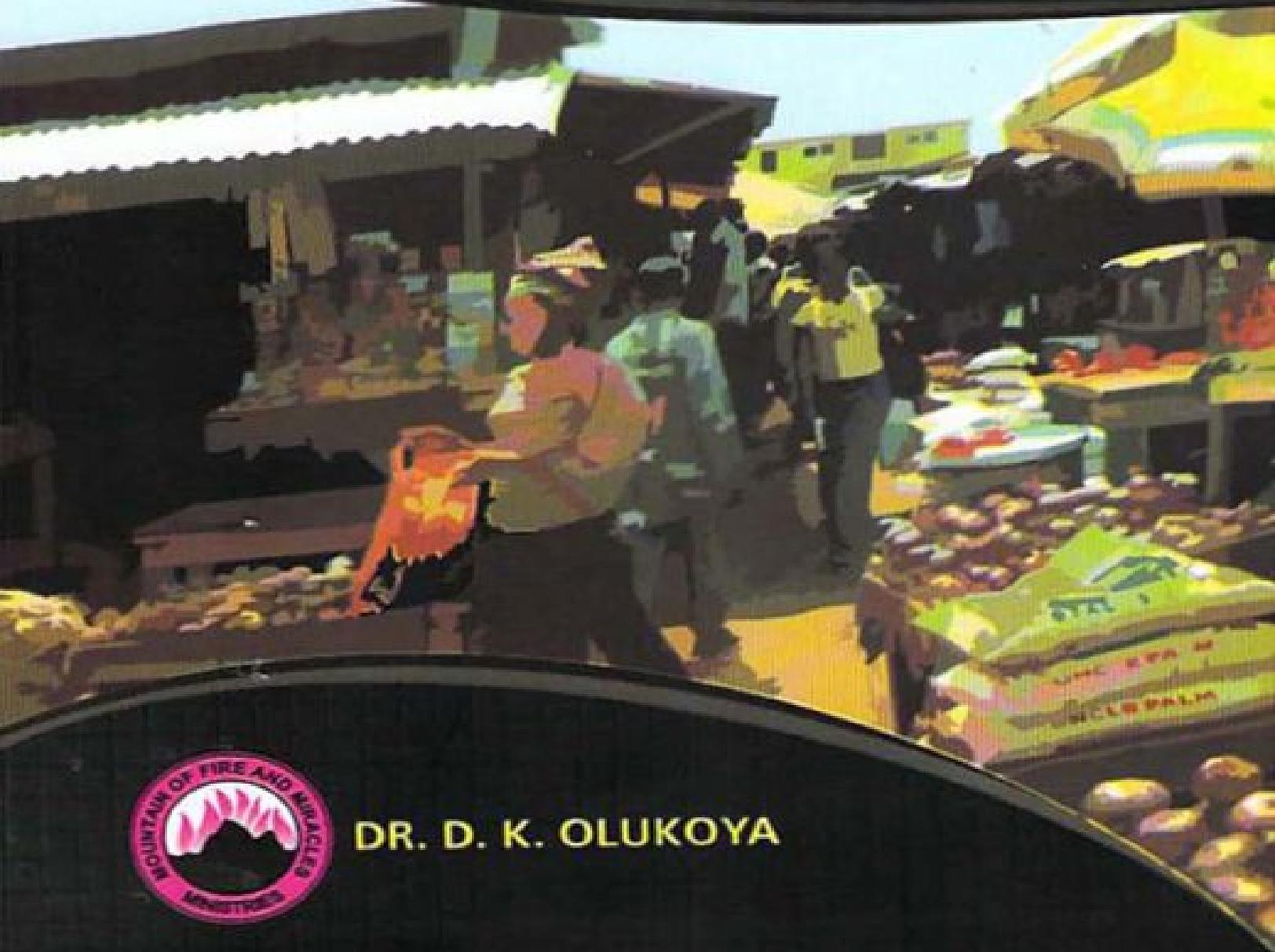


WASTED AT THE MARKET SQUARE OF LIFE



DR. D. K. OLUKOYA

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THE MARKET
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eISBN-13: 978-978-49173-9-1

August 2010



Published by:

Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries Press

13, Olasimbo Street, Onike, Yaba, Lagos.

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CHAPTER ONE

WASTED AT THE MARKET SQUARE OF LIFE

Pray this prayer point:

"Every conspiracy against my destiny, scatter by fire, in the name of Jesus."

There are some scriptures to be considered. The first is Matthew 26:24.

Matthew 26:24: The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born. Something is written about the Son of man in heaven and not on earth. For the Son of man to fulfil God's purpose on earth, He must do according to what was written about Him.

The second Scripture is John 3:28:

Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him.

John was a man who knew what he was doing. He knew what he was sent for and where he was going. He knew his purpose on earth as well.

The third Scripture is John 4:34:

Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

Here are the words of Jesus. He knew His divine assignment.

The fourth Scripture is John 9:4:

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

The fifth place is John 18:37:

Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

You should not pray that the monkey should become a fish because their environments are different. There is an African proverb that says that the monkey and the fish do not quarrel. If the monkey says it would go and fight the fish inside the river, that would spell doom for it, for it is not adapted to aquatic life. For the same reason the fish would not decide to fight the monkey on land.

We fight with enemies sometimes as a result of grouping ourselves with them. There could be no fight between the eagles and the chickens, the reason being that the eagles are far above the chickens which are down below. Sometimes you fight with witches and wizards because you have left the realm where you ought to be. You have left your position and that is why you face attacks. I would like you to put yourself back to God's designed purpose for your life and manifest your sonship right over situations and circumstances. Let us see Acts 9:15.

But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel.

Here is the divine proclamation concerning the destiny of a particular man. It is the proclamation concerning the destiny of Paul as revealed to Prophet Ananias. If you do not really know who you are or what you really are, you may be praying against yourself.

Let us examine Phil. 3: 13-14:

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

THE GREATEST EVENT IN HISTORY

On that great hill far away, outside the city wall, called Golgotha, a Man was hanged on a cross. Many roads converged at that cross. A lot of strange and unexpected people gathered there.

People of diverse origins gathered at Golgotha for that historic event. Each group had its own agenda, different reasons for gathering there that day. Each person beholding the Man of Galilee on the cross had a different attitude towards Him. Most of the people that gathered did not know the significance of what was happening. There were passers-by there who did not know that the greatest historic event was taking place that time.

