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WHEN WAS CHRIST CRUCIFIED?

FIRST LESSON: MATTHEW 28: 1-6

In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

SECOND LESSON: LUKE 24: 3 - 8

And they entered in, and found not the body of the Jesus Lord. And it came to pass as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shinning garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spoke unto you when he was yet in Galilee, Saying, the Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. And they remembered his words.

GOLDEN TEXT: JOHN 20:15 - 17

Jesus saith unto her, wommi, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith, unto him, Sir, if tho have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, a and saith unto hir. Rabboni; which is to say Master.

Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to ny Father, but to to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

THE WHOLE TRUTH:

This gospel is going to be a brief one, just to remind you of what our Lord Jesus Christ had said. It is a great testimony about one whose eavent had been prophesied right from Genesis to Malachi and all His activities and utterances summarized in the synoptic gospels down to the book of Jude.

His last words while on the Cross were, `it is FINISHED!" This means that, the works of the flesh had been brought to an end and the works of the spirit took over from then till now and shall remain for ever. From that point on, our Lord Jesus Christ is no longer known in the flesh but in spirit.

I do not intend to speak of current events but to remind you of what had passed which you also witnessed. It was at that time He said: `I will go to Jerusalem and there I will be tormented, tortured and killed but on the third day my Father shall cause me to resurrect. (Matthew 16:21). It is the truth of that His statement which I intend to unfold to you. It is the joy of His resurrection that I bring to you.

When the Lord got to the temple and realised that it had been turned into a mercantile house, He took a cane and drove those concerned out of the temple and overturned their tables. The people were surprised at His action and asked Him to justify His action by showing a sign. He told them to destroy the temple and He would rebuild it in only three days. The people looked at him and thought he was a demented fellow. They wondered how He could rebuild a temple that took their grandfathers forty six years to build in only three days. But the words of our Lord Jesus Christ came to pass as a proof to the world that every bit of word spoken by God will not fail to fulfil.

When Christ told them to destroy the temple and He would rebuild it in three days, they did not know that He was referring to Himself. He was thus crucified and on the third day the Father caused Him to resurrect. His crucifixion brought an end to all the doctrines and ways of worship which the world had known. The old order gave way to the new order and doctrine. No person is now known in the flesh but in spirit. God is so consistent in His utterances that whatever He says will surely come to pass.

THE GENESIS OF GOOD FRIDAY:

By this time every year, I bring to you the chronological proof of the arithmetic in His crucifixion, His resurrection and the Good Friday. I am taking the trouble of making this arithmetical proof of the correct days and periods of the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ because there is a local adage which says that, once the cause of an event is forgotten, there is bound to be confusion. It is our duty to take particular note of the exact time of the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ in order to correct the distortion of fact as wrongly upheld by the churches. The distortion is what has brought to man untold hardship and various problems.

The Lord said that, He would go to Jerusalem and there, would be tortured and killed, but on the third day His Father would cause Him to resurrect. But the churches believe that our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified on Friday. First of all, we are going to take that day into consideration to see how correct it is with regard to His statement. Our Lord Jesus Christ said that, He would resurrect on the third day. We are going to provide two versions:- the version as obtainable here in this kingdom of God and that upheld by the churches in the world. At the end of the day, whoever is wrong in the calculation should accept the veritable truth.

Before His departure, He (Christ) made it clear that it was expedient that He went away for if He did not go away, the Comforter would not come. He said also that, when He, the Comforter would come even the spirit of truth, He would lead you to the accurate knowledge of truth for He would not speak of His own volition but as He heard from `me' so would He declare to you and He would glorify me.

It is one thing for one to obtain a person's property by force or false pretences but it is another to prove ownership of it on request. This is in line with the saying that, the throwing down of an opponent in a fight does not necessarily mark the end of the fight. The words which I speak to you are of the Lord and not mine. For example, if someone promises to do a particular thing to one who shall patiently wait for him for five years at a certain place, would the person who rushes to the place on the forth year or goes there on the sixth year benefit from such a promise? The answer is obviously no. The only person who is to benefit from such a promise is the one who is there on the appointed time. Any word that proceeds from the mouth of God should not be joked with.

