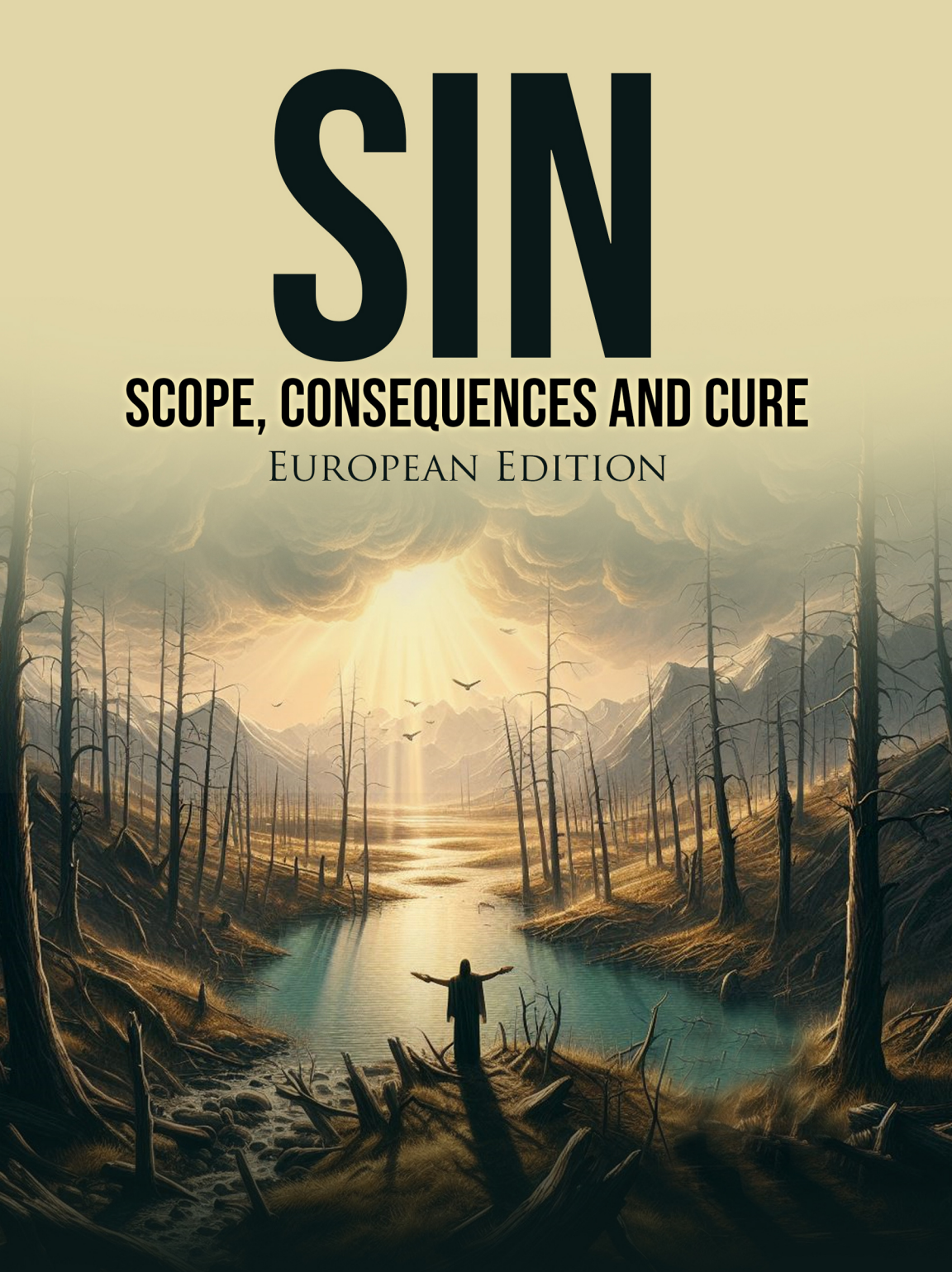
SIN

SCOPE, CONSEQUENCES AND CURE

European Edition



GEORGE AKALONU

SIN

Scope, consequences and Cure

George Akalonu

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Yahweh, Elohim, Yeshua. During the course of our walk with the Lord, we discovered, by the leading of the Holy Spirit, how fundamentally flawed the intrusion of Rome into the gospel from the 4th Century AD, was. Replacement Theology led Rome to take away all Hebraic/Jewish connections as the root of what is now called the Christian Faith. He has led us to call our Father by the name by which He revealed Himself to Israel, which is Yahweh. In the same way, rather than calling our Creator by the generic title God, we find it more appropriate to call Him by the Hebraic Name He revealed to humanity through Moses, Elohim. The Name, Elohim, adequately conveys His Unity in Plurality as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! We also call our King the Name His Father gave Him, Yeshua, and the Anglicized translation, Jesus, derived from the Greek translation, Ioseus.

We do this as led by Holy Spirit, not as part of the so-called sacred Names movement. We neither subscribe to the legalistic methods of Judaizers, intent on dragging saints into the dead works and rituals of Judaism. We do not condemn or accuse those who have not yet caught this depth of revelation. Please feel free to call the Most High by what He reveals to you and what you are comfortable with.

Preface to the Kingdom Culture Series

We have tarried before the Lord for some time to receive a rhema word concerning how to introduce the books you are about to read from the Kingdom Culture series. He directed us to share a little about how He ordered our steps over a 21-year period between 1996-2017.

In 1996, the Lord called us out of denominationalism to serve His Body and Kingdom. As we resigned from a Pastoral calling and began to serve Him and His Body in a community in Africa (Owerri, Imo State of Nigeria), we held on to one critical vision He released beginning in August 1996. At that time, we joined other saints to lament the sad state of Africa on almost all fronts of life. It was surreal to hear the Lord comfort us by saying that He had appointed His Church in Africa as an instrument of a quick work: Rescuing His Kingdom program in the earth realm from corruption, in preparation for the return of King Yeshua, Jesus.

In August 2006, He directed us to relocate to London, which, as the centre of the world, would make our Acts 1:8 assignment more impactful globally. Looking back, as we did not see it then, it is significant that 100 years after Azusa Street Revival, the Lord in 2006 birthed the Global School of Ministry as a catalyst of Reformation, Restoration, and Revival. Again, we did not see clearly how extensively it was to be used to rediscover Truths which Martin Luther missed in the Protestant Reformation of 1517. Interestingly, the Lord used various means to make it clear that what He was about to do was not

to raise a man or woman, like Martin Luther was raised prominently and publicly, but instead activate a company of saints worldwide with the understanding of Him and the Church. This company of saints would embrace His Kingdom pattern and take their place as His sons, who would do all His will. In this regard, the Lord made it clear that the election of His Church in Africa was not to build an 'African Cultural Church'. The broader and more strategic scope was to use His remnant, 'out of the seed of Ham'(Africa and parts of Africa) to impact and connect His seed out of Shem (Jews) and Japheth (people of European descent) to constitute the fourth race which is the Elect Remnant or 'one new man' spoken of by Apostle Paul in Ephesians 2:14-16.

In other words, the focus of the Lord was to use the Global School of Ministry project to activate His elect remnant to walk in unity of the Faith. This project was also to empower them to represent Him and the Kingdom right where they are, in various corners of the world, where He preserved them from the claws of Babylon. It was then Holy Spirit provided illumination of this anchor scripture:

"Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace" **Romans 11:5 KJV**.

There is a simple yet grand key to understanding the fundamental difference between the Martin Luther Protestant Reformation and the Kingdom Culture project. The Reformation of Martin Luther was based on revelations he received about some of the dogma and practices of unbiblical origin within the Roman Catholic Church. These revelations were designed to 'Protest' against these practices. On the other hand, the Kingdom Culture project is designed to take the Church back to what it was before the Roman Empire embraced the larger wing of the Church, which was tired of persecution and martyrdom in the 4th Century. In other words, through the Kingdom Culture project, the Omega or End Time Church will logically conclude what started in the Alpha or First Century Church.

Unlike other reformation projects before it, Kingdom Culture, through the Global School of Ministry and annual Master Class series of the Global Advanced Mentorship Program, have two simple keys: Get the Church back into the 'School' Paradigm where the study of the Word is central to both congregational and general ministry. Secondly, to challenge all saints to receive the four-dimensional work of Holy Spirit: He is the Seal of redemption; He uses the Word to transform the lives of believers from the inside out, He unites saints to live as one indivisible Body of Yeshua regardless of their locations or sects and He releases Power through which saints can demonstrate the awesome power of the Risen Yeshua, Jesus!

This four-dimensional work is accomplished when leaders and saints sincerely and diligently embrace the ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word through the T>T>E>A>R process. It is one where leaders are used by Holy Spirit to:

Teach saints the whole counsel of Holy Scriptures

Train saints to discover and take their places as effective members of the Body of Yeshua

Equip saints with what it takes to walk in victory through mentorship and support

Activate the gifts and callings of Holy Spirit which may lie dormant in them

Release the saints into productive ministry. This may be by public ordination or commissioning during ministry events.

500 years after the Protestant Reformation of 1517, the Lord Yeshua, Jesus is activating this framework throughout the earth realm. The framework through which the Holy Spirit will train Reformers who will receive a proper understanding of the Pauline Epistles and the Master Plan of the true Kingdom Church contained therein. This training will also help to build individual lives, ministries, and congregations accordingly. This Kingdom Culture project involves the

release of 40 books on dedicated websites where all saints worldwide who desire to discover, pursue, and fulfil their callings as the Royal Priesthood after the order of Melchizedek, can find the teaching resources to train in the comfort of their own homes.

On the other hand, these forty books will be put in the hands of the great company of elect ministers worldwide, who know that the flock is not theirs but Yeshua's. These books are tools to systematically transform the operating systems of the ministries committed to their trust, from 'theatres' to 'schools'. These books collectively comprise of the curriculum to launch their own Global School of Ministry projects. The curriculum will ensure that fresh sets of fit-for-purpose ministers of the gospel will be produced every two or three years who will serve the Lord with all their hearts. All forty books on the websites constitute what it takes to root out the leaven of Babylon derived from our various experiences with Christian Religion. They constitute what we need, to embrace and walk in true Kingdom Culture. It is through the ministry of the Word that the Church will be prepared and made ready for the return of her Groom:

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish" Ephesians 5:25- 27 KJV

Please intentionally study this and the other resources in the series prayerfully under the unction of the Holy Spirit with your Bible to confirm all the points made. As you train, the necessity is upon you to make your vessel available for Holy Spirit to use it to transmit these empowering truths to other saints who yearn for empowerment!

"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it" Psalm 68:11 KJV.

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also" 2 Timothy 2:2 KJV.

May Elohim, our heavenly Father make you the instrument of His Grace, He designed you to be!

SIN

SCOPE, CONSEQUENCES AND CURE

PROLOGUE AND DEFINITION

The new birth experience is an extraordinary work of Grace which provides those who are blessed thereby with the reality of having a new nature (2 Corinthians 5: 17). Intrinsic to that new nature is the capacity to live in victory over Satan, sin, the flesh, by grace. As He gives believers victory, they are enabled to function as pure vessels who manifest His glory –without human supervision (Philippians 2:12-16).

With the new birth experience, righteousness is imparted and imputed as an extraordinary gift of Elohim that all saints need to embrace. This is what makes Elohim look at saints on the basis of the finished work of Yeshua, Jesus (Romans 5:14-18).

The believer's walk with the Lord begins thereby as a relationship. Basic to this is a new lifestyle, different from the old: the capacity to walk in His nature of Holiness.

> **15** *But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;* **16** *Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy* (1 Peter 1:15-16).

The Holy Spirit Who began the work of redemption by convicting sinners of sin, righteousness and judgement is ever ready to do a deeper work with the blood of Yeshua for believers who hunger and

thirst for righteousness and are willing to consecrate their hearts, minds, wills and bodies as living sacrifices unto the Lord (Matthew 5: 3-6; Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 2: 1-10)).

> *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:* (Philippians 1:6).

The point is this: He who saves is still the One Who sanctifies:

> **12** *Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate* (Hebrews 13:12).

> **22** *Abstain from all appearance of evil.* **23** *And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.* **24** *Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it* (1 Thessalonians 5:22-24).

As many believers can testify, when Salvation occurs, it is usually life changing for those who were genuinely converted. The desire or inclination for sin disappears. Unfortunately, some months or years later, certain sinful tendencies and actions return and may even seem to become the new normal. One of the reasons this happens is that believers are not properly taught about the subject of sin, the role of Satan and his agents (both spirit and human) in seducing/tempting believers; and how to resist and overcome them. Another thing that has not been adequately taught is the glorious state of sanctification as a work of grace which empowers believers to live in holiness, manifesting the righteousness received from Yeshua, Jesus in everyday life. We believe this book will provide the needed revelation which will empower all believers whose hearts are open to receive them.

The Definition of Sin

Merriam-Webster dictionary defines sin as a noun having these meanings:

"1a: an offense against religious or moral law

b: an action that is or is felt to be highly reprehensible (it's a sin to waste food)

c: an often-serious shortcoming : Fault

2a: transgression of the law of God

b: a vitiated state of human nature in which the self is estranged from God"

A more spiritual definition

In order to fully understand the subject, Sin is each of these:

- An act of rebellion against Elohim
- Rejection of His holy nature.
- It amounts to despising of His word.

Two equal and opposite evils regarding the attitude of the church to sin.

Sin lingers and even metastasizes because of two opposite attitudes to it in the Church:

1. In the modern era, there are many Ministers and Churches who have consciously deleted the preaching and teaching of Sin from their annual ministry of the word plans. The excuses they give are these:

i. People are already stressed and battered by several issues of life and come to Church to find encouragement, hope

and support. In that case, they say, preaching and teaching about sin adds to their burdens. In such places, the preachers focus on releasing words of encouragement and emphasis on what God will do for their hearers. This is self-deceit at its worst, leading to a situation where they and their hearers march with blind folds into hell.

ii. Preaching about sin turns people off, so they will stay away. In order to 'grow the church', people need to be enticed to come in, just as they are. When they come, there is a need to retain their 'membership' because of the finances they bring and the psychological effect of the crowds which justify the employment or position of the clergy as 'successful'.

iii. Preaching about sin and its consequences (eternal damnation in the Lake of Fire and brimstone) amounts to fear or scare mongering. No one should be saved because of fear of eternal torment.

Interestingly, ministers who skip preaching on sin, sinfulness and consequences thereof seem to attract more 'membership' and generate more revenue. The business of preaching and teaching devoid of the cross, sin, genuine conversion, and judgement is called secular humanism.

This scenario was foreseen by King Yeshua when He spoke of the two ways:

> ***13*** *Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:* ***14*** *Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it* (Matthew 7:13-14).

Paul the apostle also wrote some inspired words concerning those who deceive people with their false teachings:

[17] Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.[18] (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:[19] Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.) (Philippians 3:17-19)

2. On the opposite end of the spectrum is an equally dangerous tendency which is often fostered by religious minded Holiness denominations where three spiritually unhelpful things happen:

    i. Preachers and Teachers so emphasize sin, and lionise Satan's power to tempt and destroy the lives of ministers and saints to the extent that many of their followers feel helpless and lose hope of ever walking in victory.
    ii. Preachers and Teachers emphasize sin and the sinful proclivities of humans so much in almost all messages to the extent that the people believe that though saved, they are practically sinners. This is the root of sin consciousness which blurs the understanding of righteousness and makes of no effect, the extraordinary gift of justification which makes the new nature real (2 Corinthians 5: 17).
    iii. Ministers get so legalistic and judgemental that they unconsciously embrace Satan's ministry of accusation and use it against other believers they think are not living holy, and purportedly assign them the eternal destination of damnation.

