sending him such a letter, and gave him a promotion instead!

The devil has no resistance to the authority loaded in the anointing oil! It carries the person of the Holy Spirit – the One with the mission to destroy every discomfort in your life and to end every humiliation, strain, and reproach.

The anointing oil works on things too!

And thou shalt anoint the tabernacle of the congregation therewith, and the ark of the testimony,

And the table and all his vessels, and the candlestick and his vessels, and the altar of incense,

Exodus 30:26-27

There is no devil that can touch any property that the anointing oil touches. When the oil touches just the mirror of your car, it becomes immune to accidents and scratches. When you anoint the gates of your house, no devil, whether armed or unarmed can dare come near. A brother heard feet stamping, shooting and banging on

doors by armed robbers in his neighbourhood at about 2 a.m. While his terrified wife watched, he took the anointing oil and anointed the entrance to his flat, declaring that no robber would step into that house, for the Bible says no evil shall come near his dwelling.

He heard the robbers banging on the doors upstairs. They later came down and started banging on his door. Very audibly from where he was inside, he heard a voice sternly warn the robbers, "Don't touch that door!" The next thing he knew was that they were gone, but continued their evil deed in the neighbourhood.

Friend, it works! The anointing oil

is God's "craft" for your endless triumph over the forces of wickedness here on earth; so use it! We have seen from scriptures and from the testimonies you have read that the anointing oil is a sign-producing instrument.

And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee.

1 Samuel 10:7

It means you are the one to determine what happens. Now that God has placed in your hands this all-purpose drug for all ailments of life, the might of God that no gate can be shut against, and the yoke destroyer,

you are to determine what you want in place. Whatever you decide holds, for God is with you. It is your turn to determine the happenings around you. You now have what it takes to command signs and wonders in your life and in the lives of those around you, in place of wickedness and oppression.

The anointing oil is a covenant mystery for the manifestation of your sonship this end time. You must rise up to the challenges of life, and triumph daily via the ministry of the anointing oil. Now that you have a proper understanding of the anointing oil and what it carries, it is time to release your faith into it. It is time to reign as

the king that you are; it is time to operate in your role as a priest. It is time to make progress, time to flow in favour, and time to enjoy your full redemptive dignity. It is time to enjoy total restoration. This is the ministry of the anointing oil – the tangible force of God that revolutionizes life, and establishes destinies and futures.

That deadly disease and that shame and reproach around you can be destroyed. Your dreams for marriage can be fulfilled, and that womb of yours can be opened, so you can start having your children right away. That financial reproach can be terminated, just as that reproach of failure, so you are no longer identified with it

anymore. Once you have the anointing oil, you need only do as occasion serves you, for your God is with you.

A new door and effectual is opened to you, enter into it, for it is your lot and inheritance. Look beyond that common chemical called “Olive oil”, into the mysterious virtues it carries. Arise, therefore, and shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you!

Chapter 11 - Overcoming By The Blood Of Jesus

God has an eternal plan of bringing the Church to the level of victory that Christ ordained for her through the manifold wisdom He has revealed. He is moving the Church from the realm of doctrines into the realm of mysteries - uncovering the hidden wisdom of God for technical victories on the earth.

You need to appreciate the spiritual force of freedom, otherwise you will be helpless when you are caught and wedged-in by any of these strange influences stronger than your natural

ability. You must understand that principalities and powers are involved in perpetrating wickedness upon the earth. They are organized, commanded and regimented by Satan himself. Satan is the mastermind behind all the wickedness in the world. He must, therefore, be confronted, and with the right instrument too; otherwise, you will keep struggling as his victim.

The involvement of Satan in the corruption of man makes it humanly impossible for man to free himself. True freedom requires divine intervention. There is no accused person who can post bail for himself. You need a recognised authority to bail you out. The blood of Jesus is that

authority.

The blood of Jesus is your guarantee for bail from the wickedness of the devil. It is the divine provision for man's freedom from every satanic dimension of wickedness. It is what it takes to silence the opposition. It is the ultimate for our victory. The blood of Jesus offers you the privilege of being discharged and acquitted, so you can walk in liberty all the days of your life.

The blood is God's last card in any battle of life. Pharaoh gave up when the blood came on the scene in Exodus chapter 12. The children of Israel were delivered overnight from a 430-year-old oppression when the blood came on the scene. You too, will be delivered

from whatever wicked oppression you are being held down in right now, in Jesus' name!

As for thee also, by the blood of thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water.

Zechariah 9:11

All forms of bondage terminate as soon as the blood steps in! As we saw in Exodus, every miracle was performed, and every effort God made through Moses to free Israel from the Egyptian bondage failed, until the blood was introduced. The blood is God's last resort for man's deliverance. After the blood, Moses never again said to Pharaoh, "*Let my people go!*" Rather, it was Pharaoh who desperately

wanted them gone. There is tangible power in the blood of Jesus for your deliverance!

The blood of Jesus is the last leg of the relay, going by the scriptures in 1 John 5:7-8:

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

The heavenly trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit hold the reins over the entire universe, and the trinity of the Spirit, the Word and the blood hold

sway here on earth. Dominion and victory on earth is possible only through them. The blood is the last leg of the relay; it's God's last card. No devil can escape it, just as was the case in God's command to Elijah in 1 Kings 19:17. You can destroy principalities with the anointing, but when it comes to the devil himself, it requires the blood. Nothing the devil put together can withstand the efficacy of the blood of Jesus.

When you are saved, you enter into the blood covenant - it is your stronghold. It is the passover blood that says, "Pass over" to every evil. You will never get out of your Egypt without the application of the blood.

The blood holds the key to freedom
from every yoke and bondage.

What Is In The Blood?

Every time you say, “The blood of Jesus!” you are bringing God’s very life on the scene. What makes the blood produce results is the very life of God that is being invoked, because the life of the flesh is in the blood (Lev. 17:11). The blood of Jesus is whatever Jesus is.

Every time you invoke the blood of Jesus in faith, you are bringing God on the scene, and He has never been known to fail. God takes over the battle whenever you plead the blood; and when He stretches forth His hand, who shall turn it back? If all things are

possible unto God, then all things are possible unto the blood too!

There is another dimension of Satan, which I believe he stole from heaven. He seems to be present in more than one place at a time. He is able to do this by distributing himself into all his angels. That is why the word “devils” is found in the Bible. His name is Satan, also called the devil. For the Bible to use the word “devils” means there are more than one devil. But we know that only one devil was cast down from heaven. That means he placed his name on his principal officers, delegating his power to them.

God never came down to lead Israel from Egypt to Canaan. He sent an angel

before them, and placed His name upon that angel, the same way Satan also placed his name upon his angels. That is why you can find about 10,000 people on earth that Satan has made mad at the same time. There are accidents happening in more than one thousand places on earth at the same time, which are caused by Satan. He seems to be present in many places at the same time. If the mere blood of goats could keep off the death angel in Egypt, then you can keep Satan off your territory with the blood of Jesus!

Do you know why Satan could not show up on Mount Carmel? Blood was being shed there! It was the mountain of blood, so there was no way he could

come near. This is because there is a law that says, “Pass over!” to the devil, and that law is to the children of Israel and their generations after them (Ex. 12:24-25).

The blood of Jesus is a covenant provision by God for your deliverance from Satan’s wickedness. Every morning when you wake up, say, “I cover myself with the blood of Jesus”, and you will become a “no trespass” territory to Satan. When you have the blood cover, you are secured from the wickedness, torture, afflictions, and horrors of Satan.

The blood is a devastating weapon against Satan. He doesn’t have an answer to it, and never will. All that

was needed to keep him off is that it must be a lamb without blemish, and Jesus knew no sin (1 Pet. 1:18-19). He was the most worthy, and He thus became our eternal Passover Lamb. With our Passover blood in place, Satan is eternally helpless.

The blood is to be applied against the wicked plans of the enemy. If the enemy is out day and night against you, then you too, should be out day and night, with your armoury - the blood of Jesus. Every time you plead the blood of Jesus, you turn on a switch in heaven, and the blood then begins to speak, "Pass over" to every evil that is targeted at you. By the blood of Jesus, every evil shall pass over you!