THE REAL SOURCE OF PROBLEMS FACING THE WORLD:

The wrong notion held by the churches in the world about the right time and day of the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is a factor responsible for the problems that plague mankind. The situation could be compared with any mathematical calculation that is not begun from zero 'O' which naturally is limited in progression after the digit, nine '9'. The entire Christiandom and indeed the whole world have failed because, they begin their calculation or counting from one and not zero. That is why they get stucked at the digit nine.

THE WRONG NOTION OF THE CHURCHES:

They claim that, the Lord was crucified on Friday which should be regarded as the first day in the journey to crucifixion and resurrection. Next, is Saturday which is the second day and lastly Sunday which He resurrected at dawn following the wrong calculation of the churches. Such calculation is completely wrong with regard to the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It makes nonesense of the Lord's statement that, the son of man shall be buried in the heart of the earth for three days and three nights just as Jonah remained in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights.

The Comforter has now come to lead the world to the accurate knowledge of the truth.

INFORM THE WORLD OF THE TRUTH:

Do not be ashamed to go into the world to declare the truth which you have witnessed and heard here in this kingdom. We should all rise in concert to disseminate this truth. To err is human but forgiveness is divine. The truth has now been unfolded for all to embrace and forget about the past.

THE WORK OF FAITH:

Faith without work is dead. Any servant who does not work according to instructions given to him is bound to fail.

I told you a story of a certain young man who went to fetch firewood and incidentally his axe fell into a big stream. As he dived into the water to retrieve the axe, he saw a female lepper whose dwelling place was the depth of the sea. For adhering to the old woman's instructions, the young man was abundantly blessed and he reaped bountifully. Another young man who went to the woman returned with tales of woe because of his disobedience.

THE STAND OF BROTHERHOOD:

It was on a Wednesday night that our Lord Jesus Christ drank of the cup of man's iniquities. This explains why we in Brotherhood of the Cross and Star observe WATCH and PRAY every Wednesday night to commemorate that awful night. He was delivered into the hands of His adversaries after drinking of that cup. That was the night of torture and torment and finally He was crucified at dawn on Thursday. He asked His disciples to keep watch and pray. We say this authoritatively because "WE" were there. We witnessed and felt the pain and agony that Wednesday night. That explains why we have continued to Watch and Pray, every Wednesday night.

The world now erroneously believe that, the Lord was crucified on Friday. This is unfortunate.

SUNDAY IS THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK:

There is also a great confusion in the world about the counting of the days in the week. The people of the world believe that, the week begins with Monday. This is erroneous and mundane teaching. That does not represent God's arrangement which the Jews themselves adopted. Sunday is the first day of the week, the day Nature began the work of creation.

THE HOURS OF THE DAY:

The world has also gone ahead, through its false teachings and unsound doctrine to change the correct counting of hours that make up the day and night. Six O'clock in the morning marks the dawn and the beginning of a new day which terminates at six O'clock in the evening (6 p.m.). That is God's design, from six O'clock in the evening to six O'clock in the morning (6 a.m.) marks the beginning and end of one night respectively. But the people of the world record that, the day (morning) begins from midnight to 12 noon, while evening begins from the other side of 12 noon (12.01) to midnight. That arrangement is not only wrong but destructive.