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down,

> *which accused them before our God day and night* (Revelation 12:10).

Both extremes are very unhelpful and frustrate grace.

> *I do not* ***frustrate*** *the* ***grace*** *of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain* (Galatians 2:21).

Ministers of the Gospel need to understand, embrace and walk with the Lord as preachers of righteousness who present the finished work of Yeshua, Jesus as the ultimate solution to sin (Romans 1: 16-17; 1 Corinthians 1:18-19). As the Holy Spirit quickens the word in the hearts of sinners, they are translated from darkness into the Kingdom (John 3:3-8).

> *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

> ***12*** *Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:****13*** *Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:****14*** *In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:* (Colossians 1:12-14)

The outcome of the faithful services of the ministers of the Gospel is the emergence of a new breed of humans in the earth realm who have no appetite for sin, give Satan no space and who are so wrapped up in their devotion to Elohim that Yeshua's holy life is infused into them by the Holy Spirit as they abide in Him. No longer regarded as sinners, these transformed believers are now the saints of Elohim. One key signature is that they have victory over sin by grace (1 John 3:4-9; 5:18).

An unhelpful approach to the subject

Most theological postulations regarding sin are derived from Orthodox Christianity. The way orthodoxy differentiates between sin and vice is extremely unhelpful because it contradicts the Spirit and letter of the New Covenant on the subject.

> "Sin and vice are two terms that are often used in a religious or moral context. Sin refers to an act that is considered to be a transgression against divine law or principles of morality[1]. On the other hand, vice refers to an individual's flaw or tendency to act wrongly[2]. In other words, sin refers to the act itself, while vice refers to the tendency to commit the act[2]. It is possible for someone to have a natural tendency towards a particular vice without ever actually committing the sin associated with it"
> (https://ahc.leeds.ac.uk/discover-dante/doc/purgatorio/page/6)

> "A vice is a bad habit or ongoing pattern of behavior that represents moral weakness or depravity[1]. Some vices are actions often considered to be evil or wicked, while others are more self-indulgent in nature[1]. Common vices include anger, arrogance, envy, gluttony, greed, lust, pride, sloth, and wrath[1]. These vices can find their way into human behavior in many ways. For example, anger rises to the level of vice when it is so strong or deeply held that a person comes to despise or feel rage toward specific individuals or groups of people to such a degree that they want to exact revenge or otherwise bring harm to others[1]."
> (https://www.yourdictionary.com/articles/vices-list)

Yeshua, Jesus, Who is the Centre and Circumference of the Kingdom stated clearly that intention is counted as sin. For instance, he graded lust on the same level as immorality.

> **27** *Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:* **28** *But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart* (Matthew 5:27-28 (KJV).

The New Covenant places a high premium on purity of the heart and mind, as Matthew 5:8 states. Across the world, something strange is happening: There is inadequate understanding of the subject matter of Sin. Consequently, sinning seems to be commonplace to the degree that whenever a truly holy saint is encountered, it seems to be the exception rather than the norm. The Lord directed us to some of the message in *Course 112: The Pillars of Holistic, Enduring Success;* He ordered us to flesh out these messages to provide a practical actionable manual which believers of all stripes – notwithstanding their denominational affiliations – can use to understand how Holiness is an intrinsic part of the culture of the Kingdom. In closing this introduction therefore, let us reflect on the gravity of the issue:

Sin is the chief tool of Satan for compromising the destiny of Christians. This is accomplished by making sin the operating principle of worldly culture that believers grow up in such that even when saved, they struggle to live righteously. Unfortunately, as observed earlier, neither the liberal preachers who desist from talking about sin and its consequences and the religiously right, which over-emphasizes and thus infuses sin consciousness in believers are right.

It is the responsibility of all preachers and teachers to emphasize the reality that Yeshua, Jesus came to deliver, from the yoke of Satan, sin, and worldly culture, those who embrace His finished work on the Cross.

> **8** *He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested,*

> *that he might destroy the works of the devil.[9] Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God* (1 John 3:8-9 (KJV)..

We trust our heavenly Father to enable us to present a balanced message through the help of Holy Spirit in such a way that Yeshua, Jesus is glorified as the Saviour-Redeemer Who came to deliver His Own. May the Truth set us free as Yeshua said in John 8:32.

Assignment

1. Please share three things you learnt from this lesson.

INTRODUCTION

Before we delve into the depth of this course, it is necessary to restate what should be an obvious set of postulations.

1. From the day when Satan deceived Eve and Adam in the garden of Eden to disobey Elohim and obey his lies, humankind came under his evil dominion as "god of this world" (Genesis 2: 16; 3:1-8;2 Corinthians 4: 3-4; John 14: 30).
2. Sin is the nature of natural humans. Since the fall of Adam and Eve, the gene of sin has been transmitted by the simple process of primogeniture (childbearing) from parents to children. Though innocent by reason of age (not having attained the age of reason), everyone that lived and lives on earth was born a sinner.

> *Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me* (Psalm 51:5 (KJV).

The notable difference is Yeshua, Jesus whose gene came from the Holy Spirit Who planted a seed in the womb of Mary (Luke 1:29-35).

3. A world which Satan, the first rebel against divine authority, is ruler, one whose culture is that of sin and iniquity. Lawlessness, which emanates from him, pervades the entire earth realm. (1 John 5: 19).

4. The Law was given to do two principal things. First, it was to give the Jews and the world a moral code that would push back the frontiers of evil. Secondly, it was to act as a School Master until the fullness of time when the perfect solution to sin would come in the form of Yeshua, the Lamb of Elohim.

> **19** *Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.* **20** *Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one.* **21** *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 righteousness should have been by the law.* **22** *But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.* **23** *But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.* **24** *Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.* **25** *But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster* (Galatians 3:10-25).

5. Freedom from Sin is not therefore the ticking of boxes of good deeds done or instructions carried out. That would create a paradigm of legalism which may give the impression of self-achievement (Colossians 2:16-23).

6. We need to embrace the reality that Yeshua alone is the Ultimate Solution for Sin. As the Lamb of Elohim, He took all our sins upon Himself which caused the Father looked away from His Only Begotten Son hanging on the Cross in anguish (John 1: 29 Matthew 27: 46). Anyone who responds to the conviction of the Holy Spirit to repent of sin and embrace the finished work of Yeshua on the Cross is forgiven of all his sins. Furthermore, we need to embrace the reality that beyond forgiveness for sins committed, the Father justifies us by wiping our slates clean,

blotting out the past entirely (Isaiah 1: 18; Micah 7: 18-19; Romans 5: 1-2). Our being New Creations is based on His righteousness and we are made holy by His Grace (2 Corinthians 5:17). As far as the Father is concerned, believers who are redeemed by the Blood are complete in Yeshua, provided they continue in the faith and grow therein (Colossians 2:6-15).

7. Satan is the unrelenting foe of mankind. The truth is that he does not bother much about sinners who are already under his influence and part of his camp. He has a morbid hatred of those who are saved and will do everything within his power to confuse them, seduce them and cause them to miss the mark of holy living.

For this purpose, he has set up an elaborate governmental system comprising of principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world and spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:12). Satan works with these evil forces as well as human agents who are subject to him to target believers with the intention of preventing them from attaining to the full stature of Yeshua and ultimately falling out of faith through backsliding and apostasy. With the end of the age approaching, the work of Satan in this regard will be more intense.

> **9** *And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.* **10** *And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.* **11** *And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.* **12** *Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time* (Revelation 12:9-12).

8. Within every saint is the inherent capacity to resist Satan and refuse his solicitations and those of his agents to sin. This is however possible for only those who are vigilant and watchful (1 Peter 5:8-9).

9. To be saved and live in sin is an absolute contradiction! Any saint living in sin is its slave and therefore the subject of Satan (Romans 6: 1-23; 1 John 3: 1-24). A life of sin makes of no effect the Cross of Yeshua and proclaims that His Blood is of no effect.

10. This does not mean that a believer is sinless. Occasions may arise where a believer is overcome with sin (in thought, word, attitude or actions). A vital sign of being alive in Yeshua, Jesus would be the capacity to be convicted by the Holy Spirit, followed by genuine, heartfelt repentance, the embrace of the Father's forgiveness and the blotting out of those things that have been forgiven, by the Blood of Yeshua.

> 1. *My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:[2] And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world* (1 John 2:1-2. See Proverbs 28: **13;** 2 Corinthians 7:10-11).

11. The Holy Scriptures are written as a manual for Kingdom Life. Therein is stated the Culture of the Kingdom concerning how saints are to live as ambassadors of Yeshua in the midst of a dark, Satan-ruled world and how they would be kept by the Grace of Elohim to be the Salt and Light of the world (Matthew 5: 13-16; John 17: 1-23; Philippians 2: 12-16). Believers need to diligently study the scriptures so that their minds would be fully renewed to have the mind of Yeshua (2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 3: 15-17; Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 2:16; Ephesians 4:23). The scriptures also have the effect of transforming the hearts of believers and equipping them with grace to live the Kingdom life.

12. Elohim has wired all things to work together for the good of all believers. These include the evil speech, attitudes and actions of others. If believers prayerfully embrace the "fire of life," they will have the net effect of purifying their lives so that they will grow (Isaiah 43:1-2; Romans 8:28-39). If believers are repulsed by this "fire" and lash out, are vengeful and willing to come down to the level of those whose activities have caused the pain, it leads to retarded growth and even backsliding (Hebrews 5:12-14).
13. Kingdom Life, though in a sense, an individual race is nevertheless about community. Believers are to avoid isolation which weakens and leads to failure (Romans 11: 1-5). Rather, by having a family mindset and embracing each other with open hearts that are accountable and open to correction and rebuke, believers have a safety valve that preserves and protects (Hebrews 10: 22-25).

This book will detail what the Holy Scriptures teach about the purity Elohim requires from those redeemed by the Blood of Yeshua, Jesus and the various Sin strategies which Satan uses to take believers out of the will of Elohim. As believers, we will also learn how to overcome sin generally as well as how to be victorious over specific seductions to sin.

It is all by Grace!

Assignment

1. Please share what you understand from any seven of the thirteen postulations.
2. What do you anticipate as the personal benefit of this chapter to you?

Chapter 1

THE MOTHER AND ROOT OF SIN

The Lord wants to take us on a journey that will produce a specific outcome: purification of His Kingdom Church so that she will be made ready for the consummation of all things as the end of the age draws near.

Rather than dive into further discussions of the subject, Elohim released a revelation today that it will be profitable for His saints to understand the mother and root of all sin as both a principle and the actions thereof. In this regard, He revealed that two factors lie at the root of sin, namely: Pride and Disobedience (Rebellion). Once a believer can grasp this truth, he or she becomes equipped to make the right choices that lead to the maintenance of the victory won by Yeshua at the Cross.

Pride

The first sin on record pre-dated time. One day in eternity past, the chief Archangel, possibly the very first created being, named Lucifer, generated pride in his heart. This angelic being was extremely handsome and wise, skilled in music as head of the heavenly choir.

Having access to the Throne of Elohim and ministering in close proximity to Him was a pleasure, until something happened one day. He sought to exalt himself above his Maker, take over the Throne and rule the Universe. Let us read the account of this first act of Sin in two passages of the Old Testament.

12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;17 That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners? (Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19)

Disobedience [Rebellion]

The pride found in Lucifer birthed a deadly virus: rebellion against his Maker. Not content with his personal sin, he rallied a host of angels to join him. A careful consideration of scripture suggests that as many as one third of the angels in heaven were swayed by his rebellion.

Revelation 12:

Rebellion naturally produces the evil fruit of disobedience. For Satan and his cohorts, they put themselves in a state of open disobedience to all known laws of Elohim. This is why another name for sin is lawlessness.

With these in mind, let us now go back to the beginning of time as we know it, at the Garden of Eden. When Elohim created humankind, He, mandated him to be the ambassador of the Kingdom of heaven and His personal assignment was to exercise oversight over the earth realm (Genesis 1:26-29). Every Kingdom has a constitution which states the compact between the Sovereign and subjects thereof. The

constitution also states the rewards for obedience and punishment for rebellion and disobedience.

For the first humans, the awesome benefits laid out for their enjoyment was to be balanced by just one constraint: a specific pronouncement of what they should not do. Genesis 2: 16-17

As humans were created as free moral agents, obedience or disobedience would indicate submission or rebellion. As recorded in the Holy Writ, when Satan, the personification of rebellion and disobedience, came calling at the Garden of Eden, his principal aim was to pull humanity into his camp by imparting his nature to them. Eve fell first and drew Adam into her rebellion against the authority of Elohim. Genesis 3: 1-13

The New Covenant offers some profound insight into the place of Elohim's Law in the lives of saints. Unlike the Old Covenant where the Law was an external construct to be observed by sinful humans, the New Covenant is based on a profoundly different and opposite paradigm with these features:

- Yeshua is the Sin bearer. He carried away the Sins of all who believe on Him and gives them a new nature – the God nature, as they are born again by the agency of the Holy Spirit Who seals them into the Body of Christ and also indwells them (2 Corinthians 5:17-21; John 3:1-9; Ephesians 2: 1-10).
- At the new birth, all saints receive new hearts. Within these hearts are inscribed the laws of Elohim. The laws are therefore, essentially internal rather than external. This means that with a conscience that is alive, all saints can know instinctively what is right or wrong (Jeremiah 31: 31-24).
- For this reason, ignorance cannot be an excuse for sliding back to live in sin. Hosea 6: 10
- Believers are Saints of Elohim, No longer Sinners. They can and should grow in the Zoe or God kind of life.

The Power of the Word

Elohim exalts His Word above His Name. Psalm 138: 2

Just as Elohim exalts His word highly, His saints should do likewise, if they desire to please Him. The more His saints intentionally study the word with open hearts and ready minds, the more they experience these outcomes:

1. Like fire, the word purifies their lives from all the pollutions that may be contracted in day-to-day living (Jeremiah 23:29).
2. Like a Hammar, the word breaks off rough edges in the lives of God's saints (Jeremiah 23:29)
3. When the saints hide the word of God in their hearts, they will not sin against Elohim (Psalm 119: 9-11, 33-36; Colossians 3:16).
4. Wisdom to live right is derived from the word (Psalm 119: 97-104).
5. Like a Lamp, the Word shows saints the way to go in all situations (Psalm 119: 105).
6. All the saints are saved by the Word (Matthew 13: 1- XXX; 1 Peter 1: XXX)
7. Just as water purifies, so the word washes off negative sediments of life in every saint (John 15:3).
8. Young believers are nurtured by the word to grow spiritually (1 Peter 2: 1-2). Those who do not grow in this way become unproductive
9. Like a Mirror, the word helps believers to see spots, wrinkles and other negatives they would have overlooked; these would have marred His glory in them (James 1: 23-25).
10. The Word keeps the souls of the saints from sin if they do what it says (James 1:22).

11. It (the word) is one of the most potent tools of spiritual warfare like Yeshua demonstrated in Matthew 4: 1-11, Ephesians 5: 26-27 and 2 Timothy 3: 15-17

> *[20] And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.[21] And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled[22] In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:[23] If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;[24] Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:* (Colossians 1:20-24; See 1 John 2:24).

