
Victory
Regained
GRACE AKALONU

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Victory Regained

Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; and having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. Colossians 2:14-15

This is a fully loaded and powerful book.

Oluwakemi Oduniyi

VICTORY REGAINED

Grace Akalonu

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the King James Version of the Holy Bible

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To Elohim, who teaches and reveals His mind to His people, be glorified forever and ever. Amen.

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Introduction

I had an opportunity to write a devotion for YOU VERSION, and they asked if I could translate that devotion and write more in other languages they specified. We have a network of Ministers of the Gospel across all the Continents, so I thought it would not be a problem.

I searched through various nations' websites, to read about their cultures and beliefs and understand their mindsets and persuasions. I also read about the experiences of missionaries in those countries. We made some calls to churches in Japan and met with the leadership of one of the congregations.

People can see plainly how beautiful the earth is, but do not know how it came about. They wonder why people do wrong for no reason, and probably will keep doing that for the rest of their lives. Their conscience tells them that there is something after death, something which they fear but cannot explain. Some words we use in preaching the gospels make no sense to them as there are no direct translations of those words in their languages. What we call sin is no sin to them. Some nations live in clan cultures, and in society's opinion, most of the anti-social behaviours we experience do not exist in their cultures, yet they are not saved. They are very good people, so why are they not saved. This book addressed most of those questions.

I found out from my search that people have not accepted the light and salvation, not because they do not want to. There are

other factors; one is how we present the Gospel and put it forward in a way that is irrelevant to them.

I had taught in the Global School of Ministry on the course: Why Jesus came and died on the cross for our redemption. The call for the book was enormous as it was simple. While editing the book, the Lord told me that one of the primary reasons for taking me to write Devotions in such a global App was to rewrite the course to appeal to those who have not come into contact with Christianity. The challenge was what to write and what to not. If I write as much as I know, it will be Genesis to Revelation, and I will not finish for life.

I prayed for help to present the book in a way that will suit both Christians and non-Christians, hence the book in your hand. It may not be exhaustive, and you might remember things I should have added. Please add them when preaching the Gospel or reaching out to the unreached with the book, and God will bless you really good.

If you have found it difficult to present the love of God to all humanity and bring them to light, this book will be a good one to give out to people. You can download it on the website and send it free to as many people, nations, and tribes worldwide as you want. If you want to translate it into any language, please contact me and we can proceed with it, all free.

1

The original purpose

The Earth is just one of the uncountable planets God created without form and void. God, in kindness and mercy, spoke everything into being. Like a wealthy architect, he took his time to build a masterpiece and put in every comfort to make it state-of-the-art.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the Earth. And the Earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. Genesis 1:1-2

He called forth the light and separated it from the darkness. It was good, and we have the day to do our work and the nights to have good rest and sleep.

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. Genesis 1:4-5

He created the sky and separated the lower from the upper. He built a beamless roof and held it with His words. Today, we enjoy our beautiful atmosphere, which is healing from just watching it. Looking out through an aeroplane's windows in the early hours of the morning is dumbfounding, especially when flying to or from

the Middle East. The sun is so big with blended colours that it would make goosebumps run through you. The sky is laid out like a beautifully swept carpet.

And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day. Genesis 1:6-8

In His power, He pushed the water to several corners to make room for our 'wonderland'. He wedged the waters with unseen barriers, which remain till today. The rising of the oceans and magnificent waves blow the mind.

And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good. Genesis 1:9-10

He planted the fields and woods to enhance the beauty of the Earth. He arrayed them in their species with healing leaves and bark. The decorations of the Earth are for our well-being. The trees are so detailed; the short, tall, huge and narrow ones are all laid out in their beauty, each bearing fruits of its kind. Every nation has different fruits and seeds, nicely tucked away in all corners of the Earth.

And God said, Let the Earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the Earth: and it was so. And the Earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God

saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the third day. Genesis 1:11-13

The day and night are extended to seasons and times, all bringing their blessing and glory in due time. In Spring, we get the rain to plant our crops, and He does the watering. Our perfect gardener! We enjoy the sun, recreational activities, and plant growth in Summer. We get all the vitamin D to boost our immune systems and strengthen our bones. Our plants ripen for harvest in Autumn, and we get food all year round. In Winter, the days turn dark with cold to allow plants that need a dormant period to chill. The snow falls to water the ground, ready for Spring. We reduce our activities to give the body a break to overhaul itself to prepare for the active seasons. Some parts of the Earth have harmattan and rainy seasons, serving the same purpose as the four seasons. What a perfect God!

And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the Earth: and it was so. Genesis 1:14-15

As for our ground, He made the foundation with precious stones and laid them underneath to secure His pricey estate. These precious stones are put underneath us to walk upon. Walking out in the fields or the woods brings healing and contentment. The Earth is endowed with gold, sapphire, platinum, silver, bronze, onyx, tin, ore and the host of them. The mountains are created in strength. The Alps, covered in snow, make the most beautiful landscape you can watch from the sky. He fashioned and made all things beautiful.

God returned to the waters and created creatures of various sizes and shapes. Yet again, another wonder that is beyond man. He

graced the trees and plants with fruits and seeds. The varieties of fruits in the world are yet to be numbered. The horticulturists are trying their best, but the ones in the remote areas are not within their reach, so they are missed. All different in colours and sizes, with super nourishment. What a gracious Father!

And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the Earth in the open firmament of heaven. And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. Genesis 1:20-21

He made animals of various kinds and species. The animals in the Arctic differ from those in Antarctica, Africa, and Europe. The birds sing peace to our incredible nature, and the fowls keep the time for us. The animals move in their herds, and both the strong and the weak are provided for. There is appointed weather for every season and time. The squirrel in the back garden is nicknamed "The King of the Estate". He enjoys himself in winter while we are wrapped up in the cold. He does merry-go-rounds in summer while we are sweating out our lives. He comes out to do his acrobatics in the rain while we wear our raincoats. God looks after everyone.

And God said, Let the Earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the Earth after his kind: and it was so. And God made the beast of the Earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the Earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good. Genesis 1:24-25

The best of God's architectural design is man He created in His likeness. He crowned all the beauties described above with

the creation of man to enjoy goodness and have dominion. He made us for His pleasure, whatever our colour or race. Those who quarrel over colour and tribe have limited knowledge. We have hairs on our heads that cannot be numbered, brains no computer can match, and everything we are is just a fraction of His attributes in us.

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the Earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the Earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the Earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the Earth. Genesis 1:26-28

The way God made the hormones, the body chemicals, organs, and their functions are amazing. He made the muscles of the heart specifically to pump out blood effectively. The tender and mushy liver stores the nutrients from our food. Our immune system, like a firewall, does all the fighting. Our physiologists can only describe in their limited words what Elohim did in the creation of man. The signals connecting the brain to every body part are beyond any network or algorithm.

Man was given dominion over the Earth. We can fly aeroplanes. We can go down and put wire cables under the oceans, linking one continent to another. We have submarines doing so many things. We can go into the oceans to dig for oil. We have developed the internet. Man has manufactured and conquered, even going beyond the Earth to visit the moon and observe that there are other

planets. Our intellect, explorations, and innovations are a blessing from God.

Mere man can never comprehend God's wisdom and intelligence. Everything was put in place for our peace and joy. We came to enjoy the plenty. This is the story of how we came about. All things are made ready for us. Our only job is to be fruitful and multiply. What an awesome God!

Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the Earth? It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the Earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in. Isaiah 40:21-22

2

The hijack and fallout

Satan became envious of our liberty and inheritance. He beguiled man and took away his authority by subtility. Man disobeyed God by eating what he was asked not to. Satan stole from man his birthright and replaced it with deception and sin. Man forgot the goodly estate and yielded to the lures of Satan. The exchange brought sin into the world and turned the tide against man.

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. Genesis 3:1-7

When man's eyes were opened, he saw himself as god instead of the likeness of our Heavenly Father. Man became independent from the creator and began to do his own thing as he wished and desired.

Jealousy was the first sin that showed up in the killing of Abel by his brother Cain. *Genesis 4:1-8.* From then on, man can dig a knife into another person's heart without flinching. Bitterness, anger, pride, deception, and every form of wickedness you can imagine followed thereafter.

The imaginations of man became vain, even in things that are supposed to be a blessing. Our natural plants were taken away and replaced with modified species to shorten man's lifespan. A select few became rich by controlling what is meant for everybody. Excessive radiation emanates from devices and equipment meant to make life better. Artificial scarcity was created to inflict hardship on the populace. Agriculture is granted to a few to limit access to the masses. Punitive laws and enactments have been passed to suppress the commoner. Corruption is found in the high places to feed the greed of those on top. Satan inflicts people in legions to make it difficult for anyone to escape. He puts on people so many vices that cannot be numbered.

Therefore I said unto thee, her sins which are many, are forgiven, Luke 7:47

The sin of Adam and Eve went down to the lineage of man. You do not need to teach anybody, even the little ones, to sin. Children at tender ages fight each other and disobey their parents because of the nature of sin.

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; And in sin did my mother conceive me. Psalm 51:5

Evil continued. Weapons of mass destruction were being produced in place of mass health and well-being, re-engineering our children's minds to see things from the dark perspective. Lies and deception are taught as the norm, and people are blinded by the authorities. Disorder and lawlessness became the order of the day. People are inventing evil things, and the media is reprogramming our brains. At workplaces, dirty jobbers are highly sought after. Craftiness is covered in strategies. The world is for the fittest only. Satan did a bad job. What can we say? It grieved God that He made man. He let go of the barriers, and water engulfed the first world. The first world ended.

And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the Earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the Earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the Earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. Genesis 6:5-7

And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. 1 John 5:19 KJV

3

Man was redeemed but failed again

God of mercy started all over again through Noah and his family. God's love is greater than what we can think of. He still made provision for our salvation to all who will believe. Noah, the righteous man and his family were saved from the destruction. Their serene state lasted a while as the youngest son allowed his sinful nature to stick out again.

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. Genesis 6:8

Ham saw his father's nakedness and did not cover it but called others to see. The uncovering of people's faults by those they trust is very common. It can happen in families, among siblings, husband and wife, office colleagues, or church brethren. Feeling secure with close friends and family is natural, but sometimes it can go wrong, like in the case of Ham. Ham was cursed for telling his father's weakness, and it trailed his generations until today.

And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without. Genesis 9:20-26

As men multiplied, so did sin, rebellion and pride. Men thought they could be equal to God. The knowledge and wisdom given to them went to their heads and they challenged God.

The consensus of man was to build the tower to reach Heaven. They started because they had one language and could understand each other, which shows the power of unity. Our Lord Jesus prayed for our unity because a two-fold cord cannot be easily broken. Everyone on earth has an accent in Genesis 11, so no one is superior or inferior and vice versa. Speaking other languages other than your first is a rare skill. Some speak up to ten languages. They should be admired and not to be seen as offensive.

And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for morter. And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto Heaven. Genesis 11:1-4

The idea of building a tower to reach Heaven came to men because they did not cherish the unity and privileges God gave them. Men challenged their Creator. God confused their language, and everyone spoke differently. And because they could not hear themselves anymore, division came, and today, we have innumerable languages spoken worldwide. There is always a feeling of insecurity, threat and suspicion when people speak a different language from you. We cannot understand each other unless taught or with an interpreter.

When we are in unity, Satan cannot do anything; that's why Jesus says a house that divides against itself shall not stand. So, in all we do, unity is still the central thing that will keep and bind us. Team playing is the key. Armies' success or failure, conquer or defeat, hinges on their unity.

That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. John 17:21

The old nature of man, which is corrupt, returned. Deception became the order of the day. Lies fly around like dry leaves in the wind. Lying at every level: government, schools, product labels, news, political speeches, health speeches, all lies and deception. People falsify figures to steal from the government, companies, and employers. The worst are those who deceive and lie on the pulpits. No one tells the other truth. To lie became diplomacy and is accepted by us.

That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Ephesians 4:22, 25

Stealing also took to the streets and became open. Homes are being broken, and organised crimes of breaking into banks and embezzling Government money. Humans are being stolen, both adults and children alike, for slavery or killed for rituals. Children are abducted on their way, to or from school and even from their bedrooms. We see notices of missing people all around our towns and cities.

Corrupt communication: slang, swearing, and foul language became parts of our speeches. Bitterness crept in. One is angry at the way others are, and that is the reason for being bitter. People are picked on because of their accents or way of life.

Let him that stole steal no more. But rather let him labour, working with his hands/ Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth. Ephesians 4:28-29

People are so wrathful at little things that should not raise brows. They can kill, destroy, and perpetrate psychological, emotional and mental trauma and watch people disintegrate, and they love it. Anger, rage, clamour, and evil speaking became the nature of the world and part of our culture. It is all about plotting wickedness and how to destroy each other with all kinds of weaponry. Nations are against nations in deceit, jealousy and tussle for power.

Evil continued; it is all about cheating and tricking who you can. The world became a dangerous place. You cannot run or migrate anywhere. Each Nation has its ups and downs. People are not even happy to move from where they live to another place. That is where we are. There is no safety anymore. Crime is on the increase, and there are economic upheavals and national unrest.

There is a particular country my son used to be fond of, and he read extensively about them when he was nine. He will always say, 'Mum, this is the best country in the world. There's no crime". And for years, it was his dream to live there. We visited the country when he was 21, which was an ordeal. The first disappointment was the Hotel we booked. They didn't tell us where the Hotel was situated. We saw the pictures on their site, which looked gorgeous, but they were unfortunately photoshopped. It was so different when we got there. Our experience there remains a history. I asked him if he wanted to stay back and he said: "No Mum, I will come with you". The best country in the world was not good enough.

Mighty men are boasting themselves around the world in mischief, what they can and cannot do. They talk about destroying the world as if it is in their pocket. They have amassed millions of soldiers, and their trust is in men.

Why boastest thou thyself in mischief, O mighty man? The goodness of God endureth continually.The tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully. Thou lovest evil more than good.

And lying rather than to speak righteousness. Selah Thou lovest all devouring words, O thou deceitful tongue. God shall likewise destroy thee for ever, he shall take thee away, and pluck thee out of thy dwelling place, and root thee out of the land of the living. Selah. Psalm 52:1-5

Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar and Herod were mighty in their days, but they and their kingdoms are now archaeological sites. History repeats itself, and men do not learn. Let's keep our peace, and The Lord will fight for us.

Our generation does not want to hear about The Creator of Heaven and earth. They are closed to themselves. People ask what will happen to those who do not know God after death. *Romans 2* says they are inexcusable because they have a conscience. That conscience tells every human that there is a higher power above us. We are spirit beings and created in the image of God. There is something in us that long for Almighty God. It's just that the flesh and the soul want to go back to the soil it came from, but the spirit will answer to the Lord. Those who are ignorant of God know that stealing, lying, and killing are wrong. They have laws put in place to mitigate crime. They have a lively conscience going on within them. They knew but did not want to glorify God as Elohim, nor were they grateful.

Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: who changed the truth of God into a lie, and

worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them. Romans 1:21-32.

We are not thankful. We complain about every blessing. The Sun is too hot, winter is too cold, and spring is too wet. Everything is our right to have, and our compliants are short to nothing. The heat of the Sun opens up the pores of our skin to sweat out waste. The Sun is there to photosynthesise our leaves so that we can have food to put in our mouth and to give us vitamin D. The winter snow waters the ground and allow some fruits to sprout. The rainwater refreshes, removes impurities and gives us fresh air.

Men are naturally ungrateful, and how many people can say, “Father, I give you praise. Thank you for the life you gave me.” We became vain in our imaginations, and life became centred on what we did not have. “I have no shoe, dress, cheese, cucumber, onion and garlic.”

We have reduced ourselves to nothing by claiming to be wise and civilised. We wear minimal dress on the street and naked at the beach, returning to dark and cave ages. These are men in suits in the morning at work and Adam in the evening at the beach. Where are wisdom and civilisation when we worship idols carved with our hands, changing the glory of the incorruptible God into an image of a corruptible man? God has given us dominion over everything created and to rule over them, not to worship them. We should not cheapen ourselves. We should not honour and serve the creature more than the Creator.