These people were like the priests who were around that day that Jesus was brought to the temple for dedication. They did not recognise who He was, apart from Anna the prophetess and Simeon the prophet who had prophetic understanding of what was going on.

At the cross there were soldiers on official duties. The Pharisees who hated Jesus were there. The Sadduces and the priests who paid Judas Iscariot to betray Jesus were there also. Judas Iscariot was there too because he did not believe that Jesus could just die like a fowl. He believed that the moment Jesus was nailed to the cross, He would jump down and take over the government of the day. Judas Iscariot was there to know what would happen. There were thieves, one at His right side and the other at His left.

Only one of the thieves spoke a kind word to Jesus. The disciples were there at this epoch-making event and were very depressed and unhappy. The mockers were there too. They were there to laugh at Him and to say, "Look at that miracle man. Look at him. He is calling Elijah."

The centurion was there, who after seeing what happened said, "Truly, this is the Son of God."

Mary, the mother of Jesus, was there waiting to see what would become of her Son. Joseph of Arimathea was there too. There was an African man there too, called Simon of Creve, who was forced to carry the cross of Jesus. He was not meant to be there but one way or the other, destiny

brought him there. He witnessed the greatest event in history. There were those who provided Him vinegar to drink. There was the crowd which cried, "Crucify him!" There were also people who were largely indifferent to what was going on.

THE MARKET SQUARE OF LIFE

As it was at the historic event of the crucifixion and death of our Lord Jesus, so it is in the market square of life: a mixed multitude of people, who do not know what they are here for. They are just like those people who gathered at the cross without understanding what was going on.

This is a strange world. Several people are watching occurrences. They do not know why they are here on earth. Many are watchers and not observers. They look but cannot see or discern. Some people have made mistakes in life and their mistakes are written down for us to learn today.

Many read of the mistakes of others today but still proceed to make the same mistakes. This shows that people are just roaming about in the market square of life without an idea of how to get anything out of life.

We are all in the market square of life. While some know what they want out of life, others do not. There are many confused persons in this market square. It is quite unfortunate that even very many Christians are confused. A lot of pastors too are confused because they became pastors of their own volition without God's calling.

THE GREAT WASTERS

The devil brings a person to the market square of life and deceives or confuses him there.

The enemy has a headquarter in the market square of life in which there is a dangerous dragon. That dangerous dragon is called Focus Killer.

Once the life of a person is wasted at the market square of life due to loss of focus, all his confessions of "I have trampled upon the devil" will be mere sloganeering and waste of words. The enemy knows that you are not in the right place once your focus is lost.

You are supposed to fulfil a divine agenda as you are on a mission on earth, a mission to accomplish divine purposes.

We are created for a purpose, but it is unfortunate that the cemetery keeps swallowing those who do not fulfill their purpose. Years back, the obituaries of people between the ages of 20 and 30 were rarely seen in the newspapers. But today, they litter the pages of our newspapers. If you are a young person, do not think you still have more time to live on earth. Get to know that wastage of a life begins from the womb. If care is not taken, a person may become 60 years of age before he realises that his life was wasted. It is your responsibility, therefore to discover God's will for you on earth.

YOUR APPOINTED PLACE

It is your responsibility to discover your placement in the market square of life. There is a great value that God has attached to you as a person. He has planted something in you to be displayed to the whole world. The great wasters at the market square of life are the powers that do not allow one to exhibit God's given ability deposited in one.

Most of our forefathers were wasted in life. Most of our fathers too were wasted. I admonish you, therefore, to rise up and take action so as not to be wasted too.

Every person that does not know where God has placed him in life will definitely lose focus. And once you lose focus, you'll start to collect the salary arrears of backwardness and failure. The moment you discover your appointed place and pursue it, your destiny will begin to explode.

Having the knowledge of your placement in life determines your progress. God told Jeremiah that He called him to root out, to plant, to throw down

and to build. When God told him what he was destined to do, he said, "I am a small boy;" But God said he should not repeat the statement.

It is important for you to pray that God should show you your appointed place in life. Abraham was called to raise a nation. Joseph was called to preserve lives. Moses was called to deliver. Joshua was called to lead a people to a promised land and Paul was called to be an apostle to the Gentiles.

Anything that does not allow you to find out what God has called you to do, or that is blocking you from seeing what He has appointed you to do, closes the gate of your assignment against you and becomes your greatest enemy.

It is time for you to cry unto God in prayer to show you your divine location. Ask God to propel your life into fulfillment and make His way plain before your face. It is time you started asking God to stop talking to you in parables or in proverbs but rather in plain language that you can understand. It is time to cry to the Lord that if you are wrongly scheduled, He should re-assign you. Refuse to live on borrowed destiny. Refuse to fashion your life after the dictates of your enemy. Resist destiny quenchers that want to quench what God intends to do in your life.

At the market square of life is a dangerous dragon called Focus Killer, it has killed many promising people. Once the enemy discovers that someone has a colourful destiny, he begins to plot against that person.

When we went to preach at a university campus some years ago, a lady who had won a beauty contest came to me for counseling. As I ministered to her about Jesus, she laughed and said, "Look, pastor, my beauty can get me anything I want. I am a beautiful woman as you can see. I do not need Jesus." The next time I heard of her, I felt very sad. A jealous boyfriend had poured acid on her and she had been taken abroad for treatment.

Now, where is the beauty she was talking about?

When I saw her recent picture, she looked like a gorilla that was punched on the face!

PEOPLE WASTED AT THE MARKET SQUARE OF LIFE

Many people have been wasted at life's market square. Abel was wasted there by household wickedness. Lot was wasted there by wrong choice. Reuben was wasted there when his father cursed him saying, "Thou shall not excel." Saul was wasted there. Achan was wasted there as well.

The story of Samson is a tragedy. I find it difficult to understand why some people still call themselves Samson. Samson died grinding in the camp of the enemy. He died with the enemies. Though he was a conqueror, he was not more than a conqueror.

Solomon too was wasted by strange women at life's market square. Eli and his sons too were wasted. The young prophet that God sent on a very dangerous assignment was wasted. Money and covetousness wasted Gehazi. Although Ananias and Sapphira were born again and baptised in the Holy Spirit. they were nevertheless wasted.

A LIFE WITHOUT A GOAL

If you do not know where you are going. someone else will tell you where to go.