The Blood Stronghold

For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word...

1 Peter 1:24-25

As for thee also, by the blood of thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water.

Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope...

Zechariah 9:11-12

The blood is our stronghold against the corruption that is in the world. We

have always depended on our strength, that's why we fall all the time. But there is security in the blood of Jesus. We often experience the withering of the grass, and the falling away of the flowers. This is because we have turned our eyes from the stronghold, and are living in our "weakhold".

Have you not heard that by strength shall no man prevail? There are no all-season flowers, as all flowers fall away at one point in time or the other. Even so, the elegance or charisma of our faith alone cannot hold us through the challenges of life. We need to take cover in the stronghold of the blood of Jesus. You will become a pitiable case if you can be lured out of the blood-

shield, just as the Prodigal Son was lured out of his father's house. Refuse to leave your stronghold. Your decision to trust in the arm of flesh is the reason you "wither" in your decisions, and fall like the flowers. The blood is your rescue! Outside the blood, you are running a risk.

Every time you hear or see the arrows of the wicked, run into your stronghold, and boldly declare, "I take cover under the blood of Jesus!" The blood is your stronghold. As long as we abide in our stronghold, we are secured from the wickedness in the world, because the stronghold of the blood of Jesus is mightier than a tower.

It Cleanses Leprosy

Leprosy represents any curse or “but” in your life. It is also a visible reproach that ostracises an individual. Whatever makes you a by-word and a proverb among men can also be defined as leprosy. It is basically an external affliction. Whatever puts a question mark on your Christianity is a form of leprosy. Everything that makes men despise your salvation is leprosy. Whatever impedes your shining or makes you a misfit in the company of men are all forms of leprosy. These are all forms of wickedness that the devil inflicts people with.

But thank God that every form of leprosy is cleansable, and every shame can be removed. The atoning, cleansing blood of Jesus can cleanse you! If the blood purged man's general leprosy, which banished him from God's presence, then the blood can also cleanse every form of leprosy on earth today.

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

This shall be the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought unto the priest:

And the priest shall go forth out of the camp; and the priest shall look, and, behold, if the plague of leprosy be healed in the leper;

Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed two birds alive and clean, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop:

And the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water:

shall pronounce him clean As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water:

And he shall sprinkle upon him that is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and shall let the living bird loose into the open field.

Leviticus 14:1-7

Every picture in the Old Testament is a shadow of things to come. There is only one accredited priest that has the sole authority to remove the “but” in everyone’s life – He is Jesus, the Son of God. Man can organise your freedom from prison, but he cannot wipe away the shame of having been in prison from you. Jesus is the Priest that takes care of leprosy.

From an analogy drawn from various scriptures, we see that Jesus shed His blood seven times:

In Isaiah 50:6, they plucked His beard, which drew blood from Him.

In Luke 22:44, He sweated blood.

In Matthew 27:29, they put a crown of thorns upon His head. It drew blood

from Him.

In Matthew 27:26, they scourged Him by laying stripes on His back. With each stripe they laid on Him, they drew blood from Him.

In Psalm 22:16, they pierced His hands, and blood gushed out.

Also in Psalm 22:16, they pierced His feet, and blood flowed.

In John 19:34, they pierced His sides, and blood gushed out.

Jesus shed His blood seven times, so you can be free from all forms of leprosy!

The Redemptive Value Of The Blood

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Colossians 1:12-14

Our redemption by the blood has made us worthy to become partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light,

and has delivered us from the power of darkness into the Kingdom of His dear Son. By the blood, He took us from under the domain of the devil and brought us unto Himself. Therefore, the blood forbids our being oppressed by the devil.

Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Romans 5:9

We have justification through the blood of Jesus, which guarantees deliverance from wrath. There are two forms of wrath on the earth - the wrath of the devil (Rev. 12:12), and the wrath of God (Heb. 12:29), and the blood justifies us from both of them.

The blood pacifies the wrath of God. He said, in Exodus 12:13:

And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

And concerning the wrath of the devil, the Bible says:

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb...

Revelation 12:11

God has justified you by the blood of Jesus, who then can be against you? Who shall lay anything to your charge? Satan has no right to condemn you, as condemnation is the sole prerogative of

Christ. The Bible says when He sees the blood, He will pass over you. It means that no force in hell is strong enough to condemn your destiny. Jesus is not programming condemnation for you; rather, He is making intercessions for you. He is standing in the gap for your liberty, not your captivity, failure, or poverty. Every time you plead the blood, He shows it to the Father, pleading for your liberty. Since it is only Christ who can condemn, then your liberty on earth is thus, guaranteed and is eternal. You are safe from all wickedness of the devil through His blood.

The blood is our stronghold in battle. Turning to the blood is turning

to the answer. The blood of the covenant will bring you out of every pit and choking experience in life. By the blood of the Lamb, the prison gate is shattered, and your liberty is established. Every time you turn to the blood, you become invincible, too strong to be defeated.

The blood of Jesus is the most effective and devastating weapon of warfare. Nothing has ever been known to challenge its' authority and power. It is our seal of victory in every conflict of life. We are not just calling upon the blood, we are using it in battle. It is a weapon of war. If the devil fought in heaven and lost by the blood, he will always remain a loser by the blood here

on earth too, if you use it.

Everything that is contrary to what God created in your life, the enemy did. Note that you don't have many enemies, only one. His name is called the devil, whom the Bible commands us to resist steadfastly in the faith (1 Pet. 5:9). That is, believe what God says can deal with him and use it. What has God said will silence the devil? The blood! We will overcome the devil and all his forces of wickedness the same way they overcame him in the past.

I would like you to see the devil behind that situation that will not open up in your life. It could not have been God, because if it is not good, it is not

God! For every good gift and every perfect gift comes from above (James 1:17). If there is frustration in your life today, or you are suffering set-backs in your business, it is not God. God is not teaching you any lesson; rather, the devil is taking advantage of your ignorance to cheat you. He is behind everything that is not working. Until you discover him, you cannot overcome him.

When the devil comes with depression or any form of oppression, just blast the atmosphere with your weapon of the blood, for all things are purged with the blood. Declare vehemently, "The blood of Jesus is against you, Satan!" You must know

how to use this wisdom that has been delivered to you, and go ahead and use it.

The blood of Jesus is God's last card in battle. If they overcame by the blood, then we shall overcome by the blood also. If the blood was relevant for victory in heaven, then it must be super-relevant here on earth. You belong to the heavenly places; you are only an ambassador here on earth. In heaven, where you belong, the Bible says the devil will always be silenced by the blood. By extension, it means to silence him in your affairs here on earth also, you must lift up the blood banner.

And they overcame him by the

blood of the Lamb...

Chapter 12 - More Winning Instruments

God has prepared His manifold wisdom for the last days, and we are walking in it already. All God's enemies that are responsible for the groaning of all creation must be brought to their knees before Jesus will come. This is God's programme, and the instrument He will use is the manifold wisdom operating in the Church. We have discussed several of these in preceding chapters. Here are just a few other winning weapons at the believer's disposal, for the total defeat of Satan and all his

wicked forces.

The Mantle

Any clothing material that has come in contact with the anointed vessel of God carries the unction for manifestation and it is such a material that I refer to as the mantle (some call it Prayer Cloth). Why the mantle? It would be recalled that at Elijah's departure, Elisha took up Elijah's mantle that fell from him. When he got to the bank of river Jordan, he smote the waters with the mantle, and said, "*Where is the Lord God of Elijah?*" and the waters parted, and Elisha went over (2 Kgs. 2:12-14).

