Keynote Address Delivered By The Holy Father The Sole Spiritual Head, Leader O. O. Obu During The Leader's Representatives' Meeting Held on Saturday, 1st July, 1978 At 34 Ambo Street, Calabar.

## FAITHFUL AMBASSADORS OF THE NEW KINGDOM

First Bible Lesson: John 15:12
Second Bible Lesson: John 13:35
Golden Text: Matthew 5:44

Brethren, I am not going to bore you with too many things. I want to reveal this new Kingdom to you. This is the reason you were called.

It appears that many of you have been drinking the old wine and do not have any more taste for the new wine. You must understand that the Holy City spoken about is love. That City which the Apostle John saw which was so bright and beautiful is love. The New Jerusalem is love and the name of my God spoken about is Love.

The name of my Church and the New Name is Love.

I do not think that it is useful to go back to Genesis to find out what love is, because, love is the finale. The New World that you have heard is love. Brotherhood is love.

#### Love is a basic quality

Brethren, whatever you do without love is nothing. Wisdom is vain, but love is humble. Many of you say that it is difficult to cultivate love. There is

1

no other cord that binds, except love. It is love that has brought you together. I say unto you, owe no man anything, except love. Love does not do any harm to his neighbour. Preaching, healing, prophesying are all good, but the ultimate is love. It is love that heals, opens your eyes and brings you wealth. Love does all things.

#### Love Personified

You are given this gospel as a key to the Representatives' Meeting, in order to unlock all the powerful gates before you. Wherever and whenever you meet, I want you to take this Gospel of today as your mirror. A good contractor goes according to his plan. This Gospel is the plan of this meeting and the New Kingdom of God is Love.

Academic qualifications, power, craftiness, diplomacy have no room here, except love. Love is the requirement foremost in this New Kingdom. God is love and Christ is love. For this reason, the Leader's Representatives must have love. Love covers a multitude of sins. Love does not keep account of injury. Therefore when you come together it is for you to employ all the spiritual gifts within your reach and set them in motion.

Brethren, you have been told that the Father has come in person. The Father is Love. The Holy Spirit that has descended here on earth is Love. The coming of the Lord Jesus Christ on earth is Love. What can you preach without love? What type of songs and what sort of dances can you exhibit without love? Or do you see many dances, songs and preaching in the world? These are not needed. The

paramount requirement is love.

#### THE NEW AND THE OLD GENERATION

The difference between Brotherhood and the world is the love that is in Brotherhood and hatred in the world. The glory of Christ is love. From Genesis to Malachi, many things were written about Christ. When he arrived here on earth, he started preaching about love. Now is the time to practice love.

Some inquiring minds have asked you the difference between Brotherhood and other churches. The answer is that other churches preach about love but Brotherhood of the Cross and Star, PRACTISE love. In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen! May we have the first Bible lesson read.

First Bible Lesson: John 15:12

"This is my commandment that ye love one another, as I have loved you."

Brethren, that is our memorandum and the article of Association. This instrument is love. Whether you come to Brotherhood today, yesterday or you have been very old here, it does not matter, the only law in Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is love.

### Why you must practise love

If you do not abide in love, you have abrogated the law. Those who are really true Brotherhood brethren walk in love. When you have love, you are free. You have no cause to fear. For we know that we have passed over from death to life, if we love our brethren. He that loveth not his brother, abideth in death till now.

\_

You do not come to Brotherhood by money, or by any other means; whether you make your beds in Bethel and call the Leader your Father, but without love it profits you nothing. Yes, I agree to be your Father, brother, friend, in fact any relation you choose but suppose you do not have this prima facie requirement of love? What do you want me to do?

Here is the passport and the plan. This is the criterion of the issue. All things will pass away but love endures forever. This is the only instrument to be used in this New Kingdom - LOVE.

You remember what Christ said: "Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of my Father, but the one doing the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have we not cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you; DEPART from me, ye that work iniquity."

It is because of the promise that God made to His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, that any one who calls on the name of the Lord would be saved, that many are going away with salvation today. You can call on the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ or on the Name of Olumba Olumba Obu and get salvation, but what about this question of Love?

Do not rejoice because you have used this name to do great works on earth. The efficacy of this name is according to the promise God had made with His only begotten Son in order to honour him. It is the fulfilment of God's promise.

My Kingdom is not of this world. The New Kingdom of God is love. It is not wealth, food or anything material. It is LOVE. You have heard that the Kingdom of this world has become the Kingdom of Jehovah God and of His Christ. What exactly do you understand by this statement?

#### The World and the New Kingdom of God

The Kingdom of the world is hatred, war, division, envy, strife, falsehood, lawlessness and immorality. The Kingdom of Jehovah God and His Christ is love, peace, righteousness, lowliness, humility, kindness, sincerity, goodness, meekness, and patience. Love means oneness and unity.

Therefore do not look for wisdom, for Solomon asked for wisdom but failed at the end. David was given power but refused the privilege of building the temple of God, for his hands were filled with blood. If you count and consider from Adam, you will notice that, wealth, power, wisdom, children, silver, and gold, are nothing new, what is new is love.