Any believer who wants to approach the coming of the Lord with confidence, just like Paul (2 Timothy 4: 6-8), should simply take this counsel on board: Sin is living contrary to the express provisions of the Lord in His Word.

This is why discipleship is about rooting people in the Word of the Lord in a systematic way.

> [18] *And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.[19] Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:[20] Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen* (Matthew 28:18-20; See 1 Peter 2:1-3).

Assignment

1. Please share three things you understood from this chapter

Chapter 2

THE SCOPE AND TYPES OF SIN (1)

The uniform testimony of scripture reveals that those who are born again receive a new nature from the Holy Spirit (John 3: 3-6).

> *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

With this new nature, sin is alien, rather than normal to them (1 John 3:4-9).

With the new heart, born again believers live out the gift of righteousness they received from the Father, in everyday life. They have the inherent capacity to discern what is wrong in thought, word and deed, and this enables them to make the right choices in life. Part of this is the choice of who or what to yield members of their body to(Romans 6:1-16).

Preachers who do not teach saints how to live and walk in victory as a lifestyle, expose their hearers to the danger of the arrested babyhood syndrome: stunted spiritual growth and the potential to be swept away by the enemy (Hebrew 5:12-14). Preachers who downplay sin and give the impression that saints can live therein, are doing an incredible job for Satan, who is ultimately, the author and finisher of all sin.

How does sin occur?

Satan deploys a host of human and spiritual agents whose assignments are to tempt or seduce those redeemed by the Blood of Yeshua to abandon the righteousness they received at the new birth. One thing needs to be emphasized: Satan does not have the power to arrest a saint and cause him or her to sin. Elohim guarantees in each saint, the capacity to push back and say, 'no' to his solicitations.

> *Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.*[13] *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it* (1 Corinthians 10:**12**).

Those who will look up to Yeshua, when tempted, can be sure that it is His good pleasure to deliver them (Hebrews 12:1-2; John 10:10).

The incredible proposition of the Holy Scriptures is this: no saint can sin except he or she opens the door to the enemy in the mind, heart and body.

> [13]*Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:* [14] *But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.* [15]*Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.* [16]*Do not err, my beloved brethren* (James 1:13-16).

The Scope and Classification of Sin

1. Sins of Commission

These are actions which are sinful and separate the doer spiritually from the Father. They often occur as the end of a process described in James 1: 13-16. When a saint veers off the track of righteousness and holiness, to do anything that the Word expressly forbids, what occurs is the sin of commission.

2. *Sins of Omission*

These sins arise when a believer who knows the good to do in a particular situation declines from doing so. An apt example is that of a believer who has the capacity to respond to the needs or distress situation of a neighbour but refuses to do so. In this regard, stinginess or holding onto personal resources for oneself or family alone, without a heart to bless others, especially when the believer can do so, is sinful!

> *Therefore* ***to*** *him* ***that knoweth to do good****, and* ***do****eth it not,* ***to*** *him it is sin* (James 4:7).

3. *Covert or Secret sins*

These are sins that the sinner intentionally commits in secret, away from the prying eyes of people. Unfortunately, this reveals a perverted mindset because every sin is an offence against Elohim, Who is Omniscient and Omnipresent. He sees and knows the thoughts, intent and actions of any human, anywhere in the earth realm.

> *9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?10 I the* LORD *search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings* (Jeremiah 17:9-10).

> *12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do* (Hebrews 4:12-13).

4. Overt or Open sins

These are sins done out of intentionally rebellious hearts. They are transparently clear and can be seen by all that they are so (1 Timothy 5:24-25; Jude 1:21-23).

5. Sins that are not unto death/mortal

The whole testimony of scripture reveals that some sins are redeemable through genuine repentance, spiritual discipline and restoration. Most sins are in this category (1 John 5:16-17).

The separation from Elohim is spiritual until restoration takes place.

6. Sins that are unto death

These are sins often committed intentionally to flout specific provisions of the holy word. They amount to despising grace, abusing Elohim, engagement in profanity and offending the Holy Spirit.

6.1 Sins against Holy Spirit: attributing to Satan the work of the Holy Spirit because of malice in the heart against the human instrument He has used to do the works or miracles (Matthew 12:22-32).

6.2 Sins against the Holy Spirit: lying to Him

This happens when a saint loses sight of the Omnipresence, Omniscience and Omnipotence of Elohim. In this category of sin a saint intentionally opens a door to Satan through deliberately lying (not an unintended slip of the tongue) to an anointed representative of Yeshua. This was the case of Ananias and his wife, Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11).

7. Sins of Thought

These categories of sin are secret or covert in that they occur in the mind which no one but Elohim sees. The enemy often initiates them through the three chambers of the Mind.

7.1. The Memory –

He allows the memory to be filled with negative images of past hurts or offences. When the memory is congested with hurtful images, the individual will end up nursing them, unable to forgive people and let go of such hurts. This sin can be simply cured by repenting for holding on to the past, taking a plunge into the pool of the blood and refusing to nurse the past. Whenever they (past hurts) seem to come up, it is the responsibility of the person concerned to cast such down, as 1 Corinthians 10: 3-6 says.

7.2. The Imagination

Normally, the imagination is the creative part of the mind. When mixed with submission to the will of Elohim and strong Faith, the imagination enables the saints, especially the youth, to see the invisible as a prelude to possessing the impossible. This is the seat of creativity which is in conformity with the basis of true faith.

> *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen* (Hebrews 11:1).

When the imagination is filled with negativity, it can form a stronghold which will drive the individual to harbour sinful thoughts and this will wear down spirituality. What believers permit to marinate in their imagination, will eventually be the driver of their lives.

7.3. The Mind

This is the central processing unit of humankind. As the mind goes, so the entire being goes. If the mind is healthy, a saint will walk with

a mindset which is holy, powerful, creative and powers the journey to holistic and sustainable success.

> *For as he* ***thinketh in his heart****, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but* ***his heart*** *is not with thee* (Proverbs 23:7).

Satan knows that the healthy mind powers victory; therefore, he throws uncountable fiery darts of negative suggestions which seek to take believers off the path of righteousness. This makes the mind the most intense battlefield in the earth realm, which is why the Lord asks believers to use Faith in Him as a shield.

> *Above all, taking the* ***shield of faith****, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts* ***of*** *the wicked* (Ephesians 6: 16).

In addition to using the shield of Faith, believers must look away from other people, look inwards and strongly cast down all negative thoughts which suggest that some person dislikes, hates or despises them. They should not nurse any suggestion which crops up in the mind but rather weigh them against the gold standard set by Elohim (Philippians 4:8).

Once thoughts, ideas or suggestions cannot scale the high bar of the Lord, believers should not nurse them for a moment, lest they become unassailable strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:3-6).

Saints, let us fight the good fight of faith in the mental realm. He who wins therein will walk in victory over all forces of darkness. The health of the mind is guaranteed only when it stays on the Lord and His word, not in what we see or hear through the five carnal senses.

3 *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee* (Isaiah 26:3; See 2 Corinthians 4:16-18).

A mind full of pain, offence, hurt, unforgiveness or all kinds of negativity is basically captive to Satan. It is only a matter of time before

such a mind will make a shipwreck of its faith. Any believer with such a mind that is full of negativity, must act immediately so that the Holy Spirit will redeem him . He should start by looking away from other people and getting healing for his own mind.

Danger of the polluted mind

When the mind, imagination and memory are polluted with negativity, the person concerned loses spiritual discernment. The mindset begins to be inclined towards natural ways of thinking which implies a move away from faith. It leads to a tendency to be carnally minded, which is deemed enmity with Elohim, rather than being spiritually minded, such that they are able to *"mind the things of the Spirit"* (1 Corinthians 2:14-16; Romans 8:5-8).

The grand cure is to have the mind renewed with the Word of Elohim. This word of Elohim, when embraced, understood and internalised, has the net effect of implanting the mind of Yeshua in the recipient (Philippians 2: 5)

> [1]*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*[2] *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God* (Romans 12:1-2).
>
> *And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;* (Ephesians 4:23)

Let us note that various forms of immorality can occur in the mind – through lust, or pornography (Matthew 5:27-30).

The Lord wants all saints of all age groups to be pure in the heart and mind which will manifest as purity in words, fashion, lifestyles and actions.

Assignment

1. Please make a case of why saints need to be taught about:
a) Sin and b) their capacity to resist and overcome temptation.
2. Summarise what you learnt from any four of the seven types of Sin discussed in this lesson.
3. What new insight did you gain from this lesson?

Chapter 3

THE SCOPE AND TYPES OF SIN (2)

Let us continue our discussion of the scope and types of sin.

8. Sins of Attitude

One of the chambers of the human soul is the emotion. This is the realm of feelings. When our life is right with Elohim, the principal emotion that will come forth is pure love towards Him and our fellow humans with no agenda.

> *But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him* (John 4:23; See Matthew 22:35-40).

If believers are conscious of the reality that Elohim is indeed Omniscient and Omnipresent, then will they shun religion, which consists of activities of learned behaviour done publicly. Believers know that Elohim sees the quality of the attitudes they demonstrate towards those with whom they relate. His command to believers is to love people, whether or not they reciprocate.

> *And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins* (1 Peter 4:8; See Romans 13:8-10).

When believers walk in obedience to this serious commandment, they do not engage in some of the most outstanding features of religion: to accuse, prosecute, judge and jail other saints and people in their hearts or minds.

> *Speak not evil one of another, brethren.* ***He that*** *speaketh evil of his brother, and* ***judgeth*** *his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and* ***judgeth*** *the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge* (James 4:11).

The attitude of love is therefore the greatest insurance against Satan. The sins of attitude include Jealousy, Envy, Strife, Competition, Emulation, Anger, Wrath and other failings which many Christians do not realise are as offensive to Elohim as the "major" sins such as adultery, fornication and murder.

> *Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:* (Ephesians 4:31)

9. Sins of the Tongue – The tongue is one of the most powerful organs in the human body. As the organ which makes speech possible, it is designed to emulate Elohim, Who created the world with spoken words (Genesis 1:1-10).

It is designed to be the instrument of releasing faith; a revelation Abraham got from his intimate walk with Elohim (Romans 4:17-22).

All believers shall profit from a radical practice of using the tongue to align with Elohim and His Word, as an instrument of recreating their world through the words they speak. Negative words – including lying

and release of anger through words spoken - are sinful conducts to be avoided.

> [8] *But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.* [9] *Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;* (Colossians 3:8-9 ;See Ephesians 4:22-32; Matthew 5:21-22.

10. Sins of the Body

The high esteem of Elohim for the human body is revealed through two profound truths. The first truth is that the Incarnation made Elohim to wear a human body for the purpose of condemning sin in the flesh so that humans can walk in 24/7 holiness, just like Him. The second truth is the reality that for those who are saved including the now and next generation, the body is elevated to serve as the temple of the Holy Spirit.

> [16] *Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?* [17] *If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are* (1 Corinthians 3:16-17; See 6:17-20).

Such sins as adultery (immorality involving at least 1 married person), Fornication (immorality involving single persons) – whether "straight" or "same sex," bestiality (sex with animals), dirty language and the parading semi-nude bodies in the name of fashion which reveal more than is needful and decent are abominable before Elohim (1 Corinthians 6:9-16).

Engagement in worldly fashion which reveasl parts of the body, is a seductive assault by Satan and his cohorts and is intended to establish an environment of ungodly sex escapades. Believers, who indulge in these seductive games can make a brother or sister stagger or stumble and this is counted for them before the Lord as sin. Believers have a

duty to protect each other and not create room for Satan to capture the hearts and minds of fellow saints. Saints should dress with modesty to cover their nakedness and be presentable in a positive sense; saints must not dress to "slay" (Romans 14: 12-22; 1 Corinthians 8:8-13)

11. Sins of Reaction

These are sins committed in reaction to real or perceived wrongs. Many believers do not forgive nor do they trust the Lord to justify or avenge as He deems fit. Rather, they give Satan space to inspire resentfulness and vengeance which cause them to nurse grievances in their hearts. They do not let go until they have prayed so-called "dangerous prayers" or have exacted vengeance through some other means. They fail the standard of the word of Elohim woefully in the process (Matthew 5:43-48; Romans 12:14-20).

12. Sedition/ Rebellion

These are sins against legitimate authority set by Elohim in the Word. It can happen at domestic/family, City, State and national levels – within the Church and the Society1- (Ephesians 6:1-8).

Many young wives who are accomplished professionals doing well in their callings and businesses, are tempted to go into marriage with a worldly mindset in which the husband is looked upon as nothing more than a peer or colleague. As the Church has forgotten its duty of preparing young men and women for marriage, it is important to consider the reality that Elohim, God has an established spiritual order of authority in the home. If the intending couple understand and embrace the divine requirements, children will be born in their families who see models of divine order, authority and unconditional love. They will not struggle to be under authority at home, in the Church, at school or in the society.

> *But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of*

Christ is God (1 Corinthians 11:3; See Ephesians 5:22-32; 1 Peter 3:1-7; 1 Corinthians 7:1-5).

In both the Church and Society, authority is established by Elohim. For this reason, there is a limit to which saints can participate in agitation-propaganda including the distribution of seditious materials and rioting (Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:11-20).

Assignment

1. Please summarise what you learnt about each of the categories of sin discussed in this lesson.
2. What new thing did you learn?
3. What will you do with this lesson?

Chapter 4

THE SCOPE AND TYPES OF SIN (3)

The last two chapters focussed on revealing 12 categories of Sin. We will expand on some issues raised earlier and continue with the exposition of more categories. We are grateful to the late Chinese apostle, Watchman Nee, for some of the deep insights he received on some issues raised in this chapter and I recommend thorough reading of some of his works.

13. Sins of the heart

The heart is ultimately the ground of all sins. If a heart is healthy, inclined to holiness and full of the fear of Elohim, it will nurture holy thoughts and be repelled by any form of impurity.

> Proverbs 4: *[20] My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.[21] Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.[22] For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.[23] Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life* (Proverbs 4:20-23; See 6:20-23).

Social Sins like hatred, envy, jealousy and malice are often incubated in the heart and can metastasise until they consume the innermost part of the human being. When they mature inside the heart, they are released in hurtful and hateful words and this applies to all other sins.

> Matthew 12: *33 Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. 34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. 35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things* (Matthew 15:16-20).

In a book like this, it is needful to repeat certain truths from different angles to enable us to understand the subject better. The following sins of the flesh proceed from polluted hearts:

1. Adultery
2. Fornication
3. Using our eyes to gaze at evil. This includes the tendency to unduly stare at body parts of people of the opposite gender.
4. Improper friendships where people of theopposite gender find inappropriate emotional and sensual satisfaction from relationships with people who are not their spouses.

Sins of the Mind

1. **Wandering thoughts** that cannot settle on anything definite including assignments from Elohim.
2. **Doubt** – this blocks the ability of the heart to receive from the Lord.
3. **Unbelief** – this is the equivalent of a lack of faith and it was one of the sins that Yeshua dealt with in the religious people.

4. Curiosity – this equates to the carnal desire to know all things for the mere sake of knowledge and for the sake of acquisition of superiority to satisfy carnal egos. This desire is not directed at receiving the knowledge of God to relate more appropriately with Him. Curiosity could also be carnally striving to know even what is forbidden or what Elohim reserves for Himself so that the seeker of knowledge can be like Him in Omniscience. This ungodly curiosity or carnal quest for knowledge wars against the principle God, enunciated through Moses in Deuteronomy 29:29.
5. Unclean or Impure thoughts are filthy. When the eyes of the Lord which are pure and cannot behold iniquity alights on them,what He sees is just filth.
6. Unbridled carnal imaginations which originate from the thought patterns of selfishness and the morbid desire to be like God (Genesis 11; Isaiah 14; Ezekiel 28) or maintain relevance by human efforts outside of the Holy Spirit (Jeroboam). These imaginations are devoid of simplicity because they try to use analytics to access God. However, God has made it impossible for man to understand him through human effort (1 Corinthians 1). An analytical mind cannot know God and, therefore, cannot trust Him.