If the air had been in man's hands, it would have been bottled and rationed for sale. We pay for oxygen in the hospitals; how much more. Hopefully, the clean air campaign going on will not turn to tell us our air is not good enough and we need to buy clean air to live. Man is terrible! Men cause the scarcity we are experiencing. They removed our natural foods and replaced them with modified ones to control them.

We have vile affections, changing the natural use into that which is contrary to nature and burning in our lusts doing inappropriate things. This is not about judging anyone but a call to repentance and return to God. He cares and will deliver us from satanic influences. Satan had come to steal, kill and destroy, and it is our responsibility to reclaim our freedom in Christ Jesus. Satan is our common enemy and is after anyone he can get. He is the murderer, thief and instigator of war and destruction.

If he doesn't get you in cheating, he will get you in lying. We have to stand against him. It is not only about men and women who defile themselves, but we should see evil as evil, whether cheating, corruption, bitterness or vice versa. Sin is sin and has no small or big one.

The laden on man is too much to contend with. We invent things that destroy us. We are unhappy with our skin colours and produce creams that eat up our skin. We put on masks as a powder to cover our natural beauty. There is no need for that. We are beautifully and wonderfully made.

Some people can only rest when they see evil happening in the world so that they can spread the news. Breaking News is breaking our hearts, emotions, psyche and systems everywhere. Adrenaline is pumped into our system at all times. There is no recourse to peace; the radios don't make it easier, and billboards and public adverts are the worst. What has happened to "Good and delightful News?" There is blindness going on. This world and the fashions will pass away. The state of man keeps degenerating, and the only hope is in Christ, the Messiah.

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge. 2 Corinthians 4:6

There is light shining out there in our hearts. The light of knowledge, peace and hope. It is not God's will that any man should perish, but that all should come to repentance *2 Peter 3:9*.

Our Heavenly Father loves us so much. Christ came so that we may have life more abundantly *John 10:10.* He wants to reason with us so that we perish not. There is eternal life in Him for all those who will reject their wrong ways and come to Him.

Come now, and let us reason together. Isaiah 1:18

We were dignified in the Garden of Eden, but we lost it. I pray we will ask God to have mercy and restore our dignity. Let's share the message of salvation to all humanity, *for all have sinned and come short of God's glory. Romans 3:23* is not about condemning anyone but helping to open our eyes to Satan's destruction.

God's plan for us was to have a blissful place here on earth. Unfortunately, Satan disrupted it. Evil came into the world and continued to run through the generations of man.

Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; And in sin did my mother conceive me. Psalm 51:5

Death and judgement passed through Adam to humanity. Wrongdoing became inherent in man. We would have remained on earth for eternity to enjoy the goodness of God but are now subject to being cut off.

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. Romans 5:12

Behold all souls are Mine; As the soul of the Father so also the soul of the son is Mine; The soul that sinneth shall die. Ezekiel 18:4

For evildoer shall be cut off; But those that wait upon the Lord, shall inherit the earth. Psalms 37:9

And I will cut off the cities of thy land and throw down all thy strongholds. Micah 5:11

The days of man were numbered with troubles because of sin. Diseases and pestilences ravaged man. Disasters and elements of nature rose against man. Everything fell apart for man. Despite the wickedness of man, God remained faithful. He allows times and seasons to be a blessing to us. God is our Father and created us.

4

The law was given

God chose the sons of Jacob (Israel) to model His love for us. He gave them the law to guide them, but the law was a stopgap.

Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgression, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one. Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid; for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteous should have been by the law. But this scripture had concluded all under sin, that a promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. Galatians 3:19-22

If only the law had been kept, it would have saved man. The law was too much for man. "If you kill, you will die by the sword; if you steal, you will restore sevenfold." There was a cleansing for each sin with the offerings of bulls, rams and turtle doves according to the degree of evil. Moreover, these offerings were insufficient to cleanse sin. Man is already wired with a sinful nature, and there is no way being sin-free can be achieved. People kept going back and forth to the altar to sacrifice for a sin they would fall back to in no record time, but for how long?

For the law having a shadow of things to come and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which were

offered year by year continually make the comers unto perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers was purge should have had no more conscience of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sin every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body has thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast not pleasure. Then said I, lo, I come in the volume of book it is written of me, to do thy will, O God. Hebrews 10:1-7

There was also an atonement if people sinned ignorantly to see how best to help man. That didn't work, either.

And the priest shall make an atonement for the soul that sinneth ignorantly, when he sinneth by ignorance before the LORD, to make an atonement for him; and it shall be forgiven him. Numbers 15:28

One would have imagined that people who were in slavery for Four hundred and Thirty years would oblige any discipline to keep their liberty. *Exodus 12:40.* Instead, they complained of onion and cucumber and desired the grave of servitude rather than freedom. They wanted to go back to Egypt. How could anyone do that? We could, with a bit of pressure from Satan, sickness or lack, believers in Christ want to return to sin. It should not be so.

The law became a schoolmaster to keep them in check, yet it was broken. In place of gratitude for crossing the Red Sea that drowned their enemies, a golden calf was moulted from the gold given to them for free as compensation. *Exodus 14.*

But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up under the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ that we might be

justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under the schoolmaster. Galatians 3:23-25

The law was tit-for-tat. A long list of them from the book of Exodus to Deuteronomy with the accompanying curses for defaulters. All because of the hardness of man's heart and defiance. Though they tried to play around the law, it was not perfect. We are worse off with the law, which explains every country's overfull Prison.

The law was a shadow of things to come and could not get us into righteousness. God took the law away and reverted to the original plan. The Lamb was slain before the foundation of the world. The coming of our Lord into the world was not an accident, nor was it an afterthought. It has been before the foundation of the world.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. Revelation 13:8

5

God's faithfulness

Our Everlasting Father, who knows the beginning to the end, knows what will become of man and his life's journey. His steadfast love never ceases. He looks at us and sees His image, just like parents look at their young ones and see explicit copies of themselves.

It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, Because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: Great is thy faithfulness. Lamentations3:22-23

In the beginning, Jesus was. He was the Word and was with God and is God. God spoke the world into being and took care of His word to perform it, so the plan for our salvation was from the beginning.

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. John 1:1-5

I wonder if those who argue on the Divinity of our Lord Jesus have the above passage erased from their Bibles or didn't just understand it. Calling him elder brother, colleague, or just a prophet is erroneous.

Look at this powerful statement; *"all things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made."*

Amazing! Shall we please stand and clap in an ovation?  Yes, that is it! You can sit. All things were made by Him, which means He has everything in control and is aware of every situation. He made my eyes, ears, heart and whole body, and He can replace any ailing part. Amen. He can set any wrong right. All power belongs to Him, and nothing is hidden from Him. He knows tomorrow from the beginning.

He is the Life and Light that shines in our hearts to open us to salvation and expose the darkness and sinful nature. When the light of Christ shines in you, the power of sin will be broken because you will see your depraved nature as it is and cry out for mercy. There is no hiding place for darkness in this light. Anyone in darkness sees nothing and will continue to live with patches of sin as usual, but you will be sorry for your state when light is shone to reveal it. No one wants to live in darkness, but Satan has blinded the world to see evil as good. Those who allow the glorious light to shine in them will be given the power to become the sons of Elohim.

As many as receive him to them he will give the power to become the sons of God. John1:12

God, our Father, really loves us. He provided everything for us: water, air, sunshine, and food, and he beautified our world with mountains and flowers, all for free. What a Perfect God!

God loves us so much that he gave us Himself in the person of His Son. God's love is past searching. It doesn't matter who you are or what sin you have committed; if you believe in Him, you will not perish. You will be forgiven; no sin is too big or too small. You

can name any sin, fornication, adultery, idol worship or murder; it will be forgiven as soon as you believe in the name of the Lord Jesus. Knowing this will change your life and perspective. You are created in His image. You will not allow strange voices to tell you God doesn't know you or has abandoned you.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

Sin steals, kills and destroys. There is no hope in it. It is only gratified in blindness. We cannot continue. Satan poses fire as light when he intends to burn. Sin cripples and does not give joy. It creates fear and anxiety and hardens the heart. Sin has ravaged our world, and there is no peace. People do not want to die because something in them fears the judgment to come. Sin blinds one in idolatry, worshipping the created instead of the creator. Run for your life, get freedom, believe in Jesus and be saved. His words are sure and certain. Remember, the promise is for whosoever, and there is no segregation. It is not God's wish that any man should perish but all to come to the knowledge of the truth. Believe in Christ Jesus to inherit eternal life.

For whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved. Romans 10:13

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16:16

For he had made him to be for sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 2 Corinthians 5:21

Our sins were imputed on Christ. He bore them that we might be saved. Salvation is not for a select few or particular people,

tribe or nation but for all. Jesus died for the whole world. There is no other name whereby we are saved. His name is wonderful, miraculous and transformative. At His name, every knee bow; knees of alcoholism, fear, anxiety, pride, stubbornness, nightmares, torments, drugs, demonism, sicknesses, curses, spells or any harassment of Satan. Their pursuit of you has ceased today in Jesus' Name, Amen.

Please do not let this pass you by. Go on your knees to pray; enough of Satan. Christ is at the door of every heart knocking. Bid him enter while He may! Now is the day of salvation. Let us plunge into the blood shed for our sins once and for all.

Have you any room for Jesus,
He who bore your load of sin?
As He knocks and asks admission,
Sinner, will you let Him in?

Refrain:

Room for Jesus, King of glory!
Hasten now, His word obey;
Swing the heart's door widely open,
Bid Him enter while you may.

Room for pleasure, room for business,
But for Christ the Crucified,
Not a place that He can enter,
In the heart for which He died? (Refrain)

Have you any room for Jesus,
As in grace He calls again?
O, today is time accepted,
Tomorrow you may call in vain. (Refrain)

Room and time now give to Jesus,
Soon will pass God's day of grace;
Soon your heart left cold and silent,
And the Savior's pleading cease. (Refrain)

And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me. Jeremiah 33:8

Our Heavenly Father is forgiving. So let the unrighteous man forget his ways and wicked his thoughts and let us return to our Father. He will abundantly pardon us and clean us from all unrighteousness. *Isaiah 55:7.* So don't remain in sin, and don't let anyone confuse or tell you salvation is for the Christians alone. Look at yourself in the mirror, and you will see that you are not different from the Christians. Christ is for you. You are His beloved. Take off Satan's blinding cloth; he is no good and a deceiver. Arise and take advantage of this right now. The purpose of His coming is to redeem us. He took our sins away, and we can sing free! Free indeed!

Christ took them all and nailed them to the cross. The thief at the cross made it at the last minute. That is how effective it is. There is still forgiveness at every moment, even at the time of death. Even if you have labelled yourself a Satanist, don't worry, repent today. The blood of Jesus cleanses the hardest stain. Don't condemn yourself in addition to Satan's condemnation. Break loose, do not look at anyone's face. If you make it, you will help them out.

Said unto him, art thou a king? Jesus answered 'Thou sayest I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this course came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Everyone that is of the truth heareth my voice. John 18:37

So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many, and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation. Hebrews 9:28

Those laden with anger, bitterness, malice, unforgiveness, and confusion will be given rest by Jesus. Don't worry about how it will happen, just come.

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. Matthew 11:28-30.

Jesus will wipe off any sins and throw them into the sea of forgetfulness. Why would you die in hell because of temporal pleasure and conforming to the world? No, it is not worth it. No one will come with you to the grave if you die in sin. They will go to eat after you are buried, and you are gone forever alone. Tell the Lord you are returning to him as you are without a plea. Arise! We can't continue in the deception of Satan. What he offers is counterfeit. The mansions here are built with bricks and mortar, which will disintegrate to powder at the slightest force. The real mansions are in Heaven. You will not be afraid of living in there.

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: Isaiah 1:18-19

The beauty of the mansions and the new city is explained in *Revelation 21*, if you want to have a peep. The streets are made of gold and precious stones. I had a revelation of what it like when I had my first daughter. The glimpse is indescribable. We can't afford to miss it.

We are just passing through this world. Life is a trip on a coach. Our destination is ahead of us. The journey ends at the gate of Heaven. Make sure you are on the right coach to heaven. The wrong one takes another route to hell with no return ticket. Jesus came that we may have life and have it more abundantly. *John 10:10.* He left the throne of Mercy and humbled himself to the death on the cross. God gave Him a name above all names. At the mention of His name, all knees will bow, and all tongues will confess that He is The Lord. The mountains will flee and skip like a ram in the name of Jesus.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. John 14:1-3

6

What a Love

The crucifixion at Calvary was for the love of the whole earth. He bore the shame, suffering, scorching and spitting on his face for us. The price Jesus paid on our behalf is often not spoken about, and the average Christian cannot give a clear explanation because it is not intentionally taught in churches nowadays. People talk about His love for us, but the love is not ordinary.

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13

While we were yet in sin and trespasses, Jesus died for us. It can only take love to stand in for an offender who does wrong daily. In disobedience, we go for something that hurts us, though we know we shouldn't. By nature, sin is ingrained in man; lying, killing, lust, greed, hate, cheating, and fighting don't mean much to some people. Dying in place of another person is a rare thing.

Jesus came to save us from sin. Talking about what Jesus went through on our behalf will help us to appreciate the extent of His love for us. If we don't, it will be hard to accept Him. It only hits home when we realise we are to be condemned, but Jesus took our place. Being dead in sin is a saddening situation. Someone could get up with a gun and shoot a fellow human being, and it doesn't touch him. Others perpetrate emotional and psychological trauma on people, watching them pine away. For some people, seeing

the pain in others gives them joy. They cause trouble anytime, anywhere. Someone was talking about visiting her sisters just to play Satan and give them hell.

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins. Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh. Ephesians 2:1-3

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses. Colossians 2:13

Man's heart is covered with layers of stone in the form of anger, offence, pride, and ego. It is seen in our actions, attitudes, and stubbornness. Some do not want to make simple corrections because of arrogance.

Man sees himself as a mini-god. He believes so much in himself and does not accept his errors. In some places, leaders are worshipped as gods. A person seen as god will have no place for the Creator in his life because he is a god himself. In some cultures, people take up titles that ascribe them as be and end-all. Some lifestyles are horrible, and you wonder how they carry on without remorse.

Where is the conscience? Some go out of their way to do unpleasant things without pulling back to think. It is all about the sin nature. Our world is one where, as long as it is ok for a particular person, others can disappear in the air. There are no considerations for others. That's the world we live in from country to country, nation to nation, tribe to tribe, and race to race. There is

blindness all over, and that should concern us. Satan has confused and deceived men to walk in unrighteousness.

The flesh wants to be gratified. It does what it likes and overcomes reasoning sometimes. People indulge in things that harm them, and they don't care because of the temporary satisfaction they get. They take alcohol knowing that their liver is at risk, drugs knowing that their minds and persona are at risk, and they are not bothered. People go for immoral life knowing the dangers of contracting diseases that could kill them. They do anything without considering the consequences. There is a stronger force driving men, both old and young, and that force is satanic. Weapons of mass destruction are on the rise. People do not want to die, yet they are manufacturing things that will wipe them off the earth. Some people eat human flesh, kill their children and roast them for food. The pregnant destroys the fragile lungs of the unborn with cigarette tars. Man has a one-way track thinking, which calls for pity.

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh. 1 John 2:16

Our young ladies are being enslaved by fashion masters who starve them to death to keep them resembling a stick to model their fashions. They drug them so that they can model barely dressed on billboards. We loved it, as these young ladies motivated us to buy new clothes. This is wicked, and most of these young ladies regret their lifestyle when they grow older. Most of them have no future. They are wrecked psychologically because they can't imagine what they did earlier in life. Men and women have the heart to take children away from their parents.

We destroyed our own nature, lives and ecosystem. These are the works of Satan, which is evil continually and man is walking with all his strengths going into them.