Signs and wonders are an evidence

of God's presence. The Bible says the disciples went forth and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, confirming the Word with signs following (Mk. 16:20). Hebrews 2:4 also tells us that, "*God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will.*"

The virtue that operates in the mantle is God's virtue, not that of men. In Mark 5:21-34, we are told the story of the woman with the issue of blood, and how she was healed. In verse 30, we are told that Jesus felt virtue leave Him after the woman had touched the hem of His garment. He then turned

around and asked, “*Who touched my clothes?*”

Also in Acts 19:11-12, the Bible says:

And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:

So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

Note that it wasn't Paul that wrought the special miracles, but God. The virtue that healed the people did not come out from Paul; it came from God. The men from which the mantles are sent are only vessels through whom God chooses to channel His power. God is the “owner” of the virtue;

hence, Jesus felt it left Him when the woman touched Him in faith. I am not the owner of the virtue, and that is why I never feel anything leave my body when people are being healed and diverse miracles take place via the mantle.

One day, as I was walking through the congregation to the pulpit, a man, who had had a spinal injury for seventeen years touched my cloth; he immediately heard a cracking sound in his lumbar region and was instantly healed. For the first time in seventeen years, he didn't need his lumbar jacket (which he had worn everywhere) anymore. It was the power of God that healed him- God's virtue, not mine,

because nothing left my body. I didn't feel anything, and, in fact, I didn't know what he had done until he shared his testimony. But Jesus, the owner of the virtue, knew that virtue had left Him when the woman with the issue of blood touched the hem of His garment.

The virtue in the mantle is from God. All we need to do to enjoy this virtue is to provoke Him with our obedience. When Elisha said, "*Where is the Lord God of Elijah?*" God went into action on his behalf. It was God that smote the Jordan River, not Elijah, who was long gone into heaven. Whatever God can handle, His virtue can handle.

"And God wrought special miracles

by the hands of Paul...” The miracles were wrought without any special effort of Paul. True, the handkerchiefs they brought from Paul were enough to check out the diseases and the evil spirits, but it was God working. The people merely acknowledged Paul as a man that God’s hand was upon. So when he could not go to where the problem was, they knew they could take anything from him to the problem, and the problem would be gone.

God has not changed; He is still working by the hands of men today. He is still working through men, who carry transferable unction, men sent for the deliverance of mankind, for the liberation of the captives, the opening

of blind eyes, the raising of the dead, and for the blessing of the people.

In 1989, a brother's wife became mad, and was in another town that was quite some distance from where I was. Since I couldn't go with him to where she was, I spoke some powerful words into my handkerchief, and gave it to him, saying, "Go down to Ekpoma with this, and the power working inside me will go with you. When you get there, wipe her face with this handkerchief, and the madness will be gone." He went, believing, and later testified that as soon as the mad woman saw the handkerchief, she ran to grab it from him, but he held her off, and wiped her face with it, and the madness vanished

instantly! She became pregnant that same month, later had her baby and nursed it all by herself! She's doing fine in the Lord till today.

The mantle is a ministry of transmission of unction. It is an end-time prophetic mystery in the hand of the carrier, for amazing results, signs and wonders. It is a carrier of divine energy and heavenly virtue, and it always produces signs. Wherever it appears, the works of the devil are destroyed. It is a mantle for exploits. Friend, the mantle of a prophet of God in your hand will work wonders. God gave me this mantle ministry for the liberation of mankind, and we have countless testimonies to prove it.

The Communion

I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat?

Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life;

and I will raise him up at the last day.

For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.

He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.

John 6:51-57

We renew our eternal life policy every time we come to the communion table. The very life of God, Zoe, is what we contact in the communion, so that whatever flows in Jesus (the vine) begins to flow in you (the branch). When you partake of the communion (the flesh and the blood of Jesus),

eternal life swallows up human life, which is susceptible to demonic oppressions. Jesus said, *“For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.”*

There is no drink, capsule, or medicine that can be compared with the flesh and blood of Jesus. The communion is a supreme and unique capsule and injection. I don't care who your family or specialist doctor is, Jesus said, *“For my flesh is meat indeed and my blood is drink indeed.”*

In the Garden of Eden, God gave Adam and Eve all kinds of trees, shrubs and herbs for food (Gen. 1:29). He never intended that these plants be used as medicine. If only men would eat

what God intends for them to eat, they would not experience sickness and disease. God never made provisions for man's healing at creation, because He never intended that man should ever be sick. No! He only gave man what to eat. It was after man was corrupted and dethroned that Satan's wicked rule and oppression began. So, God then had to send His only begotten Son with another type of food. This time around, this new kind of food will be such that we would not ever need any kind of drugs.

What is that food? It is the communion. Jesus said, "*My flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.*" If you partake of the

communion with this understanding, you will never need to take any kind of medicine the remaining days of your life. It is the ultimate drug as far as soundness of body and mind is concerned. This is because the breaking of bread (the communion table) is the best hospital to refer your case to if you are sick. It is the highest hospital theatre, the office of the Greatest Specialist - Jesus. He is the Great Physician, the Balm of Gilead. The communion is God's ultimate prescription for any form of health related affliction. We are told, in Acts, that the Apostles continued in the breaking of bread daily; no wonder sickness was never found in their

midst.

And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart.

Acts 2:46

Don't esteem the communion lightly, because everything you will ever need for your healing can be found in it. It will make you live like Jesus did here on earth. You become as strong as stone, because Jesus is the One working out all things for you; you operate in His class:

As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.

John 6:57

Receive these sayings in faith, and you will see how faithful the Word of God is. God said he will satisfy your mouth with good things, and Jesus said:

I am that bread of life...which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.

John 6:48,50

Jesus also said that as often as you observe this ordinance, you remember Him:

For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:

And when he had given thanks, he

break it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Nothing compares in value to the nutrition that is found in the flesh and blood of Jesus. You become spiritually indestructible, and sickness will no longer be mentioned around you. By continually partaking of the

communion, you can no longer be humiliated or molested. This is because the communion takes care of everything that weakens you and mocks your redemptive testimony. You will recall that the children of Israel ate manna in the wilderness, and as they went from nation to nation, from one people to another, God suffered no man to manhandle them. He cursed kings for their sakes, saying, *“Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm”* (Ps. 105:13-15). The communion makes it impossible for any devil to harm you.

Would Jesus suffer the kind of thing you're suffering right now? If your answer is “No”, then as you take

the communion, say an angry and eternal “No!” to whatever you are going through right now, and it will never reoccur in your life. The communion infuses God’s kind of life into your blood stream, bones, marrow, mind, and spirit-man. So, as you take the communion, whatever is contrary to life inside your system is instantly destroyed. It’s a mystery, an end-time wisdom of God for the triumph of the saints, the Church of Jesus Christ.

Please note this about the communion: it is symbolic. So any fruit drink, either in concentrate form or natural state can serve as the blood of Jesus in the communion. Jesus gave His disciples the wine they were

drinking on the table, and said it was His blood; He didn't have to use a special wine to represent His blood.

And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

Matthew 26:27-29

As for the flesh of Jesus, the Bible says:

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and

gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

Matthew 26:26

So, bread in any form, can serve as the flesh of Jesus in communion. It could be wheat or barley baked in form of bread, cake or biscuit. It could also be any form of food, whether baked, roasted or cooked.

Many lose out of the benefit of the communion because they are deceived into believing that it must come from special bread and wine from the holy city, Jerusalem. Whatever you have handy can suffice. Take it in faith, and be delivered. Many have enjoyed the benefit of the communion by simply using water or even chocolate beverage

to represent the blood of Jesus. The devil you are confronted with won't wait for you to get the "right" kind of flesh and blood to attack you, so don't be deceived.

A sister had a severe attack of tuberculosis in the middle of the night, and all that was available was cocoa beverage. She took it by faith, believing she was drinking the blood of Jesus Christ, and that was the end of tuberculosis forever in her life!

Many Christians wonder about how frequently they can partake of the communion. We are to partake of it often. In that same *1 Corinthians 11:23-26*, Paul quoted Jesus as saying, "...*this do ye, as oft...*" No wonder the

disciples, whom Jesus spoke to directly, broke bread daily (Acts 2:46). Otherwise saints of God take it often too. For instance, Smith Wigglesworth's biography records that he took the communion daily. No wonder he continually flowed in great insights, which provoked great faith in him. You can partake of the communion daily, and even in your home. You don't have to be in church to take it.