Sins of the Body

1. ***Overindulgence*** in eating and drinking.

- Lack of self-control in what to eat and drink.
- Too much snacking

2. Abuse of the body: Inadequate rest and sleep which create health challenges capable of compromising the destiny of the believer.
3. Over sensitivity to how one looks based on having the wrong worldly icons of fashion and lifestyle as models. Believers have no business allowing worldly 'influencers,' as most social media giants are called, to dictate how they live.

4. Over sensitivity to hygiene to the extent that the believer is under bondage to the body. The bodies of believers and their care should not dominate them but should be under their control.

Sins of Dispositions

Yeshua comes to deliver us from our ***personal dispositions.*** Believers should not be too hard on themselves; it is not a good thing.

1. Being too weak – to the extent of not accomplishing the purpose/assignments of life.
2. Being neither hard nor weak. Lukewarmness has no place in the Kingdom as stated in Yeshua's letter to the Laodicean Church (Revelation 3:16).
3. Always self-projecting one's abilities and unable to leave the spotlight.
4. Quick temperedness: families and those within the loops of influence of quick tempered believers suffer unnecessarily in their presence because of their tempers.
5. Being moody with a brooding spirit which dispels joy from the environment.
6. Laziness – lack of drive to do the needful things.
7. Being very fastidious or rugged in defence of self-interests to the point of constant strife with others.
8. Being talkative to the point of manifesting nuisance to others around.
9. Being judgemental and fault finding which makes those around you uncomfortable or to feel inadequate.
10. Being a perfectionist and in the process unable to accommodate the imperfections of others.

11. Not having a heart to keep the word of Elohim, creates room for worry and anxiety to occupy the heart. They are sins.
12. Polluting revelatory gifts such as Discernment and Prophecy with the social sin of suspicion/suspiciousness

Social Sins

Two types of sin occur in the social arena. One is intentionally or even unintentionally inflicting these 3 sins on others. Responding carnally or in worldly ways to them is equally sinful.

Three Sins of Self-centeredness/ Selfishness

1. ***Control***:

The United Kingdom Government guidance issued under section 77 of the Serious Crime Act 2015 aims to assist in identifying, evidencing, charging, prosecuting, and convicting the offense of controlling or coercive behaviour.. It defines controlling behaviour as "a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour"

2. ***Manipulation***

People who manipulate others attack their mental and emotional sides to get what they want. The person manipulating — called the manipulator — seeks to create an imbalance of power and take advantage of a victim to get power, control, benefits, and/or privileges.

3. Gaslighting

Gaslighting can be defined as **a form of psychological manipulation in which the abuser attempts to sow self-doubt and confusion in their victim's mind**. Typically, gaslighters seek to

gain power and control over the other person by distorting reality and forcing them to question their own judgments and intuition.

Any of these signs of gaslighting in a relationship is a cause for concern and indicates that the connection is unhealthy and may be causing severe mental health repercussions for the person being gaslit.

Two potential Solutions to the 3 social sins:

1. **The world says:**

'Stand up for your rights', 'don't blink first', 'retaliate or you will be considered weak'

2. **The Word says:**

> *[38] Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:[39] But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.[40] And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also.[41] And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain* (Matthew 5:38-41; Galatians 2:18-21).

The reality is that our Flesh is constantly striving against the Holy Spirit and the Word He inspires. The ability to purpose to obey the word, in spite of pains suffered from others, opens the saint up to great depths of grace with which to come out of the fire, better and not bitter (Galatians 5:13-13; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10).

Economic Sins

Christians who are Employees should know and note that insincere service, false time clocking, and eye service or hypocrisy are all sinful conduct. These acts testify that they have not really earned their wages. In other words, these Christian employees are being paid for work

they have not done or have done deceitfully; all these constitute sinful conduct (Colossians 3:17, 22-25; 1 Peter 2:18-24).

For Employers of labour, the Lord has specific instructions on how to relate with and conduct business with employees.

> *13 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.15 For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that* (James 4:13-15; See James 5:1-5).

The Sin of Covetousness

In this modern era where covetousness is often projected as faith, saints need to be aware that this is a grave sin that can cost them eternity.

3 *But fornication, and all uncleanness, or* ***covet****ousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor* ***covet****ous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God* (Ephesians 5:3, 5; See Colossians 3:5;).

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; (1 tim 3:2-3)

But godliness with contentment is great gain.7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness,

godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.[12] Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. (1 Timothy 6:6-12)

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. (Matthew 6:24)

Piling up worldly assets as an instrument of gratification of carnal nature

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:[20] But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:[21] For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.[22] The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.[23] But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! (Matthew 6:19)

Assignment

1. Please share what you learnt about the heart and sin with two scriptures.
2. Please share what you learnt about Social sins with at least two illustrations/scriptures.
3. Please share what you learned about Economic Sins with at least 2 scriptures.
4. What will you do with this message?

Chapter 5

THE SCOPE AND TYPES OF SIN (4)

Additional categorizations of Sin

1. **Additional Sins which often emanate from Toxic Pollutions of the heart and mind arising from evil arrows (suggestions) of Satan.** …….

One of the greatest ways Satan fights both young and old Christians is by polluting their hearts with fiery darts which he shoots deep into their hearts; when these darts are not identified and uprooted, they destroy the faith of believers in Elohim, God from within. These evil darts include things which bring about the following inclinations of the heart towards other people:

1.1. Bitterness of heart,

1.2. Unforgiveness

1.3. Ought

1.4. Malice – the state of heart which dislikes others.

1.5. Absolute hatred for fellow human beings.

1.6. A strong desire for vengeance: This tendency is an act of rejection of the justice, judgement and equity of Elohim Who alone reserves for Himself the right to punish wrong doing or wrong doers or change their lives. It also is direct rebellion against His word expressly declared in some scriptures. To attempt execution of vengeance by means of prayer and spiritual warfare using Old Testament paradigms is to despise grace.

> *Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written,* ***Vengeance*** *is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord* (Romans 12: 19; See Hebrews 10:30).

1.7. Murder can become the end products of one fiery dart that is left to fester.

The danger of such pollution is that they create operating environments which are inimical to grace. If they are not uprooted they become strongholds which expel grace. A life devoid of grace is spiritually dead, and disconnected from Elohim.

> ***14*** *Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:****15*** *Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;****16*** *Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.****17*** *For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears* (Hebrews 12:14-17).

In Matthew 18: 7, Yeshua reveals that as long as the world exists, offences will arise. However, He is emphatic in requiring us to forgive all offences against us, no matter how many times they are committed.

> [21] *Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?* [22] *Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven* (Matthew 18:21-22).

To nail the point that forgiveness is what we owe those who sin against us, He illustrated this with the parable of the servant who did not extend grace to his fellow servant, even though he enjoyed the same from his Master (Matthew 18: 23 – 34). The concluding words of the King of the Kingdom should offer food for thought for all saints who walk in unforgiveness:

> *So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses* (Matthew 18:35).

Paul the Apostle picked up the concept when he warned that the Holy Spirit can be grieved with saints whose hearts are full of unforgiveness (Ephesians 4:3032).

2. **'What-about-ism '**

This is the dangerous manifestation of comparison with other people. The Bible says that believers are unique personalities with specific functions. Whatever believers are and can do should be by grace, as unto the Lord alone, not humans (Colossians 4: 17).. For that reason, the Lord charges believers not to engage in comparison with others over the different things the Lord wants to accomplish through each of them.

> *For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or* ***compare*** *ourselves with some that commend* ***themselves****: but they measuring* ***themselves*** *by* ***themselves****, and Comparing*

> ***themselves*** *among* ***themselves****, are not wise* (2 Corinthians 10: 12).

One of the manifestations of a religious spirit is the tendency for a believer to, on the one hand, deem himself as doing better than the others or be overly concerned with what other brethren do or donot do. Yeshua dealt with what-about-ism in two instances:

With Martha and Mary (Luke 10:38-42)

With Peter and John (John 21:19-23)

The onus to resolve issues when they arise between brethren lies with the more mature and spiritual brethren. The more spiritual believer is not the one older in physical age or the one with a bigger spiritual or religious title. The onus is on the believer who has undergone deeper dealings of the Holy Spirit, is dead to self and the opinions of the majority and spiritually more matured in the sight of Elohim to endure in love and prayers until the less mature spiritual brother or brethren are recovered by Elohim, in His Own time.

> *Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.[2] Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.[3] For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself* (Galatians 6:1-6).

The point needs to be emphasised again: everything the Lord hates emanates from a polluted heart (Proverbs 6:12-23).

3. **The sin of lack of love**

Love is the essential nature of Elohim. He is the Spring and Fountain of Love.

> *He that **love**th not knoweth not **God**; for **God is love*** **(**1 John 4:8**)**.

Those who are truly born again are recipients of His love (John 3:16-19). His DNA is imparted into them by Holy Spirit, and they can rightly be called "Love breeds." In instituting the New Covenant, Yeshua was specific that Love is its centre and circumference and should be the hallmark of all who are His (John 13: 34-35).

Love consists of thought, speech, attitude, and action patterns which have the imprimatur of Elohim. 1 Corinthians chapter 13 does a good work of breaking down love in action (Charity) as follows:

- Verses 1-3 clearly teach and explain that anything done without love as the motive and the propeller is invalid and of no effect.
- Verses 4-8 detail the properties of love
- Verses 8 – 13 state with clarity that love/Charity will endure in all eternity while all other virtues will last only in this lifetime.

The incredible lifestyle of Love is given further exposition in Ephesians 5:1-2 and 1 Peter 4:8. When Yeshua wrote to the seven Churches of Asia Minor, the first sin He pointed out to the Ephesian Church is the loss of first love (Revelation 2: 4). From a Kingdom perspective, there may be no sin which is greater than lack of love (1 John 2: 9 – 11; 1 John 3: 9-23).

4. **The sin of not walking in Unity**

Walking in Unity ought to be a hallmark of the Body and Kingdom as commanded by King Yeshua (John 17:20-23; Hebrews 10:25). The great Prophet Elijah was overwhelmed when he did not connect with and walk in unity with the other remnant of his age (Romans 11: 1-5).

5. **The sin of Intolerance**

Intolerance is the inability to bear with those believers who are at any moment in time, place and training less endowed than other more mature believers. This sin is also committed by believers when they are not patient with unbelievers or specific categories of sinners because of cultural and other biases.

6. **The sins of Racism and Tribalism**

7. **[The sins of bias]** All types of bias against people because they are less endowed economically, socially, academically, or physically.

8. **The sin of Pride**

Elohim wants believers to be humble so that He will exalt them in His time for His purpose. Pride however is the sin of self-exaltation which is the nature of Satan. Elohim resists the proud (James 4: 6-7; 1 Peter 5: 5-6)

9. **The sins of Rebellion and Disobedience**

Rebellion or disobedience of any definite provision in the Word is a sin that questions the authority of Yeshua, Jesus. Those who know much will receive greater punishment, but no one would be excused (Hosea 4:6).

> ***46*** *The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.****47*** *And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.****48*** *But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more* (Luke 12:46-48; See James 3: 1).

10. **The sin of a Lying tongue (Matthew 5: 33-37; Ephesians 6)**
11. **The sin of Simony**

This sin involves all attempts that are made by ministers who try to "buy" or obtain the gifts of the Holy Spirit with money (Acts 8: 9-11, 18-24) or other satanic negotiations on the altars of darkness.

12. **The sins of Immorality of all sorts**

These sins include lust, pornography, masturbation, adultery, fornication, incest, bestiality, and so on (1 Corinthians 6: 18-20; Galatians 5: 16-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:3

13. **The sin of Hypocrisy fuelled by Religious spirit** (Matthew 7:1-5; 23).
14. **The sins of Insincerity, Deceitfulness, and Conceit**

Assignment

1. Please summarise this lesson.
2. What new insight did you gain into sin (mention the specific ones) that you were not aware of before this lesson?

Chapter 6

THE SCOPE AND TYPES OF SIN (5)

In this lesson, we will continue to outline various categories and types of sin. The idea is to have a strategic overview of the subject matter before we examine the consequences and outcomes as well as the divine pathway to victory.

1. Love of the World and its systems, culture and fashion

Satan rules the world, its systems, its structures, its fashion and other institutions. He gives them their basic distinguishing principles and characteristics which are markedly different from those of Yeshua, Jesus and in opposition to them (John 14:30; 1 John 5:21; 2 Corinthians 4: 3-4)

> *4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?* (James 4:4-5; See 1 John 2:15-17)

2. Sins of Perversion

This is the use of body parts against the natural order set by Elohim. This often leads to loss of the moral compass of the conscience (Romans 1: 18-31).

3. Sins of Association

People are guilty of the Sins of association by endorsing the sins of other people. This is equivalent to endorsing rebellion against Elohim, God and is lawlessness. Social media has weaponised these sins because in their daily feeds, are ungodly things which are presented to people to like and endorse (Romans 1: 32).

4. The sins of Murmuring and Grumbling

Isreal in the wilderness was continuously guilty of this sin – they complained, murmured and grumbled about their circumstances and over things. Instead of living a life of gratitude to Elohim for what He had done for them, they compared their circumstances and food in the wilderness with what had obtained in Egypt.

> *These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage* (Jude 1:16).

5. The sin of Ingratitude to God and fellow humans

Ingratitude eats away virtue. Saints are called to a righteous lifestyle of gratitude and thanksgiving to Eohim, God. God enjoins saints to rejoice always. . Everything in the earth realm has been programmed to deliver Elohim's outcomes, therefore, there is no room to complain and murmur when things seem to go "wrong."

> [6] *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*[7] *And the peace of God, which passeth all*

understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7).

6. The sin of Legalism

This is a mind-set and attitude that uses scriptures as a bludgeon rather than instruments of Grace. In this state, preachers and believers preach and teach the Word devoid of the full picture of the grace and understanding of the merciful nature and disposition of Elohim.

7. The sin of Liberalism

This is a sin in opposition to legalism. It is one in which Elohim is presented as not being Omniscient, Omnipresent and Omnipotence. It tricks believers into believing that they have the license to "live" as they please without any consequences. This Sin is the root of the carefree life many – both believers and unbelievers - live in this generation.

8. The sin of Bad Ambassadorship

Every saint has been commissioned to serve as an ambassador of Yeshua, Jesus and the Kingdom. Believers have a mandate to represent Him within their spheres of influence in a way which draws them to Him and transforms their lives. Believers who forget this mandate will gravitate towards systemic sinfulness (Matthew 5:13-16; Philippians 2:12-14).

9. The sin of Breaching natural and spiritual laws

Certain laws undergird human existence in the earth realm. Believers should know them and receive grace to walk therein as part of spiritual discipline. Two of such laws are the laws of sowing and reaping as well as the *Golden Rule*.

> *[7] Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. [8] For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. [9] And let us not be weary*

> *in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not* (Galatians 6:7-9; See Genesis 8:22; Matthew 7:12).

When saints walk in ignorance or deliberately breach these principles, they live sub-optimally or suffer needlessly.