Our political arena is for character assassination. Parties pull each other down, and elections are not fair. The ruling party kills the opponents. Lies fly around to deceive people. The shoving is at a dangerous level. The election campaigns are so aggressive and take lives. Nothing is free and fair. Satan fought a bad war against us. We don't like each other, we disregard others' looks, and man wants to shed blood.

The flesh will die off one day and be buried or cremated. Once we close our eyes, the body goes to the dust and the spirit that does not know God will perish in hell. Speaking to people from different cultures and listening to their stories, there is one common thing with everybody, regardless of religion or worship. The heart of man tells him there is a higher power and life does not end here on earth. The spirit of man knows this, but the flesh blurs the thought coupled with ignorance and unbelief.

For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. Hebrews 10: 26-27

Hellfire is coming to all those in disobedience, and knowing God's judgment, we commend people to repent from their sins. This might sound terrifying and unpleasant to many, but God has allowed us enough time to come to him. He lavished us with all that pertains to life, and we have no excuse. We feel justified judging and condemning criminals to prison to reduce crime in our societies, and so will we be judged for what we have done here on earth at death.

And as it is appointed unto men once to die wants to die, but after this the judgment Hebrews 9:27

Christ knew what would become of us and made provision to pay the price by going through agony and shame on the cross. People have had near-death experiences; some have seen hell in a trance. It is true, but unfortunately, the only way to confirm how true it is is when you die, but then there is no return. Don't let anyone confuse you through mockery. Hell is real. People may tell you not to bother, many people are going there. Sadly, you will go alone to death, and not even loved ones will agree to be buried with you.

Hell is not a good place, and nobody should go there. It is meant for Satan and the demons. He wants to draw as many people as he can. Contrary to Satan's manipulations, Christ Jesus came to save sinners such as you and I so that we may have life more abundantly.

I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. John 10:14-18

Let's take advantage of the life being laid down by Yeshua Hamashiach. We did nothing to merit such love. We sinned and deserve the judgment of God. God the Creator did not leave us in the lifeless Mars, the Moon, or the Sun to be scorched. He prepared the earth for us, and yet we were not grateful. We went against him, yet he came again to ask us, "Why would we perish? It is not the will of God. He wants to reason with Him and get light.

Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die. John 12:31-33

The world is seeing a series of pestilences, calamities and woes.

The worst is yet to come, and Jesus is pleading with us to please repent from our sins and turn to life. 'Why would you go to hell? His arms are stretched out to welcome as many as will receive him. Don't refuse Him. Hell will be unbearable. Hell is for those who chose the course of the lies of Satan, his wickedness and idolatry.

It is in Christ's power to do away with the earth, but He still wants us to spend eternity with Him in Heaven. He is our light, the good shepherd, inviting us to His marriage supper. He will want us to wear the crown, walk on the street of gold and have liberty.

Jesus came to open our eyes and hearts unto him. Why would we die in the lake burning with fire and brimstone? I know you don't want to go to hell. Nobody wants to suffer. Ordinary sickness and hitting our feet on a rock or stone are painful. It is unimaginable to think of spending forever in hell? I do not want to go there, and I know you do not either, not after learning of the love Christ bestowed on us. The thought brings my mind to the song of Isaac Watts:

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them through his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

This song brings tears in my eyes, the price Jesus paid just for me when I did nothing to deserve it.

7

Who has believed the report

Many people on earth still do not believe in the Messiah. The reason is the lies peddled by Satan over the years to prevent people from being saved. Lies are deceptive and can keep generations in the dark. Satan knows if we are saved, he will lose hold of us. He is an evil master who keeps people in captivity and makes them victims of life. He feeds them with afflictions and foolishness and turns to laugh at them. Satan has tried in so many ways to blank the message of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. He tries to convince people that it is a Hebraic story that has nothing to do with the present day. He has given people alternative gods to believe in as their creators. He raised the concept of evolution to confuse people more and denied Elohim's ultimate power. He denies the divinity, virgin birth, death and resurrection of our Lord Yeshua Hamashiach.

Satan was created by the Almighty God but was sent down because of disobedience, and his job right now is to walk to-and-from the earth to peddle lies and deception. *1 Peter 5:8.* He does not want to be in hell alone and is taking as many people as he can. Refuse him today! Arise, enough of Satan! His wickedness is devastating. He pushes men into abominable things that are disheartening. Nobody likes evil; we want to live in peace, harm-free and in liberty, but that will not happen with Satan around.

Who had believed our report? Unto whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant,

and as a root out of the dry gland ground: he had no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men: a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief and we heed as it where our faces from him he was despised and we esteemed him not surely he had brought our grief: and carried our sorrows yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray and have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord had laid on him the iniquity of all us. He was oppressed, he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as each as alarm to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened it not his mouth. He was stricken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? For he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgressions of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide his spoil with the strong; because he had poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bared his sins of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. Isaiah 53:1-12

Demons have confused people to say Jesus is just a man or prophet who died, and His disciples stole His body and said He resurrected. *Matthew 28:10-15.* Well, that doesn't sound real, not in the circumstance he died. They ensured the stone covered His grave well and stationed soldiers to watch. In those days, if what was kept on the watch of soldiers went missing, the soldiers would pay with their blood. Any story would have been at the cost of their lives. The Philippian Jailor in *Acts 16:27* drew a sword to kill himself, as he thought the prisoners had escaped.

Some believed that the story was a myth and did not happen. Men are taught to believe what they can see, scientific reasons, or evidence-based theories before they can agree. Well, one may argue that your great-grandfathers did not live, and stories about them are lies. It is up to anybody to believe such a lie. You would not have been here because you came from their loins. The ancient cities now lying underground did exist at one time. The towns that were submerged by the 2004 tsunami once existed. The birth, life, death, resurrection and taking up to Heaven of our Lord did happen. He is coming back soon, hence the preparation for His appearing.

Jesus took on flesh and came down from heaven to identify with us. He is not just a man. He is the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Elohim, the El Eloi, and the creator that dwells in the light no man can approach, the Almighty, the Deliverer. We can name as many of His names. Do not listen to Satan, the deceiver. Our salvation is nearer than we first believe. *Romans 13:11.*

Some carry about the Bible deceiving people that Jesus is not God. These are the worst enemies. People believe them because they have the Bible, not knowing they are confusionists. They propagate from door to door, saying that Jesus is man. He had come, and He had gone. There's nothing like hellfire. Another

group are making a mockery on media platforms, disputing, despising and blaspheming the name of our Lord. All these are engineered by the jealous Satan.

But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him: That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? And to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed? Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; That they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, And be converted, And I should heal them John 12:37-40

There is gross darkness across the whole world right now. Our eyes are blinded, and our hearts are hardened. This has made it difficult for many to accept the love of God. Our eyes are so tightly closed that while professing to be wise, what comes out is the folly of sin in man. Ask God to open your eyes. We are almost at the close of the age. Things have been set in place. There is no escape for anyone. Those leaving their countries for greener pastures are going to dry and arid places.

The world system has caged everyone and our liberty taken away. Cameras are all over the place, watching every movement. Our details are all stored, and one-click pulls up everything about you. The poorer countries that do not have the technology are ravaged by crime, fear, instability and wars.

Everything is structured, and there is no escape. Food has been changed. Our thought has been changed. The education system is tailored towards what men want us to believe and to go for. Some courses are so weird and take away the sense of reasoning. Everything is fashioned towards the broad way to hell. Students borrow money to go to Universities and study what they cannot

find good jobs with, yet they might owe up to £60,000. The world has blinded our eyes so that the everyday things we're expected to see, we see them not. Some things are not for the good of man but for the Broadway to Hell.

If we had believed in Him, who had saved us, made this world, knew the way this world should have gone or should be going. If we had believed Him, things would probably have been better.

Saying, say ye His disciples came by night and stole him away while we slept. And if these come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you. So they took the money, and did as they were taught; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day. Matthew 28:13-15

People believed a story that was almost impossible at the time of Jesus. The Soldiers were told to say that the disciples stole him away at night. Everyone at that time knew that if anyone escaped from a soldier's watch, his life went for it. Lies can pull a blanket over the eyes, and deception can last for generations. We thank God people are getting to know the truth and accepting the grace poured out on the cross.

Jesus had said that He would rise again, so whether the soldiers were strong or the grave was sealed doesn't matter. Both could not hold Him captive. Hallelujah! Neither can a carnal man created from the sand and dust keep Him in the grave. It is not done. May our eyes be opened, and may we not remain in darkness the world and Satan propagated to keep people in blindness.

What makes it hard for some people to believe that Jesus died for our sins is the notion that life should be enjoyed while it lasts because there is no life after death. There is definitely life after death, but the unfortunate thing is that those who do not believe will only find out when it is too late to return. The answer to believing that Jesus came to set us free lies with us. He took away

our pain, agony, murder, adultery, fornication, sorrow and shame. Salvation is not by works or penance. It is by grace. *Ephesians 2:5-8.* We have been set free from the captivity of hell.

To believe in our Lord Jesus is the simplest thing to do. You don't need to buy it. It is not like buying diamonds, sapphires, gold and silvers. Salvation is absolutely free to whoever will believe. I believe and can remember the place and the exact moment I stretched my hand over a canteen table to give my life to Christ without minding it was a public place. But why should I be ashamed of coming out of shame? It doesn't matter where you are, in the pub, beer parlour, theatre, brothel, your hands stained with blood in murder, stealing, given to drugs and in misery with no hope. The Blood shed on the Cross of Calvary cleanses us from all unrighteousness.

As many as believed Him, to them He gave the power to become the Sons of God. John 1:12

It was stunning that I could be forgiven instantly by just believing. In those days, my life was a yo-yo in self-righteousness, like a filthy rag in the sight of God. I was not for Christ and not for Satan. When convenient, I do my own thing; when not, I was in Church. I knew I was on my way to hell. I knew that Satan had prepared, waiting to have me in the pit of hell. I have tried to give my life to Jesus several times and gone back to my old ways, but this time, I decided that enough was enough.

I said

"Lord, I believe you've taken away my sins. I believe you've purged me from all unrighteousness, and I am sorry, Lord, for all my wrongdoings. Have mercy on me in Jesus name. Amen"

That was it, done! I got saved. The Lord delivered me, removed the burden of death and hell, and renewed my heart with joy and peace. I could not explain it. It was like a dew poured on me. I felt

light and overwhelmed. It was amazing. I am still in Him and will be in Him for all the days of my life. God did it for me and will do it for anyone. No sin is too big, and none is too small.

Now is the appointed time. Would you believe God gave us His only begotten Son, who was despised, mocked, accused falsely and nailed to the cross of Calvary? Would you believe He rose again on the third day that we may have life more abundantly? He broke the power of demons, sin and Satan. He broke the chains of torment, both the ones that come in dreams and physical ones. He took our infirmities and laid them on Himself. He paid the price once and for all: no more making ritual sacrifices of bulls and rams. He wiped away besetting sin, rising and falling, backsliding state, and idolatry. You might be reading this in Prison, and imagine how you can be set free after all you have done. You may have been sentenced to death or life imprisonment. You may be in the physical prison, but you are set free in the spiritual. If you can believe in Jesus, your sins will be forgiven. He has all the powers to forgive and set free.

If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed John 8:36

He will give the power to become the sons of God, to rise and sin no more. The power that Satan cannot cut down. The power to live and boycott hell and eternal damnation.

Whosoever believeth will not perish but have everlasting life. He will not push anybody that comes to Him away. His hands are wide open to as many as will receive Him.

It is time to pray now and believe the report of the Lord concerning you. Though in prison with all judgment against you, jump up in freedom. Jesus has set you free. Are you bound in the chains of adultery and fornication, cheating, doing things you shouldn't do, jump up and shout,

"I am free".

Are you sick unto death with the worst diagnosis? Shout out,

"Freedom, freedom indeed".

Are you into pornography, defiling children, doing abominable things out there on the internet, or defrauding people? Do you know that Jesus can set you free from that bondage? Will you shout and say,

'I am free!'

Are you hung to orthodox religion, worship of Angels and Queen of Heaven? The Lord can set you free. Are you still under Moses' veil? There is brightness beyond it, Yeshua Hamashiach.

You can say I am the head of the criminal gang. Can I ever come out? The Lord will set you free. This is why Jesus came. Are you at home playing self-righteous, going to church like the Pharisees and the Scribes, yet on your way to hell? You can ask the Lord now to deliver you from religion and self-righteousness. You shall be set free. Are you a young person filled with exuberance and feeling the world is in your pocket? You can ask the Lord now to open your eyes, and you shall be set free. Sing this song as you pray. It is done. Jesus sets free.

All the way to Calvary, He went for me,
Jesus went for me,
Saviour went for me,
All the way to Calvary, He went for me,
He died to set me free.

Although I had so many many sins,
Jesus took them all away, and he pardoned me,
Although I had so many many sins,
Jesus took them all away, and he pardoned me,

All the way to Calvary, He went for me,
Jesus went for me,
Saviour went for me,
All the way to Calvary, He went for me,
He died to set me free.

8

The humility of Messiah

Our Lord Jesus Christ is gentle and lowly with no pride. He was esteemed because he was humble. The world is about pump and pageant, but God uses the foolish things of this world to confound the wise.

For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. Isaiah 53:2

Our life should mirror our Lord. The life of a Christian should be simple and uncomplicated. There should be no air of affluence around a Christian and nothing to glory about. The world we live in is vanity. Things come and go: education, certificates, fashions, beauty, and so on. This was why Paul said:

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. Galatians 6:14

Representing Jesus well while waiting for His return should be our lifestyle. Some preachers despise this passage because they are full of loftiness and cannot stand humility. We are to resist the temptation of following their bad examples. Those who display pride knew him partially and not His fullness. People get caught

up when they listen to the partial truth they preach. Don't run after them, as pride does not represent Christ.

Please mind those who hide the truth from us or preach the half-truth, quarter- truth or even one-fifth of it. Be careful, many people with gentle and tender hearts have been deceived by them. Those boasting about their red carpets and big cathedrals should know Christ walked on none. The boasting is not right, and these people are all over the place, deceiving and causing the young and old to stumble. Look away from their error and truth mixed together. One may not show any gloat because they don't have what it takes. Still, inside their heart, they're waiting for the day they will get their dream jobs, houses, shoes, dresses and skyscrapers, and then the real man shows up.

There was no form of comeliness or anything to desire Him. We thank God for the beautiful ones among us, but please do not display it. You don't use beauty to lure people to Christ. The focus will be on you and not Jesus. If we focus all on ourselves, none will be left for the King of Kings.

Jesus was laid in a manger among the sheep with swaddling clothes because there was no room for Mary and Joseph in the inn. May the Lord give us hearts of humility to identify with the poor in society and our churches. Don't look down on them because they don't finance the church, have the money, have big cars, dress in a particular way, or live in a four-story house. No! The Lord demands us to be humble, and even if the Lord has blessed us with all it takes, don't forget that he owns heaven and earth. Although Jesus is the Lord of Lords, He humbled himself. Jesus fulfilled his mission without having all the wealth. He is our perfect example.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7

People marvelled at the wisdom of Christ because it was least expected of a person raised in poverty and as a Carpenter's son. For those who feel deprived because they were raised in poverty, the Lord will give us the grace not to remember the former things or consider the things of old. *Isaiah 43:15-19.* The Lord will do a new thing in your life. Amen. For those of us who think they were rejected or despised, they didn't have or live with the phrase "If I were like this". Please, there is no "If" about you. Forget it. You are the best. There is no other way you will be. The Lord showed me as a young believer that appreciating how He made me is an honour to Him. I am the best I can be, and nothing should hinder me from preaching the Gospel. Earthly riches are in the physical and not in the spirit of man. The power of God in us has nothing to do with where we were born, our family heritage, or being educated. It is according to election by grace. Don't try to make up any previous privileges you didn't have. It is neither here nor there. Dump them and move on to do what God has called you to do.