The communion is no ritual; it is real. It is a New Testament mystery established for the liberty of the saints.

Testimonies

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony...

Revelation 12:11

Proofs abound of the fact that Satan is nothing but a finished devil! I have included some testimonies of ordinary men and women like you, who believed God's Word, applied it, in addition to using the various weapons at their disposal, and triumphed over the devil. These testimonies are unquestionably evidences of the powerlessness and nothingness of Satan; they drive home the veracity of Ephesians 3:10:

To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God.

T h e Weymouth's translation renders it this way: “...*In order that the Church might now be used to display the innumerable aspects of God's wisdom.*”

It's happening already; Satan is losing on all grounds!

Death Disgraced!

“I had problems with respiration in June 1992; I could not breath well. I came down to Nigeria from Cotonou where I live, for medical check-up. After series of medical examinations at a private hospital, I was referred to the

Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH) for an operation. I was admitted there, and one night, a so-called doctor performed the operation. I later discovered that he was not a qualified doctor, and that he did the operation on the chest, and in the process punctured my lungs.

Three days after the first operation, another one was done; this time by a qualified doctor, who did it from my right rib. I was discharged a month later, and told to come for check-up every two weeks. In the course of my going for check-ups, the doctors went on strike. So, every time I went, because there was no one to take care of me, I was always told to go and

continue on my medications.

Meanwhile, the first operation done on the chest caused my chest to be swollen. The stitches tore off, and the flesh there began to decay. But due to the antibiotics I was taking, the wound healed externally, while it was still fresh internally. I started having pains on the chest in 1993, and it was diagnosed as lung abscess. For almost two years, I was unable to lie down to sleep. I could only sleep by sitting up. I then also began to stool and vomit pus. In fact, the pus, looking for any outlet, came out through any possible hole. While this was on, there was a very tender spot on my chest, which burst open one day when I tried to sneeze.

Pus began to come out from there too, and not too long after, two other spots opened on my body. This resulted in my having to hold up a container to collect the pus coming out from my body.

Again, I came down to Eko hospital for treatment, but even after a bill of over 200,000 naira, they could not close the holes or stop the pus. I was then discharged to go and wait for fate. But on February 5th, 1995, I was brought to Winners' Chapel. As soon as the Bishop saw me, he was gripped with compassion and started rebuking the spirit of death. He prayed for me, anointed me with oil, and gave me his mantle, telling me to go, that I was healed.

I went back to Cotonou and began using the anointing oil to dress the wound, drank some, and tied the mantle around my neck. To the glory of God, within two weeks, the three holes on my chest sealed up mysteriously! This ailment had cost me about half a million naira, and I'd been to 15 different hospitals in Cotonou, Nigeria, and Cote D'Ivoire. In fact, plans were on to take me to Europe for treatment. One of the doctors I met described me as a time bomb that could go off at any time! But now, I can breath normally and have returned to my normal life, including going to my office. In fact, I travelled down from Cotonou on my own. My spinal cord and all that

shifted to the left as a result of my having to lift my right arm up always have returned to normal now. I just give God the glory. I know that it is the finger of God in my life, otherwise I would have died long ago.”

Chinedu, Cyprian

AIDS Victims Healed

“My aunt contacted the AIDS disease after a blood transfusion. I took her to the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital (UNTH), Enugu, where it was confirmed. She had sores all over her body. In fact, she was gone. But I knew that my God lives, and He is the One that had the final say, so I took her home. It was like everybody couldn't come near her. But by faith, I

gave her my towel and soap to use. People said I would contact the deadly disease, but I assured them that it was impossible, because the blood that flows in me is the blood of Jesus.

I began using the anointing oil (the power of God) on my aunt, and to my utter shock and amazement, she was healed! The sores on her body started disappearing, and she started adding weight!”

Maduka, C. (Miss)

“I am 26 years old, and a widow with three children. My husband died of AIDS. I was going to church for fellowship one day, when I met a sister, who told me that the service was not

holding in church that day, because some Nigerian missionaries were in town and were preaching at the Victory Cross Church. So, I headed for the place.

On hearing them, I was so moved at the richnesses of the Word of God; I felt the message was really for me. I couldn't stop attending the programme, and everyday I felt the message preached was for me. I knew Jesus had healed me of AIDS, but I still had fever and cough, and my body was paining me. Each morning I felt a mask-like object on my head, and my heart beat so fast, as though several demons entered me every minute. I then began to think that maybe I wasn't properly

healed.

But after attending the WOFBI course, I realised that I lacked the Word of God, that I was empty. Also, I kept hearing something tell me that I was going to die. I stood firm and made up my mind to see one of the missionaries. I told him my problem, and he anointed me with oil and prayed for me. He counselled me and advised me to read the book, *Keys to Divine Health*. I obeyed, and after reading the book, I began to shine! I was happy, because I got a lot of promises, good ones, hopeful ones, and I believed the Word of God was working in my life. After the prayers, the cough and fever disappeared, without the use of any

drug. I decided to believe God and use the Word of God. Now, I am free from AIDS, and free indeed!”

Mariam Sebugemyi (Kampala, Uganda)

Hernia Disappears

“Before the end of 1994, I noticed that one of my son’s testes was swollen. I called my wife to see it, and we immediately went to the clinic. The doctor’s verdict was that it would have to be corrected by surgery. My heart almost failed, because I had thought it was a mere infection. We found out that such surgery would cost us about 20,000 naira. When we got home, my wife told me that if we agreed to that surgery, it would be the greatest

mistake we would ever make. She suggested that we look unto God to perform the healing instead. I agreed with her. We prayed and laid hands on him, and continued to confess our healing covenant with God. Yet, there was no change; rather, the swelling increased.

It was then that the Lord told me to look for a book on divine healing. I went to a Christian bookshop, and came across this book, **Keys To Divine Health**, written by Dr. David Oyedepo. I told myself I wasn't going anywhere, but would take two days off to read the book. On the first day I read it twice, and on the second day, I told God that all I needed was just one key, with

which to deal with the situation. To the glory of God, the Lord led me to **pages 23-26**. I read the pages, and discovered that my problem was Satan, the tormentor. Satan was the one tormenting my son.

So I called in my son, and told him to lie down. Then I said: 'Satan, I command you, appear before me right now!' Then I asked him: 'When this body was created in 1991, were you part of its' creation?' He said, 'No'. Again, I asked him: 'When this body was created, was it created in your own image?' He answered that it was created in the image of God. Then I finally asked him: 'Was it created with this sickness?' and he said, 'No'. So I

commanded him, saying, ‘Satan, now take your things and get out of this house, in Jesus’ name!’ I then turned to the condition (the swollen testes) and said: ‘I have dealt with your commander-in-chief. Now, I curse you. Wherever your root is located, wither from your root and die!’

Within one week, that was the end of it! Praise the LIVING GOD!!”

Madueme, E.

Mental Dullness Destroyed

“My testimony is on how God gave my children wisdom from above. My children were dullards at school. I was in church the day a sister testified of how God gave her daughter wisdom for excellence, resulting in her excelling in

school. The Bishop said there was an impartation service in the evening of that same day, and that every man should come with his or her mantle, that would later on be placed on our children's head for excellence. I went home that day and placed the special mantles on my three children; and by the special grace of God, last year, all three of them came first in their various classes. This term, they all came first again!"

Ekeckukwu, M. (Mrs)

Spiritual Wickedness Frustrated

"A sister was used to save a couple from a certain church. After this couple stopped attending their former church, the people there vowed that they would

never succeed. When it was time for the woman to deliver, she collapsed in the labour room, and life was gone out of her. So, her husband sent for this sister that was used to deliver them.

As the sister was leaving the house, her husband told her, 'Carry all the weapons of God at your disposal,' and she obeyed. On getting to the labour room, she anointed the dead woman, and she came back to life. But there was no contraction for delivery. So this sister again said, 'In two minutes, something is going to happen.' And according to her word, in exactly two minutes, the child came out of the womb. But the child was dead. The sister told herself that God who has

began a work would Himself complete it. So, she anointed the child, and it came back to life. But something more happened. When the child came to life, lo and behold, it had a chimpanzee's face.