10. The sin of the Neglect of spiritual leaders

The Lord has appointed the leadership in the Kingdom Church. He takes care of them through the benevolent hearts of the sheep He assigns to them. Where spiritual leaders fulfil their obligations but are neglected, despised and suffer lack because the saints withhold financial and material support, Elohim is misrepresented. Such a situation is sinful in that it breaches clear provisions of scripture (1 Corinthians 9: 7-14)

> *17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.18 For the scripture saith, thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.19 Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses* (1 Timothy 5:17-19; See Galatians 6:6).

11. The sin of "Judgementalism"

This is a life of mote hunting in others.. It is sinful and runs contrary to humility, wisdom and decency.

> *Judge not, that ye be not judged.2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine*

own eye?[5] Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye (Matthew 7:1-5).

It betrays a lack of love which should cover the multitude of the sins of others (John 17:26 1 Peter 4:8). When saints deal with the deficiencies or sins of others, the recommended approach is to speak the truth in love with grace, having a heart to recover them (Ephesians 4:15; Colossians 4:6).

12. The sin of Neglecting those on the margins of society

These people on the margins of society include widows, orphans and people who are disadvantaged in one way or the other. Believers sin when they do not care for these people. The Lord has a tender heart for such people because He created them. He has appointed to use those He blesses to provide for the basic needs of those who are materially disadvantaged. As Yeshua observed in John 12: 4-8, there will always be poor people in the congregation. The early Church embraced this reality and made provisions for the care of all (Acts 2: 44-47 4: 34-27; 6: 1-7; 1 Timothy 5: 3-8; James 1:27).

13. Every ordinance of Elohim in the Holy Scriptures including what Yeshua the King taught in the Gospels and what the apostles taught in the epistles …. The New Covenant should be diligently taught and studied in all congregations of the righteous so saints are fully equipped with a comprehensive understanding of what lifestyle is approved and what is unacceptable. This will help saints to receive grace to walk in holiness with the Lord Who graciously saved their lives (2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 3: 15-17).

Ministerial Sins

14. Building the Church outside or contrary to **God's Master Plan**

This includes the presence of the Fivefold – Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers - who release synergy for the

discipleship of the saints and for training them to function as the Royal Priesthood (1 Corinthians 3: 10-15; Ephesians 4: 11-16; 1 Peter 2: 9-12).

15. Making merchandise with the spiritual gifts or fleecing God's people.

16. Lording **it** over **the** flock, rather than serving and empowering them (1 Peter 5: 1-4).

Ministerial sins also include modelling bad behaviour which can negatively influence younger saints to lose virtue - Matthew 18: 6.

Assignment

1. Please briefly explain any seven categories or types of sin mentioned in this chapter.
2. What will you do with the revelations in this chapter?

Chapter 7

CONSEQUENCES OF SIN/OUTCOMES

The Consequences and outcomes of Sin can be divided into two broad sub-divisions:

A. **Consequences of Sin In time**

- These are consequences and outcomes that result on this side of eternity.

B. **Eternal Consequences of Sin**

- These are consequences that are eternal in nature.

Sin is normalised and becomes endemic when false teachers have unlimited space to teach their heresies.

> [12] *But what I do, that I will do, that I may cut off occasion from them which desire occasion; that wherein they glory, they may be found even as we.* [13] *For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.* [14] *And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of*

> *light.[15] Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works* (2 Corinthians 11:12-15; See 2 Peter 1:1-3).

The problem is not just with false preachers. The devil, will in the end times foster a culture of iniquity which makes people who come to Church do so with an agenda that precludes the real work of the Cross.

> *I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;[2] Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.[3] For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;[4] And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables* (2 Timothy 4:1-4; See 3:1-7).

A. Ten consequences of Sin in time

These are consequences and outcomes of sin on this side of eternity, while people are still alive on earth.

1. Spiritual separation from Elohim

Whenever sin occurs and remains un-confessed and therefore not taken away, the individuals concerned begin the process of separating themselves from Elohim, His Holy nature and pure life. Those who craftily advance the theory that saints can live in sin because Elohim does not count, are deluded because what they teach is a perversion of Grace. Chapter 6 of the Book of Romans, makes a clear case of the reality that those who are saved cannot continue in sin under the guise of "'grace." Grace leads believers away from Sin, and not into it. (Titus 1: 9-16; Titus 3: 1-8; Hebrews 6: 1-6 10: 26-31)

> *What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?[2] God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?* (Romans 6:1-2).

In His love, Elohim provided saints a means of grace when they err: genuine, heartfelt repentance. Whenever a saint staggers or falls, it is needful to run to the Father on receiving the conviction of Holy Spirit. Owning up to the sin by confessing and repenting of it brings down the grace of Justification (a total blotting out of the sin with no record stored anywhere in heaven or on earth) (Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 2: 1-2).

2. **Potential practical consequences of a life of sin**

These include communicable diseases arising from immorality, loss of favour with Elohim and humans, and a hard life of works that is devoid of grace. In some cases, a life of seeking sinful pleasure may lead to premature death (Proverbs 28:13)

> *Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors* ***is hard*** **(**Proverbs 13:15**).**

Sin opens doors of oppression for Satan and his cohorts to afflict the believer with strange diseases that will defy prayers and medical science. This will in turn lead to all manners of oppression from Satan who walks about like a roaring lion seeking whom to devour

> *The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly* (John 10:10; See 1 Peter 5:8-9).

Though not often acknowledged, a life of sin can lead to premature death arising from such diseases such as HIV AID, failed internal organs arising from the effects of smoking cigarettes or hemp, or consumption of alcohol and other forms of abuse. Some die before the time appointed, because of riotous living.

Some young people who are naïve get caught up with hardened criminals who exploit their naivety and use them as drug mules. Some end up in prison and their destinies are compromised and ended ingloriously.

3. **Frustration of the Divine Purpose**

Sin frustrates the divine purpose of God for man on earth. This purpose is for the redeemed to live holy lives unto Elohim as His adopted sons in the earth realm (Ephesians 1: 3-4-12; 1 Peter 1: 15-16).

4. **Sin leads to an Ineffective prayer life**

Matthew 5: 8 makes the case that only the pure in heart shall see Elohim. Proverbs 28:9 says that remaining in sin and trying to pray for things (other than repentance) is an abomination to the Lord.

5. Believers who continue in sin can only offer Ineffective prayers, except they are prayers of repentance.

> ***The*** *sacrifice* ***of the wicked*** *is an abomination to* ***the*** *LORD: but* ***the prayer of the*** *upright is his delight* (Proverbs 15:8; See 15:29; Psalm 15:1-5; 66:18; Isaiah 59:1-8).

6. **Lukewarmness**

When sin enters the life of a saint, it reduces his capacity for fervency in the spirit. Rather, there is a loss of sharpness leading to dullness.

7. Crucifying Yeshua afresh through sinful conduct which suggests that the Blood of Yeshua is not able to save people from their Sin.

8. **Compromise** (it doesn't matter).

By the principle of seed time and harvest time, those who deceive will also suffer deception.

> *12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;* (2 Timothy 3:12-14).

9. **Damaged Conscience**

This inner monitor, the conscience, of what is holy and righteous in the heart and mind can be defiled by consistent sinning. At the primary level, this leads to loss of confidence and boldness towards Elohim and fellow humans (Titus 1:15 – 16). Ultimately, the human conscience can suffer being seared (just as hot metal does to flesh or living tissue). This is the logical outcome of not repenting but continuance in Sin.

> *Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;* (1 Timothy 4:1-2; See Titus 1:15-16).

Such people engage in vain jangling, using the word of Elohim deceitfully to justify ungodliness.

10. **Backsliding**

This is the act of turning back from a life of holiness and righteousness to one of not just being tempted and falling, but actually dwelling/living in sin as the new norm.

> *The **backslide** r in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself* (Proverbs 14:14).

11. **Apostasy**

This is the result when a believer allows sin to creep into his/her life. Some believers, beyond backsliding, depart from the Faith altogether and are given over to a reprobate mind (Hebrews 6:4-6; 10:26-31). While Christians like to use Romans chapter one, to bash practitioners of homosexuality, the truth is that the application of the truth is more extensive and also applies to believers who have become reprobate (Romans 1:28-32).

Let us survey the scenario: A brother or sister, redeemed by the Blood of Yeshua and evidently enjoying the Kingdom life of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost (Romans 14: 17-18) begins to allow little foxes of sin to eat at the holy life once lived. As sin continues to creep further and the saint refuses to take responsibility to confess and forsake them, relying on unrighteous preachers and theologies which assure him or her that it is okay to live in sin because God does not count them, life takes a dark turn. There is no virus that is as virulent as the SIN virus. Right from the day Adam and Eve fell, Sin has been established as the chief tool Satan uses to deny human beings the opportunity to have intimate relationship with Elohim as Father.

In His love, Elohim is providing this book as an instrument He is using to prepare His Church for His return which is very soon (Ephesians 5:25-27).

Elohim is a God of mercy. He is inviting His children to run to Him to receive His mercy so that He can clean up all of them with the Blood of Yeshua. Human beings, including His children, do not need to pay any financial or material price to obtain His mercy. All He wants to see is penitence, repentance and faith in His ability and willingness to forgive, pardon and justify – totally clean the slate of the lives of His children in such a way that there would be absolutely no remembrance of them in any way.

> **18** *Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.* **19** *He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea* (Micah 7:18-19).

Sin is not cool! There is no point imitating so called influencers who the enemy wants to use to mis-direct saints to seek vanities. On the contrary, Holiness is COOL! To be like and live like Elohim is the coolest of lifestyles. Yeshua, Jesus is set before humanity and the Church as a true Model they need to look up to (Hebrews 12:1-2). To continue in sin is to refuse the mercy of Elohim!

Assignment

1. Share three consequences/outcomes of a life of Sin on this side of eternity.
2. What will you do with this lesson?

Chapter 8

THE ETERNAL CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

In the previous lesson, we saw that the Consequences and outcomes of Sin can be divided into two broad sub-divisions:

A. Consequences In time which are consequences and outcomes that result on this side of eternity.

B. Eternal Consequences which are eternal in nature.

As we dealt with the 10 consequences of Sin in time, it is now necessary to examine the eternal consequences and outcomes of a life of sin.

B. In Eternity

There is no question that those who live in sin, endanger an eternity of joyful bliss in Elohim, God's presence. Yeshua, in various passages of the Gospel, spoke extensively of the possibility and danger of

eternal damnation for those who live in sin. Yeshua, Jesus came to save sinners from a life of bondage to Satan; He played the role of the Lamb Whose sacrifice would atone for the sins of humanity (Luke 1:74; John 1:29). He had compassion on sinners and invited them to a changed life called the new birth experience as articulated to Nicodemus (John 3:3-8).

He always asked sinners to turn a new leaf: "Go and sin no more." He said so because, the grace in Him has the capacity to enable all sinners to live holy lives above the pay grade of Satan and Sin.

> *Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole:* ***sin no more****, lest a worse thing come unto thee* (John 5:14; See 8:10-11).

This is consistent with the message of His fore-runner John the Baptist (Matthew 3:7-10).

We need to study the subject in detail and remain in Yeshua, Jesus in order to escape the wrath to come (1 Thessalonians 1:5-10).

Many believers have been fed the toxic "Gospel" which makes the present life all that there is to live. The result is that the hearts and minds of many are focused on obtaining all the "blessings" the world can offer.

> *If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable* (1 Corinthians 15:19*;* 1 Timothy 4:1-2).

The reality of judgement and eternal punishment is part of the Holy Writ.

> [14] *And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,*[15] *To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him* (Jude 1:14-15).

Some key eternal consequences for living in Sin

While many modern preachers skip the subject of the eternal consequences of Sin, the Holy Scriptures offer explicit insights into the subject.

> *Behold, all* ***soul****s are mine; as* ***the soul*** *of* ***the*** *father, so also* ***the soul*** *of* ***the*** *son is mine:* ***the soul that*** *sinneth, it shall die* (Ezekiel 18:4; See vs. 20).

1. Spewed out for Lukewarmness

Lukewarm believers would be spewed out for neither been wholly for Elohim nor for Satan, though being "in 'Church'." The lives of believers who indulge in sin become progressively lukewarm and spiritually distasteful. Yeshua warned the Church at Laodicea that He would spew her out for this reason.

> **15** *I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.* **16** *So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth* (Revelation 3:15-16).

2. This possibility is enhanced by the reality that the Word should be our standard of living to enjoy eternity with Elohim, not the fanciful postulations of human preachers (Matthew 7:24-27).
3. Ministers without a relationship with the Lord as the Spring and Source of their ministerial activities and duties will be cast out of Elohim's Presence on the last Day (Matthew 7: 15-23).
4. For ministers who laboured outside the will and plan of Elohim and potentially 'succeeded' in what is called ABC Churchianity (Attendance, Building, Cash) and made great names for

themselves, the Word says their works will be burnt without any rewards though they may manage to squeeze into eternity (1 Corinthians 3:10-15).

Among other key factors the Lord will require of all leaders and their denominations is the presence of the Fivefold (Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers) working together – Ephesians 4:11-16 which is the pathway for the discipleship of all saints (Matthew 16: 24-25) and the Priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2: 9-12).

5. Loss of Crowns of righteousness for believers who labour with baggages of sin that are not dealt with.

> *6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing* (2 Timothy 4:6-8**;** See 1 Corinthians 9:24-27).

There will be Eternal damnation with Satan in hell and lake of fire for all who despised grace and did not repent of their sins but remained therein until death or the day of the rapture. For this reason, they will not partake of the first resurrection and neither will they be raptured when the trumpet sounds. In view of the eternal torment which awaits those who live in sin, Yeshua recommended a radical approach to all who desire to escape same (Matthew 5:30; 18:8-9; 25:41-46; Mark 9:43-46; Revelation 21:7-8; 22:10-19).

6. While all believers know about Hell, the truth is that it is a holding place. The ultimate destination of Satan, demons, all evil and sin is the lake of fire and brimstone. Those who refuse the grace of Elohim, which ensures righteousness, buy for themselves a sure ticket to spend eternity with the one who

deceived them to accept his contrary lordship (Revelation 20:10, 14-15).

For those who have been bitten by the bug of eternal security, these passages are worth reflecting on (1 Corinthians 9-21; Revelation 2:5, 11; 3:5, 11, 16-17).

The Churches of Asia Minor were once alive and vibrant. As sin ate up their strength, they veered off the path of righteousness and holiness and lost their way. Within seventy years, five out of seven had lost it, as Revelation Chapters 2 and 3 detail!

Assignment

1. Please summarise any three of the consequences/outcomes of sin in eternity.
2. Which scriptures provided you profound insight?
3. What is your main take away from this lesson?

Chapter 9

DIVINE PROVISIONS FOR VICTORY

At the beginning of this course, it was stated that in order to fully understand the subject, Sin is each of these:

- An act of rebellion against Elohim
- A rejection of His holy nature.
- It amounts to despising of His word.

Let us also remember this concept first mentioned in an earlier chapter. The Holy Scriptures are written as a manual for Kingdom Life. Therein is stated the Culture of the Kingdom concerning how saints are to live as ambassadors of Yeshua in the midst of a dark, Satan-ruled world. They are kept by the Grace of Elohim to be the Salt and Light of the world; an anti-thesis to Satan's plan (Matthew 5: 13-16, John 17: 1-23; Philippians 2: 12-16). Believers need to diligently study the scriptures so that their minds are fully renewed to have the mind of Yeshua (2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 3: 15-17; Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4:23). The scriptures also have the effect of transforming

the hearts of believers and equipping them with the grace to live the Kingdom life.