When people become jealous about the zeal in Brother-hood now, they say that after short time the zeal will fall. But I tell you that Brotherhood has not even started. Brethren, I tell you, the wisdom of this world shall be confounded, only Brotherhood, which is LOVE, shall stand forever. Let us read the second Bible lesson once again.

Second Bible Lesson: John 13:35

"By this shall men know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Brethren, think for a moment, if you have no love,

it means you are not the child of God. People say that our uniform is very bright in colour. The true uniform of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is not what you are wearing. It is love. Brotherhood stands on two platforms of service. The word of God says love your enemies. Even if one is an unbeliever and he comes to Brotherhood, he is attended to and given all his needs, but that does not make him a Brotherhood. Love is not partial, love helps indiscriminately. The question is do you cultivate that love? It is reported in the Scriptures that God became angry with the children of Isreal in the wilderness and many of them were destroyed. God is love. He never kills. This is the work of the angels. I do not want to go into detail, but what you must understand is that God is love. He does not care what you are or what you are not. It is a mistake to say that a man is God. A man is not God but Love is God.

Perhaps you find someone who says that he is God and writes all seeming holy names around himself. But this man fornicates, kills, tell lies, and commits all forms of lawlessness, is he still God? But supposing a man writes that he is a Beelzebub, Satan, witch, but he does not kill, he does not fornicate, he is not immoral and lawless, but gentle, humble and practises righteousness. What would you call Him? He is God.

If you love one another, people will know that you are the children of God. You are known as God if you love all people, practise righteousness. There is nothing that manifests God than love. There is nothing in a name. For there were so many Jesus in Jerusalem but the Lord Jesus Christ was manifested distinctively in love, humility, meekness and chastity. He was beaten, but he did not revenge, he was led as

a sheep for the slaughter but he did not open his mouth. The world was like a cow who does not know the value of his tail until it is slashed off. They did not know the value of Christ until they killed him. They called him the friend of sinners but killed him. They wanted his good nature of love, feeding, healing and not his own person.

Let it become known to all in Brotherhood and the Leader's Representatives meeting that the emblem or seal that makes you known as one in God and God in you is love. The world knows your characteristics, they know that you do not revenge.

They also know that you do not take court action against anyone. And that you do not report any incident to the police when any of your things are taken away by someone. You claim that you are hated by your family and friends because of your being a Brotherhood. This is not true. You are only hated because you claim to be Brotherhood when you are not. What is the sign that you have as a Brotherhood? Where is that Love?

## THE FAITHFUL REPRESENTATIVE

Being a Pastor, Apostle, Prophet or Leader's Representative does not mean anything. The only recognized position is Love. You have made a sad mistake by saying you are the Leader's Representative. Where is your love, meekness, gentleness, humility, and right-eousness. Who is the Leader's Representative? Let him stand up. In fact there is none. I want you to represent me in word and in deed. You must behave like Him, you must do things the way He does in love,

kindness, gentleness and goodness towards all in the bethel.

Christ said, you know that they which are accounted to rule over the nations exercise authority upon them and their great ones exercise authority over them. But so shall it not be among you, but whosoever will be great among you shall be your servant. May we have the golden text read. I have given you the key and the spotlight to this meeting.

#### Golden Text: Matthew 5:44

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which spitefully use you and persecute you."

Brethren, that is your assignment. For this purpose you were called. You must love your enemies, bless them and pray for them that persecute you. If you do so, you are really my representatives. Do not say that someone is not a Brotherhood, for Brotherhood includes everything. This is the keynote. You may say that it is difficult to love someone who wants to kill you. The advice is that you must love him. Or to those who are rewarded with evil for the good things they do, they must continue to bear with such ingrates and show love. What will it profit you if you gain all the world and lose your soul?

# Who are the stumbling blocks and how can you overcome them?

Let us examine and locate them, the way to overcome them is to love. Christ said stumbling blocks will come, but woe unto him through whom they come. What is the stumbling block? They are your enemies. Do not pray that such be taken away or destroyed. The solution is to love. These stumbling blocks are everywhere, in your houses, offices, bethels, in your car, while on a journey, even here in this meeting. It could be your wife, son, brother, sister, relative or neighbour. You are all surrounded by them, what then can you do? You must love them.

As Leader's Representatives you have stumbling blocks. Take the case of Christ. Judas was one of the twelve and he was a stumbling block to Christ. Your enemies are within the fold and not outside. As far as Brotherhood is concerned, people outside have no access to hate or persecute you. The only way out is to love. The children of Isreal were stumbling blocks to Moses. They challenged him and caused him to smite the rock twice, contrary to the instruction of God. Moses and Aaron were brothers, but Aaron became a stumbling block to Moses by molding a carved image as God for the children of Isreal to worship when Moses went up to the Mountain to receive the law.

Brethren, this is the key that I have given to you. Love those who persecute and hate you, love and bless all those who wish you evil, your enemies, in order to win the battle. If you love only those who love you of what benefit is there? You are still in death till now.

Brethren, I do not want to be tedious with you, those who have ears to hear, let them hear, May God bless His holy words.

Thank you Father.