And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him. Mark 6:2-3

As preachers, we should aspire to be like our Master Jesus. Some lavish lifestyles purported today are contrary to our Lord's humble life. Those who think one must look a certain way to be a preacher are mistaken. They didn't get it right and should rethink. Purporting glamour means playing in the hands of Satan to confuse the Church. Satan has tried to manipulate the far left and far right

wing. The far-right outwardly looks gentle, nice, calm, sober and humble, but their extreme doctrine has nothing to do with Yeshua.

The far left does all the talks of the New Testament, Pentecost, and liberty in Yeshua. Still, they have taken that liberty to be a license to sin. When you look at them, they lack the humility of Christ in words, dressing, and how they carry themselves shows nothing of Christ. Both ends are not right, do not let them confuse you. We want to talk and look like Jesus. Don't let those who are struggling with self confuse you. Don't let those who are keeping themselves in themselves confuse you. Please, let's go back to the Bible. Remember they said to him, *"Is this not the carpenter?"* because there was no form nor comeliness. *"Are these not His brothers. Matthew 13:54-56* We know them. They can't afford three square meals or even pay to go to a good school. So how come he got this wisdom? The Lord will show forth His wisdom in your life in Yeshua's name. Amen. While people look down on you, the wisdom of Christ will come forth from you.

They derided him because he had nothing, yet the creator. Is he a lawyer, one of the doctors, a Pharisee, or a High Priest? Nope! So why should they respect him? Many people have looked down on men and women of God because they don't have good-looking shoes, the latest dress, or gold and silver. They don't have expensive bags or good cars, look simple, and live in a rented house. They buy the cheapest from the markets, and people do not respect it. Men would instead honour those who show off their £10,000 wristwatch, wealthy estates with golf courses and deers running in their back garden. Their grandeur attracts thousands of hero worshippers. People wish to be like them and claim their riches. There is no need to desire vanities that will go off one day or go after such wealth. Remember, wealth is not bad, but if it leads many to unrighteousness, it becomes corrupt. Don't go for

it if it is not pointing you to Yeshua. The world we are in now is rolling away.

And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him. Luke 16:14

May we be in a place to be found like Jesus, and may others see Jesus in us. That is our prayer.

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Philippians 2:7-9

You might come from a village with no reputation. It is remote and obscure and not one of the top 50s. Your family background is complicated. Never mind, Christ came from Nazareth, and Joseph was not his biological father. Some people say their marriages are complex and there is nothing to write home about. No worries, new life in Christ mends all. God does not consult your past to make you who you will become.

And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene. Matthew 2:23

Christ did not go for the mighty, the noble. No! He chose the base things like Paul, the murderer and the persecutor, to take the gospel to the Gentiles. *1 Timothy 1:12-13.* He chose the unlearned fishermen to be His disciples. *Acts 4:13*. Elisha was a farmer, *1 Kings 19:19,* and Moses was a stammerer. *Exodus 4:10.* Jeremiah was a child, *Jeremiah 1:6*, but God used them. You are good the way you are, so do not allow the world to present its own measure to you. It is Elohim's measure that matters. The good thing is that humility and lowliness are still the key.

Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence. 1 Corinthians 1:25-29

The place of humility is a place of peace, joy, and liberty, and you walk in without burden or carrying any cloak of sin, iota of pride or worldliness. Never mind if you are despised. You may not look like the Joneses, which should not worry you. You might have the temptation to conform to wrong. Please refrain from it. We are Christians because our lives should be Christ-like. I pray people see Christ's beauty, lowliness, and His life typified in us.

There's not a Friend like the lowly Jesus: No, not one! no, not one! None else could heal all our souls' diseases: No, not one! no, not one! No friend like Him is so high and holy, no, not one! no, not one! And yet no friend is so meek and lowly, no, not one! no, not one! Jesus knows all about our struggles; He will guide 'til the day is done: There's not a Friend like the lowly Jesus: No, not one! no, not one! Johnson Oatman 1895

Christ's humility was shown all through. He was from Nazareth, where no prophet had risen at all. *John 7:52.* We should learn of him and not allow ourselves to be hyped in pride. We should remain humble and not let worldly things flaunt our egos. He had nowhere to lay His head, was harassed with taxpaying, ridiculed, despised, cajoled, and rejected. Be encouraged in all you go through. Christ is our perfect example. If you are rejected by

people, the Holy Spirit has not abandoned you. The rejection of people does not count. All things work together for good. Most of those rejections are to give you peace from people's busybody attitudes, disappointments, and woes. People will make promises and fail, so don't cry because of them. Move on to get the approval of God. It's better than the recognition of men.

Father, we pray that you take us back to basics. Take away pride from us. We want your humility to show in our lives. It is the only way to salvation and to the cross.

9

The Price of rescue

There are inherent risks to every rescue operation. Some fire-fighters have died on the job, rescue helicopters crashed into the sea or mountains, and crew members lost their lives. People have drowned trying to rescue a drowning person, and many have fallen to their deaths on a rescue mission.
Our Lord Jesus paid a heavy price to rescue us from the hands of Satan.

And he straitly charged them, and commanded them to tell no man that thing; saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day. Luke 9:21-22

Rejection

People have rejected the lifeline thrown into the pit to draw them out. We are still rejecting Jesus Christ today. Many do not want to hear about Him, worshipping idols and denying the existence of our everlasting God. Iniquity is abounding, our prisons are getting fuller, people are gritting and gnashing their teeth, and even on the dying bed, they still reject Him. The rejection is unimaginable; people fall through the cliffs, drowning in the deep sea. Instead of shouting out to the Lord for salvation, they hardened their hearts. We should be the ones to bear the brunt of our sins, yet we reject

his mercy. We have remained recalcitrant and stubborn in the wrong we do and refused to be helped.

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrow, and acquainted with grief: and we heed and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Isaiah 53:3

Jesus went through the rejection of men, which can be related to our situation today. One of the examples was when He met two men possessed of the devil in a city and could not let anyone pass by without tearing him up. The men tormented the town and could not be tamed. People kept away from that route and part of the city because of these horrible men. Here comes Jesus with the ultimate power over devils and cast the demons away into the swine, and they got drowned in the waters. The natural thing would have been, "Hooray, Jesus, we are so grateful. Thank you. These men really tormented our city and had it tough on us." Instead, they asked Jesus to please leave their coast. He was not wanted.

And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts. Matthew 8:34

The people preferred swine to their lives. We still behave this way. We prefer mundane things in place of our lives. People will go to parties, and although they know an infectious disease is spreading, they want their pleasure first and die later. People prefer drugs that disorganise their personalities and destroy them. People want to continue drinking alcohol, though their systems are dying off. The people of this city wanted to remain in the horror those possessed men were giving them and were not happy Jesus cast them out. In response, they told Jesus to leave.

You might be wondering what kind of people they were, but if you reject salvation, you are doing the same. Some people

prefer to remain in lying, cheating, adultery, fornication, idolatry, witchcraft, envy, murder and malice instead of clean life. Satan has rubbed pepper in our eyes in sickness, blindness of heart, and sin, yet we reject the Messiah. How can we explain that? You can take the bold step to join those who will accept Jesus Christ. Jesus announced the most liberating statement of why he came on earth.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, Because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, And recovering of sight to the blind, To set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. Luke 4:18-19.

Was this all Jesus said to warrant taking Him to the brow of the hill to push Him down to fall headlong? That was wicked heart in action, to kill Him in such a cruel way. The statement should have brought hope to all, but some people took offence. These are some of the things Jesus went through for us.

And all day in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up and thrust him out of the city, and led him onto the brow of the hill where on their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. But he passing through the midst of them went his way. Luke 4:28-30

If you are going through some persecution, be encouraged. Satan is engineering the whole process using people of weak character. He played all those games to discourage Jesus but failed. You will not be discouraged in Jesus' Name, Amen. Jesus came so that we may have life more abundantly, and so shall it be for you. Jesus came to give sight to the blind, to see what goes on in the secret, the death path, idolatry and the hardness of man. Once we were blind, now we can see the wickedness going on in the world, the

deception plan of Satan. We can see how Satan distorted this beautiful world that God created and gave us to enjoy.

Jesus came to set men free from the captivity of Satan, the bondage of drugs, depression and mental illnesses that have caged people. He came to heal the brokenhearted and preach deliverance to the captives to set them free. The world is filled with wickedness and disappointment from every angle, including families, spouses, colleagues and neighbours. Circumstances have broken people's hearts through many adversities. Children are being stolen from homes, jobs denied, and incurable sicknesses ravaging the lives of people. Jesus came to take them all away.

Satan and demons are still angry at this and doing their worst to ensure people reject the truth. Not many of us will want to continue if their good is being rejected.

We would have said, "If men want to perish, that is okay. It is their choice". But Jesus continued to show His love. What manner of man is He?

But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected. Luke 17:25

I have heard people talk about their rejection regarding not getting their rights or family issues. Others are because of their looks, socio-economic status, or just because of people being mean. The rejection of our Lord was by people He blessed. He fed them in the wilderness when they were without food, healed their diseases, their crippled walked again, raised their dead, gave sight to the blind, the impotent healed and compassion was shown to them. At Calvary in *Luke 23*, they preferred the thief Barabas and asked to do away with Jesus. They cried in one voice to crucify Jesus.

He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. John 12:48

The people went out and about looking for faults and things to pick out on Him. They sent people to lay traps, stirring the crowd against him for nothing. How could a man who showed such kindness be rewarded with such? All the suffering was for our deliverance so that we don't go to hell that burns with fire and brimstone. He endured all.

And it came to pass also on another sabbath, that he entered into the synagogue and taught: and there was a man whose right hand was withered. And the scribes and Pharisees watched him, whether he would heal on the sabbath day; that they might find an accusation against him. But he knew their thoughts and said to the man which had the withered hand, Rise up, and stand forth in the midst. And he arose and stood forth. Then said Jesus unto them, I will ask you one thing; Is it lawful on the sabbath days to do good, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it? And looking round about upon them all, he said unto the man, Stretch forth thy hand. And he did so: and his hand was restored whole as the other.And they were filled with madness and communed with one another what they might do to Jesus. Luke 6:6-11

So why were they filled with madness? Their fellow's hand was withered. A brother in the same synagogue with them. Jesus had compassion for him and asked the man to stretch forth; meanwhile, Satan was standing by the side to inspire these Pharisees to watch and see what He would do as it was a Sabbath day. Well, He's our Father, our creator, and His heart is not like ours. Man's heart is hardened, but His heart is always filled with compassion and love. His steadfast love never ceases, His mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning. Yes, it is the sabbath, but he is the God of the sabbath. He created heaven and earth and made all days, including the seventh. No father or mother will watch their children suffer even when they have done wrong against them.

But his citizens hated him, and sent a messenger after him, saying, we will not have this man to reign over us. Luke 19:14

Many people rejected Jesus, though His loving arm is still stretched to take as many as will.

But these cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause. John 15:25

The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil. John 7:7

Some things happening in the world are evil, and the systems are made to convince us to take the wrong. People are fed what the leaders want them to hear, and everything is censored to hide the truth from the people. It is terrible, just for the gain of one man. It can be justified if these leaders would live forever, but that they would die like others is unimaginable. People are deprived of their wages or paid peanuts for their labour. Some can't get certain jobs because of who they are. It will be rhetoric to name all the evil in this world.

Jesus healed a man and was accused of doing it with Beelzebub's power. It can make anyone feel disappointed, angry or even cry. The ridicule was all through his time, just for you and me. He was spat at, cajoled, and arrested with spears and arrows just for doing good. We know how it feels to live in an unsafe environment. You don't know what will become of you any minute, and you have no sleep at night because of men of the underworld. You can imagine putting up with that every day with those He came to save.

Those He came to set free hid their faces from Him. They were so hardened and disrespectful, and we are still doing so. People use His name in vain, in mockery and in syncretism. We forget He is The King of Kings, The Lord of Lords, and The Ancient of Days.

Many can say it happened 2000 years ago and don't think they will reject anyone who did good to them. If you hear of Jesus mercies and did not turn to Him, that is rejection. If you remain in adultery, in fornication, in wickedness, in lying, and in cheating, or go to church but live in hypocrisy, you are denying him. If you live in secret sin, you are despising His grace. We cannot remain in sin while grace abounds. Let's accept Jesus into our lives. The price has been paid to cleanse every sin.

Torture

Christ bore grief on our behalf, but unfortunately, many did not accept Him. He did this to free us from Satan and give us authority over him. Satan goes about like a roaring lion seeking who he may devour, but Jesus has prevailed against him. In that authority, whatever we decree will come to pass, with the confessions of our mouth, salvation is made unto us. *Romans 10:10.* Christ endured all to give us the courage to withstand Satan and also to have our sins remitted. The blood of bulls and rams could not wash sins and Jesus did the sacrifice for us once and for all.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. Isaiah 53:4

Mary's anointing of Jesus for his death, burial and resurrection offended some, including the disciples. If you are disappointed by the attitude of people close to you, be encouraged; Jesus got the same treatment from His disciples.

Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor;

but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein. Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this. For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always. John 12:3-8

Jesus was betrayed by the man in his cabinet who kept the purse. It took Judas a kiss to identify Jesus among twelve people. Christ looked like His disciples, prayed with them, ate with them, walked with them, and faced challenges with them. The lesson for church leaders is to be like Jesus. Some overseers of churches don't relate with their people. They display pride at the pulpit and use lofty words. You will identify them once you come into the church. They are either sitting on their throne at the altar with their elaborate dressing and rings people come to kiss. These are idolatrous practices that were brought into the church and should not be so.

And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him. John 13:2

Judas was one of the chosen and ordained disciples. Satan entered him, and he sold his master for nothing. Thirty pieces of silver that were worth nothing in those days to get Him smitten and afflicted and put to death. Remember, Jesus submitted Himself willingly, and not that Satan had power over Him.

Peter was very zealous and was convinced that he would be by his master to the end. Jesus knew he would deny Him three times before the cock crows. Peter did not just deny Jesus. He said emphatically, *"I do not know this man"*. *Mark14:71*. He called his master "This man".

What a betrayal to the one who gave us all things. I think of our world and how we have travelled in the past with risks on the sea and land. Travelling from one continent to another was a game of chance. Each transport means poses its own risks. The

internet removed the geographical barriers and made the world a global village to ease our struggles. The same internet is hijacked by men of pervert minds to destroy our young people and the next generation. The evil they would not have known came to them in their bedrooms. Good is turned to evil.

Jesus came to restore what was taken away from us but was greeted with beatings, pushing, knockings, and chained like a prisoner.

At Gethsemane, he went to pray and found His disciples sleeping when they should have been praying with Him. They were in danger, and that should not be a sleeping time. We are still sleeping today with all the dangers around us, and Jesus' return is imminent. The church is not praying. Can we not tarry with the Lord for an hour as He asked His disciples? The surrounding situation is not getting better. People are still planning for tomorrow when today looks so bleak with confusion and fear. Peter drew his sword and cut off Marcus's ear. He thought he could fight with the arm of the flesh. It is more than that. Jesus told him to withdraw it and fixed back Malchus's ear. *Luke 22:49-52.*

There was nothing they could do. The Master was taken under spears, arrows and shields, and they handcuffed and pushed him down like a thief. Jesus was severely beaten and suffered gruesome shame. We have to get it right here. This is how furious Satan was at our salvation. He will do anything to hinder it. Christ's only offence was to save man from going to hell and to spend eternity in Heaven with Him.

The King of Kings was taken to Pontius Pilate to be interrogated, and the crowd screamed,

"Away with Him". *John 19:15*

He was arraigned before the one He created. We have not appreciated Jesus. Some people are still cursing, ridiculing, blaspheming, killing Christians, and some Christians backsliding

for the love of this world.

Christ endured the shame of being dragged on the rough streets of Jerusalem, falling as He went with injuries because He loved us so much. Our redemption is the reason He came. Contrary to Satan, who has come to steal, kill, and destroy. *John 10:10* Three-fold wickedness. He kills and destroys what he has stolen. He possesses people and takes humanity out of them. That is why some people are so wicked that you wonder if they have a heart. Satan inflicts people with all sorts of diseases. Some people's stories are very pathetic. They are suffering from various diseases, and you wonder how one man could cope. The men at Gergesenes were possessed with a legion of demons. *Matthew 8:28.* That is how wicked Satan is. In one person is anger, avarice, cheating, fornication, and murder.