This sister then took the baby, washed, cleaned, and dressed her up, and said, 'Under two hours, this face must be changed!' She took the picture of the child's parents and said, 'Lord, every child must have a resemblance of either one of the parents or both of them.' She prayed and was relaxed. And according to her word, under two hours, the fresh face of a baby came out! The baby was brought to the church yesterday night for everyone to

see.”

L.F.C., Kaduna

Freed From Bladder Infection

“I started having serious pains all around my back and abdomen in August. The doctor diagnosed infection of either the bladder or the prostate gland, because I was passing urine too frequently. The results of the last lab test came on September 28th, on the first day of the September Breakthrough Seminar. The doctor had given up and referred me to a specialist hospital.

I said to myself, ‘Enough is enough’, deciding that what I probably needed was a spiritual touch. So my son, who had been coming to this

church, invited me here for the September Breakthrough Seminar. When the Bishop made the altar call for people to give their lives to Christ, I didn't come out. My wife was angry with me for this, and I promised that I would come out the following day. In the course of the service, I went to ease myself four times.

Back home, at 3 o'clock in the morning, I went to the toilet to urinate, and I got the greatest shock of my life. For 10 minutes, I was trying to urinate, but couldn't. I was determined not to bring my wife, or sons into this matter. I remembered a song I had enjoyed during the service, so I started singing it. The song goes like this: 'I am on the

Lord's side, I will never give up, I am an overcomer, for the Lord God is on my side.' I kept changing positions, either sitting or standing. Then I started challenging God: 'God, is it because I didn't come out for the altar call?' Then the Spirit of God ministered to me to use the words of the song against Satan.

So I said: 'Satan, I am an overcomer, because the Lord God is on my side. So I command you, in the name of Jesus, loosen your hold on me!' At that instance, like a dam giving way, the urine flowed! All the pains went away too! The following morning, I dumped all the drugs I was still using into the dustbin, saying, 'Satan, that

belongs to you.’ There has been no pain ever since.”

Agboola, O.

Bondage Of Barrenness Broken

“I was faced with the problem of barrenness for five years. I’d been passing through this street (where Winner’s Chapel is located) for many years, but I didn’t know that this was where my salvation was, until when my sister-in-law came from Benin. She invited me to this church, saying that the Holy Ghost is here. I came here in September in tears, because I’d been everywhere, searching for a baby.

On my way out of the church after the service that day, I saw the Bishop and his wife about entering their car,

and also saw people pulling at his clothes. I went near and used my handkerchief to wipe his face. I then went to a corridor and used the mantle to rub my body all over.

In December, I started feeling some changes in my body. I went to see my doctor, and guess what I saw? I couldn't believe my ears and eyes! I thought that if I came out to testify, that something could change it. But I'm over eight months pregnant now! I praise God!"

Ojeriakhi, E. (Mrs)

You can see that Satan is not your problem. He is no match for the wisdom of God in every area of life, and on all grounds. Is there any area

Satan has held you captive? Is there any area he has been posing to be powerful? Now declare to him: “Satan, the blood of Jesus is against you! Loose your grip, in Jesus’ name!” To silence Satan in all your affairs, use all the weapons delivered to you by your Father, for sweatless triumph. The ball is now in your court; it is now up to you.

Chapter 13 - You Can Walk Out On The Devil!

Many years ago, while pastoring in Kaduna, I preached a message titled, ***“You Can Walk Out On The Devil”***. This message showed the littleness of Satan. It blessed many people, enabling them to take control of their lives once again. I pray that you too, will truly join me and these many other saints of God in belittling the devil by walking out on him whenever he tries to make a point. Below is an abridged version of that message:

Note that all manner of affliction is one form of imprisonment or another. Disease, infirmity, poverty, sin, etc., fall into this category; they are It is the devil holding such victims hostages. This is reflected in the scripture in Luke 13:16, where Jesus said:

And ought not this woman...whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond...?

Just as Jesus freed himself from the depths of hell (the devil's prison) by spoiling principalities and powers, and triumphing over them, so you too can walk out on the devil and his hierarchies, and from any of his prison houses. The devil doesn't have enough force to hold you bound anymore.

Jesus, the Master, has broken every fetter! Friend, you can walk out on the devil!

Release Your Faith

The enemy you are contending with is not physical, so you cannot attack him with physical weapons. The Bible tells us so in 2 Corinthians 10:3-4:

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (physical), but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.)

The only way to stand against him, therefore, is to resist him with your faith.

For whatsoever is born of God

overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

1 John 5:4

The Christian life is a life of faith. God is a faith God, and for anybody to live up to His expectation, he too, must live by faith (Heb. 11:6).

The quality of your life is a product of your faith. You will never get any victory that is bigger than your faith. The enemy knows this, and that is why he is constantly warring against you, to make sure that your faith is weakened. If Satan can cause your faith to fail, he has got you. Your faith is the fortress that keeps the devil off your territory. That is why Ephesians 6:16 says:

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

The devil knows he is in a danger zone when you are in faith. Your faith is a menace to him. He knows that he cannot get you until he has gotten your faith. So, when Satan comes with his problems, it is your duty to ward off his assaults, using the shield of faith.

When he comes with sickness, use your faith to throw him off. Your victory can only be won and sustained by your faith. There is no other way. *“The just shall live by his faith”* (Hab. 2:4); God has designed it so. It is your faith that will put you over all life’s difficulties. Faith is essential for

personal victory.

The problem with most people, however, is that instead of walking by faith, they choose to walk by sight. It is amazing to see people set all their attention on their problems, until they are magnified beyond their imagination. They depend solely on their five senses. But God intends that you walk by faith, and not by sight.

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

2 Corinthians 5:7

It is only through walking by faith that you will always overcome all difficulties and win your battles. Your victory is, thus, always guaranteed. So release your faith!

Know The Word

Another vital thing that will enable you win always is to know more than your enemy. That way, you will always be able to take the wind out of his sails. The devil is riding on quite a lot of people today because of their ignorance. Hosea 4:6 says:

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...

You don't have to be a prey of the devil, as there is enough provision to make you wiser than your enemies. Mark 4:11 tells us that it has been given unto you (child of God) to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of God,

whereas, unto others (including the devil) it is in parables.

The Word of God is the greatest mystery of all. It is too high for the devil to comprehend. Despite all that Jesus revealed and said about His death and resurrection, the Bible says, in 1 Corinthians 2:8:

Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

That's how ignorant Satan is! Truly, that light shines in darkness, and the darkness cannot comprehend it (Jn. 1:5), because wisdom is too high for the foolish!

Friend, when you sit down with

your Bible for proper studies and deep meditation, the devil will be wise enough to keep off your environment. He knows how to be absent from hot spots - he was absent on mount Carmel, because Elijah kept him at a distance by faith. We now live under a better covenant, which is based on better promises.

The Bible says, in Revelation 12:11:

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony...

There is no stronger will than the word of your testimony; That is the word you testify to by your faith and confession. The Psalmist said:

Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.

Psalm 119:98

God's Word makes you smarter than the devil. The Word of God carries the divine nature, and it is transferred to you when it is formed in you and becomes your life style. Divine nature is conveyed into every human vessel via the Word of God, causing the man to operate the forces of divinity in his earthly walk. It is time to respond to the Word on a more serious level. You cannot fight to get what you don't know belongs to you in the first place.

God's Word can never be made

invalid or ineffective. The Bible says God's Word is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword (Heb. 4:12). Jesus never had any prayer requests; He simply operated His divine nature, and it always produced for Him.