It is time to think very hard on who you are. It is very unfortunate that many people find thinking a very hard thing to do. Very few people think. Many of our sisters need very serious prayer. All they need as an occasion to commit fornication is for the brothers to come and tell them that they want to marry them. And after a brother has messed up a sister, he would come one day and say. "I don't like the shape of your teeth. so I am no longer interested in the relationship." Then the sister would start to pray and to give prayer points to people to pray for her. When she was supposed to have prayerfully looked at the man who proposed marriage to her, she did not do so, but rather she got carried away with sentiments.

If you are a man and you have already slept with a woman you are not married to, when the time to make a choice comes, you would be confused and may end up choosing the wrong partner. At that time, God would not talk to you anymore because you have broken His law. Even if you went to a prophet, God would put a lying spirit in the mouth of the prophet to tell you to go ahead with the wrong choice.

It is time you thought hard about what qualities you have that can be developed and that can be used to achieve something.

One aspect of human life on which the enemy has worked really hard is the focus.

In 1994, we prayed for a student of the University of Lagos for almost three months. The boy stood at the gate of the campus when a woman drove up to him and said, "Please, I want to see my daughter in the female hall and I don't know where the hall is." The boy's senses should have alerted him of the deception of one having a daughter in the university without knowing where she was. He became a victim of the enemy's trap because he lacked focus. He entered the woman's car and took her to the female hostel. She told him, "You are very kind. Please, assist me to call my daughter." He entered the hostel and asked for the daughter but no one answered the name he asked after. He came back to the woman who expressed to him her appreciation, picked him and said she would drop him off at the gate. However, she drove him to the lagoon front instead of the gate, and there she slept with the boy of 17. From that day, all kinds of shaky creatures started to crawl in the boy's head. He could not go to the lecture room again as he was beginning to run mad. Any time the moving objects crawled to his brain, he would begin to tear off his clothes.

This was a boy sent to the university to study, but the enemy succeeded in causing him to lose his focus. It is sad but it is true. It was tragic but it happened. Several people have no focus in their lives. The same person who wants to be a pastor is an estate agent as well as a seller of crude oil. The same person wants to run transport services and wants to be making soap. This shows lack of focus and direction in life.

There are some powerful statements about focus that require our attention. Focus is when you direct all your scattered forces into one rightful channel. The reason God sometimes allows enemies into our lives is that nothing focuses the mind better than a constant sight of an enemy whose desire is to destroy one.

When you are aware of an enemy who desires to wipe you off, then you will be more careful. Focus is the central interest. It is what one pays close and undivided attention to. It is what you concentrate upon. It is vision, purpose and direction.

A successful man is an average man who became focused. Focus is dedication to God's vision for your life. If you do not have a focus in life, you can never be a focus. There is no one called to do everything, but you are called to do something.

If you do not stand for something then you will fall for everything. There is something you can do that nobody else can do. You are an original and should not be a photocopy. Your focus is the door of your breakthrough.

At the end of the day, your location matters. If you are unaware of your location, then you are in trouble. When you are focused, your focus would give focus to others.

The world would always stand aside to allow a focused person to pass. God is only committed to what He has commanded you to do.

Do you have a clear idea of what you should be doing? If not, you need to cry unto heaven. Not having a focus is like digging a grave and hiding the spade. It is like throwing stones at one's house and hiding one's hands. It is like buying when there are no eyes. It is like having a wall clock without batteries. It is like having a big wedding ceremony without a bride. It is like buying a new car without tyres or having a wonderful football match without goal posts.

Your focus will keep you, will challenge you, will motivate you, will make you a focus and will bring you progress.

I had an Indian teacher years back, who would always instruct us to repeat this statement: "First things first and one thing at a time." This statement is a biblical principle when examined thoroughly. It is like the words of Isaiah which says, "Line upon line, precept upon precept."

A LIFE WITHOUT FOCUS

Many churchgoers are not focused. Many brothers and sisters are confused. Some pray the wrong prayers. They pray the prayer of putting the cart before the horse. It is like praying for a wife that is having a chronic problem of mental disorder.

When a focus killer has swallowed or killed a man's focus, he would be existing but not living. He would be living an aimless, valueless and purposeless life that is filled with frustration and discouragement. There would be no answers to prayers as it would be like a monkey praying to get married to a shark, which is impossible. Lack of focus would bring lack of tangible progress. There would be lack of promotion and blessings and life would be without an impact.

A life laden with trial and error has a form of focus killer that toys with one's destiny.

Pray this prayer:

Thou focus killing power, my life is not your target. Therefore, die, in the name of Jesus.

When there is lack of focus witches would be free to work and demons would be free to operate. God is calling you to refocus your attention on the goal He has given you in life. This is the only way of living a meaningful life without regret and making a relevant impact in life.

TAKE SOME ACTIONS

Take the following actions before it is too late.

1. Know your God: Know God's awesomeness and discern His voice from that of the enemy. Get to know His capability to do all things and strive to have a knowledge of His ability. I hope you can appreciate now the prayer of Paul. which says, "That I may know Him." If at this level, Paul still desired to know God, it means that most of us do not know anything. If an apostle who had worked wonders and miracles still wanted to know Him, then we do not know anything.
2. Get to know your enemy: John 8:44 says:
Ye are of your father the devil. and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.
Just as everybody ought to know who God is, so also we ought to know who satan, our enemy, is.
3. Pray and enquire of God to discover His purpose for your life: If you do not know God's purpose for your life, you would be confused. To forestall a confused life, pray to seek God's will for your life.
4. Live a holy and broken life: Holy people will always be close to God. Dirty people are very far away from Him. You may not be involved in some visible, dirty things but what of your heart and mind?
5. Determine to be the best God can make you.
6. Desire to make an impact in life.
7. Minimise your weaknesses by working on them: Do not pamper or excuse yourself concerning any weakness.
8. Work hard at improving yourself everyday: You are your own greatest asset.
9. Discover and develop the gift of God in your life. If you do all these you will not be wasted at the market square of life.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Every strongman dedicated against my destiny, die, in the name of Jesus.
2. All my stolen virtues, come back, in the name of Jesus.
3. Rain of revelation and power, fall upon me, in the name of Jesus.
4. My head, reject destiny bewitchment, in the name of Jesus.
5. Holy Ghost fire, open my spiritual eye, in the name of Jesus.
6. If I am in the wrong thing, O God, arise and correct me, in the name of Jesus.
7. Holy Ghost fire, fall upon me now, in the name of Jesus.
8. My Father, make me what You want me to be, in the name of Jesus.