It was a known fact amongst the Jews that, Saturday (their Sabbath) was and up till now is their resting day. A day which no work of any kind was done. The celebration of the Jewish biggest festival of passover fell on Friday. That was why the council of elders decided that, the Lord should not be crucified on that day for fear of unrest by His sympathizers. This further disproves the contention that our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified on Friday as wrongly upheld by the churches. The fact must be noted of the statement of our Lord Jesus Christ that, the son of man will remain in the heart of the earth for three days and three nights even as Jonah was in the belly of a fish for three days and nights. Therefore, Friday and Saturday give two days only and two nights leaving a big question mark about the third day. Remember that the week terminates on Saturday and not Sunday. Now, man and God who is a liar? Human beings could be compared to a naughty child in the school who when taught to say letter A would rather say C. By her action and utterances the world has presented God as a liar and has put Him into di sdain.

THE PROMISED COMFORTER:

Now the Comforter as promised by Christ is here to lead man to the accurate knowledge of truth. It is never too late to mend. It is high time we conformed to the correct three days and three nights as proved by our Lord Jesus Christ.

When the true believers otherwise called the wisemen (four of them) heard about the birth of a new born king, they got themselves ready to go and worship Him with gifts. This is a proof of the fact that the word of God consists in practising than merely hearing. That was a demonstration of faith that accompanied with its work. To show their state of preparation, the wisemen sold all that they had and traced the star to locate the new born king. It was written before His advent that, when the Lord would come, His true believers would sell all they had in order to go and worship Him.

For God had promised to come to the world and would be presented with three significant gifts that would serve as signs of His advent, namely: Frankincense, myrrh and gold. Do not forget the fact that every bit of word that proceeds from the mouth of God will not go unfulfilled.

At the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, the four wisemen met and fixed a day and a spot to meet again in order to travel to where the new born king was to be located. But the fourth wiseman while on his way to meet others as they had planned saw a man who fell among the robbers. He was seriously injured and left in a state of coma by the roadside. When he got closer to the victim, he discovered he was a Hebrew. He feared that if he left the man unattended to, he would die and so decided to give him first aid before being taken to a hospital (inn). When the man finally regained consciousness, he inquired from the good Samaritan why he helped to resusciate him. The fourth wiseman told him that the Lord said he should help him. Then he asked the fourth wiseman whether he was seeking for the new born king and the maggi, he replied in affirmative. He then directed him to go to Bethlehem of Judae.

By the time the good Samaritan arrived the place where they were to set off in search of the new-born king, other three had gone. That was God's design.

In the prophecy about His coming, three gifts were said would be presented to the new born king and if the fourth wiseman had joined them, the prophecy of God would have been wrong. This explains why God had enjoined us that nothing should be added to or subtracted from His words. The duty of the good Samaritan was service to humanity.

THE FOURTH WISEMAN REPRESENTS HUMANITARIAN SERVICE:

A certain woman in Bethlehem who was with a baby boy was approached by a soldier who along with others were searching for new born baby boys to kill by the order of king Herod. The intention was to eliminate the new born king in the process of killing every new born male child. There the fourth

wiseman prevented the soldier. He told them that, he had been waiting for the soldier there to present him with a gift. He handed the gift to the soldier who retreated leaving the baby boy alive. The soldier was actually being bribed by the fourth wiseman to spare the life of the baby. In truth, this is exactly what took place. For those of you who were not there at that time, this is for your information. The fourth wiseman continued in search of Christ for 33 years. Yet he did not find him. On the very day He was crucified, the fourth wiseman arrived at the city. He was confronted with another pathetic problem that needed his goodness. A certain girl whose father was indebted to another man and could not pay the debt was arrested by her father's creditor. When the girl saw the fourth wiseman she cried with a loud voice that he should come to her rescue. She said her father was of the same clerical rank with him and wore the same cap. The fourth wiseman obliged and got her released. That was the last gift left with him and he parted with it. That was the same day the Lord was crucified and there was a great storm and the earth shook to its foundation. While the storm continued to ravage the world, a mighty stone rolled down from a mountain and crushed the fourth wiseman to death. It was at that point that he saw our Lord Jesus Christ who spoke the words as recorded in Matthew 25: 35 - 36:

For I was an hungred and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in.

Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Those words were said by Christ to the fourth wiseman who thought he had failed in his mission to see the Lord physically. The fourth wiseman in turn asked the Lord when He was hungry and he fed Him, naked and he clothed Him and so on.

The Lord replied him saying: in as much as you did them to the needy, you did them to me. The young girl there was the one who witnessed what transpired between the Lord and the fourth wiseman.

This information is for your awareness and understanding. This is a clear indication that, no man has the power to do anything on his own. This is why it is said that, it is only the king who knowns the secret of His kingdom. God therefore is responsible for everything that happens. His will alone prevails.

THE THREE MAGGI:

The three other wisemen after presenting their gifts were directed by the angel to take a different route home and should not go back to Herod to inform him as he had requested because of his dubious intent. But for those gifts, Joseph would not have been able to cater for his wife, Mary, and the baby.

The same angel instructed Joseph to flee with the child and his wife to Egypt for their lives. God does not make any mistake and all His plans are for our advantage. God had pre-ordained all these things.

Read the first lesson again.

FIRST LESSON: MATTHEW 28: 1 - 6

In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

And, behold there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

His countenance was like lightning and his raiment white as snow; And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.

And the angel answered and said unto the women, fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

HE IS THE CAUSE AND EFFECT OF ALL THINGS:

The lessons contained in the above passage are enormous. Ask yourself who taught the angel to reply the women in that manner? It is said that, He is risen, and as a living being could not be found amongst the dead. The teachings given to you are the truth and they are very clear. Do not expect God to come down from the sky to tell you, 'here I am, let me teach you.'

The stone it is said, was rolled back from the mouth of the sepulchre. The question is, who rolled the stone? Is it your great grand parents or you? If God does not help man and bring salvation to him, who else can do it? Was it not God who caused Christ to resurrect as the Lord had said Himself?

THE CORRECT DAYS AND HOURS OF THE PASSION:

Now, the arithmetical calculation of the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is as follows; Remember that the whole of Wednesday night He was under torture until the dawn of Thursday when death sentence was passed on Him.

From 6.01 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. on Thursday is one day (i.e. day light). From 6.01 p.m. to 6.00 a.m. (i.e. Thursday night) is one night From 6.01 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. on Friday is the second day

From 6.01 p.m. to 6.00 a.m. (Friday night) is the second night

From 6.01 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. on Saturday is the third day

And finally, from 6.01 p.m. to 6.00 a.m. (i.e. Saturday night)

is the third night which terminates on Sunday morning, when the Lord resurrected.

If this calculation is followed strictly, it systematically gives the exact three days and three nights.

What God wants is complete obedience and absolute submission. Whatever He tells you to do, that you must unquestionably do. Whoever does his own personal will has himself to blame and should pray fervently for himself. If you want to enjoy God's grace, you have to obey Him. Because He had said that, the son of man shall be in the heart of the earth for three days and nights, those who went to the sepulchre a little after six O'clock in the morning of Sunday did not find Him as He had arisen. God does His thing strictly according to His time and season. Those who argue that the Lord was crucified on Friday and resurrected on Monday are anti-Christ and have derailed from the path of salvation. But because of His boundless love, He has continued to remind us of the truth and to lead us through the path of rectitude. Therefore, the power, love, truth and salvation existing in Brotherhood are centred on the correct observation of the crucifixion and resurrection of the one whose blood, washes the sins of man.

THE NEED TO BE DEVOTED:

There are many who claim to be Brotherhood members and for years have never attended Bible Classes, Watch and Pray and the observation of the weekly Thursday fasting. Such persons do not know where they are and what Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is all about.

When the Lord visited Lazarus His friend, Mary sat on His feet listening to the word of God while Martha, Mary's sister chose to busy herself in the kitchen cooking. Martha got offended that Mary did not assist her in the kitchen but wasted the whole time in listening to Christ.