You need the wisdom of God to deal with the devices of the enemy; and where is this wisdom located? The Bible says Jesus Christ is the power and wisdom of God. So, the strength you need to stand and the wisdom you need to discover the devil's tricks are both from God's Word. For example, a man says to himself, "I'm feeling feverish." But once God's Word that says, "*Himself took our infirmities and*

bore our sicknesses, and by His stripes you were healed” (Isa. 53:5) comes alive in such a man, the next thing he would say is, “Satan, you must be the one feeling feverish. As for me, I feel healthy, because Jesus took my infirmities, and God’s Word says in Joel 3:10, ‘Let the weak say “I am strong.”’ So Satan, get lost!”

Where does this wisdom come from? According to Psalm 119:98, it comes from the Word of God. Once you become wiser than that trickster, he can no longer succeed in tricking you. You need wisdom when dealing with a trickster, because you need first to know the truth before you can discover an error. Otherwise, the devil

will carry you away with his lies. But a simple command from you, based on the authority and integrity of the Word of God that is already mixed with faith in you, will release the trigger of heaven's wisdom to you.

There was this very hefty fellow that was possessed. Everyone around was trying to hold him down, but he kept attacking them. When I saw what was happening, I asked myself, "Do I have that much physical strength to resist this man?" But I had a little more understanding than those other fellows who were trying to hold him down. So, I approached them and said, "Leave him!" The devil immediately knew this was someone who knew what he was

doing. I said to the demon tormenting the man, “The angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness (Jude 6). What are you doing here? Get out!” And that was all! The man was set free instantly, as every devil tormenting him disappeared at the instance of that Word!

It is ignorant believers that allow so much room for the devil in their lives. If you make up your mind to give the attention you are now giving the devil to Jesus (the Word), you will literally be living in heaven. Whenever I am set for a journey, all I say is, “I am going; every devil get off the road!” Don’t

you notice that mad people always get off the road when they see an oncoming car? Even a crazy and naked man knows that a car can kill him!

Some believers have been identified as killers in the kingdom of darkness. The evil spirit said to the sons of Sceva, “*Jesus I know, and Paul I know...*” (Acts 19:15). The moment such believers get on the road, the forces of darkness automatically clear off. They don't need any admonition, counsel or noise making. No!

Here in Africa, we live in a society where we have lots of taboos and cultural beliefs that make men slave to the world of the unseen. The invisible forces rule our communities. You hear

such statements like, “Those are the people in charge. Such things don’t happen ordinarily. We must do something about this. It is a very serious matter. Many have died like this before.” So, the man goes to see some fetish priests or some prayer houses, where they give him information that pumps fear into him, and he then begins to follow them like a horse or a mule that has no understanding. I tell you, the devil doesn’t hang around my house, car, or the road I travel on. No! He just clears off on his own. It’s time for him to start doing the same for you.

Embrace The Word

The Spirit of the Lord quickens His Word in you in order to show forth His praises on the earth. After knowing or discovering God's Word, the next thing to do is to embrace it, for the Bible says, "*The entrance of the word giveth light*" (Ps. 119:130). The Word of God is what illuminates the believer. Until that light comes, you can't talk of shining, winning, or victory. This is because everyone God has lifted in ministry, business or whatever, has always claimed that a Word came. Something always enters before something happens. When a Word

comes from heaven, it makes a difference.

Sometime in 1976, I was in an Anglican church, and a man came up to read the scriptures. I knew this man to be a drunkard. But he stepped up and read from John 6, and-what an illumination! "*I am the bread of life...*" he read. It was to me as if Jesus Himself was the one reading. Some heavenly light came on that Word, and tears began streaming down my eyes. That was a sinner (a man we all knew was not saved) reading. But to me, there was a soothing anointing on his voice as he read the scripture, and what he was reading began to penetrate my heart. For the first time, it became real

to me that God's Word is enough to make food available for man. The Word of God provides food for you and guarantees your refreshing. This is enough to deal a lethal blow to every lack-mentality or anxiety.

Your lifting has its root in the Word. God said, "Because thou hast kept my Word, I will also keep thee from the hour of temptation which shall come upon all that dwell upon the earth." Your distinction is in the Word of God. Your separation is in that same Word too. The Word is what will make the difference between you and everyone else. That is why you must embrace God's Word more than your necessary food and all other necessities

of life.

So many are going around looking for prayers. Such people often come to me and say, "Please agree with me." But I tell them, "No, you agree with God." Your agreement with God is what determines what heaven releases to you. If I agree with you and you disagree with God, how will you escape (Heb. 2:3)? It is your agreement with God that determines your fate in any conflict of life.

To be triumphant and ever-victorious in life, you just have to discover what heaven demands of you, and give it all you've got. Only your agreement with God will guarantee His walk with you; and when God is for

you, who can be against you? Until you're ready to walk with God, you'll remain under pressure here on earth.

A believer who wants to see good days must not take the world's view of things on face value. He must probe into the truth of such views in the Word of God, which is the final authority on all issues of life. This is a necessary step to walking in victory over Satan.

You Have The Power

And Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Go ye therefore...

Matthew 28:18-19

Behold, I give unto you power to

tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Luke 10:19

Many of us need to know how much power is at work inside us. That was why Paul prayed this prayer in Ephesians 1:18-19 for the Church:

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.

He said when your eyes of

understanding are enlightened, then will you know what power is working inside you. The Bible says, in John 1:12:

But as many as received him, to them gave he power...

He didn't give them a name, denomination, or a title; He gave them POWER! You are a product of power. You came from the Almighty, Omnipotent God; and like begets like. You are a power line on the earth! You now have the God-order of power. He gave you a measure of power when you first believed. Then you were endued with more power when you were baptised in the Holy Ghost (Acts 1:8). In other words, God immersed you in

power!

It is time to be conscious of your new status; your power-status. Give yourself a sense of superiority over the cruel forces of the enemy. You need to know that:

Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel: according to this time it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel, What hath God wrought!

Numbers 23:23

As a believer, never have an enchantment-mentality, no matter what position you find yourself. This is because no enchantment can work against you. On what grounds can this be true? On the grounds that you walk

in the consciousness of God's power that dwells inside you. John said:

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

1 John 4:4

The Greater One is in you, so you must carry “the Greater One mentality.” When dealing with any problem, from now on, tell yourself, “Though this problem might seem great, I am greater, because the Greater One lives in me.” Whatever God is saying about you, He has already put in you the power needed to make it happen. God's power in you is capable of bringing into effect every Word He

has spoken concerning you. The devil is not strong enough to stop you from becoming what God has marked you out for. Jesus said, in Matthew 16:18: *“I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”*

There is no policy on earth or in heaven that can stop the Church from marching on. The Bible makes it clear in Isaiah 11:9 that, “The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.” This does not require the permission of any government. God’s Word must be brought into effect.

It’s time to be power-conscious. You are a product of the Omnipotent God, so walk in the consciousness of

the power that you carry. This will go a long way to establish you in the plan and purpose of God for your life. Let everyone around you know that God's power is at work in you. You cannot have dominion without power. It is power that forces your enemies to obey your voice. The power of God is what subdues His enemies (Ps. 66:3).

Friend, what you have in you is greater than what Moses had when he confronted Pharaoh. It is far greater than what Elijah had. Nobody was endued with power in the Old Testament. They only had visitations of power; they never had the indwelling of the power of God. We (the New testament saints) are power-carriers!

God's Word says:

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Mark 16:17-18

If there is anything you shouldn't waste time on, it is casting out the devil. You are a power-container! You have God on your inside. This is the fundamental secret to all my victories in life. Thank God for corporate prayers, but Jesus said, "*Behold I give unto you power...*" That means you, as

an individual. You don't need any joining of hands before this power can work.

The divinity we are talking about is power-consciousness. An understanding of this truth will launch you into both an explosive manifestation of the power of God and His wisdom in your life. These two things keep God on His throne. That's why the scriptures tell us that Jesus is the wisdom and the power of God. If you lay hold on this truth, you'll become a threat to every devil!

Now, move forward! The world is waiting for the sons of God to manifest their divinity. This will make us "the solution" to the world. Absolute peace

in every area of life is provided for you
in the Word of God, so don't
programme yourself for a turbulent
life.