CHAPTER TWO

WOUNDED IN THE HOUSE OF MY FRIEND

Oh thou that troubleth my Israel, the God of Elijah shall trouble you today, in the name of Jesus.

The Bible says in Zechariah 13:6:

And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.

This Scripture gives certain vital information. Someone was wounded; and he knew the origin of the wounds. They came from unexpected quarters: They were from his friend.

In Daniel 2:22, there is a report which says:

He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him.

There are certain things that are deep and secret. Only God can reveal such things. There are certain things that are in the darkness which God alone can reveal.

There is a very interesting story in 1 Kings 14: 1-1-3:

At that time Ahijah the son of Jeroboam fell sick. And Jeroboam said to his wife, Arise, I pray thee, and disguise thyself, that thou be not known to be the wife of Jeroboam; and get thee to Shiloh: behold,

there is Ahijah the prophet, which told me that I should be king over this people. And take with thee ten loaves, and cracknels, and a cruse of honey, and go to him: he shall tell thee what shall become of the child. The child of Jeroboam was sick and he did not know what to do as the child was not responding to treatment. He then sought to get to the origin of the sickness, to find out what was wrong with the child. But because he had offended the God of Israel, he had to ask his wife to disguise herself so as to gain access to a man of God and get certain information.

Let us further read 1 Kings 14: 4-5:

And Jeroboam's wife did so, and arose, and went to Shiloh, and came to the house of Ahijah. But Ahijah could not see; for his eyes were set by reason of his age. And the LORD said unto Ahijah, Behold, the wife of Jeroboam cometh to ask a thing of thee for her son; for he is sick: thus and thus shalt thou say unto her: for it shall be, when she cometh in that she shall feign herself to be another woman.

Before the arrival of the wife of Jeroboam, the Holy Spirit had revealed to the prophet that she would be coming to him in disguise. The LORD said unto Ahijah, Behold, the wife of Jeroboam cometh to ask a thing of thee for her son; for he is sick: thus and thus shalt thou say unto her: for it shall be, when she cometh in, that she shall feign herself to be another woman.

Let us read further: 1 Kings 14:6-13:

And it was so, when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet as she came in at the door, that he said, Come in, thou wife of Jeroboam; why feignest thou thyself to be another? for I am sent to thee with heavy tidings. Go, tell Jeroboam, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Forasmuch as I exalted thee from among the people, and made thee prince over my people Israel, And rent the kingdom away from the house of David, and gave it thee: and yet thou hast not been as my servant David, who kept my commandments, and who followed me with all his heart, to do that only which was right in mine eyes; But hast done evil above all that were before thee: for thou hast gone and made thee other gods, and molten images, to provoke me to anger, and

hast cast me behind thy back: Therefore, behold, I will bring evil upon the house of Jeroboam, and will cut off from Jeroboam him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel, and will take away the remnant of the house of Jeroboam, as a man taketh away dung, till it be all gone. Him that dieth of Jeroboam in the city shall the dogs cat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat: for the LORD hath spoken it. Arise thou therefore, get thee to thine own house: and when thy feet enter into the city, the child shall die. And all Israel shall mourn for him, and bury him: for he only of Jeroboam shall come to the grave, because in him there is found some good thing toward the LORD God of Israel in the house of Jeroboam.

That child's sickness was from God who was going to punish the whole family of Jeroboam and make every member not to have a befitting burial.

God knew that the newborn child had some good things in him and so wanted to remove him from the way and deal with the rest of the family squarely.

Some fundamental statements based on the mentioned Bible passages are as follows:

1. There are problems: These problems are universal in nature; they do not recognise racial discrimination. If you get to some parts of the world, you may discover depression, suicide and alcoholism as the problems there. There are some spirits responsible for such problems. In another part of the world like Africa, the prevailing problems are poverty, witchcraft, backwardness, sickness and others. The truth of it all is that problems are universal.
2. Problems are no respecter of persons: They come without invitation. Therefore, the whole world is struggling to solve one problem or the other.
3. Behind every problem there is a spiritual force: You may not know what that force is. Sometimes we find ourselves fighting human beings when we should be fighting the spirits behind the problems. Jesus was telling His disciples that the Son of Man was about to go to Jerusalem to die and

be buried and to rise the third day. Peter said, "Far be it from you Lord." It was Peter that was speaking but there was a spirit behind what he was saying which was not of God. Jesus had to turn and rebuke Satan who was behind the words of Peter. There are voices that can speak to us but which are not backed by God.

Behind every problem there is a spiritual force. The enemy goes from spirit to spirit, family to family, community to community, race to race and tribe to tribe to harass, intimidate, shatter, impeach, afflict and ruin people and make them sick.

During one of our past spiritual outings, a young doctor was brought to us for prayer. A hefty man was by his right hand and another by his left. I asked, "Why are all these hefty men guarding him?" I was told that he was fond of running away without anyone pursuing him. And when he got tired, he would sit for a while and rest only to resume the race after gaining enough strength. I looked at the doctor and tears rolled down my eyes. Here was a man who had spent several years in the medical school. I asked them if that was how he was before entering the medical school. They said, "No." I asked if it happened after he graduated from medical college. They said, "No." I asked if he did it when he went for his National Youth Service Corps. They said, No." I then asked when it started. They said it started when he got his first job.

After some prayers, he became calm a little bit and I asked him, "Doctor, why are you running"? He said, "Daddy in the Lord, I always hear a voice saying, run!" and I would start to run!" A certain power was giving him an evil command, which he could not disobey.

I want you to pray thus:

"Thou power of evil command, my brain is not your candidate; die, in the name of Jesus."

STRANGE FOLLOWER

A bridegroom woke up at 5.00 a.m. on the day of his wedding, had his bath and put on his wedding suit. After some time, he pulled off the suit and slept again. He woke up again at 5.30 a.m. and soon slept. At 6.00 a.m., he woke up again and soon slept off. He woke up and slept at regular intervals of 30 minutes until the time for the church wedding elapsed. He was expected at the church but he was not there.

It was later discovered that a strange being was following the bride. It was the strange being that dictated to her what to do. If, for example, she got to a bus stop, the strange man would dictate to her the bus she should board. And even after boarding the bus, the strange man would sit on her laps. All these went on till the day of her wedding. It was the same strange being that was responsible for the incessant sleeping of the bridegroom. The same strange being disgraced them on the wedding day.