Jesus came to pay the price, to break these demons and to liberate us. Satan has no pity for anyone, and that is why we see young children doing unseemly things that will make you cringe. Even children at a very young age decide to go after the enemy because he's taking over their hearts to do things unseemly.

Christ was smitten with stripes. Stripes are not common these days, but Roman stripes were not famous in those days. It was not an ordinary stick; they were hard leather that tears off the skin when the lashes are given. Some are iron slings with spikes that rip off the skin when lashed, and the person bleeds all over. Satan made sure Jesus got the brutal end, thinking He would back out. Christ allowed the stripes because they were the purchase of our healing. Through the stripes given to Him, we are healed of sicknesses. *Isaiah 53:5.* It doesn't matter what the illness is, as some of them have no names and are horrible to look at. Jesus paid the price for our healing. When you go through things that feel like iron stripes with spikes, remember the price Jesus paid and call upon His name; you shall be saved.

Christ was given vinegar in place of water when he was thirsty. This is to remind us to call upon Jesus when Satan tries to give you vinegar in place of water, people deny you, and you face disappointments and shock from a close friend. Remember the price Jesus paid, and be comforted.

Christ was pierced with a spear at His sides, and water and blood gushed out. When you go through the agony of life, attempted assassination, or diseases eating you up, lift your eyes and remember the cross, for without the shedding of blood, there is no remission for sin. The blood poured out is the ultimate. It speaks better things than that of Abel. The blood of Jesus is our strong weapon against the wiles of Satan. Satan unknowingly was fulfilling a purpose. Jesus shed His blood on the cross so that whoever will plunge into that blood shall be saved. The blood was the remission of sin. We are to remember the blood under challenging times. Just plead the blood and take authority against demons in the Name of Jesus, and every knee shall bow.

A crown of thorns was made and placed on His head. Sometimes, as a leader in the office, home, parliament or as a Prime Minister or President, the crown on your head may bite like a crown of thorns. Look up to Jesus, and you shall be saved. Salvation is for everyone, both for the king and the poor.

Christ's clothes were ripped, and He was stripped naked. Are you in poverty, with no dress to cover and your shoes torn? Look up to Jesus, the price has been paid. He was stripped that we may be covered. *Matthew 27:28.*

The nailing and hanging at the cross was sorrow and love displayed to the world. Just as Moses lifted up the serpent on that stick, and whoever looked on it was saved, so shall we be saved when we look on Jesus. The deepness of the nails in His hands is an assurance of deliverance. The price was paid in full.

All the evil words said to Him were to get us to a place where we are not broken-hearted by hurtful words. The shouting of doing away with Him is to reassure us that we will not be done away by anybody. Do you feel like the demons are crucifying you? Call upon the name of Jesus, and you shall be saved. He came so that nothing will be impossible for us again.

The ball is now in our court. Would you believe that Jesus suffered so that we might have life? He is now calling you to follow the straight and narrow way. He did so much for us when we did not deserve it. Jesus took us out of the mud and cleansed us. Don't be left behind. The siege is over. Reach out and touch the hem of His garment. You cannot continue in depression, moodiness, sadness and suicidal tendencies. Don't take your life because things are not working out, you have no relatives, and you are alone crying. Satan wants to kill and destroy you. That is why he is suggesting such to you. Arise and say, "Lord Jesus help me. I cannot take my life, I will live, you have paid the price".

You are not alone; Jesus is with you. Pull yourself together and pick up a new zest in life.

Are you living in unbelief? Have you been told there is no hope and God does not exist? Salvation has come to your doorstep. Have you been in idolatry, worshipping unknown gods or things created, beasts and animals? Call Jesus, and you shall be saved.

Christ has the power to break the chains of alcoholism and drugs to liberate you. Satan cannot possess you. You are created in the image of Yeshua Hamashiach. You are not created in the image of the demons; they have no right to possess you by witchcraft and wizardry. Call upon the name of the Lord, and you shall be saved. The amazing grace is still flowing. It's still here today, and that was why Jesus came and went through agony.

Think of the goodness of Jesus and what He has done for us, and shout halleluiah. Praise God for saving us.

Religious persecution

Satan was blamed for masterminding the crucifixion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Still, it is shocking to know that he achieved his aim through the religious people. This shows us the dangers of religion without the true God. It can be terrible and stops at nothing but the shedding of blood. One may ask why the religious. God has called us to a relationship with Him as Father and children. Satan corrupted it with religion to keep people in darkness.

The Chief Priest and Pharisees feared people would turn to Jesus when He brought Lazarus back to life. Caiaphas spoke a word of prophecy out of himself. It is interesting how God uses the unusual. Caiaphas played a big part in condemning Christ, yet the truth came from him beyond himself.

And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all, nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not. And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; and not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad. Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death. John 11:49-53,

God can use anybody, even the vilest. If He spoke to Balaam through an ass, how much more would He use an unworthy being?

And the LORD opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times? Numbers 22:28

Those who question the powers of false prophets have a lot to learn. God owns all and can turn them to say the right words beyond themselves. They may be leading a large congregation and not living right. The Lord might still allow them because of the remnants listening to them. We should always go by the fruits of people's lives, not their words.

Then the band and the captain of the officers of the Jews took Jesus, and bound him, And led him away first to Annas and then to Caiaphas. John 18:12-14

Caiaphas, whom Jesus was taken to, confessed earlier that one person needed to die for the sins of others. The religious conspired to push Herod and Pilate into condemning Christ. They knew it was unlawful in their tradition to crucify Jesus, so they went by proxy to achieve the same. They did not want to be seen as the ones who desired Jesus to be killed. Their long robes covered the person in them. They operated behind in secret sin. The colours of their robes are black and white, depicting their nature and character. They play white when convenient and black when not.

Jesus was betrayed by one of his disciples he lived with for three and a half years. He wasn't just any other but one who was trusted with the bag; otherwise, he was the team's treasurer. In any Government, the state treasurer or exchequer is number two in the rank. In organisations, the accountant is on the executive committee. Judas was highly placed. This shows that no one is immune from betrayal by the people who are closest to him. Being in a high position does not exclude anyone from treachery.

Taking up positions at church does not mean the person cannot betray Jesus. Being a Pastor for so many years, travelling as a missionary and doing many miracles does not mean the person cannot betray Jesus. It calls for diligence and faithfulness; without Christ, we can do nothing. It is easy to throw barbs at Judas, but

many have denied Jesus in so many ways. It is an absurdity for a church that once proclaimed the truth to publicly allow perversion to take over them.

And while he yet spake, behold a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near unto Jesus to kiss him Luke 22:47

We are familiar with how thieves are treated. In some countries, they are beaten, handcuffed, dragged on the street and stoned to death. Jesus allowed all those just for the love He has for us. They were with Him in the synagogue. He healed them, walked freely and wasn't arrested because the hour had not come. He submitted to death to fulfil our redemption at the appointed time.

And then Jesus said unto the high priest, and captains of the temple, and the elders, which were with him, but be ye come out as, against a thief, and with a sword and with staves? Luke 22:52

They knew Jesus was the son of God but asked the question to lay accusations against Him. They charged Him because He said, "He is the son of God", which was so flimsy and an excuse to execute anyone. They spat at him, which was so demeaning. They smote Him on the cheek with cruel mocking. Their anger and animosity was too much.

But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy. What think ye? They answered and said, He is guilty of death. Then did they spit in his

face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands, saying, Prophesy unto us, thou Christ, Who is he that smote thee? Matthew 26:63-68

Their bitterness could only match the physical hurt they gave Him. The world is still rejecting Christ, and you can ask me how? Perverse bills passed at night by men who hate the Gospel to get our young ones derailed. Just as Caesar Augustus didn't care if you were pregnant and commanded all to go home and be counted for Tax, *Luke 2:1-7.* So, also, these wicked men do not care to destroy the next generation and say it is in our power to take away the babies in our wombs. If we were taken out by our mothers, would we have been here? Well, the sin of killing infants is an "own goal". Kill them off, and your generation will disappear from the surface of the earth. If you think it is okay to bind this wickedness to law, it is only a matter of time before strangers take over your cities. It may work now to put one who speaks out in prison and deny them jobs and promotions, but in the long run, population decline will set in.

The men promoting these things do not know what it takes to be a woman. The guilt and trauma remain with any woman for life who sees her child flushed away in the toilet. Many people are mentally sick today and on drugs because of it. Some have committed suicide. The things on offer to help these women are some counselling placebo and yoga to gazing in the sky and letting your misery drench you as one in the rain. They convince people that only one tablet will do it, and sure, it does, but that one tablet snaps out life from you forever. The people offering the tablet are the same people who will section you in a Mental Health Home.

Those whose hearts are at their back see everyone at their disposal as candidates for research. They would not use themselves and family but ignorant and vulnerable people. Some faculties are

to re-engineer how we think and redirect our life course to another thing. Philosophy throws us into the worst confusion we can ever imagine. The more you look, the less you see, but when your eyes are opened, you will weep for mankind.

Jesus came that we might be set free from the web we are entangled with. We pray God will give us wisdom. We can't be walking blindly on the street, seeing men as trees. We need to understand where we are and why Jesus came. If we don't appreciate it, we will be taking our Christianity for a thing of light and joke. We will go to church just to do some dramatic things, come back and get a little fix. Satan is fighting even our young ones as early as three years old through systematic teaching of wrong things; by the time they are eleven, their minds have been taken over. Stand firm for your children; do not allow society to steal them away. Most things presented are rosy, and you may fall for them. They are filled with adder and scorpions that eat up the young child's life. Our children must be supported and helped because they are still young. Don't champion the devices of Satan in the name of modernism. Be wise. Spitting on one's face is humiliating, but Christ took it that we may live.

Why, what evil had he done? But they cried out the more, saying, Let him be crucified. Matthew 27:23-25

Christ came to redeem man, but man asked to crucify Him. Men prefer the chains and imprisonment of Satan. Some people are bold enough to tell you not to talk to them about Jesus. Men prefer to continue killing, murder, adultery, fornication and pornography. Men chose to take weeds and go mental, eat grass, go naked, and worship Satan.

From age sixty, everybody on earth should have known that it is all vanity. By age Seventy, the brain is going down, Dementia kicks in, and very few go without it. You would not normally expect

people's hearts to be hardened at such ages, but unfortunately, it is not so.

This is why we pray for God to have mercy on us and our reason for going out to preach the Gospel as Christ commanded us to: *"Go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believes and is baptised shall be saved". Mark 16:15-16.*

Shame

To strip a person is a shameful act. It reveals what should not be seen. In cultures where it is practised, it is done to humiliate offenders, and in the perverse world, it is a dirty act. Either way, it is shameful. Those who engage in secret worship of Satan, kill others, cast spells on their fellows and do wizardry are the ones to be stripped, but Jesus took the shame in their stead.

And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. Matthew 27:28

A crown of thorns is not meant for an innocent King but for those who force or trick their way to the top. They climb on others to rise, tell lies, and defame their opponents to remain in power. They pay stipends as wages and sack staff before time for their remunerations. The crown of thorns should be for the heads that lie down to devise evil things instead of a night of peaceful sleep. Those who lobby through various institutions at every level, international, local, and national, to monopolise trade are the ones for the crown of thorns, but Jesus took it all for our sake.

And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews. Matthew 27:29

They handed Him a reed in His right hand instead of a staff of

office. A reed is not strong enough to give support to anyone. It was sheer mockery to have given Jesus that. Those whose hearts are hardened in blasphemy deserve reeds for support. The ladies in *2 Kings 6:26-29* had the heart to eat one of their sons because of hunger. They ate one and had a row over the second; that was how they were caught. The best-selling books are horror or thrillers, and people enjoy them, showing the depravity in our hearts. There is no peace, joy, calmness and goodness. Christ took all the ridicule so that we will not be ridiculed again. He is not our support. Our Rock of Ages.

And parted his garments, casting lots. We will not lose anything of ours to the greedy anymore. Jesus paid the price. It is obvious that Christ will return to judge the quick and the dead. It is a lesson for those who doubt and plan for the future as if we will remain on earth forever. We have to keep watch, for we do not know when He will return.

The mockery Satan reserved for us in hell was taken away by Jesus. Those who fell for the deceptiveness of riches will be mocked by him. The cheating which he had allowed man to continue in his selfish ways will land people in mockery. In hell, Satan will mock those who took God's glory as earthly kings and leaders. They rejected God because of their earthly throne. Satan will mock them by bowing and saying, "Oh king, live forever." You did not listen to your Messiah; now have the red-hot crown and robe to enjoy in hell. Whatever title one had will echo in hell, and then the realisation that all is vanity.

And they bowed in mockery saying, *"Hail, King of the Jews"* This is typical of Satan. Christ is the King of Kings and not just for the Jews, and Satan is aware of that. I wonder all the titles he will give to the pomp and pageantries of this world that will miss heaven. It's going to be the worst of mockery. Whatever sin you died of might be what Satan will use to torment you. For those

who pursued money at all costs, he will give them hot money. Those who died in adultery will be yanked apart. Those who killed people will go through untold suffering.

And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. Satan is good at humiliating people and will do so to anyone who rejects Christ. Jesus Jesus knew there was a judgement that could not be averted, waiting for those who took sin as enjoyment. The worship of Satan through drugs and alcohol and being naked on the beaches can never be enjoyable. How can we go back to the days of Adam? Jesus took spits to stop Satan from spitting at us and gave his back to take the stripes on our behalf. Jesus went through death so that we may live.

And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him.

And they gave him vinegar mingled with bitter gall to drink. Jesus was given the equivalent of the bitterness of our sins to drink. We all know how bitter sorrow, anger, jealousy, depravity and murder are. They churn the stomach and are only good to be vomited out. Some people get bitter because of the way others look, and that is the crime they committed to deserve to be treated like animals. Bitter drinks should be for those who speak evil, foul words to get others down just to humiliate them. Jesus took them for our sake.

The sighing and wagging of the heads should be down to us for the dirty jobs we do as businesses and in the offices. The politics of pulling others down and destroying our colleagues. Some are deliberately hired in the workforce to perpetrate wickedness on others.

Some people's hearts go off as they go to work, wishing they don't have to go because of the terror in the office, the bootlicking, telling tales, and all the cold wars. People do anything to get

promoted. Consultations are concluded before they are taken out to people. Tyranny and nepotism are the order of the day, and some wages cannot sustain life.

In the past, people could get their rafts, thatches, and mud and make houses for themselves at no cost. Today, we have bricks, cement and roofing sheets you must buy, and you will go homeless if you don't have them. You cannot get a mortgage if you don't earn a certain amount of money. House prices are intentionally put up by the greed of men who want the best of both. It is all about the survival of the fittest. To be a manager, you must show a strong aptitude to discipline people and harshness if needed. You will fail the interview if you are soft-spoken and kind. Jesus took the pain of the cross to model how to manage people in meekness. Moses and David also managed people in humility and sobriety.

Jesus died on the Cross and rose again to redeem us from sin and trespasses and give us eternal life. We should accept his love. We are beautifully and wonderfully made by Him. You look at yourself in the mirror, and all you see are your eyes, lovely nose, and good hair; some are straight, some are curly, and some come in waves. We have different colours, black, brown, white, mixed and then our beautiful earth to enjoy. We polluted our air, and hopefully, we won't have to carry oxygen bottles on our backs one day.

Remember, if anyone rejects the love of Christ, there is hell to go. There is no car, house, job, fashion, or estate in hell, and neither are we going there with any certificate. Once dead, the body rots in the grave, and we are forgotten. It will not profit us to gain this world and lose our souls.

Mockery

Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. Matthew 27:40

These are the exact words Satan will repeat to those who didn't make it to Heaven when they die. Those who pursued wealth and lost the Kingdom will be taunted by wealth in hell. Whatever pursuit in this life of vanity will be used by Satan to mock people in misery, whether fame or pleasure. Then there would be no desire for them, but it would be too late. Jesus took this taunting on our behalf.