Exercise Your Divine Authority

Nothing happens on its own. Things are made to happen. Even God, the Almighty, could not wish His intentions into existence; He had to create them. The things God has promised you are there, but you have to bring them into manifestation here on earth. You must loose the creative forces of God in you into action.

When you understand and begin to exercise your divine authority, things begin to happen that will change your destiny.

Prophecy

It is time to collect prophecies from the Book of Records (the Bible) and do warfare with them. When I look at my Bible, I tell myself, “This is my book of destiny, my pathfinder in life, that shows me the way to where I am going.” The Kingdom of God is within you; but you have to push to deliver it, just as a pregnant woman does when she goes into labour. Your delivery is overdue; it’s time to push!

It’s time to go forth and cause the dry bones to live! It’s time to turn and face the odds that have been harassing you! It’s time to declare the way you

want things to be, and see heaven establish your decree (Job 22: 28). But you have to do it yourself. When Jesus Christ was at the tomb of Lazarus, He did not ask God to speak to the dead man. Jesus did it Himself – “Lazarus, come forth!” He declared. The Bible says:

As soon as they hear of me, they shall obey me: the strangers shall submit themselves unto me.

The strangers shall fade away, and be afraid out of their close places.

Psalm 18:44-45

There is great power in your mouth! There is a deposit of creative power in you, which is released through your mouth. Luke 21:15 says:

For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

The moment you catch what the Word says about your situation and faith is built up, you present your case, and you stand to address the situation, then that creative, miraculous power is released into the situation. By this, you mobilise the host of heaven (the angels of God that excel in strength) into swift action. They will handle the situation with dispatch. But the word of the miraculous has to first be released from your mouth before this can be done.

Friend, if you keep a closed mouth, your life will be closed. But if you

Speak the Word of God boldly to your situation by faith, it is as powerful and effective as though Jesus Himself is speaking it. It is impossible to walk in the realm of signs and wonders without the correct use of your mouth. Your victory in every battle of life is tied to your mouth. What you call is what answers. Until you call your case dead, it is still alive.

Three things happen to when you speak:

It gives God what to confirm (Isaiah 44:26).

It is whatever you say in His ears that He does (Numbers 14:28).

It forces your enemies to give up (Psalm 18:44-45).

The words you speak set a standard against your enemy. Psalm 81:10 encourages you to open your mouth wide against your enemies, and God says He will destroy and subdue them. Whatever you say becomes an order to the devil; whatever you say stops him.

Angels take instructions from what you say, because they are your messengers. Your messenger has no power to think for you; they only carry out your orders. Angels can destroy the work of your hands, depending on how you use your mouth (Eccl. 5:6). As soon as you say a thing, they pick it up, particularly when you don't doubt it in your heart. Therefore, you need to be constantly loaded with right words, so

you can invoke supernatural forces. The words you speak are the things that chart a path for your destiny. Whatever you believe, but will not speak will never produce. Second Corinthians 4:13 says:

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak.

It's time to choke the devil out of your life, career, body, family, business, children, marriage, relationship, etc. Begin to declare boldly, and with absolute confidence the things you believe, for God is not a man that He should lie (Num. 23:19). He said He is watching over His Word

and will hasten to perform it.
Therefore:

...Arise, contend thou before the mountains, and let the hills hear thy voice.

Micah 6:1

If you want the people of the world to change their minds about you then you must exercise your divine authority. You are a carrier of divine virtues, so break loose! We are in the era of the sons of God.

Be Strong!

Since we know that Satan uses nothing but subtlety and deception to trick men, there must be a way of handling him. What is that way? The devil is a man of tricks. How do we keep him under control? First, John 2:14 says:

...I have written unto you, young men, because ye are **STRONG**, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

So what do you do? Ephesians 6:10 tells us:

...Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

This means, let your being in the

Lord be a matter of personal consciousness. You are born of God, which automatically makes you an overcomer (1 Jn. 4:4). So, you need to *“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath set us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage”* (Gal. 5:1).

Not all Christians are standing strong in their walk with God. It's time to be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. When you hear a man say, “I cannot fail! I cannot have an accident!”, he is only saying what he is worth in the Lord. Some folks may see it as pride, but the scriptures say, *“My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof,*

and be glad” (Ps. 34:2).

When you are face-to-face with any challenge of life (such as sickness), tell the devil, “I am of God, therefore, I have overcome you. So get lost!” You need the strength of God to deal with the cruel forces in the world today. You need the kind of strength that will enable you stand in the face of obvious danger without any fear.

There are too many weaklings carrying just one armour of God around, when the Bible recommends that we “*put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil*” (Eph. 6:11). Friends, you can't afford to be a woman in this race. The Bible says,

“Quit yourselves like men, and fight”
(1 Sam. 4:9). Get Satan off your mind,
and heaven and earth will bear record
that a son of God is manifesting
indeed! Be bold, be strong; for the Lord
thy God is with thee!

Resist The Devil

The devil doesn't need any invitation before he comes your way. He is always prepared. He is called the prince of the power of the air, because he is always going to and fro, looking for what to steal, destroy, and whom to kill. But the Bible tells us what to do to put him off:

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:7

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may

devour:

Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

1 Peter 5:8-9

The devil won't flee because you look nice and gentle, or because you don't disturb anybody. He won't flee because you are kind and have all the fruits of the Spirit, nor will he flee because you are a strong church member either. The mere fact that you're involved in everything in the church is not enough reason for him to flee. That you give offering regularly and generously will not move him either. Satan will flee only when you

resist him. It takes some force for him to bow. He is an enemy you are engaged in a battle with. He is not someone to be begged or cajoled. The Bible describes us as wrestlers.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Ephesians 6:12

Have you ever seen wrestlers beg one another in the ring? “*Resist the devil, and he will flee,*” not beg him or beg God to deal with him on your behalf, and he will flee. No! It is time to take charge! Refuse to let Satan have his way; stand against him. Show him

who is the boss.

Many Christians have no form of resistance at all on their inside. Friend, it's not God or your pastor that will resist the devil for you. You can cast out a million demons from a person, and before he gets to the next bus stop, he acquires two million more terrible ones. Every evil spirit has God's permission to stay somewhere; but you can keep them off your territory!

What does the word "resist" mean? How can I be sure I am resisting the devil? What has enabled our ministry to be where we are today is the simple understanding of the word "resist". If anybody tries to hit me with a club, I say, "Satan, get out!" I resist him

immediately; I take charge, and let the force in question know that a stronger force is around. Unfortunately, however, many Christians have allowed the devil to have his way in their lives without any form of resistance whatsoever. Some say, "I won't eat, because I know that if I eat I will vomit." Such a person is not putting up any form of resistance against the devil. So the devil just takes his toll on such people.

The Christians who will make it this end-time are soldiers. You cannot be a child forever. A child is no better than a slave, because he remains under governors and tutors until he grows. Even though all things are his, he

doesn't enjoy them as long as he remains a child (Gal. 4:1-2).

Jesus set us an example of how to resist the devil. In Luke chapter 4, the devil came to Him knowing He was hungry after forty days of fasting, and said, "Turn these stones into bread." Jesus didn't just tell him, "Satan keep quiet." No! That's not how to resist the devil. There is a weapon of resistance at your disposal, which Jesus Himself used. He said to Satan, "*It is written...*" Men who have God's Word in them, and are smart to release it through their mouths in faith, are men who will keep the devil off their shores.

After Jesus said, "*It is written...*" the devil had to look for something else

to do. The realm of “*It is written...*” is a realm where he could not proceed any further. This is the language of resistance, the force the devil cannot withstand. He will always bow to it. When Jesus spoke those words in faith, the devil couldn’t proceed any further. There are many areas in which the devil is trying to harass you. The way to stop him in his tracks is to bring out God’s Word, which stands against his evil plans, from your heart.

The devil came to Jesus a second time, and once again, Jesus said, “*It is written...*” He didn’t pray, neither was there anyone around with whom He could pray a prayer of agreement. The third time the devil came in his usual

resilience, Jesus gave it to him again, “*It is written...*” At this time, the devil concluded, “There is nothing more I can do with this man” and left.