Pray this prayer point:

"Every power assigned to kill my joy, what are you waiting for? Die, in the name of Jesus."

4. Every righteous man or woman will, at one time or another, face the plot of the wicked.

It happened to Joseph but he triumphed. It happened to Daniel. He was conspired against and thrown into the lion's den but he triumphed. It happened to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and they triumphed too. The enemies of Joseph and Daniel rejoiced only for a while and their joy was cut off; it was short-lived. The lion's den and the furnace of fire were God's instruments to bury those enemies. The instruments of the enemies against the righteous became their sources of destruction. Once you are righteous, God would fight for you.

You may face the plot of the enemies, but they will not succeed. I am sure that the Lord would not allow the enemy to rejoice over you. The plot of the enemy against you will be destroyed, in the name of Jesus.

Pray thus:

"The enemy shall enter into the grave he has dug for me, in the name of Jesus."

5. The attacks of the enemy can take three ways: It may be through the fiery darts. That is, he fires spiritual arrows into a person or gains entrance into his life without the intention of staying there for too long. He punishes the person and releases him for a while only to return another time to torment him.

The second strategy of attack is to have a foothold on a person's life. That is why the Bible says that we should not give place to the devil. This strategy involves the enemy's putting his leg on the neck of a person. The person is not free to do what he likes. He moves only at the dictates of the enemy. Of course, the person is kept from moving forward. The third terrible strategy is for the enemy to have a stronghold in a person's life. This is where strong prayers are needed. A stronghold can run from one generation to another and can affect so many things.

Take the case of Abraham as a typical example. Out of fear, he told Abimelech that Sarah was not his wife but his sister. About 40 years later, Isaac the son of Abraham, told a similar lie to Pharaoh that Rebecca was not his wife. Sixty years later, Jacob the son of Isaac, and his mother deceived Isaac. Eighty years later, Laban deceived Jacob. A hundred years later, Jacob himself was deceived. One hundred and twenty years later Reuben slept with his father's wife. One hundred and forty years later, Judah slept with his daughter-in-law. That is what is called stronghold

The stronghold of lying and deception moved from one generation to another. It is a very terrible thing. It is not surprising then that the Bible says, "Though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but they are mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. Casting down imagination and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God and bringing into captivity all thoughts to the obedience of Christ."

In military terms, stronghold is referred to as a place where the enemy is entrenched. It is the area that is fortified and highly resistant to all kinds of things. It is a place that provides opportunity for the enemy to hide. When the enemy of a person is hiding in a stronghold, a serious problem ensues. The enemy uses stronghold to keep people from experiencing abundant life.

It uses stronghold to hinder prayers and maturity and to keep one from being effective in the things of the Lord. Why is it that some Christians suffer from a particular defeat over and over again? To the best of their knowledge they have done everything possible yet they are suffering from constant defeats and from the hands of their enemy. The enemy might have formed a stronghold against such people.

6. Your parentage would determine the battle you will fight. Do not be so naive and foolish as to think that you will not face family battles. Do not be so foolish as to think that the enemy of your parents will leave you alone without you having a godly force. Do not be so foolish as to think that because things are going on fine for you, you will not face battles any day.

If the Israelites had not got to the Red Sea, they would not have crossed it. It was their parents who went into Egypt. What their parents did subjected them to the hardships they passed through.

7. If there is any problem in your life it shows that there is something in your life worth contesting for. Do not, because of problem, lock yourself up and weep and neglect all that you are supposed to do.

8. The solution to any crisis you are going through is inside the crisis itself. This is the reason a desperate prayer needs to be said. There is need to pray like a wounded lion saying, "My Father, reveal to me the origin of my problem." As seen from the passage in Zachariah (quoted at the beginning), the personality mentioned knew he had some wounds and that they came from the house of his friend.

Many run away from crisis. They do not realise that the place of rest is the point of victory. Until there is victory, warfare would persist. Very many people do not know that there is treasure inside the troubles they are passing through. There is a miracle in the garden of your misery. There is a possibility in the garden of your problem. There is triumph in the garden of your travail and there is prosperity in that garden of poverty. There is honour in the garden of humiliation. So, the answer to every trouble is in

the trouble itself. It means that every problem comes with the seed of solution inside it.

Romans 8:28: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God to them who are the called according to his purpose.

This means that as a child of God all your opposition will work for your good. Paul and Silas were jailed. It looked very bad putting them there. But the solution to their imprisonment was in the prison itself. The same man who put them in the inner prison brought them out when the God-sent earthquake came down. The solution to their problem was located inside the prison. Are you there and the enemy is working hard against you? According to Romans 8:28, all things work together for your favour. That is why you ought to pray that God should show you the answer to any problem you are passing through. To run away from your trouble may be to run away from your breakthroughs. You can turn every problem placed on you to power. If you will roar to God in desperate prayer, He would show you the origin of your problem and tell you the solution.

9. The worst thing you can do to yourself is to wage war against yourself. Do not battle against yourself.

It is unfortunate that many of us are unconsciously waging war against ourselves. We assist the enemy to fight ourselves harder. If God opens your eyes to see many women and demonic spirits in their attires, then you will cry to people to stop dressing like Jezebel.

Ignorance is not an excuse. I ministered to a boy in Ghana who wore a bead on his neck. When he came, I told him to remove the bead on his neck because I knew that his problem was as a result of it. He refused saying that the bead was given to him from birth and he was told that the day he removed it from his neck he would die. There was a very tiny inscription on this bead which reads, "I belong to satan." That was what he hung on his neck! I assured him that he would not die. The bead was removed and was later destroyed, the boy's problem ceased and he is still alive.

Most paintings and jewelry are not of good origin. The early Pentecostal churches in this country did not allow people wearing jewelry or paintings

into their churches because they invited demons. The effective ministers these days are those who believe in holiness within and without. Making holes in the ears started in idolatry and slavery. Those days, a slave with a hole in the ear is portrayed as serving one master. If the slave had two holes in the ears it meant that he/she was serving two masters. Immediately a slave was freed from his master, he covered the hole to show that he was free.

Painting yourself or putting on earrings and lipsticks are ways of waging war against yourself. In the 1970's, when the new generation churches sprang up, a lot of youths ran to them. Many of their teachers knew the Bible but did not know God and a lot of these youths got yoked in several bondages. Their American-modelled preachers did not tell them that they had foundational battles to fight. When spirit husbands came to these youths, they would reply, "Not my lot." But how many of them have been freed as a result of making such swift and sweeping confession? Majority of those people seeking deliverance today are those who ran to those modern churches in the early 70s.