In Martha's thinking, Mary was merely idling herself about the Lord. In His response our Lord Jesus Christ questioned Martha why she allowed the things of this world to trouble her. He made it known to Martha that Mary, her sister, had made a better choice by sitting before the Lord to listen to the word of God. That was all written about Martha in the scriptures. Mary who chose the word of God happened also to be the same person who led others to the grave to receive the body of Christ but were told that He had risen. Such is the unrequitted love which God wants. Because Mary submitted herself to the word of God, she had no problem in practising it. Whoever hears the word of God and puts same into practice, has no problem. Except

you listen to the word of God, you cannot practise it. When Mary used the sweet-smelling ointment on the Lord's feet, Judas and others who were carnally-minded got offended and regarded such gesture as a financial waste. But Christ told them to leave her alone for she was doing so in anticipation of and preparation for His burial. Mary at all times distinguished herself among other women. She never made a wrong choice because she allowed herself to be guided by the word of God. The day she and others went to the grave yard, Martha was not in the group. It was Mary alone who showed much concern right from the crucifixion to the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Lord Jesus Christ rightly said that he who has not eaten of His flesh and drank of His blood is not worthy of Him. Whatever a man sows same shail he reap. None can cheat God.

Let the second lesson be read again.

SECOND LESSON: LUKE 24: 3 - 8

And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shinning garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, why seek ye the living among the dead?

He is not here, but is risen. Remember how he spoke unto you when he was yet in Galilee, saying, The son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. And they remembered his words.

THE IMPORTANCE OF WOMEN IN THE SERVICE OF GOD:

Another lesson to be learnt here is the importance of women before God. Unfortunately, men presently and even before now, never accorded women their right of place. Every person has a duty to perform and whatever a man sows is what he will reap.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BAPTISM:

The moment you accept to be immersed into water in the name of the Father, the son and the Holy Ghost, you have died and resurrected with Him and have become one with the Lord. Therefore from then onward, death has no dominion over you again. If our Lord Jesus Christ were not baptised, He would not have overcome death. Whoever dies and resurrects with Him has no problem.

It is written in Romans 6:2-11 that how shall we who are dead to sin continue to live in sin. We have been baptised in our Lord Jesus Christ and His death. Therefore, we are buried with Him through baptism into death.

Having been raised from death into God's glory, we are equally made new. (see Romans 6: 2-11).

It is for this reason that, our Lord Jesus Christ advised that you should not fear that which can destroy the body but cannot kill the soul but you should rather fear that which can destroy both the body and soul and put them into hell fire.

On this note, our Lord Jesus Christ damned all odds that awaited Him in Jerusalem and went there because He feared not that which would kill only the flesh but would not harm His soul. He offered Himself as a ransome for many who believe in Him. All those who follow after His foot print shall triumph. It is not a matter of belonging to the Christiandom or any class or group distinction. It is a matter of endeavouring to manifest the glory and kingdom of God.

DO NOT REST ON YOUR OARS:

Our Lord Jesus Christ charged His disciples to let the dead bury their deads but that they should go out and preach the gospel of the Kingdom. You are not of the world and should not take pleasure in things and observances of the world. Our Lord Jesus Christ had said, 'I would not that ye be without knowledge as unbelievers.' It is necessary that you believe that the Lord was crucified and that His resurrection has brought us salvation. All those who have been baptised into Christ have triumphed over death. It is the height of insanity and ignorance for any member of Brotherhood to keep mourning house, keep vigil and lament over the death of a relation.

THE FIRST FRUIT:

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the first fruit in spirit who is our source of inspiration. We are the manifestation of the group which had prepared themselves in wait for Him. This is why it is said that, he who believes and is baptised shall be saved. Whoever does not believe shall perish. The children of this kingdom are children of resurrection.

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Baptism into Christ bestows upon you the right of sonship and draws you out of iniquity. His resurrection has brought us life eternal. Your right as sons and daughters of God is not bestowed upon you because of your hardwork, righteousness or goodness but through the resurrection of the Lord and His grace.