Believers who will overcome a life of sin need to first understand what it is and how Satan seeks to bring them under his rule. Unfortunately, religion does not empower saints to walk in victory because it is more concerned about repetition of learned behaviour (sanctimonious deeds) as well as projecting the image of piety while sin rules the heart.

One of the clearest signs of the extent of damage the enemy has inflicted on the Gospel is the fact that majority of preachers and Churches no longer discuss sin. The result is that a generation of believers on the earth realm, in the closing chapter of the age, live in sin and do not have much understanding of its wider implications. The Lord has inspired this book to fill up the gap so that saints will know how to live, what is acceptable and what is not acceptable to Elohim..

To that end, it may be essential to frontally address these Kingdom realities:

1. Since the fall of Adam and Eve, Satan became the "god" of this world.
2. Satan rules the world through the principle of sin.

Divine Provision for Victory over Sin

1. On their own, humans cannot deal with the sin problem which has plagued humanity since the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. In the Old Testament, the Blood of animals and birds sacrificed by designated priests were used to offer temporary covering for sins. In the fullness of time, Yeshua, the sinless Son of Elohim came to pay the ultimate price - death on the Cross - as the only credible sacrifice acceptable to the Father (John 3:16; Galatians 3: 13-26; 1:3-4; Luke 1: 71-75; 1 John 3:16)

The reality is that Yeshua came to this world to condemn Sin in the Flesh so that those who are redeemed by His Blood can walk in the gift of righteousness received from the Father; This is a cornerstone truth of the New Covenant (2 Corinthians 5: 21).

2. It is therefore all by Grace, without any human input, that Elohim makes provision for humans to be saved from Satan and Sin (Ephesians 2: 1-10).

3. Though saved by Grace, saints need to understand the subject of sin and how to attain and walk in victory over it (John 8:32). This is the reason why the New Testament was written. It is a manual which describes the subject of living to please Elohim on this side of eternity so that the relationship of saints with Him continues forever. An understanding of what Yeshua accomplished on the Cross will equip saints with the ability He provides to live above sin, resist the devil and overcome seductions (1 John 3:1-10).

4. Death of Self enables saints to embrace and submit to the total rule of their Saviour and His elevation as King of kings. This is at the heart of discipleship. This is a necessary experience so that believers become vessels through which Yeshua manifests Himself.

18 *For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor.* **20** *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me* (Galatians 2:18-20; See 6:14; Matthew 16:24-26).

5. As Grace provides the divine capacity to live right, it is the responsibility of saints to grow therein by obeying the Word and exercising personal discipline. This discipline would

include study of the word, prayer and fellowship with other brethren whose lives and preachments can signpost saints to the Lord and His eternal Kingdom as worthy of total commitment and pursuit (2 Peter 1:5-11; 3:18).

Growth in grace is often enhanced when saints take personal responsibility to exercise their spiritual gifts, callings and other endowments as part of the Royal Priesthood while serving Elohim and other saints as a lifestyle (Romans 12: 1-8; 1 Corinthians 12: 1-31; Ephesians 4: 7, 10-16; Matthew 20: 25-28).

> *10 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen* (1 Peter 4:10-11; See Hebrews 5:12-14).

6. Grace also enables saints to exercise the level of discipline needed to refuse Satan access to and dominion over any of the members of the body.

> *8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world* (1 Peter 5:8-9 See Romans 6;1-8, 11-18; James 4:7-8).

7. Elohim has enough resources to bless saints so that they can fulfil their appointed destinies. These are referred to as allocations for their divinely given assignments. They are available by faith – saints do not need to struggle for them. Saints receive these allocations when they demand for them in prayer. Only believers who obey the Word by living separate from the world system can

access these allocations. As chief influencer and god of the world, Satan entraps unwary/careless/ignorant saints by inducing lust or craving for things that may seem good on the outward but are harmful to their spirit-man and souls.

> **15** *Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.* **16** *For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.* **17** *And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever* (1 John 2:15-17; See James 4:1-4).

8. Entire Sanctification of the soul realm of man which purifies it, and aligns it with the new nature of righteousness and brings the body under subjection is available for all saints who love righteousness and hate iniquity.

> **22** *Abstain from all appearance of evil.* **23** *And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.* **24** *Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it* (1 Thessalonians 5:22-24).

Assignment

1. Please summarise each of the eight points of victory over sin.

Chapter 10

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES RELATIVE TO WHAT YESHUA DID

In Yeshua, Elohim paid the supreme price for the atonement of the sin of Adam and Eve on the one hand, and on the other hand provides a new life of righteousness in Him which is entirely based on an exchange (2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

The new creation is not a patchwork of sin and righteousness! It represents the perfect work of the Lord, His own master piece of Grace as Ephesians 2: 1-10 describes it.

The new creation is now a saint, in who is the zoe or God kind of life (eternal life). Contrary to religious thoughts, the individual is no longer a sinner needing redemption. As described in an earlier part of this work, knowledge of the truth is embedded in the heart of the new creation as Elohim promised (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

To this agrees the epistle of John in the New Covenant (1 John 2:21-25).

Elohim having done His work in Yeshua expects believers who are saved to appreciate the extraordinary privilege thereof and hold Him in High esteem by these corresponding dispositions and actions.:

- Continuing in the Faith
- Loving Elohim in a total sense
- Loving fellow humans.
- Resisting the Devil and all his solicitations to make them veer away from Elohim.
- Obeying His Word.

1. Continuing in the Faith

> *6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily* (Colossians 2:6-9; See 1:12-23).

2. Loving Elohim in a total sense

Every true relationship is based on love. When saints love Elohim in a complete sense, their whole spirits, souls and bodies are wrapped up in seeking to please Him, honour Him and represent Him through a lifestyle that reflects His holy nature.

> *35 Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying,36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.38 This is the first and great commandment* (Matthew 22:35-38).

When saints love Elohim, they will not yield to the temptations of Satan, the adversary, knowing that such will bring dishonour to the Name of Elohim. All Sin represents dishonour to Him.

3. **Loving other humans**

A life of loving others is what saints are called to. There is no option given to modify this lifestyle because of external circumstances or what people do to us.

3.1. To fellow saints, love is the only way other saints can demonstrate that they are truly in the New Covenant together as the Body of Yeshua and collectively His Bride.

> *Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;[2] And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour* (Ephesians 5:1-2; See John 13:34-35; 1 John 2:7-11; 3:10-23).

When believers love truly and deeply enough, the weaknesses, deficiencies and failings of others will not be magnified neither will they use such as excuses to dislike or hate them. The saints need to understand and walk in this truth as a way of piercing the thick veil of animosity, ill feelings and hatred that has invaded the camp of saints worldwide. In some cases, this negative situation is so tangible that saints sink in the valley of despair and failure to advance spiritually, socially, economically and professionally due to unforgiveness. The principle was laid out by Yeshua to be the basis of our lifestyle.

> *[21] Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.[22] And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:[23] Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained* (John 20:21-23).

Peter then clarified how this pans out in real life.

> *And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins* (1 Peter 4:8**)**.

There is NO EXCUSE for not loving the saints and people of all stripes!

3.2. We are to love all humans – regardless of their faith, culture or dispositions; this is true love. In this, believers often fail woefully.

> *10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith* (Galatians 6:10; See Romans 13:8-10).

One of the greatest expressions of love is forgiveness. Forgiveness has greater significance and power when extended to those who do not deserve it (because they do not repent or ask for mercy). Yeshua demonstrated this degree of love on the Cross (Luke 23:33-34).

True disciples of Yeshua in the Bible did not display hatred, animosity or bitterness towards their tormentors, but followed the example of Yeshua, just as Peter exhorted (1 Peter 2:20-24)

When Stephen faced an angry mob which viciously attacked him and killed him by stoning, his response was just like his Master's (Acts 7:54-60).

In Acts 8, we see that Saul was among accessories to his murder However, in Acts 9, Yeshua responded with grace and arrested Saul to do a greater work than Stephen did. Anything not done in love is a manifestation of religion, which consists of rituals without a heart of love and worship. Many saints are going down this dangerous path.

4. Resist Satan and overcome his temptation.

The new creation is an awesome powerhouse of grace. There is capacity in all saints who take grace seriously, to walk in the strength

of life that submits to the authority of Elohim and, successfully resist all temptations, just like Yeshua did.

> *6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you* (James 4:6-7; See 1 Peter 5:7-9).

The playbook of Yeshua by which He overcome Satan when tempted was, "It is written." We need to study the Word until it dwells richly in us to the point where what is written will come from deep within us to respond to all solicitations of Satan. This must be a militant disposition! The Lord has promised to uphold us from falling and provides a pathway for all saints to overcome Satan when tempted.

> *Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen* (Jude 1:24-25; See 1 Corinthians 10:11-14).

For this reason, Elohim wants saints to always wear all His armour and war a good warfare against powers of darkness (not fellow humans who they are to love in spite of their words, attitudes and actions). Saints are called to deal with the evil forces and not their victims. There is absolutely NO ROOM FOR VENGEFULNESS or what some call "Dangerous Prayers" against fellow humans. War should be directed against the spirit of witchcraft, and not the individual it possesses (Ephesians 6:10-18).

Assignment

1. Please summarise in a few words, each of the four principal things discussed in this lesson. How practically useful did you find this lesson?

Chapter 11

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES RELATIVE TO WHAT YESHUA DID (2) = TOUGH LOVE + OBEDIENCE

When the topic of love is raised, there always arises a tendency of many believers to have an emotional palliative in mind, when people strike our egos to make us feel good about ourselves, though we are on the path of destruction. Nothing can be further from the truth.

Love may involve some hard choices designed to save others or to preserve the Body of Christ from destructive corrosion. A few instances will suffice.

1) ***When it is needful to train children in the way of righteousness,***

The love of parents and guardians includes setting boundaries and exercising appropriate discipline where necessary. Children who

cooperate with such processes often receive grace to walk in blessedness.

> *[1] Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. [2] Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) [3] That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth* (Ephesians 6:1-3)

However, parents owe themselves a measure of care so that in the bid to seek the overall future blessings of Elohim for their children, they do not breach the Law of Love by getting frustrated, bitter and angry. These may cause them to use their tongues to curse their own children, justifying such carnality with various self-serving excuses. The truth is that even the children who are head strong and self-willed and those who stray away from the Faith deserve the undying love of their parents expressed in kind words, positive attitude and deep intercession and spiritual warfare. The battle is not against flesh and blood but rather the evil spirits Satan assigned to distort and destroy the lives of the heady children. Binding such spirits means nullifying their works by the Blood of the Lamb while still loving the children concerned may seem like a tall order, but the truth is that there is just no other way.

2). Tough love may require believers to tell brethren who are inclined to such sins that may cost them eternal life, the ultimate implications of where they are headed. It takes grace to confront a saint who errs.

> *[16] If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.[17] All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death* (1 John 5:16-17).

> *22 And of some have compassion, making a difference: 23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh* (Jude 1:22-23).

The principle of tough love as a vicarious responsibility towards brethren who stray away from the truth was operational, even in the Old Testament (Ezekiel 3:17-19).

The fact that humans only want to hear "words of encouragement" even when they sin, means that exercising tough love may not often go well. John the Baptist lost his life because he dared to confront sin and rebuke Herod for the sin of adultery with the wife of his brother (Matthew 14:1-12).

3) Leaders have a responsibility to save the congregation or fellowship when brethren are bold enough to sin openly, remain in those sins and seek to pollute the Church. The Bible has specific charges of what to do, if some believers open the door to sin and strange fires of damnable heresies.

- Those who meddle with immorality of various types and revel in appearances of evil may be disfellowshipped. Though this seems like a tough action, the reality is that it may be the only way they can ever be recovered for the Lord. This principle was established by Paul (1 Corinthians 5:1-13).
- Those who cause divisions either by dangerous doctrines which they preach or their attempts to poach saints into their own factions and cliques, which divide the Body, may need to be kept away from Fellowship.

  Now I beseech you, brethren, ***mark them*** *which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid* ***them*** (Romans 16:17).

- Those who peddle heresies that may sweep away the faith of saints who are not yet mature, should be kept out of platforms of influence, lest they corrupt these immature brethren.

4). Tough love requires Christian couples to be properly aligned with the Divine order Elohim has set for the home. One of the strangest of fires that seems to be lighting up worldwide is that many women directly or indirectly disregard the fundamental ground norm of the marriage institution. Where women are bread winners, many have usurped the authority of their husbands, claiming that such ordinance of Elohim is archaic and unsuitable to the "modern age." Truly, couples should submit to each other in the areas of competence or special grace (Ephesians 5:21) but there is no doubt or shade of grey that Elohim deposited His authority in the husband specifically. Christian couples should do well to clear the foggy image by heartily embracing the divine plan.

> *But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God* (1 Corinthians 11:3).

Just as Yeshua asked what it would profit any person to gain the whole world and lose his/her soul (Matthew 16: 25-26), the need for all families to become functional representations of what Elohim has in mind cannot be over-emphasized. (See Ephesians 5:22-33, Colossians 3: 18-21)

Obedience

All that have been said so far should transition believers into the realm of obedience. The Word of the Lord is not a suggestion for believers to either accept or not accept, according to the state of their emotions. The proof of His reign over believers is the way they esteem His Word and lovingly embrace it. Saints who do so, discover that His Word gives life and does not oppress.

> ***16*** *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;****17*** *Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you* (John 14:16-17).

> 3 *And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. 4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. 6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked* (1 John 2:3-6).

Believers need to esteem the **[**Word**]** as highly as Elohim esteems it (Psalm 138:2). This will drive them to study it intensely (2 Timothy 2:15; 3: 15-17) until it dwells richly in them and flows out of their inner beings to respond to all external stimuli (Colossians 3:16; John 7: 37-39; Matthew 4:3-11).

If Christians must truly elevate the Word to such a pride of place, it is necessary, as a prelude, to shut down every contrary ordinance of mankind in the form of secular-humanistic philosophies and psychological tools that the enemy is using to make the Word of no effect. Saints must be addicted to the pure word, not the fanciful twists and turns presented by those whose agenda is to displace the pure word. If the word says to forgive those who offend, believers have no business seeking to modify it or they will risk sanctions from the Father of Light (Matthew 18: 21-35).

Case Study

The question is: what are the specific scriptures that urge us to walk in disobedience?

One of the Scriptures which have comprehensive instructions for holy living is the one below. Let us explore its provisions:

Colossians 3: 1-25 outline some practical ways for saints can live free of Satan and Sin.

- Those who are in Yeshua and fix their affection in the heavenly realm no longer have appetite for sin but for holiness. (Colossians 3: 1-3)
- Possession of the gift of righteousness is not an excuse to continue to live in sin. Saints need to be diligent to know what to cast off and what to add to their faith.
- There is a role for the inclination of the will to live in a way which pleases the Father and develops personal discipline to obey His word by His Grace.

Assignment

1. Please outline three things you learnt from this chapter.
2. What will you do with this chapter?

Chapter 12

LIGHT AMIDST A CULTURE OF GROSS DARKNESS

A careful examination of the teachings of Yeshua on the end times, paints a vivid picture of life in the earth realm. Summarised, it can be termed the culture of iniquity or gross darkness (Matthew 24:42-51; Mark chapter 13).