Idol worship is not only when you bow down and worship idols. It is unfortunate that today many Christians wear demonic clothes with different kinds of horrible creatures inscribed on them. Most of these strange drawings find their way into Christian homes. Many Christians wear rings that carry strange patterns. How can somebody wear a ring without knowing the kind of language such a ring translates to his/her life? Many of these rings testify against you. It is foolishness for a Christian to buy and wear a vest with a strange picture on it. Through this he may be cursing himself unknowingly.

A believer should not be a wearer of wigs. If God gives you short hair then glorify Him with your short hair. A believer should not add an attachment to his/her hair and should not keep long nails.

A believer should not punch holes in the nose, ear or mouth to put rings. If you still do any of these then, you are waging war against yourself.

10. We do not choose our enemies, our battles or our struggles, but we can choose our weapons of retaliation.

Have you received wounds in the house of your friend? Then cry unto heaven for solution. God knows what is in darkness. He can reveal the secret that are hidden away from many.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Every power that must die for my breakthrough to manifest, die, in the name of Jesus.
2. Every enemy of my appointed time, die, in the name of Jesus.

CHAPTER THREE

CONFRONT AND CONQUER

On the cross of Calvary Jesus said, "It is finished." By the blood of Jesus total deliverance has been given to whosoever desires to be free. This deliverance entails deliverance from sin, sickness, sorrow, evil, demons and other negative influences. This deliverance from the evils that plague us is on the basis of the redemptive process and through the crucifixion and death of the Lord Jesus. All the things that heaven has to offer are already given based on the efficacy of the blood of Jesus.

If you study the Bible carefully, you will discover that all the things the Lord promised have already been given in Christ Jesus. That is why in the book of Ephesians, Paul did not talk in futuristic terms. For example, he said, "The Lord has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." He did not say that the Lord would bless but that He had blessed. Furthermore, he said, "The Lord hath chosen His children and predestinated them unto the adoption of children."

Paul had the conviction that God had already given unto us His inheritance. By revelation he knew that the blessing of God had been a concluded issue in a believer's life.

In the court of heaven, the believers' blessings, be they physical or spiritual, are already delivered. Heaven has ruled that all the things that belong to God, belong to His children. The wisdom, power, strength, might and all grace belong to the children of God. Put in a legal term, all believers have obtained the heavenly court judgment in their favour.

If the heavenly court has passed its judgment of blessings in favour of believers, why then do they still go about destitute of both spiritual and physical blessings? Why should they wallow in abject poverty and sickness

despite what Christ has done on their behalf? Why should believers still suffer unpleasant conditions in the hands of the devil after Christ suffered on the cross? The answer to these searching questions are not far-fetched. The Lord Himself made an amazing remark on these issues in the Scriptures.

Matthew 11: 12: And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.

This verse is an eye opener as to why Christians still remain in lack, want and sickness, in spite of what the Lord has done. It is one thing to obtain a favourable judgment, it is another thing for it to be effected. Most times, effecting a favourable judgment may require the use of tact or diplomacy. Or the use of force may be called for rather than diplomacy and tact. That is why believers are to contend and confront in order to conquer.

The disciples were unable to cast out demons although the promise had been given unto them to be able to do so. They came to Jesus wrapped in the feeling and state of their ineptitude saying, "Why couldn't we cast him out?" Consider Jesus apt response to them in Matt. 17:20-21.

Matthew 17:20-21: And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

Jesus rebuked them for their lack of faith and the discipline of fasting. Lack of spiritual discipline is still a major reason that many are a failure in spiritual battles.

"This kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting." The implication of Jesus statement is that unless one puts a commensurate effort to the things of the spirit, one will still be found crawling. In his lifetime, Paul enjoyed sweet success more than all his contemporaries because he laboured more than they did. The more you labour, the more you can get.

Another implication of this verse is that only certain degree of breakthrough can be attained without much discipline in spiritual things. But only

hardwork or labour can secure an enviable, great and outstanding success in life.

Considering the statement of Jesus contextually, there are certain demons that can be expelled when a believer only coughs, while some can be resistant to command except when fasting is incorporated to the command. There are some giant demons that will require a man of authority or a man well-advanced in the ministry of fasting to cast them out. The bottomline is that believers should be ready to pay the ultimate price required to silence the enemy in all areas of their lives. That is the reason we say that Christianity is not a bed of roses. Someone even said that if Christianity was a bed of roses, there were thorns beneath the roses.

God has always been telling His people to arise and conquer. Look ahead of you for the Lord has given you the inheritance of the Gentiles. But you must labour to conquer and possess it. The Lord has never made a promise too good to be fulfilled. It is left for you to cooperate with Him and exhibit the discipline required of you to silence and subdue the enemy and force your blessings out of his hand.

Why did Caleb and Joshua stand out among the 12 spies? They saw the fruits of the land of Canaan as well as the giants in the land. They saw the children of Anak and the Hitites in the land. Above all, they saw the possibilities of subduing their enemies because they were prepared to fight. To obtain what rightly belongs to you, get prepared for battle.

In these last days, when the enemy is growing in wickedness and in withholding the blessings of God's children, we cannot afford to fold our arms and cross our legs. There must be extra effort to go the extra mile in curtailing the activities of the devil and his hosts, else life will be unbearable for the children of God. You should never battle for a minimum level of Christianity.

David went the extra mile to defeat Goliath. One stone was enough for Goliath but he picked extra four in case the first stone missed the target. This is a divine principle in becoming a total success.

It is not possible to be over-prepared, whereas it is quite possible to be under-prepared. The enemy must be faced with all the seriousness it entails so that you will be able to enjoy God's blessings in your life.

Most of the problems believers face are orchestrated by the devil. They are meant to thwart God's purpose for their lives. At the root of most problems we face are the dark powers that try to undermine our efforts and to work against our lives. The mission of every believer, therefore, is to get to identify the enemy and his works, confront the enemy and conquer him. Believers should be enduring in their plans and movements against the devil. They must defy his threats and harassment and rise up to the task. It is then that the enemy will be forced to bow and it is then we can obtain success in all its ramifications.