He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God. Matthew 27:42-43

Jesus has taken our agony and tears away. We will not be forsaken. The Heavens were shut on Jesus so that we may have open access. He cried and shed tears on our behalf and was rejected so we may be accepted.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Matthew 27:45-46

This scripture is being repeated because the four Gospels have the account, and it is to drive the context home. We should not be tired of saying it repeatedly.

Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, This man calleth for Elias. And straightway one of them ran, and took a spunge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. The rest said, Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him. Matthew 27:47-49

Jesus was railed at and mocked that we should not suffer the same shame. Many could not understand the sacrifice Jesus paid on our behalf because it would be hard for humans to make. Nobody takes the place of anyone at death. People can't wait to settle for the planned meals and drinks at burial ceremonies. In some cultures, it will be dancing and merriment for days as if people should keep dying daily. The highest thing people, friends and families can do is get the best flowers, reeds, and well-written eulogies, and that will be it. If they ever see the person's image in the dream, they will cast it back into the Atlantic. The friendship is finished, and you are now a monster. Meanwhile, the dead person has gone to hell because he tried to please and be like friends.

And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take. And it was the third hour, and they crucified him. And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS. And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left. And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors. And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself, and come down from the cross. Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, He saved others; himself he cannot save. Mark 15:24-31

Blindfolding an adult and mocking them is not seen as a joke but as humiliation. Blasphemous things were said to Him. Jesus went through it.

And the men that held Jesus mocked him, and smote him. And when they had blindfolded him They struck him on the face, and asked him, saying, Prophesy, who is it that smote thee? Luke 22:63-66

And many other things blasphemously spake they against him. And as soon as it was day, the elders of the people and the chief priests and the scribes came together, and led him into their council. Luke 22:65-66

False accusations

The accusation was to find a reason to kill Him. It is the price paid on behalf of all that are wrongly accused. You might have spent years in prison, lost friends and family, jobs or been deprived of some privileges because of false accusations. Rejoice for Jesus Christ has taken all the heartbreak, so we do not give up in life.
And the whole multitude of them arose, and led him unto Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King. Luke 23:1-2

Herod was desirous to see Jesus. He had heard stories of Jesus, but what did he do with such an opportunity? Salvation came to his door, and he missed it. His position of prominence did not allow him to seize the opportunity. Many today desire to be saved, but places of authority, affluence or pride have hindered them from being freed from sin and Satan. He came to Herod and Pilate, but they missed Him. They ordered Christ to be beaten instead. I hope someone will not miss Jesus today. I am sure they are in hell, regretting how they missed the Messiah in close proximity. Herod is gone; his position is no more, but Christ lives forever.

And they were the more fierce, saying, He stirreth up the people, teaching throughout all Jewry, beginning from Galilee to this place. When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man were a Galilaean. And as soon as he knew that he belonged unto Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who himself also was at Jerusalem at that time. And when Herod saw Jesus, he was

exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long season, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him. Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing. And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused him. And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked him, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate. And the same day Pilate and Herod were made friends together: for before they were at enmity between themselves. And Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, said unto them, Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and, behold, I, having examined him before you, have found no fault in this man touching those things whereof ye accuse him: No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to him; and, lo, nothing worthy of death is done unto him. I will therefore chastise him, and release him. Luke 23:5-16.

Those who reject the Gospel, ridicule or persecute Christians because of their faith in the offices or at home are missing out on salvation that has come to them.

Herod and Pilate were in enmity but went into an unholy alliance because of Jesus. They sent Jesus back and forth between themselves. Do not worry when you are cajoled by anyone. Jesus also suffered such shame. A thief was released instead.

And they cried out all at once, saying, Away with this man, and release unto us Barabbas. Luke 23:18

The crowd preferred the thief to Jesus. They preferred sickness, bondage, pain, blindness and sin to liberty. Why would we perish for the temporal things of this life?

Pilate therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again to them. But they cried, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. Luke 23:20.

The rejection of the Gospel can be seen when there is a preference for:

- The football pitch on a Sunday rather than a church
- Watching piles of horror films for a whole day on Sundays
- Spending the entire week in the pub and converting Sunday into a binge-drinking day
- Wearing labels of celebrities and popular brands but ashamed to be associated with Jesus
- Dressing and looking like someone who overdosed on drugs, singing their songs but unable to sing one hymn
- Staying up in front of the TV for hours, but they cannot pray
- Spending a whole day or months on the internet but not reading the Bible
- Reading thrillers, horrors and everything but the Bible.

The multitude he healed and fed asked to crucify Him. "Away with Him, we don't want Him" was their response to the question of releasing the King of Life. May the Lord deliver anyone who is still looking back to the world. Nothing is in the world.

Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots. Luke 23:34

This is the highest point of love. Jesus did not count our iniquity against us. He asked for us to be forgiven because we do not know what we do. Indeed, we do not! How can anyone accuse, mock, ill-treat and kill the person who came to save him from eternal damnation? If only we knew what hell is all about. The agony in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone and where worms do not die. *Mark 9:48.* If only we knew that Satan is wicked and has come to steal, kill and destroy us. If only we knew he came to take away our inheritance in Christ. Satan's deception is to feed humanity with the foolishness of worshipping things we moulded, animals that are of lower cadre and misusing ourselves. If only we

know that we are here for a while and we will give accounts of our deeds to God. If only one knew that they rejected the Way, the Truth and Life. They rejected the True Door, the Good Shepherd, the Messiah, the Bread of Life, the creator of heaven and earth. If only we knew that there is regret for those who reject Him and that we should not allow repentance too late.

We shunned love, mercy, goodness, eternal life, protection, provision, guidance and grace. We are like children who prefer toys to food, blindly walking into the ditch. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

May the Lord open our eyes to these scriptures to see why Jesus came and what He suffered so that we can stand on His behalf and reach out. If you're in church doing other things, other than preaching the Gospel, retrieve your steps. For we have no other business, but to preach the Word of God. We should stop all multiplied activities, that keep the church rolling without gathering any moss. We are saved to help others. May the Lord give us the Grace to go for the heartbeat of the Almighty Father. Amen.

10

It is finished: Done deal

It is finished the final straw that broke the camel's back.The veil of the temple was split into two. No more approaching God through a middleman. There is now free access to the Holy of Holies. We can approach God without fear and talk to Him ourselves.

After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst. Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a spunge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth. When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. John 19:28-30

It is finished

- My sins are forgiven.
- Satan is defeated.
- My sickness was taken care of.
- My wounds healed.
- My strength was restored.
- My debt was wiped off.
- My failure was sorted.
- My lack provided for.
- My fear was vanquished.

Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, and came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many. Matthew 27:50-53

The old ritual of sinful priests atoning for themselves before others ceased to exist. The divide between the Gentiles and the Jews was taken away. The barriers of the division between the courts of men and women and strangers were removed. We are all sons of God. The hand of Grace has extended to all. The sacrifices of rams, bulls and turtle doves were scrapped forever. The old is done away with, and the new has replaced it. Freedom and forgiveness are for all. Amazing. The earth quaked. God showed us love through His son, Jesus Christ when we did not merit it.

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13.

For God so loved the world. that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16.

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh. hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses. Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us. Which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross. Colossians 2:13-14

We were dead in our sins, speeches, looks, perceptions, minds, imaginations and the uncircumcision of our hearts and flesh.

The lies of man are outrageous. Some adverts say “As seen on TV, “ meaning some things may not be as advertised. Deception

is on all fronts: legislation and bills, the radio, TV, newspapers, and social media are deceptive. Some people are angry without a cause, are avaricious, bitter and envious of the achievements of others. If they don't get what they want, they destroy the person who has it and take it.

Christ died on the cross so that we may be free. The cleansing power of the Blood is still blotting out sin. These ordinances are heavy. Who can bear them? Jesus took all of them to the cross and nailed them.

But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments. Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field. Cursed shall be thy basket and thy store. Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy land, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. Cursed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and cursed shalt thou be when thou goest out. The LORD shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me. The LORD shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land, whither thou goest to possess it. The LORD shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation. And with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish. And thy Heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron. The Lord shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust. : From Heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed. The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into

all the kingdoms of the earth. And thy carcase shall be meat unto all fowls of the air, and unto the beasts of the earth, and no man shall fray them away. The Lord will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed. The Lord shall smite thee with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart. And thou shalt grope at noonday, as the blind gropeth in darkness, and thou shalt not prosper in thy ways. Deuteronomy 28:15- 29

These are the handwritings of ordinances that were taken away from us and nailed to the cross. We have experienced great fevers that had people perish in hundreds of thousands. The earth beneath us has turned brass, drought is ravaging some parts of the world, and children are becoming weak from malnutrition because there's nothing to eat. Vultures are waiting for them to close their eyes to take the remaining flesh.

He has spoiled the principalities and powers, taking away that scourge, pain, and power of Satan over our lives. The Lord made a show of them openly through the disgrace and the mocking that was given to Him. He took it all for us, openly triumphing over them in it. Amen.

And having spoiled principalities and powers. Colossians 2:15

He nailed:

- The shame to the cross that we may have no shame in Him any more
- The pain to the cross that we may feel no pain any more
- The mockery to the cross that we are not mocked any more
- The curses that should have been on us that we receive them no more
- The blindness that we may see

Satan cannot deceive us any more. We are returning to our Saviour. He went all the way to calvary to set us free.

On the flip side, the mocking given to our Lord Jesus was not ordinary. He was taunted with the good He did and the words He said. If Satan could repeat those to get at Jesus, it means it is in his nature to mock and taunt. Christians who fall into the hands of Satan in hell will be mocked for the Christian actions they did but were not righteous enough to make it to Heaven. Please be aware of that and avoid hypocrisy.

Losing or making the most of the last chances

"Today, you will be with me in paradise". The two thieves on the cross had one last choice to make. One made the most of it, and the other lost it. This situation is an everyday occurrence. One swallowed his pride and was penitent and remorseful of his lifestyle. He knew he deserved death, but there was a lifeline being thrown at him. He grabbed it and cried out. The softness and genuity of our hearts go a long way in delivering us. He had nothing to lose in crying out to Jesus. He was condemned already. It was his last chance. He made it. What a glorious person he was! I pray we will all be like this man in all we do. The other thief on the left chose to remain on the left. He hardened his heart, refused to repent and clung to his ways. He is the type of person that prides themselves in vices. They are so entrenched in it that deliverance is their last option. He mocked Jesus even while seeing his death. He refused the goodness that came to him at the last minute. Please do not hide in your heart. He deserved to die, but Grace came to his door, and he rejected it. When one continues in their ways, despite being warned, they are simply walking in the direction of this thief. He died and went to hell. He wanted hell and got it. What an everlasting shame!

And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise. Luke 23:39-43

The reward of steadfastness

Jesus committed John to his mother because John was the only disciple He could see when He turned. The others ran away. John got the privilege because he was the last man standing. Jesus loved him, and we can see why. John loved Jesus so much to stand with Him at a difficult time. Love is practical and real. Can we still stand in difficult times? Some children are ashamed of their parents because of their looks and poverty. Some Christians are ashamed of their faith in front of the crowd and their friends. They deny Jesus. Some run away because of money and pleasure, taking the easy side of life. May we be relied on, as John was, to commit eternal things to us.

When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home. John 19:26-27

Committing ourselves to God

Jesus committed His spirit to God in His dying moment. What a peaceful place to rest. In all situations, commit yourself to God. There will be safety, keeping, reassurance, and confidence when

we do so. He will not suffer your foot to be moved, devils will not torment you, and you will be crowned in God's glory. Do you commit your journeys, businesses, exams, schools, children, ventures, food, water, thoughts, and decisions to God? Jesus rose on the third day. The grave could not keep Him, so will nothing keep in captivity what is committed to God.

And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost. Luke 23:46

11

The Victory

The resurrection of our Lord Jesus from the dead is the climax of our victory. Death lost its power, and the siege was over. Power, dominion, and authority are in his hands. He took the keys of hell with him and can set free anyone willing to be freed. The ultimate dominion and power are in His hands. He conquered the grave and gave us the power to become His sons. Sin has lost its power and cannot rule over us anymore. As He is alive, so shall we live forever with Him. HalleluYah! Victory! Victory! Glory be to God!

And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: and as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. Luke 24:2-7

The joy of salvation is overwhelming. You cannot help shouting out to the roof top. Yes! Jesus conquered. We are set free from the shackles and laden of Satan. The oppression of demons has ceased, and we are now a new creation. Old things have passed

away, and all has become new. Satan thought he stole our liberty for live, but Jesus has restored it all back to us free of charge. Now, if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us from all unrighteousness. HalleluYah.

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death. Revelation 1:18

He's alive amen
He's alive
Jesus is alive forever
He's alive Amen

He's alive amen
He's alive
King Jesus is alive forever
He's alive Amen

He's alive amen
He's alive
Messiah is alive forever
He's alive Amen

He's alive amen
He's alive
Yeshua is alive forever
He's alive Amen

A High Priest and a Minister of the sanctuary, which the Lord pitched and not man. He is the fulfilment of everything written from *Genesis Chapter 1 to Revelation Chapter 22.* God raised Him for us. He is not the High Priest who will purge himself before others lest he be stricken. Things have been made easy for us. We

don't have to go through the rigours of various sacrifices that last for a while and cannot cleanse us from sin. A simple prayer does the job for us. We press the button and get the answer.

Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. Hebrews 8:1-2

The death on the cross brought justification to us. Christ offered Himself once and for all, no more repetition of rituals. The blood of Jesus wipes off any remains of sin, and we emerge as brand-new men. Our countless sins without length and breadth are forgiven and remembered no more. We stand justified in God's presence.

Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself. Hebrews 7:27

The price paid on our behalf meant we should go and sin no more. The scribes in *Matthew 9:2-4* could not understand it. It is too easy to be so. Who can forgive sin? The Pharisees who brought Mary to be stoned because of adultery could not comprehend how she should be let go without being punished. *John 8:11*

He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Isaiah 53:11

It was a hard tablet made into a soft jelly. Salvation is easy, only believe, and you shall be saved.

The joy of salvation is overwhelming, which explains the peace and announces to all that we are saved. We are not ashamed to declare it. The excitement is extraordinary. The burden of guilt wiped away in a split second is unexplainable. The running off

to tell with the jubilation of our newfound faith follows this experience of having our sins forgiven.

Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. Isaiah 53:12

Christ is now making intercession for us. Pleading to God on our behalf for we cannot do it on our own.

Who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us, Romans 8:34:

A better covenant and promises are set out before us.

But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. Hebrews 8:6-7

The first covenant was incomplete and could not do much for us. The curses in it were looming over as a club ready to strike us. The old covenant was a shadow, and the new covenant is the real.

For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God. Hebrews 7:19

For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: Hebrews 9:24

The old tabernacle was made with hands and was a figure of things to come. Bezaleel measured everything as God instructed Moses to build it. We are now God's temple, and He lives in us.

We look forward to the New City, whose builder and maker is God.

For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Hebrews 11:10

But now they desire a better country. That is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city. Hebrews 11:16

The saints will not accept deliverance because they know how beautiful their destination is. Death will not frighten them. There is a better resurrection and substance to enjoy forever. A kingdom that will not fizzle like our historic kingdoms that are sand dunes today. Having this knowledge brings comfort and rejoicing.

Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection. Hebrews 11:35.

Salvation gave us the privilege to be sons of God, having the Holy Spirit live in us to guide us in all truth. God's law is written in the tables of our hearts and no more on stones; this means that:

- We can call on God, and He will answer us.
- He will not suffer our foot to be moved, watching our going out and coming in as a good Shepherd.
- He is our God who answers in power and in might, as in the days of Elijah.
- He is our fortress, buckler, shield, provider, deliverer, defender, present help in time of need, healer, wisdom and strength.
- He is our comforter, friend, companion, the Author and Finisher of our faith, protector, righteousness and burden bearer.
- He is our battle axe, peace, crown, confidant, mediator and redeemer. He is coming back again. Hallelujah!