Paul the apostle also painted the same scenario.

> *Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;[2] Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;[3] Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth* (1 Timothy 4:1-3; See 2 Timothy 3:**1-7**).

Peter was emphatic in linking the culture of iniquity to false teachings and teachers (2 Peter 2:1-3).

He also warned against the activities and mission of those who would make saints lose sight of the end times (2 Peter 3:1-14).

In the midst of all these issues, Elohim has not left His own elect alone. He has provided extraordinary means of Grace to enable saints maintain a holy walk with Him. These means of grace will be discussed under specific headings.

Elohim's extraordinary means of Grace

1. **His High Priestly prayer:** Yeshua earnestly prayed to the Father for preservation of His Own (John 17:9-19).

As verses 20-23 reveal, His prayer was not just for the 12 disciples but also for everybody else who will become a believer. The truth many saints often forget is that Elohim has already made a way of escape in the midst of temptations for those who believe Him (1 Corinthians 10:12-13). Furthermore, Yeshua, Jesus is ever present at the Throne of Grace interceding for us (Hebrews 2: 16-18; 4:14-16).

2. Effect of Faithful preaching of the whole truth

One of the provisions for victory is Elohim calling people into ministry to use them as instruments for preaching the true Gospel. This is intended to completely transition sinners to saints (Romans 1:14-17).

Part of the duty of faithful preachers is to contend for the true faith and warn the unwary of the dangers of toxic versions of the Gospel which do not convey the truth of the Word of God. This causes a lack of understanding of the truth principles in scriptures (2 Corinthians 11:12-16; 1 Timothy 4:1-4; Jude 1:3-4).

3. Saints who want to succeed are called to embrace the personal responsibility to:

    3.1. Receive the free gift of Salvation by Grace through Faith in the finished work of Yeshua on the Cross (John 3:16-19; Romans 10: 5-13; Ephesians 2: 1-10)

3.2. Realise that the basis of victory against Satan, Sin and all evil is the indwelling presence of Yeshua as King. This presence gives the Holy Spirit right of way to strengthen the saint and release grace to push back all external attempts to defile the inner life (1 John 4:4; 5:4-5; Philippians 1:6; 2:13).

3.3. Be willing to grow in grace and discipline, which would enable them to make the right moral choices when tempted. As individuals, saints need to take responsibility to grow and press into deeper realms of their relationship with Elohim in Yeshua, Jesus (2 Peter 3: 18; 2 Peter 1: 5-11).

> *This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men* (Titus 3:8).

3.4. Look up to Yeshua, Jesus and guard their hearts with all diligence. This attention will equip all saints with the capacity to overcome general sins and the particular ones, called besetting sins, to which they seem vulnerable (Hebrews 12:1-2)...

Saints need to embrace the opportunity offered by the culture of iniquity to switch on the fullness of the grace of Yeshua to live on the narrow way less travelled so that the brightness of His Light in them dispels the gross darkness without (Isaiah 60:1-3). No matter how thick the fog of darkness is around saints, nowhere does the Lord ask them to blend in with those who are ruled by the adversary. Rather, saints are required to take advantage of the darkness to switch on His light in them (1 John 2: 15-17; 2 Corinthians 6: 14-18).

> *[1] Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. [2] For, behold, the darkness shall cover the*

> *earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.* [3] *And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising* (Isaiah 60:1-3).

In this way saints are programmed to impact sinners and society from their inside to the outside. In this way, their lives become magnets which draw sinners closer to Elohim, God (Matthew 5:13-16; Philippians 2:12-16).

3.5. The truth is that at all times, saints need to walk in the consciousness that all they are and can ever be in terms of holiness and righteousness is entirely by Grace. With Grace, they set out to redeem time and fulfil the purpose for which they were created, redeemed and called.

> *But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me* (1 Corinthians 15:10).

4. The reality of the Role of the Body of Christ generally and Accountability Partners in particular.

As has been said elsewhere in this work, isolation is dangerous. Believers are saved and called to function as members of the Body of Yeshua. Those who walk in isolation deprive themselves of the supportive input of others as Prophet Elijah discovered (Romans 11:1-5). The benefit of being connected with others of like faith is that saints can watch over each other, reprove, exhort and enable all saints to remain on the right path, reminding themselves that the Day of days is imminent with each passing day, month and year.

> *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching* (Hebrews 10:25).

> *19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins* (James 5:19-20).

> *16 If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.17 All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death* (1 John 5:16-17).

Ponder on the words of 1 Peter 3:8-17

Assignment

1. Please write a summary of the key things you learned in this lesson.
2. What personal message did you receive?

Chapter 13

TEMPTATION, TRIALS AND LIMITATIONS OF RELIGION

Let us begin this chaper with a caveat: some of the things to be said have been said before in various ways. This concept of repetition of facts and truths agrees with this thought and principle stressed by Paul in his Epistle to the Philippians.

> *Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe* (Philippians 3:1).

In the heart of Elohim, the new creation is a masterpiece of grace. He is saved from Satan and sin and conveyed into His Kingdom. Holiness is natural to the new creation because it is a part of His DNA transmitted by the spiritual procreation process. The joy of the Lord floods the hearts of the brand-new saints as they live out their spiritual experiences.

Disaster strikes sooner or later for many when certain things they rejected, renounced and were delivered from, seem to creep back into their lives. Those who did not undergo discipleship immediately after becoming born again and have not learnt to be truly crucified with Yeshua, Jesus or who belong to Churches where victory over sin is deemed unnecessary, may begin to do the things they were initially delivered from (Galatians 2:17-20).

What happened and why? An enemy has done this through his unchanging playbook called temptation! Let us revisit an important section that was covered at the beginning of this study. What is a Temptation? It is any idea, suggestion, or thought which, when followed, can take a saint outside the perfect will of The Father into sins of thought, word, attitudes or deeds. This includes any trend of thought, feeling or course of action which, when continued, will lead the saint away from righteousness (right standing with Elohim, his God, and holiness of life) into open or secret sin as detailed in chapters *7 – 11* (James 1:13-16).

A switch-blade attack!

On the one side, Temptations from Satan, manipulations by his demonic forces or seductions from human agents work because there is an internal inclination that they see and target. Youths, who are careless or ignorant of the truths shared in this book, are like cities without walls that the enemy can invade at will.
On the other side, when sin accomplishes the evil purpose of Satan, such as immorality, in the life of the young saint he targeted, he switches on to be the accuser, activating the wrong response of shame, guilt, separation from Elohim God and in time (backsliding, helplessness, hopelessness, error, heresy, apostasy, false doctrine) and eternal separation from Him follow.
Satan loves to manipulate youths, specifically and saints generally who are helpless and alone. As this book has amply demonstrated, this presumedstate of helplessness and isolation is a lie. Kingdom citizens

are never alone; their new lives in the ever present Yeshua are well secured!

> *For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God* (Colossians 3:3).

After all, our heavenly Father is definite in making the commitment to preserve His own from the wicked one (Jude 1:24-25).

All saints will do themselves good to guard their hearts with all diligence and watch over their souls (mind, will, emotion) to detect and deal with even the slightest signs of potentially unhealthy soul ties. Such tendencies should be radically dealt with – cut off and shut down without delay.

> *12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. 13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it* (1 Corinthians 10:12-13).

This was what Joseph did, when the wife of Potiphar cast an adulterous eye and lustful speech to him. He fled and damned the consequences of false accusation, rejection and imprisonment (Proverbs 6:26-28; 2 Timothy 2:19-22).

The temptations of Satan from the day of the Fall in Eden (Genesis 3: 1-11) through the temptation of Yeshua in the wilderness (Matthew 4: 1-11) have a set formula, which he never departs from: The love of the world.

That love is further broken down into 3 core components: lust of the flesh (cravings to satisfy the soul and body), lust of the eyes (things that appeal to the eye gate/what we see) and pride of life (whatever offers us the sense of being bigger or better than we are). This is why

the recommendation of the Lord is simple: see the world system and culture as enemies of true spirituality (1 John 2: 15-17; James 4: 1-4).

The Lord has wired all His saints, including the now and next generation of youths, with the capacity to discern Satan and his manipulations and resist him successfully (1 Peter 5: 7-9; James 4:7-8).

Understanding divine deliverance

One of the items in the Lord's school of prayer is this verse:

> *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen* (Matthew 6:13).

Trials

Some who teach that sin is a normal lifestyle of believers while in the world, have misinterpreted it to mean that Elohim leads His own into evil acts. The correct interpretation, rather, is that Elohim allows His children to experience situations that will enable them to make a choice to either obey Him out of love and reverence and holy fear or to accept the lordship of Satan. He respects our wills. The Lord, Who is Sovereign and Supreme allows believers to be proved, just as He did with Abraham, in the matter of Isaac when He asked for him, as a sacrifice.

> *[2] My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;[3] Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.[4] But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing* (James 1:2-4).

Why Elohim bears our imperfections and does not cast us away It is to:

4. show His children their inadequacies.
5. convince His children of their need for Him.

6. generate in His children a strong desire for His Grace.
7. motivate His children to see the necessity of yielding entirely to Him.
8. enable His children embrace His appointed dealings – no matter how inconvenient they may be.

May all saints come forth like gold when tried in the fires allowed by Elohim for their purification unto perfection.

> *10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.11 To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen* (1 Peter 5:10-11; See 1 Peter 1:3-8).

We serve a Redeemer, Saviour and King Who undertakes to preserve His children when they yield their wills to His and live for His glory, and not worldly pleasure. Once His children love righteousness and hate iniquity (Hebrews 1:9) and surrender their entire vessels – spirit, soul, and body - to Him for His holy use, He undertakes to keep them, use their vessels and bar Satan from damaging the destiny He has appointed them. This is a good deal! God's children who have received the grace to give the Lord space to use their vessels to live out the truth in Matthew 6: 9-34, often find that their lives are uncluttered with the pursuit of vanities.

> *33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof* (Matthew 6:33-34).

Religion is incapable of delivering a sinner from sin

This book has made the case a number of times, that religion (emphasis on rituals of learned behaviour that are repetitive and

carnal), cannot deliver practitioners from the spiritual virus called sin. Rather, religion drives believers to err further in trying to achieve victory by their own resolutions and abilities. They end up with broken pledges and New Year resolutions to do better, which they fail repeatedly. The reason for this failure is that, the Lord did not ordain for believers to achieve victory over sin by their own devices. Efforts to achieve victory through self-help will always fail (Colossians 2:8-23). The Lord knows that no one can achieve victory by self-effort or by the various attempts at self-help. The Jewish religious leaders misconstrued and twisted the Laws He gave Israel, to create a culture of religion which became a veil that blinded the people (2 Corinthians 3:12-15).

As Jeremiah 31: 31-34 cited previously, notes, this caused the initiation of a better covenant.

It does not hurt to repeat the truth that the spiritual pathway to Victory is in Yeshua alone. Yeshua has already paid all the price for our victory. The New Covenant wholly depends on His stature as Sin-bearer of the world and His finished work of atonement on the Cross of Calvary (Luke 1:67-75; John 1:29; 2 Corinthians 3:16; Colossians 2: 6-15; 2 Corinthians 12: 7-10).

In his ground-breaking treatise, *The Life That Wins*, Watchman Nee recommends yielding or letting go as the key to true victory. What does this mean? Practically speaking, the Lord is calling us to these approaches which deliver true victory. These approaches are summed up in a life of purity of heart and holiness of spirit, soul and body, which is the desired state of heart and mind.

The Way Forward

1. Genuine Conversion which leads to a new nature (John 3: 3-9; 2 Corinthians 5:17)

2. Take responsibility for any sins committed: acknowledge and confess them with real sincerity of heart arising from a conviction by the Holy Spirit, and ask Elohim for mercy.

> [1] *My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:* [2] *And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world* (1 John 2:1-2).
>
> *He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy* (Proverbs 28:13; See 2 Corinthians 7:8-11).

It is needful to avoid a life of sin consciousness where, after repentance, one gives room for Satan to suggest that nothing happened. It is not a feeling, but a faith issue. We believe the report of the word that if we confess our sins, Elohim is faithful to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

> [8] *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.* [9] *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness* (1 John 1:8-9).

Justification and righteousness are not only gifts to be received and enjoyed when believers are first saved. Whenever a sin is confessed, repented of and dealt with by the Blood of Yeshua, Jesus the individual believer receives the clothing of justification and righteousness. Thus, believers stand before God as people who never sinned.

> [23] *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;* [24] *Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:* [25] *Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the*

> *forbearance of God;[26] To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus* (Romans 3:23-26).

3. Intensely seek sanctification as a deeper work of Grace which deals a death blow to any lingering vestige of the self-nature which is the root of all sinful tendencies (Galatians 5: 13-23).

> *[22] Abstain from all appearance of evil.[23] And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.[24] Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it* (1 Thessalonians 5:22-24).

The point is this: He who saves is still the One Who sanctifies!

> *Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate* (Hebrews 13:12).

When the heart is truly sanctified by the Lord, all aspects of the human life are purified. The saints come to a place where they are made ready for 3 things:

- ***An intimate personal relationship and walk with the Lord***

Contrary to what religion teaches saints, true holiness is not attained by ticking off a long list of things we can abstain from or do. When Elohim does it, holiness flows from the sanctified life.

> *[15] But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;[16] Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy* (1 Peter 1:15-16).

- ***Greater capacity to be used by the Lord exponentially as a vessel of honour.*** The Lord is interested in the quality of the vessels who are His saints. When these vessels – His saints - are

pure, His Presence decorates them and their message, that witnesses about Yeshua, proceeds with the aroma of Yeshua, Jesus. This makes His saints true witnesses rather than mere preachers (2 Timothy 2:19-22; 1 Timothy 4:12).

- Greater Capacity to love Elohim without limits, and obey His word without struggle.

  Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you (John 15:14; See Matthew 22:36-40).

4. The will of His saint is intentionally subsumed in the will of his Heavenly Father. His will becomes what the saint lives for – his assignment on earth - just as it was for Yeshua, Jesus.

   Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work (John 4:34; See John 6:38).

5. Greater capacity of His saints to truly love fellow humans and forgive those who sin against them – whether they ask for it or not.

   34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another (John 13:34-35; See 15:9-13; 1 John 3:11-18).

6. Ready for the coming of the Lord at any time

   Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me.2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ (2 Corinthians 11:1-2; See Ephesians 5:25-27; 1 Crinthians 9:24-27).

Assignment

1. Please share three things you learnt from this chapter.
2. Which point specifically spoke to your felt need?

Chapter 14

SOME EXTRA INSIGHTS FOR VICTORY

The late Apostle of Chinese origin, Watchman Nee, had deep insight into the victory to which saints are called. In his ground-breaking work, *The Life That Wins,* he made some profound contributions which are paraphrased for clarity.

Excerpts from *The Life That Wins*

1. The new life of saints is an exchanged, not merely changed, lives (Isaiah 61:1-3).

Faith in what Yeshua, Jesus accomplished at the Cross enables believers to exchange His Life for their self-nature (1 Corinthians 1:23-31).

- The New Life of saints is a gift, not a reward. Elohim is ever ready to give His saints victory. Believers cannot overcome by works, just as they are not saved by works. However, the victory of the New Life which

Elohim freely gives them results in good works (James 2:14-20).