The record in the book of Acts shows that the 70 disciples turned Jerusalem upside down with the message of the risen Saviour. They possessed an undying zeal for God. They had extra dose of grace and anointing on them. This group of men were never like the present-day Christians who receive only the Sunday routine spiritual injection to keep them going through the week. The disciples had undaunted faith and conviction towards God in such a way that through them the world was upset, the devil was worried and they gave the priests, the Jews and the Pharisees sleepless nights. They were not given to dialogue and diplomacy either with the devil or with their persecutors. They stood alongside God and conquered.

They were very resolute in their pursuits because they had the fire of God. They could not hold their peace until they proclaimed Jesus, the crucified. They had their Holy Ghost services conducted in the streets. Their deliverance services too were conducted in the streets as the zeal of God consumed them. They were truly on fire for God. They had the fire that water could not quench.

Their secret was that they were determined to confront and conquer. They confronted every force-political, religious and social-and conquered them.

It has been proved that sometimes war is the only option for peace, and that if there is no war, one cannot really enjoy peace, especially in spiritual warfare. Peace-loving people may be forced to pick up arms to defend

themselves. When the enemy resolves to deal with you, you too must determine to deal with him. If forces of darkness sporadically carries out attack on you, you have to determine to sacrifice your sleep between 12.00 p.m. and 1.00 a.m. every night to fight back. Initially, your weapon may appear not to be effective, but after a prolonged assault the casualty level in their kingdom will rise and you will wonder at the great peace and rest you will enjoy, for they will dread coming to you. They will even dread making mention of your name in their coven. Your hard prayer will disturb their activities or operations.

I remember a story about a brother who used to give the enemy tough time. Three wizards decided one day to go and punish him for praying too much. One of them carried demonic fluid, which he believed that when poured on the brother, he would become leprous. As they moved along they must pass by a church that night where a vigil was in session.

A woman who could not read nor write was leading the vigil. She was quick and sensitive to the things of the spirit and all of a sudden, she had an unusual sensation of the power of the enemy and changed her prayer point saying: "Let the blood of Jesus turn to fire and consume the enemies of the Lord who are passing by." The three wizards were caught by the prayer and could not proceed further. The first wizard was glued and afterwards injured, the second poured the fluid on himself and the third escaped. The third was implored to complete their mission but he refused and went home and eventually gave the testimony after God touched his life.

Life is a battle that rages and no one is exempted from it. Everyone must fight his own battle. Most of the people that prosper in life were attacked from the womb. The enemy saw their future and so sought to distort their future early enough. This is the secret concerning children that face battles early in life. The way out for such children is for their parents to be prayerful.

It is the fervent, ceaseless prayers of such parents that can help them to overcome in life.

Several people in psychiatric hospitals are there because the enemy hijacked their future. He saw what they would become and therefore

changed the course of their lives, having attacked their thinking and reasoning faculties. Some people were attacked early in life, some in their mid-thirties and others at their old age. What a pity!

Many present-day pastors and preachers have missed their paths. Because of their background and upbringing, some do not appreciate the ministry of deliverance and confrontation. When many afflicted and distressed people get to them, instead of opening their eyes to the ministry of confrontation, they give them false hope by telling them, "It is done". A sincere soul is suffering from migraine and sleeplessness and a preacher tells him/her, "Believe for it is done!" Is such proclamation the panacea for someone who has been held bound by the chains of the enemy from birth? It is not.

Television programmes are not the way out of spiritual bondage. "Thank you Jesus" and "Give Jesus a wiper!" are childish pieces when it comes to demonic forces at play in people's lives. Anyone who has not taught you on spiritual warfare has only wasted his time teaching you. For nothing or little can really be done in the kingdom without taking the battle to the gates of the enemy.

An 82-year old who has gone to be with the Lord was once invited to preach in the church I was attending when I first gave my life to Jesus. He leaned on the pulpit and started to sing:

There is a victory within my soul,
For the spirit within me abide
Though the waves of temptation rage
Jesus keeps me whatever betide
Victory, victory, victory is my soul,
A glorious victory since Jesus took control

After the song, he paused and asked this first question: "Whoever wants victory, let him shout halleluyah!" Everyone shouted halleluyah.

He then asked this second question, "How many of you want to fight a war:?" There was dead silence for no one wanted to fight wars. He then

asked "How do you want to enjoy victory without engaging in a battle?"

If there is no problem, there will be no solution. If there is no conflict there will be no resolution. How will the enemy flee from you seven times if the enemy has not put up a fight? We should not fear the enemy, neither should we underestimate him.

The Lord is asking for the baptism of holy anger and inclination in our Christianity. We are not called to be spiritual chickens. We are called to be eagles. The Lord is looking for men and women who would confront the enemy and would vow never to turn their back against him.

The first church mentioned in the New Testament has a running battle with the gate of hell.

Matthew 16: 18: And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Look at the verse again, you will discover militant words such as 'the gates,' 'the church' and 'prevail against' That is why the church is not a dormitory but a battleground. The church is a congregation of militant people who are set to take over the kingdom of God from the hands of the enemy.

THE BIBLE MILITANTS

All the people in the Bible days were aggressive and militant. Here are some of them.

MOSES

He could not have led the children of Israel out of Egypt if he was not militant. Egypt was the only civilised kingdom of the time. Militarily and socio-politically, it was well advanced. Not minding the Egyptians' sophisticated weapons, Moses confronted Pharaoh with God's order: "Let my people go that they may serve me." The task was by no means a simple one, yet Moses, performed it. He confronted the powers in Egypt, the astrologers, the magicians and all the gods of the Egyptians, and conquered

them. He had no time and temperament for dialogue and compromise. At a time, Pharaoh threatened him with the message of death but he too, with the power of the Lord and His might, predicted the death of Pharaoh.

Exodus 10:25: And Moses said, Thou must give us also sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice unto the LORD our God.

ELIJAH

Elijah demonstrated confrontational attitudes to the prophets of Baal and to the wicked King Ahab. He single-handedly massacred the 850 prophets of Baal. His power was a power unleashed with holy indignation against strange gods. The king of Israel, Ahab, referred to him as the only man that troubled the whole Israel. Here is the account of how he confronted King Ahab.

1 Kings 18: 17-18: And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.

At a time, King Ahab seized the landed property of Naboth after he killed him on the advice of Jezebel his wife. God revealed the wicked act to Elijah the Tishbite, who rose by the word of God to confront the king with a message of woe and doom.