- He is merciful to our unrighteousness, sins and iniquity.
- He will not count our sins again.
- He is our YAWEH. Everything fits into it.

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Hebrews 9:11-14

Satan cannot hold us back. We must break loose of his grip. All his deception, depravity and depression will be taken away today. Jesus is still purging from dead works and depravity. We can proclaim our liberty. Christ has done it all for us forever.

In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away. Hebrews 8:13

The old was taken away because:

- They were ordinances of worldly sanctuary, made with hands *Hebrews 9:1*
- It was a figure for the time. *Hebrew 9:9*
- It was ordinances of meat and drinks *Hebrews 9:10*
- It was a shadow of things to come and not the very image. *Hebrew10:1*
- It cannot make us perfect
- There was a remembrance of sin every year. *Hebrew 10:3*

- The blood of goats and bulls couldn't take away sin. *Hebrews 10:4*
- The offering is now once and for all. *Hebrew 10:1*
- The one offering has perfected those that are sanctified. *Hebrew10:14*

Jesus brought a better covenant and a new deal, and whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life. God loves us so much and gave us His son, and as many as will receive Him, to them He will give the power over sin, the flesh, and Satan to become the sons of Elohim. Those that will receive Him will be with Him in paradise, to eat at that table of the marriage supper. Wow! I am sure this supper will not be like fish and chips. I wonder what that food would be like: the table, cutlery, and plates of gold.

I don't know what dress you will wear to the supper, but no worries, the Bible says we shall be changed. For we shall shed off this earthly tabernacle that is diseased, full of pain and sorrow, complaining and marked by death. Today it is aching here, and the other day, it was hurting there. All will be taken away, and we shall be renewed, and we shall be robed in a new apparel. Hallelujah. And we shall dwell in houses, not made with hands anymore, but whose Maker and Builder is Elohim.

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) Hebrews 10:19-23

No more wavering. Just keep remembering in your mind:

What the Lord has done for me, I cannot tell it all;
What the Lord has done for me, I cannot tell it all;
What the Lord has done for me, I cannot tell it all;
He washed me and saved me from sin.
So I can shout hallelujah,
I can shout hallelujah,
I can shout praise the Lord,
So I can shout hallelujah,
I can shout hallelujah,
I can shout! shout! Shout! praise the Lord,
What the Lord has done for me, oh I cannot tell it all;
What the Lord has done for me, I cannot tell it all;
What the Lord has done for me, I cannot tell it all;
He saved me and washed me in his blood.

The response to the sobering message of the Cross is mixed. It brings tears of joy, knowing that we are set free and sorrow for ever allowing ourselves to have been deceived by Satan. We thank the Lord for the gift of salvation and victory over Satan. Glory be to Elohim.

12

Celebration

Every victory is followed by celebration. Food and drinks are always in the surplus. The celebration meal for our victory in Yeshua Hamashiach is the Bread of Life. Jesus is the Bread of life, which is the word of God. Anyone who eats of Him will have everlasting life and not die the second death.

And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not. All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. John 6:35-40

The crowd came seeking Jesus. He knew they came for more food, having been fed previously with excess leftovers. The bread they were looking for does not last; it goes after a few hours, and the want for more will ensue. The quality and quantity of physical food matter a lot. Poor quality leads to malnutrition, disease and

death. Poisonous food could also kill or may cause allergies. Only one food meets every need: The Bread of life is:

Meat that does not perish

When Jesus talked about His flesh being the meat and the bread of life, they did not understand. Jesus had been from the beginning and is the Word made flesh. The Word is now real to us. We can see, feel, talk, eat of Him and live.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1

Full of grace and Truth

He is full of grace, strength, knowledge and wisdom in all balanced forms. The Word is full of truth that sets free. The law cannot set us free, but grace brings liberty. The law was tit for tat, but grace is 'Go and sin no more; you are forgiven.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John 1:14

As food is to the body, giving life to all the organs of the body, so is the spiritual nourishment to our spirit man. It starts from the head to the toe, missing nothing. When eaten, The Bread of Life gives every organ and cell health to function in various capacities. The Blood carries these nutrients and supply to all cells, as does the Word supply grace to all our spiritual systems. Every organ in our body responds to the Word. We look at how the word affects and transforms our being, starting with:

Our brain can be seen as our minds, thoughts, reactions and intelligence. The Word makes us remember what Jesus did for us on the cross of Calvary.

And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Luke 22:19-20

As we read the promises, instructions, prophecies, mercies, correction, reproof and life, remember the death on the Cross, which brought us hope. Once, I was blind, but now, I can see. "Once, I was lost, but now, I am found. I was meant for destruction, but now I have life. I was meant to be killed, but life has come unto me. What did I do to deserve these? Mercy and love found me and placed my feet on a solid rock, Yeshua Hamashiach."

We should dwell and teach the Word at any opportunity. Some preachers tell stories during sermons. Please teach the Word. We need to get rooted and grounded. There are nutrients in the Word. What you take in will definitely show on the outside. Children who are adequately fed look chubby and healthy. Malnourished children look worn and sickly. So is anyone who is not full of the Word. You will be ignorant of many things, and you will not serve God in his fullness. Picking some scriptures and leaving out some is like scavenging. One will never get the best. The Word enables us to keep our bodies under subjection.

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. 1Corinthians 9:27

The Word keeps us in check, and we can pick up spiritual signals faster than any bandwidth.

And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? Luke 24:30-32

Through the Word, we can discern what is happening, seeing that the coming of our Lord Jesus is at hand. If we don't know the Word, we will be dull at receptivity. This is not the time to flip through the Bible or television channels to look for short messages. Some people do not have the patience for messages exceeding 30 minutes. They will log off or breeze through it. We know the dangers of fast foods, high cholesterol, cardiac disease, and Diabetes, so also are fast messages. They don't go into detail, lack the essence and are skimpy on truth. Junk meals are not well cooked. Spend time on the word of God. It is delicious when we spend time reading and getting the depth of it.

Keeps us under control

And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. 1 Corinthians 9:25

In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you. Titus 2:7-8

The word transforms us to show uncorruptness and a pattern of good works. It refines us as gold in gravity, sincerity, and sound speech that cannot be condemned. Our gentility, sincerity and speeches should indite those who have not given their lives to Christ. We should be watchful when our music in church gets so overheated that people sleep after worship because they are too tired from the jamboree. Feasting on the Word should be foremost.

Help us with spiritual intelligence

Ignorance can keep one blind, and Satan can exploit that. We make mistakes for lack of knowledge. Spiritual intelligence will

help us pick the wiles of Satan from afar and stand our ground. Satan will try, but we will know before he gets at us.

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices. 2 Corinthians 2:11

But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth. 1Timothy 5:6

If the brain is tampered with, it might lead to stroke, and we do not want our spiritual brain to have any dysfunction. Spiritual instability will make us inconsistent and vulnerable. The word of God protects our heads from the mess of Satan and stress.

Getting the word of God is important. We encourage everyone to go to a Bible teaching assembly and not where cock and bull stories are told. The truth should not be taken from our pulpits. There is a place for motivational messages, but it is only a part of the scripture, so let's go for the whole.

Our attitude to dividing the Bread of life is to pray to be filled. We do not want to leave the banquet hungry. In thirst and quest to know more, we present our empty cups for The Lord to fill us until we want no more. We want to live, eat and hunger no more. We can sing along to the song of Richard Blanchard:

Like the woman at the well
I was seeking
For things that could not satisfy
And then I heard my Savior speaking
"Draw from My well that never shall run dry"

Fill my cup, Lord
I lift it up, Lord
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul
Bread of Heaven, feed me 'til I want no more

Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole

There are millions in this world
Who are craving
The pleasures, earthly things of gold
But none can match the wondrous treasure
That I find in Jesus Christ my Lord

Refrain:
Fill my cup, Lord
I lift it up, Lord
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul
Bread of Heaven, feed me 'til I want no more
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole
Here's my cup, fill it up and make me whole

So my brother if the things that this world gives you
Leave hungers that won't pass away,
My blessed Lord will come and save you
If you kneel to Him and humbly pray

Brings comfort in distress

We do have counsellors and psychotherapists, but their services are limited. They don't get to the root of the matter, but the Bread of Heaven brings reassurance and hope and takes away the burden. The Scriptures come in: "*Do not Fear, I am with you, I am The God that heals you, I am your Good Shepherd, I will watch over you, I will guide you, I Am your God".* When frustration kicks in from every angle, the Word of God dispels every doubt. Jesus will command the winds and waves to be still. The song of Mary Ann Baker comes in handy:

Master, the tempest is raging!
The billows are tossing high!
The sky is o'ershadowed with blackness,
No shelter or help is nigh;
Carest thou not that we perish?"
How canst thou lie asleep,
When each moment so madly is threat'ning
A grave in the angry deep?

Refrain:
The winds and the waves shall obey thy will.
"Peace, be still!"
Whether the wrath of the storm-tossed sea,
Or struggles or evil, whatever it be,
No water can swallow the ship where lies
the Master of ocean and earth and skies:
They all shall sweetly obey thy will.
"Peace, be still! Peace, be still!"
They all shall sweetly obey thy will.
"Peace, peace, be still!"

Master, with anguish of spirit
I bow in my grief today;
The depths of my sad heart are troubled,
Oh, waken and save, I pray;
Torrents of sin and of anguish
Sweep o'er my sinking soul!
And I perish! I perish, dear Master:
Oh, hasten and take control. [Refrain]

Master, the terror is over,
The elements sweetly rest;

Earth's sun in the calm lake is mirrored,
And heaven's within my breast.
Linger, O blessed Redeemer,
Leave me alone no more;
And with joy I shall make the blest harbor,
And rest on the blissful shore. [Refrain]

Jesus rebuked the tempest and commanded it to be still. If you do not go into the word to eat the bread of life, you will not get this comfort. The word of God brings calmness when things loom so large, with disappointments everywhere.

When things don't work as planned, remember we have been promised the comfort of the Holy Spirit. *John 14,15,16.* Help will come, but we need to know this by reading the Scriptures: The Bread of Life. Loneliness can set in because of the death of a loved one, family member, or singlehood. You may have travelled to a far country and are alone, with no one to talk to.

I will be with you always even unto the end of the world amen. Matthew 28:18-19.

Like the Shunamite woman whose child died but she believed he would live again, you can say to the ugly situation; It shall be well.

And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, It shall be well. 2 King 4:23

You do not need to fear the unforeseeable future and uncertainties. God knows what they will bring about and will take care of all. He is the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the High and Lifted one and has prevailed. There is a future. Eat the Bread of life to get strength. When you walk in the deep valleys of life, and there is no ladder to climb out with, Jesus will lift you up.

Light in our path

In the darkness of night, Jesus is the Light of the world. He will shed light on that dark path. When things have gone bizarre, the future looks bleak, business failing, and you feel lost, there is a path. David said:

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Psalm 119:105

The world may seem to collapse on you; hunger sets in, your fridge and storage are empty, your bank account is in red, your stomach is rumbling, and you are at a crossroads. Remember, Christ is the Bread of life and the good shepherd. He will lead you beside still waters and restore your soul. *Psalm 23*. Though you walk through the valley of the shadow of death, do not fear any evil, for He is with you. His rod and staff will comfort you. Satan will take advantage; demons will whisper discouragement and despondence. God will not forsake us. He is our Ebenezer.

All is not gone; God is watching us. There may be the temptation to self-help, but do not go there as an alternative. Allow God to work it out for you. Help and answer is in the Bread of life, the Word of God. Human ideologies and secular humanism will not solve any problem but rather take us farther away. Dwell on the word of God. Do not take Satan's shortcut. The best thing to happen to anyone is to have the Scriptures written on the tablets of our hearts.

The Lord requires us to drop our agenda and practice what we have learned from the scripture. We can ask the Lord to forgive us in any way we have not minded the word and return to the word of life.

It gives salve to our eyes

It will open the eyes of our hearts to see deep things of mystery and knowledge. There are no better opticians or optometrists, glasses, contact lenses or laser treatment than the Word of God. We behold the wonders in the truth of the scriptures. The Bible is so wonderful, beautiful and sweet. The wisdom in the Word is mind-blowing; the proverbs, prophecies, miracles and revelations are life.

Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law. Psalm 119:18

The Bible is enriching, but you have to mind the version you read. Some versions have removed some verses or given translations that have lost the cutting edge of the word and the essence that brings comfort and joy that wells up in one's bosom. Sometimes, one may exclaim while reading the Bible; sometimes, it is laughter that someone may think you are conversing with another person. Some Scriptures are hilarious, and some will knock you off balance. What an incredible Book. Indeed, it is the Bread of Life.

I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. Revelation 3:18

We can see why God told Joshua to meditate on it day and night. There is success and goodness.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Joshua 1:8

We get enlightened to behold God's glory and know that all things are possible with Him. Nothing is a surprise to him. He created us and everything before they happened. Our part is to ask that our eyes be opened. We do not want to be like those in *Matthew 13* who look but do not see, hear, or understand. That is a miserable state and should not be our portion. So, let us eat the Bread of Life to sharpen our eyes to watchfulness. We must recognise Satan and his wiles from a distance and avoid his tracks.

Seasons our speeches

The word of God also transforms our mouths and what they say.

Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man. Colossians 4:6

Our speeches are transformed to edify the hearers. They are seasoned with grace and are not hurtful. The word of God sets standards for our speeches; any time we deviate, we will get a signal to repent.

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. Ephesians 4:29

No evil or abusive words should come out of our mouths. Be it slang, popular sayings, swearings, indecent, or foul words. We should stay away from them. Watch out what comes out of your mouth. If you are used to saying the wrong things, jestings, or lewd language, go to the Lord in prayers and let the word of God purify you.

Make up your mind to bless the Lord instead at all times. When you leave the house in the morning, on your way to school or work, or at home dealing with children, your spouse, colleagues, friends, or neighbours, pray for a healthy conversation. As a young person,

please do not be carried away with the cackling and rattling of all kinds of things. Ask The Lord for grace to say the right things by following the truth in the Scriptures.

I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Our mouths are to bless God to give Him praise. If Satan tries to bring ugly things your way, like complaining and murmuring, keep in remembrance what the word said about our speeches.

My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. Psalm 49:3

May our mouths speak wisdom, though sometimes, they say some rubbish which should not be. Some people say things without giving them a thought and pride themselves on the fact that they talk without thinking. The mouth will get such people in trouble. May whatever comes out of our mouths, at work to colleagues and bosses at meetings, suggestions, making decisions, talking in the playground or anywhere, Lord, let it be with wisdom. This is a prayer we cannot pray enough for the rest of our lives. We pray the Lord will teach our mouth to say the right things and words with seasoning to edify the hearers.

Each morning, we should ask the Lord to fill our mouths with wisdom, not curses, foul words, dirty words, and swearing.

Holds our neck in place

The nutrient in the Bread of Life supplies strength to the neck. The neck has both negative and positive connotations in everyday use. On the negative side, it represents:

- Stiffed neck when one is deviant and stubborn. We do things our way without giving heed to the righteousness of God.

He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy. Proverbs 29:1.

Lift not up your horn on high: speak not with a stiff neck. Psalm 75:5

- Yoke of burden, sin, suffering, and all sorts. One labour, and nothing comes out. The yoke of Demons and Satan disturbing and tormenting people.

Thus saith the Lord to me; Make thee bonds and yokes, and put them upon thy neck. Jeremiah 27:2.

Our necks are under persecution: we labour, and have no rest. Lamentations 5:5

- Pride of life. *Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: Isaiah 3:16*

The word opens our eyes to these negatives. We pray and take heed to be found as faithful. We want to take responsibility and be committed with humility.

On the positive side:

Brevity and risk-taking when you stick out your neck for somebody or what we believe in.

Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. Romans 16:4

Responsibility *And next unto them the Tekoites repaired; but their nobles put not their necks to the work of their Lord. Nehemiah 3:5*

Submission and commitment in service and obedience to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from off the prophet Jeremiah's neck, and brake it. Jeremiah 28:10

Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart. Proverbs: 3:3

We bind mercy and truth around our necks. As men dress smartly with good ties, the air hostesses look smart on their neck scarves; we should look smart with mercy and truth on our necks. We make sure they are properly fitted and match our outfits.

My son, let not them depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion: So shall they be life unto thy soul, and grace to thy neck. Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble. Proverbs 3:21-23

Each morning before going to school, work or our daily businesses, please look at the mirror to ensure grace and wisdom are correctly adjusted on your neck.

The only way to leave the house and walk back safely, rejoicing that you did not stumble, is to go in wisdom. Wisdom to carry yourself about, what to say and what not to say, behave and how not to behave.

See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise. Ephesians 5:15

My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee. Proverbs 6:20-22

These instructions from the scriptures should be read at all times. They are food to our marrows.

Food for the Heart

So many things are said of the heart in the scriptures, but we will pick a few. The heart is known for emotions, attitudes, thoughts and a bank of devices. The heart is the second largest storage box in the body besides our brains. It stores both the good and the bad. Whatever you put in it is safely stored away.

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? Jeremiah 17:9

There is no need to play ignorance when it comes to the state of the human heart. The heart is complex, and we must accept what the Scriptures say about it and be diligent. If not, our Christian lives will be a wild goose chase. The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. No wonder our Lord Jesus said:
For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. Matthew 15:19

Given this, David asked for help from God to search his heart and know his thoughts.
Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts. Psalms 139:23

Our motive is what counts and not what is seen on the outside. One may look good on the outside in a good dress, but the reason behind what they do is what counts. Like David, we can ask The Lord to search our hearts and correct every wrong imagination and thought.

The anger, bitterness, offence, evil, wicked thoughts, adultery, idolatry, and deceit going on inside the heart but covered by lovely-looking flesh. To make things worse, our fashionable face powder, masks of all colours, and expensive and trendy clothing make it harder to see the bin and dumping ground inside. The waste rots when a bin is left over time, producing heat and a bad

smell. When it is opened, it fouls the air and the environment. So is a heart dumped with wrong thoughts. It smells when the mouth is opened to speak; this is what we do not want to be. Our heart is the control system and motherboard and should be monitored carefully.

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Proverbs 4:23

We have to be careful to watch our hearts and be clean inside and outside, in Jesus' Name. Amen. Our behaviours are a function of what goes on in our hearts, in the day on the street or at night on the bed. The only way to keep it is to ask the Lord to create in us a new heart.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Psalm 51:10

Singing this verse daily will do us good so that the Lord will not cast us away from His presence but accept us as His children. Our heart engineers everything, and the state it is should matter to us. The principles of our lives hinge on the desires of our hearts. Your heart will be on fame, treasure, and wealth if you desire them above God.

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matthew 6:21

In our prayers, we should ask the Lord to help us channel our hearts towards godly ways each day. If we allow our hearts to have their ways, we will get into trouble. Naturally, the heart tends towards canal earthly things and how beautiful we are. Some people indulge in self-admiration. They spend time in the mirror looking at their lashes, mouths, and lovely selves. Please don't stop at the physical looks; take time to look after the inside, too. It would be nice to show off the heart and its beauty. The world

has seen enough of the outside, and we cannot beat the magazines, catwalks, adverts and billboards; they are now interested in the inside. We see so many pictures of the outside on social media, in magazines, and in fliers. We wish we could see just a snippet of the inside. Waiting to see a display of heart filled with joy, peace, gentleness, tolerance, longsuffering, patience, love, kindness and how they have reshaped our body, making us more desirable and fashionable. I need to see a promotion on how they trim off our excesses and energize us to do good work. I wonder if anyone will be happy to show off the inside filled with malice, deceit, envy, bitterness, treachery, murder, hatred and avarice. When people show off their body, they are simply displaying the inside filled with adultery and fornication.

When our hearts go about what we have and have not, our skyscrapers, jets, private islands, mansions or ambitions to own the world, we are trapped in the prison set on the high hills of this world. The dangers of falling off from there are apparent. Satan will offer a shortcut and self-help when those desires delay in coming. Because your heart is set on them, you will do bizarre things. A man was offering children to couples who wanted a child. People were taking on those children without asking where they were brought from. They got blinded by their needs and didn't care how their wants were met. The man was stealing children from a country and sending them over until he was caught by the police and imprisoned. This is the danger of setting our hearts on our treasures and wants. It makes one irrational and unreasoning.

Please do not allow what you treasure to take you away from God. Some have been so desperate for marriage and have gone for anyone in trousers or shorts to their pain. Some have gone to palm readers and witches and have their futures compromised. Please count the cost. Don't allow any push to override you. Don't get a

job serving alcohol for the money's sake when you should not be doing that. Don't be in a hurry, wait on the Lord.

Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD. Psalm 27:14

Waiting can be trying, especially if the delay drags. Please remain calm, take a deep breath, cool water and wait. God is ever faithful and will bring His peace.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7

In the face of uncertainty, mental illness, emotional upheavals and agitation, eat the word of God that calms and reassures the heart. The peace of God shall keep our hearts and minds.

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. 119:11

The word hidden in our hearts evades pressures from trials and temptation to commit sin.

Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness. Psalm 119:36

When the things of the world try to push you around, incline your heart unto righteousness, and The Lord will direct your path.

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love. Ephesians 3:17

The word in our hearts helps us be rooted and grounded in Christ, like Him. Nothing will move or shake us out of His goodness. We want to be like Jesus, and that is our deepest desire. If we allow Jesus to come into our hearts and dwell, His peace and joy will clean our hearts.

And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh. Ezekiel 11:19

The word of God in our hearts takes away the stony, uncircumcised foreskin of the heart. Every hardness that leads to murder, adultery, fornication, stealing, bitterness, and envy is cleansed by the word. The heart is quick to anger, killing and destruction. Those who speak evil and malicious words will be healed through the word.

Fear may want to grip you in certain situations, but remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. John 14:27

The pain of sickness, red letters of eviction, bad news and every road seems to close up; let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. Jesus will be with you, Amen. Do not worry, His peace will be with us. When you are going through disappointment, do not let your heart be agitated. Keep your peace and be subject to the authority of the word. Confess the promise of peace given to us and rest in Him.

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart. Romans 10:9

This promise is not just for the Christians but everyone who will confess Him and believe in their hearts that God has raised Him from the dead and shall be saved. Ask The Lord to forgive you; all the glorious transformations will be yours. You will have joy in eating the Bread of Life if you desire the right heart that will incline to righteousness, lay its treasures in heaven, and not allow evil to proceed from you.

If you are a believer but find your heart has been dwindling, rising and falling, not thinking the right thing. The Lord has the capacity and is able to amend us. He can keep our hearts fresh if we ask Him to create a clean heart and renew the right spirit within us.

We eat a balanced diet to keep well in life. The same goes for the Word of God. We take every aspect of it to stay alive spiritually, or we will not achieve great success in our Christian walk.

Directs our hands

We do so many things with our hands. They show authority, leadership, strength, hard work, achievments and even warn or threaten. They are also used to anoint Kings or people into ministry.

Or, Deliver me from the enemy's hand? or, Redeem me from the hand of the mighty? Job 6:23

Our prayer each day will be, Lord, deliver us from the hand of the enemy and prevent our hands from doing evil.

In whose hands is mischief, and their right hand is full of bribes. Psalms 26:10

As a new creation, we will do no mischief and our right hand will not give or take anything to do with corruption or bribes.

He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: But the hand of the diligent maketh rich. Proverbs 10:4

This Scripture is a warning not to engage in laziness. It leads to poverty. We should not be slack in doing well and doing good deeds. We will be rewarded if we are thorough and diligent, as the Bible encourages us.

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands. James 4:8

Coming closer to God requires clean hands with nothing to hide. Praying requires us to lift holy hands without corruption, guilt, or stealing.

Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left-hand riches and honour. Proverbs 3:16

The Scriptures detail how the hand should function; we do not need to be told what to do. In giving alms, the Scriptures encourage us to be discrete about it. *Matthew 6*
She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. Proverbs 31:19-20

We are encouraged to work hard and not allow slothfulness to creep in. We will remind ourselves to lay our hands on the spindle. Our hands should reach out to the poor and give no room to stinginess, keeping back or keeping it to yourself only. We are meant to comfort others and bring souls to the kingdom. There are needy people around us who are crying in poverty. Our bowels of mercies should not be shut at them.

For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done. Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands. Nehemiah 6:9

Things happen to dampen and reduce us. As Nehemiah prayed and got strength, we should do the same. We pray, Lord, strengthen my hands, make them stronger, at work, in my profession, workshop and in whatever I do, Lord make my hands strong.

A lamp to our feet

The feet are not left out on how to carry themselves in the Scriptures. They should always be shod with the preparation of the gospel of truth. Ephesians 6:12. As we go about our business,

we ask God to direct our steps to the right places. We also pray to meet with someone to share the Gospel of the good news of salvation.

He maketh my feet like hinds' feet: And setteth me upon my high places. 2 Samuel 22:34.

The Deers' ability to propel their back feet in power to run faster and leap over difficult situations is worth praying for. We pray our feet will be made strong in our daily endeavours. We will not be crippled by the circumstances of life. Some may be crippled physically but not mentally or in the spirit. They can still achieve their potential despite the physical challenges. May our feet be strong and not swift to do evil.

Their feet are swift to shed blood. Romans 3:15

Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. Joshua 1:3

We declare our feet will possess anywhere they have trod on because we have read the promises in the Bible. The need to dwell on God's word cannot be overemphasised. As we eat the word, we learn what each part of the body should be doing and how they should function.

Our feet shall stand Within thy gates, O Jerusalem. Psalm 122:2

Here we are told our feet shall stand in the gates of Jerusalem, meaning in the courts of the Lord. There is safety and surety in the gates of The Lord. May our feet take us to the Sanctuary of the Lord. Keep us standing in the presence of the Lord at all times, at work, school, holidays, house or anywhere.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings

of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Isaiah 52:7

The Bible described the feet of those who carry good tidings as beautiful, and it is indeed. We all want good people around us. We all thank delivery people when they deliver expected goods or gifts. My children look forward to their food deliveries, and the delivery men get a thank you, not the food sellers. The word of God orders our lives and helps us come forth as gold.

The scriptures have said our bellies shall bring forth living waters. We hang on to that and ensure we leave it out. Good and encouraging words will come from us to others. Words that build people up, good counsel and wisdom flow from us to others.

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. John 7:38.

You do not accept any other food when you have eaten and are full. So is anyone who reads the Bible with understanding. Satan cannot offer you an alternative. You will refuse it. When Satan whispers something contrary, instead of taking it hook, line and sinker in ignorance, you can always turn round to say to him, 'It is written.' He fears the written word because they are Christ Himself, and every knee shall bow at the mention of His name.

Every verse in the scripture is powerful, and no part of it should be left out. We grow in grace through the scriptures. They make our faith strong and drive away fear and uncertainty. They are lights to our path and lamp to our feet. They are life and health, guide and keeper. The promises are all for us, and their joy and peace are everlasting. It does not matter what comes your way, there is a Scripture for it.

Complete in every way

The Lord is able to keep us. The Lord is our healer, and we are

healed through the stripes given to him. The word of God reveals who we are in Christ Jesus and who God is to us. We know in part, we see in part, and the Scriptures tell the fullness of God to us if we incline ourselves to read it. Elisha prayed that his servant's eyes be opened to see beyond the physical eyes. His servant was worried that a band of soldiers had come to arrest them, and he could not see the host of Angles surrounding them. *2 Kings 6:16* He didn't know the power of God. Now we have the Word as the Bread of life, let's eat and fill ourselves with the awe of God. The Bread of life is more than enough for us.

We knew about salvation because the Scriptures say whosoever confesses their sins shall have mercy. God also pleaded with us to come and reason with Him. Even if our sins are as scarlet, He will make them as white as snow. Isaiah 1:18

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

The Scriptures encourage us to trust the Lord and not lean on our understanding. A lot of people have died, made big mistakes, shot themselves in the foot trying to help themselves. When you read the Scriptures that say, 'Yeah, I will help you. Yea, I will be with you. Yea, I will deliver you; you keep calm.' If you read to know that with him, all things are possible, you keep calm.

The food and water of life are free to all who are thirsty and hungry.

Our everlasting God is compassionate, and we should respond to His love by taking heed to His written word. Reading our Bibles should be taken seriously because it fosters our relationship and fellowship with God. It draws down God's presence and keeps us always in his presence. His presence is fullness of joy, and

we are hidden under the shadow of the Almighty. We cannot overemphasize or talk about the benefits of reading the word. The Bible will guide us in all things and show us what to do, where to go and how to do everything.

The Bible is so clear on the wiles of Satan. He is the thief. He comes to steal, kill, and destroy in so many ways.

The Scriptures will help us to understand man's nature, depravity and limitations. The Scriptures contain the fulfilment of prophecies and also open our eyes to this life's vanity. The Bible reminds us of eternal life and the transient nature of this world. Everything we are, growing up as a child, school certificates, good jobs, marriage, children, and houses, ends in death.

We all wish to have a long life and do not wish death, but the Bible teaches us to number our days. Make it fruitful, as Jesus will return soon. The time and hour are unknown to anyone. Only God knows when that will happen, as the secret things belong to Him. As the Bible instructs, we should keep ourselves pure and sinless.

And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; when they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. Luke 21:29-31

The Bible is complete and full of prophecies of things happening and yet to come. The Bible forewarned of the deception and falsehood raving the world, making it impossible for many people to give their lives to the Lord. The lies being peddled in the media and worldwide are not a shock. The Bible prophesied them. Engaging with the word of God is the key to spiritual growth. Those who look down on the Word are not getting it right. Places of worship should invest more time in the Word. I have visited

places that give only 15 minutes for the word in a two-hour service. Let's make time to feast on the word.

Ministers should preach the word and avoid stories on the pulpit. Also, congregants should desire to hear and not be impatient with the word. It is not right for churches to sing and dance until they are too tired to listen to the Word. The musicians who contract to sing in churches and leave after playing to go to other places are missing out on the Word.

Those who sleep during sermons are not getting it right. Those who say, "I do not want to hear or know the Gospel", are also far from knowing the truth.

Jesus is the Bread of Life. The Bread of Life is the Word of God. Spending time to read it keeps us in shape and healthy. Everything to keep our systems and senses in line with purity and righteousness is in the word. Our mouths will speak seasoned words, our heads and brains can sense the time and hour, and the heart deliberations will be goodness, mercy, praise and glory. Our ears, mouths, and eyes are gates; we should be mindful of what goes into them. Our minds will be renewed, our eyes will not behold iniquity, our mouths will say the right things, our hearts will be pure and refrain from evil, our bellies will flow out rivers of living water, our hands will do good, and our legs will take us to the right place.

The Bible is a treasure of life. We live, move, and have our being in the Word of God. Loving the Word of God is embracing life eternal.

Reference

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We have used the King James Version Thompson Chain Reference Bible for thirty-one years, which has been a blessing to us as a family. This Bible offers no commentary on any subject in the Word, allowing the Holy Spirit to guide and speak to you directly. The chain-reference system gets one into the lifestyle of comparing Scriptures to Scriptures, which makes one appreciate the power of the Word of God.

Beautiful world, graced with unimaginable serenity for humanity to enjoy and eat in plenty. The garden and its splendour are still the best mankind could imagine. In his subtility, the devourer stole our birthright, leaving us in darkness and toil. He didn't get away with it. He was defeated at Calvary, and we regained our victory. Hallelujah! There is a knock at the door of every heart with the victory package. Open and receive it. Don't leave it at the door, thieves are hanging around and will steal it.

Pastor Grace co-labours with her husband in ministry. A nurse by background with a BSc in Health Education, and Post Graduate studies in Management and Project Management. Pastor Grace is married to Apostle George Akalonu and they are blessed with five children, Favour, Elect, Arise, Praise and Destiny.



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