2. The saint's victory occasioned by his New Life is all by Grace, not works.

> *5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.6 And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then it is no more grace: otherwise work is no more work* (Romans 11:5-6).

   a. The saint's new life is obtained, not attained. When it is obtained, victory is received instantaneously – at the very moment appointed by the Father. What is attained takes a process of time.

   b. It is a miracle of Grace to have victory over Satan and overcome sin. When Elohim does the work, He miraculously puts to death the Old man and grants believers the fullness of the New Man.

> *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me* (Galatians 2:20).

3. The saint's New Life is an expressed, not suppressed life. Whatever is suppressed within is not victory. Rather, what is expressed signifies victory.

Believers become instruments of expressing the beauty of the glory of Yeshua, Jesus in them.

> *Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice* (Philippians 4:4; See 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Romans 14:17-19).

By His Grace, Elohim has released an actionable body of revelation to us in this book. Understanding and embracing the truths espoused in the lessons of this book will have a liberating effect when mixed with faith (John 8:32-36).

Truth is very empowering. A lot of young people are often attracted to ministers who preach erroneous doctrines that give the impression that just coming to "church" as in joining a congregation or entering a building is the same as being saved.

We need to walk in additional responsibilities. One of them is to reckon the fullness of victory won by Yeshua at the Cross as a done deal and embrace Elohim's standard of a sin-free living. "To reckon" means to come to a place where it gets settled in the heart that Yeshua paid the price in full for believers to cease to be slaves of sin and bad behaviour (Romans 6:11-18; 1 John 3:2-10).

In the previous chapter, we discussed the way forward for all saints who desire to walk in victory over sin, Satan and temptations. Let us continue from where we stopped in the discussion of the way forward:

> *For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?* (Matthew 16:26)

What to do when things go wrong in our walk with Elohim

Saints are not immune from temptations and seductions as has been discussed elsewhere. It rather means that even when the enemy seems to gain access or the saints, feel or actually do what is contrary to their new nature, there is an almost instantaneous conviction of Holy Spirit which drives them to their knees. After earnest prayers of repentance, they arise with the gift of justification and the clothing of Yeshua's righteousness.

> *My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:[2] And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.[3] And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments* (1 John 2:1-3).

Sin is the chief tool of Satan for compromising the destiny of the now and next generations. He accomplishes this by making sin the operating principle of worldly culture within which young believers grow up. In this polluted cultural environment, these young believers struggle to live righteously. Unfortunately, both the liberal preachers who desist from talking about sin and its consequences and the religious right which infuses sin consciousness are wrong.

Righteousness is an extraordinary gift of Elohim that all saints need to embrace. It is what makes Elohim to look at saints on the basis of the finished work of Yeshua, Jesus (Romans 5:14-18).

The Lord wants believers to walk in His nature: Holiness of life.

> **15** *But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;***16** *Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy* (1 Peter 1:15-16).

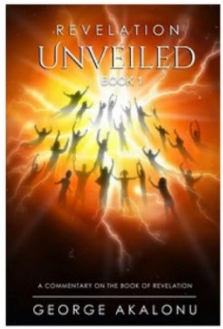
The Holy Spirit Who began the work of redemption by convicting believers of sin, righteousness and judgement is ever ready to do a deeper work with the blood of Yeshua for those saints who hunger and thirst for righteousness and are willing to consecrate their heart, mind, will and body as living sacrifices unto the Lord (Matthew 5: 3-6; Romans 12:1-2).

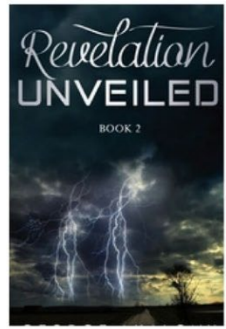
> *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ* (Philippians 1:6)

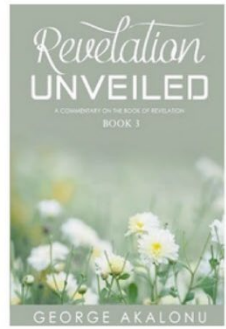
Assignment

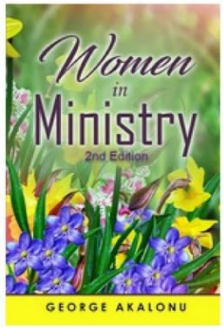
1. Please share any 3 things you learnt today.
2. What will you do with this chapter?

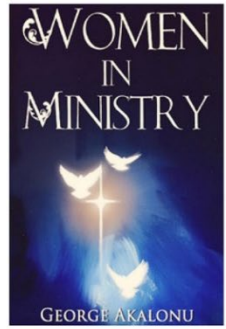
Other Books by George Akalonu

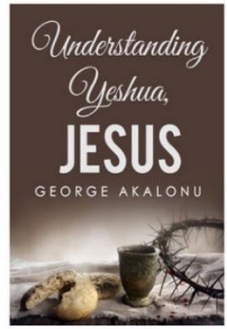


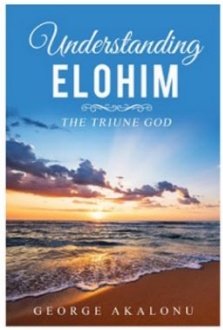




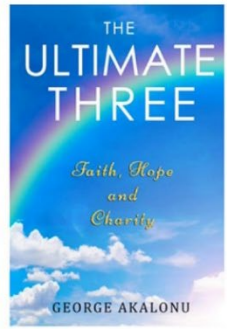




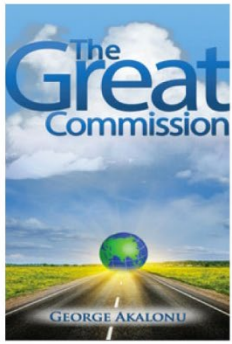


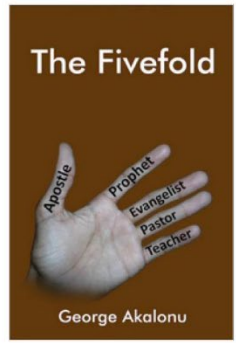


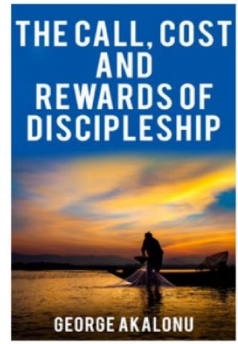


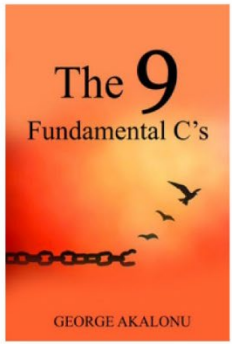


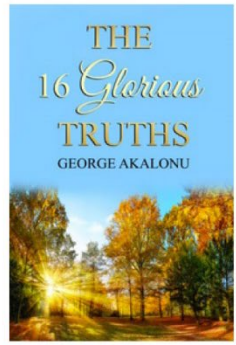
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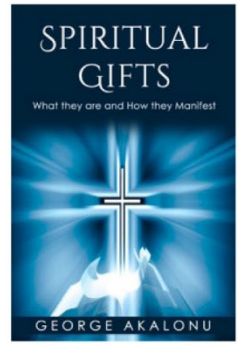


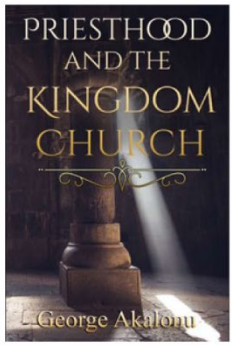


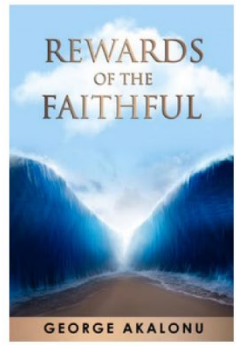


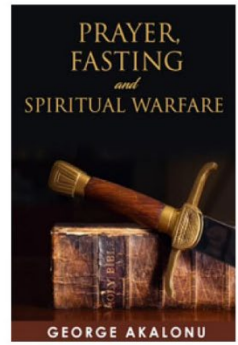






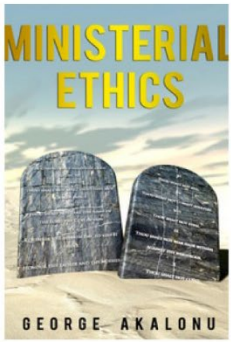




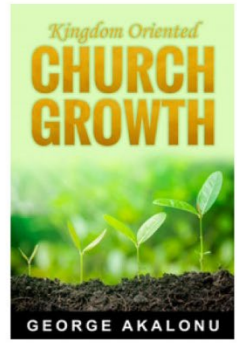


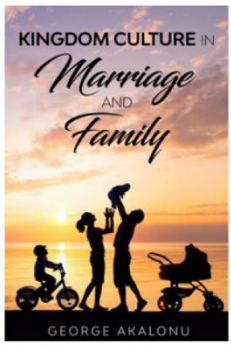
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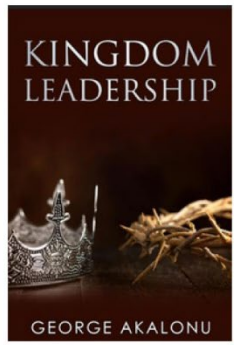
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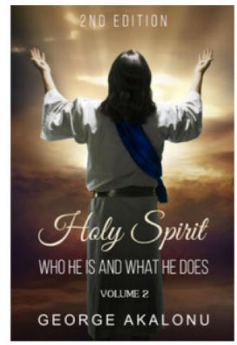


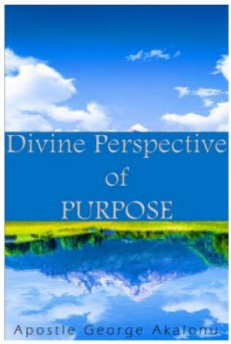


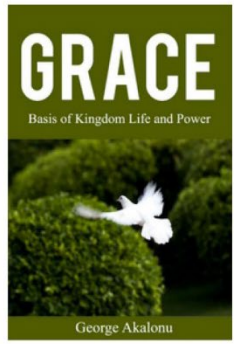






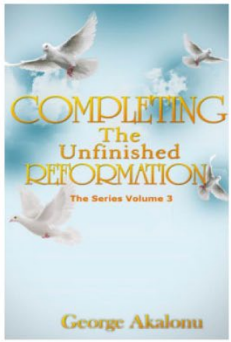


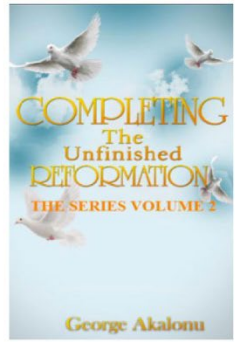


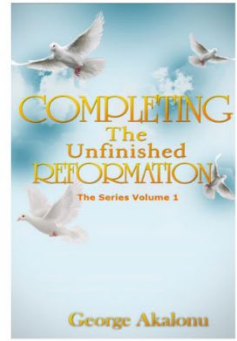


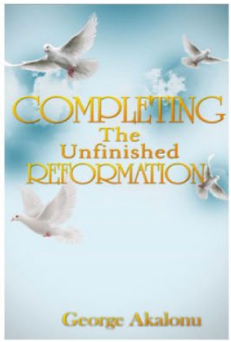


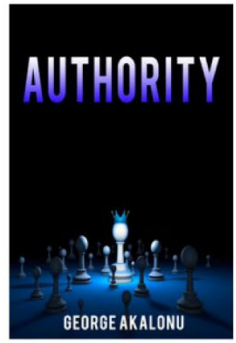
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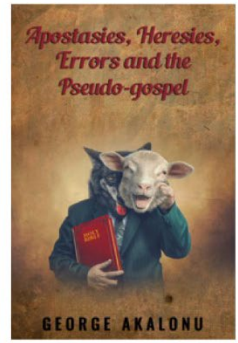


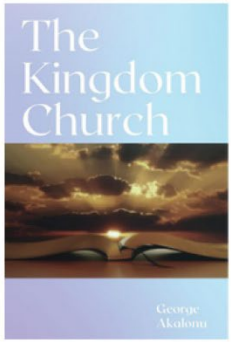


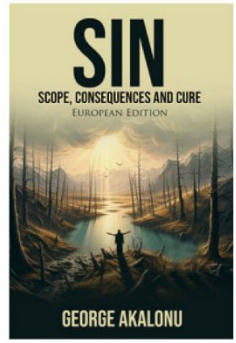


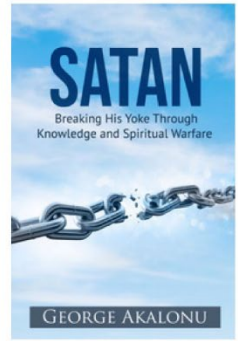






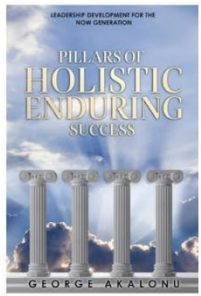


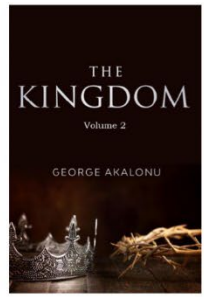


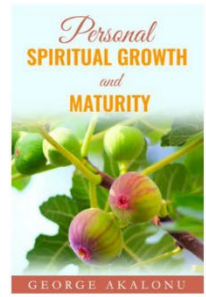


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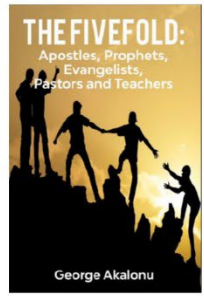
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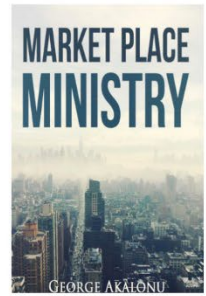


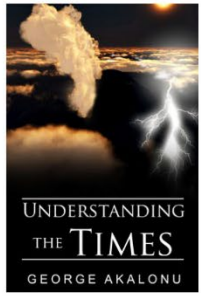


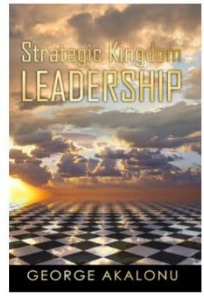


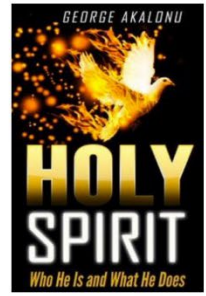


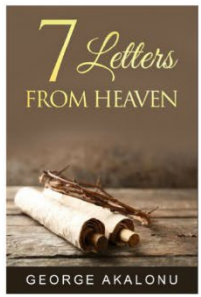


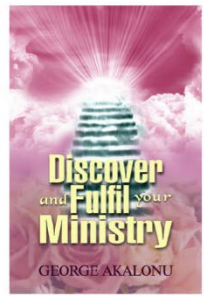


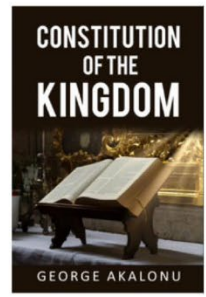












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SIN

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Apostle George Akalonu and his wife, Pastor Grace Akalonu have been set apart by the Lord as instruments of connecting, manifesting and empowering countless saints worldwide to function as His one single Body and Kingdom Church held together by love. This is achieved through the unique Teach, Train, Equip, Activate and Release process committed to their trust.

They are visionaries of the Global Advanced Mentorship Program, Global School of Ministry and Arise Metropolitan Assembly. They also serve as International President of International Ministers Fellowship worldwide. They live in London with their five children.

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