1 Kings 21 : 20-24: And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the LORD. Behold, I will bring evil upon thee, and will take away thy posterity, and will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel, And will make thine house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked me to anger, and made Israel to sin. And of Jezebel also spake the LORD, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel. Him that

dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall cat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air cat.

DAVID

He was a king as well as a fighter. From his youth the Lord taught his finger to war. On several occasions, he showed his confrontational attitude. He confronted the lion and the bear that came to devour his father's sheep. In 1 Samuel 17 is the record of his outstanding confrontation against Goliath, a man who defied the army of Israel. David confronted him and conquered. He proclaimed thus:

1 Samuel 17:45: Then said David to the Philistine, Thou earnest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

SAMSON

He confronted the Philistines as well as their gates. He was a single-man army of Israel that brought the Philistines to their knees. The mighty Spirit of God was on him and he became mightily militant. The only set of Philistines that escaped Samson were those that ran away from his sight. With a single jawbone of an ass, he killed 1000 of his enemies. When the Spirit of the Lord comes upon a man he becomes a man of confrontation rather than a compromiser.

THE THREE HEBREWS

The three young Hebrews in Babylon were men of confrontation rather than conformists. Consider their response to the king's order to serve or bow for the image of gold set up in the plain of Dura.

Daniel 3: 16-18: Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, 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. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

DANIEL

Daniel, a man greatly beloved of God, prospered in the Babylonian empire because he was a man of confrontation. His confrontational attitude also brought blessings to his people, the Jews.

Daniel confronted his persecutors. Eventually he was made to confront the lions in their den and he conquered. Through his life of prayer and fasting, he confronted the powers of the air and conquered. You too can conquer, in the name of Jesus.

PAUL

Paul conquered several things in the course of his missionary work. He confronted the enemies of the cross. He confronted his persecutors and the Jewish religious systems. In the name of the Lord, he confronted the demonic forces that sought to hinder the progress of the work of the Lord and won. Here is an account of one of the confrontations:

Acts 13:6-11: And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar-jesus: Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God. But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

HOW TO CONFRONT AND CONQUER

To confront and conquer the power against you, there are some facts that you must note which will help you to carry out effective confrontation.

1. Know your enemy: You cannot fight the enemy that you do not know. Therefore, you must know your enemy. Get to know who or what you are about to confront. There is nothing that is effectively conquered until it is openly and clearly identified. Identify your enemy. It can be spiritual or physical in nature. It could be curses or evil covenants. What you are to confront may be eaters of flesh and drinkers of blood. They may be witches and wizards or household wickedness. Be sure to identify your target. The Bible says:

Mark 11:23: 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

Note these two words in the passage: "this mountain." It is not the other mountain but "this mountain." Be specific about what you want to confront.

2. Fear must go: To confront your enemy, your fear must go. Fear has torment and is not of God. Consider all those who confronted in the Bible; they were fearless people. For example, Paul was a man who did not fear death at any time of his life. There was a prophet named Agabus, who by the Spirit of the Lord prophesied that Paul would be apprehended in Jerusalem and bound. The prophecy did not stop Paul from going on his mission to Jerusalem. He rather agreed not only to be bound but also to die in Jerusalem, for the sake of Christ.

Acts 21:11-14: And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall

the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles. And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus. And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done.

A man that does not fear death will in turn be feared. If you will be a winner in the battle of life, then fear must never be your companion. For great accomplishment in the kingdom you must not fear anything, including death, hell and other circumstances. As a way out of fear, I advise you to identify your fear and admit it. Then take it to the Lord and rely it to Him. That is the reason the Bible says that we should cast all our cares upon the Lord for He cares for us.

3. Faith must come: Faith is not fact, it is truth. Fact and truth differ. When you are sick as a Christian, the fact is that you are sick. But the truth is that by the stripes of Jesus you are healed. So, according to John, faith is believing the truth and God's word is the truth

John 17: 17: Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Faith is accepting what God has offered through Jesus Christ. It is seeing the finished work of Christ as being demonstrated for your sake. It is seeing possibilities out of impossibilities. You can win only by faith and not by mere facts.

Faith goes beyond the superficial. It goes on to deal with the invisible hand behind a particular problem. It handles what causes the symptoms of any sickness.

It is a decision transformed into an action, based on God's word. It is the greatest, because with it God is touched like a child.

4. Spiritual violence must follow: For the enemy to flee he must be rebuked aggressively. Aggressiveness is not possible without holy anger. There is a universal call for aggressive Christians who are baptised with holy

indignation against the powers of the enemy. A believer who will not give a breathing space to the enemy must be a violent Christian that will never take a "no" for an answer.

Christians are not supposed to behave as civilians, but rather are to put on military mentality. They are to subdue all the works of the enemy.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Oh Lord glorify Yourself in me, in the name of Jesus.
2. Every power that has written impossibility in my life, be paralysed, in the name of Jesus.

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About the book

If you do not know where you are going, someone else will tell you where to go.

One aspect of human life on which the enemy has worked really hard is the focus.

Having the knowledge of your placement in life determines your progress.

Anything that does not allow you to find out what God has called you to do, or that is blocking you from seeing what He has appointed you to do, closes the gate of your assignment against you and becomes your greatest enemy.

This book is a powerful tool that will teach you how:

1. To Know your God
2. How to get to know your enemy
3. How to pray and enquire of God to discover His purpose for your life and
4. How to live a holy and broken life.

About the author

Dr. D. K. Olukoya is the general overseer of the Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries and the Battle Cry Christian Ministries.

The Mountain of Fire Miracles Ministries' Headquarters is the largest single Christian congregation in Africa with attendance of over 120,000 in single meetings.

MFM is a full gospel ministry devoted to the revival of Apostolic signs, Holy Ghost Fireworks, miracles and the unlimited demonstration of the power of God to deliver to the uttermost. Absolute holiness within and without as spiritual insecticide and pre-requisite for heaven is openly taught. MFM is a do-it-yourself Gospel Ministry, where your hands are trained to wage war and your fingers to do battle.

Dr. Olukoya hold first class honours degree in Microbiology from the University of Lagos and PhD in Molecular Genetic from the University of Reading, United Kingdom. As a researcher, he has over seventy scientific publications to his credit.

Anointed by God, Dr. Olukoya is a prophet, evangelist, teacher and preacher of the Word. His Life and that of his wife, Shade and their son Elijah Toluwani are living proofs that all power belong to God.

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