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YOU MUST BE BAPTISED:

Many say that they cannot be baptised a second time when they come into Brotherhood of the Cross and Star having been baptised in their former churches. For those who make such claims, the question is, did you receive the spirit of God when you first baptised? If you had received the Holy Spirit, would you have indulged in idolatery, fornication, drinking, smoking, and living abominable life? From the day you are baptised you have denounced the world and the fulness therein and had no association with them. Acceptance to baptism comes from total conviction and believe in the truth. It is not a question of inviting an idolater, adulterer or thief and immersing him into the water without real penitence, conviction and believe in the exercise. There has to be a confession of sins and a remorseful heart.

STEPS TO RESURRECTION OF THE JUST:

If our Lord Jesus Christ had not gone through the first death which is the baptism, He would not have triumphed over the second death during His crucifixion. But because He had dominion over death through baptism, He triumphed over the things of this world and dissociated Himself from them. Let the golden text be read again.

GOLDEN TEXT: JOHN 20: 15 - 17

Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? Whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

Jesus said unto her, Mary, she turned herself, and saith unto him, Robboni; which is to say Muster.

Jesus saith unto her, touch me not: for I am not yet accorded to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I accord unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

OUR UNIVERSAL FATHER AND GOD:

Many people and even the members, are forly of referring to God as that of Olumba, God of Abraham, Jacob, Isaac and of Israel. Is He the God of one person or group of persons? He is a universal God, the God of hosts. It is therefore, wrong for any person to say that he worships Jesus or Olumba. If you serve Olumba or Jesus who do they themselves serve or worship? We are all one in the Lord. He lived and died on our behalf. All of us enjoy the right of sonship.

SHOW GRATITUDE TO GOD:

Simeon after being cleansed by the Lord took offence with the Lord for associating with Mary Madgalene whom he saw as hopeless prostitute. Mary Magdalene was only expressing appreciation to the Lord for His magnanimity in forgiving her sins. Simeon himself who had been healed, what did he do to exhibit his gratefulness? He is the God of all. That was why He charged Mary not to touch him for He had not yet ascended to His Father. But that she should go to His brethren and inform them that he had ascended to His Father and their Father, to His God and their God.

NO SERVICE TO GOD EVER GOES UNREWARDED:

When it was time for king Hezakiah to die, Isaiah went to him and informed him that the Lord said he should get ready to depart the world. But Hezekiah prayed God to remember the services he rendered to Him during his youthful days and spare his life. God immediately granted his request and gave him additional fifteen (15) years. In the same vein, one of the two thieves on the cross mocked at our Lord Jesus Christ and asked Him to save Himself so as to save them too if He were the son of God. But the other thief warned him to keep shut for the Lord was an innocent person whereas they the thieves were receiving their due punishment. The same thief turned to the Lord and prayed that He should remember him in His Father's kingdom. The Lord promptly promised the thief saying, this day ye shall be with me in paradise.

Who was that thief? He was the same person who had saved the life of our Lord Jesus Christ during the massacre of the innocent children when Mary and Joseph were fleeing to Egypt. King Herod had sent soldiers to search for Joseph and the baby and on their way as they were fleeing Herod's soldiers met a certain man on the road and asked him whether he had seen a man, (Joseph) and his wife (Mary) with a new born baby. The man lied to the soldiers that nobody of that description had gone through the road. That was an opportunity for the Lord to reciprocate the man's gesture while He was on the cross. I am not encouraging you to go and steal or do any evil in order to remain with the Lord in paradise. What I want you to know is that there is no good thing one does without being rewarded. This calls for serving God with all your heart, body and soul.

It is written:

Somemen's sins are open before hand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after (I Timothy 5:24).

The fourth wiseman might have thought that all his good deeds were in vain having failed to see the Lord physically. But today his good works have been remembered, and recorded in the scriptures for posterity.