And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him (Jesus) for a season.

Luke 4:13

A man, who has value for God’s Word will earn great respect for himself. He will be respected in the kingdom of darkness. Every prayer that is void of God’s Word cannot do anything to the devil. If Satan is threatening you with the fear of death, all you need do is say to him, “It is written, they that serve God shall fulfill the number of their days. Satan, your

threat of death over my life cannot hold. I am of God, and I have overcome you. Greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world.” The devil quickly leaves men who speak this kind of language. When he is making a list of people he cannot touch, he will include theirs.

When you declare to the devil, “It is written...” let it come from a depth where doubt has no access - from the depth of your heart. It’s time to do what Jesus did. I wish you would devote all the time you spend running around, and looking for people to help you, in God’s Word. Spend that time to locate what guarantees your triumph in the battle you’re facing, and stand on

it. The devil must surely bow, because the Word of God is that light that shines in darkness, and darkness has no answer to it.

The more darkness there is, the more prominently light shines. This is why the devil has no answer to light. The devil cannot hang around your life when God's Word reigns supreme there. All you need do, therefore, is to be drunk with God's Word; be ready at all times to release "*it is written...*" against the enemy's onslaughts. Don't ever sit down with trouble; expose it. Until you get to this point in any battleground, the devil stands to have whatever he wants. True victory is making it in the face of your enemy,

not behind him. There is nothing more exciting than your enemy seeing you make progress.

The man of God, Fred K. C. Price, once told of how he was paying tithes and offerings and yet, was getting poorer and poorer. There are many Christians like that today, who since they got to know God and have been giving, have never experienced any financial miracle. One day, however, Fred Price made a discovery. Men who make enquiries make discoveries. He discovered from God's Word that the mere fact that you're doing the right thing does not mean you will always have right results, because there is one called the adversary, and he is against

you. He is your archenemy, and is out to frustrate you and make you disbelieve God.

You need to know what God says and use this knowledge to stand against Satan. Why should a man be paying tithes and giving offerings and yet, his life is not improving? If God is not a liar, then the man should see results. The devil is the thief. If you don't resist him steadfastly, he will keep stealing, killing and destroying. But you can walk out on him!

Leave the Earthly Realm

Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

Revelation 12:12

To remain a terrestrial Christian in this day and age is a curse. The devil has been cast down to earth, having great wrath, so you cannot remain earthly and survive as a Christian. You just have to live the translated life, which is only possible on the platform of your agreement with God that you are truly seated in the heavenly realms

with Christ.

There is trouble on this earth now; the only security is in the heavenly places. That is why Revelation 12:12 says, *“Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them.”* There are heavenly Christians, and there are earthly ones. Heavenly Christians are those who by reason of the quality of their walk with God, have been translated from the earthly realm; their walk with God has distinguished them on the earth. It’s time to desire a translation in your Christian adventure. Down here, there is groaning and sorrow but up there, there is joy unlimited (Ps. 16:11). I see God lifting you up!

The quality of your walk with God is what determines your distinction on the earth. Only your agreement with Him guarantees His walk with you. Heaven is His throne, so when you walk, and agree with Him (Amos 3:3), He takes you from the earthly realm to the heavenly realm, which is far above all principalities and powers and rulers of this wicked world, and all the wicked spirits in high places.

Epilogue - Having Done All, Stand!

So far, we have seen that God expects us to do certain things in order for us to escape the wickedness that is in the world. This is to enable Him to fulfill His own side of the covenant. I want to add, however, that having done all you know to do, you must remain standing (on the infallible Word of God).

I can hear God's Spirit saying that there are Christians, who having done all that they are supposed to do, resort to bowing down and grumbling. That's wrong and dangerous. You must stand

shoulder-high upon God's promises after you have obeyed and done what He asks you to do. If you will be more than a conqueror indeed, then having done all, you must stand.

Are you wondering what "all" stands for? It refers to every spiritual exercise you have engaged in, with the expectation that they will bring God's promises to pass in your life - those prayers, fasting, laying on of hands, anointing with oil, giving sacrificially, serving God wholeheartedly, and what have you. All the truths that I have shared with you in this book are also part of the "all".

God's Word says that after you have obeyed Him and done all that you

know to do, even if you don't see what you expect to see immediately, you must stand firm on His Word, so that in due time, the rewards will show forth. But a lot of Christians give up just at the verge of their miracles. They have done the right thing, but are not patient enough to let the seed germinate. They complain and grumble in despair, they bow down, they lie down and throw in the towel. I tell you, only those who stand strong to the end will have a testimony; they are the only ones who will eventually overcome and see their desires come to pass.

No doubt, there are times when you are tempted to be downcast. You have tried your "best", and it looks like

things are not working smoothly. What do you do? You should encourage yourself in the Lord, and speak to yourself like David did whenever he was down. Recount the goodness of the Lord in times past, and worship Him for who He is. Never bow down; instead, stand!

Remember Joseph, who was sold into slavery by his own blood brothers? He was a slave and a prisoner, yet his countenance never showed it. Instead, he was always joyful as he did his chores; he never complained nor was he bowed down. He stood tall above all negative circumstances around him, and his patience paid off eventually. You know the story too well. Look at

Abraham too. The Bible says:

He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God.

Romans 4:20

Friend, faith is what gives substance to hope, and that's what you need. Hope without faith is futile, because hope cannot produce on its own. As you stand on God's Word, stand in faith as well, and not on hope alone. Like Abraham, be fully persuaded that what God has said He will do, He will surely do. God has said that He will not leave you at the mercy of the wicked forces that are presently operating in the world. In order for you to see that Word come to pass in your

life, you must stand on it with unflinching faith, and without wavering, irrespective of what the enemy brings your way. Stand on the Word of God, and then it will produce for you.

The acid test for strong faith is giving glory to God. That's what Abraham did. Giving glory to God publicly and when you're alone is an evidence of your faith in Him, and it works! Praise Him sincerely from your heart at all times, and surely, your desires will come to pass. Don't laugh in church and cry at home. Don't listen to negative comments that do not build you up. Stand on God's Word and praise Him. Psalm 67:3-7 tells us that

when we praise God, then the earth will yield her increase, and then God will bless us. Not only that, the whole earth will fear Him as well.

There are no short-cuts to God's blessings. We cannot get what we desire by merely working ceaselessly day and night. No! We will get blessed as we stand on the Word of God, praising Him and giving glory to His name.

Having read through this book, I am sure you now realise, more than ever before, that the forces of wickedness that are in the world are not strong enough to overwhelm you. God has made adequate provisions for us to triumph sweatlessly over all the works

of the devil. Yes, we are more than conquerors through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary. His resurrection procured for us, among other things, divine immunity against the onslaughts of the evil one. You are a creature of destiny in God, and He alone has the final say about what your life turns out to be, not the devil.

We are born of God, so we overcome the evil that is in the world. Halleluyah!

A Word To The Unsaved

Imagine how a hungry horse or a farm animal consumes hay. Imagine, too, the helplessness of the earthworm being consumed by a chicken. It is a truesome sight! Well, that's exactly how helpless you are in the hands of the devil, if you are not born again.

“Born again?” I can hear you ask. “That over-flogged term?” Yes, that over-flogged term. If you are not born again, you are very vulnerable to all the evil that is in the world. There is absolutely no immunity for you, because “*All powers that be are of God.*” Only God can provide a secure

covering over you, to keep you from the wicked incursions of the devil and his agents. You must be saved, if you must escape the wickedness that is in the world.

Man's greatest spiritual need is a true experience of salvation that only Jesus offers. Give Him a chance in your heart right now, and let Him in. He'll turn your life around for good. You'll find true meaning to life, and will forever be protected from wickedness and evil. Please say this prayer with me, and mean it:

Dear Lord, I confess that I'm an unworthy sinner. I call upon You right now to please forgive me of all my sins. I believe You died and was

resurrected to pay the price for my salvation. I accept You as my Saviour and Lord, and thank You for saving me. Amen.

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