THE HYPOCRITICAL WORLD:

During the advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, He was not accorded the right honour He deserved. He was seen as a law-breaker subject to be publicly executed, hence, He was crucified. Even after His crucifixion, His followers were persecuted and finally executed one after the other. But today He has become a house-hold name and the Saviour of the world. This shows to you that, you should not relent in doing good. Be steadfast in doing good for in due season you will definitely be rewarded.

This is the same position faced by Brotherhood today. The fold is branded with all evil names. The world deride members of the kingdom and mock at them but do not be disturbed in any way nor be discouraged. Be steadfast in goodness and in the end you will surely witness the manifestation of the glory of God.

Beloved, I do not intend to take you much further. It is said that, a stroke of the cane is enough for a wise person. Let he who has ears hear. May God bless His holy words. Amen.

Thank You Father.

CHAPTER TWO

FROM CROSS TO CROWN

FIRST LESSON: Luke 6: 21 - 23:

Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

SECOND LESSON: 1ST PETER 2: 19 - 21:

For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.

For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.

For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps.

GOLDEN TEXT: 1ST PETER 4: 14-15:

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the Spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

LET RIGHTEOUSNESS BE YOUR GUIDE:

Brethren, it is imperative that you suspend all that you are doing and concentrate on the message of this gospel because this gospel would help you to realise that the way of God is quite different from the ways of man. This gospel would also let you know if there is anything evil or not.

During every Forces Fellowship Meeting with the Father, miraculous things normally occur. Think about the content of our second lesson that says:

For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. For what glory is it, if when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but it when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps. (1 Peter 2:19-21).

What do you gain from suffering in silence as a result of the punishment you receive for committing a sin? But if you take your suffering in silence as a result of doing good, you have got the approval of God This is because of

the nature of your call. Remember that Our Lord Jesus Christ suffered in the same way for your salvation. He bequeathed you with that good example for you to emulate. He expects you to follow His footsteps. The point to note here is that you should be ready to suffer while doing the right and for the sake of God. Nevertheless, you are enjoined not to suffer as a result of a sinful act committed. Do not suffer as a result of stealing, telling of lies, swindling, committing murder and other sinful acts. It is said that, if you are reviled or reproached for the sake of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory and of God rest upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, thief, wrong doer or mischief-maker. If one suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but under that name let him glorify God. Now, what evil is there in the spirit of glory and of God resting upon you for being reviled or reproached for the sake of Christ?

Our Lord Jesus Christ was endowed with the spirit of glory and of God. Anyone who is not endowed with this spirit of glory and of God is empty and has no share in the kingdom. Therefore, such a person should try his best in doing what will qualify him for this spiritual gift by doing good at all times.

TRIBULATION IS OUR SOURCE OF GLORY:

The avenue through which one can be imbued with the spirit of glory and of God is to suffer tribulation after baptism as was the case of our Lord Jesus Christ. Some forms of baptism are not acceptable hence, you see a person who is baptised into Catholic, Presbyterian and other orthodox churches in the world without the spirit of glory and of God. Our Lord Jesus Christ rightly stated that, if I was hated, reviled and conspired against, you too would be hated, reviled and conspired against.

EVERYTHING IS PERFECT:

There is nothing evil because, God created everything and said that all were good. The tribulations the children of God suffer are signs of glory in the sight of God and this is quite known to the children of God. But the children of the world see tribulation as evil and pray to God against it. In as much as they continue to pray to God against tribulations, they are disgracing God. And as a Child of God, if suddenly you are not reviled and reproached then pray fervently for yourself for God has left you and invariably you have derailed from the path of rectitude. So, always rejoice for every tribulation that comes your way because, it is a sign of glory before God. This confirms what is stated in the scripture that,

Blessed are you that hunger now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you that weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, on account of the Son of man. Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven, for so their fathers did to the prophets, (Luke 6: 21-23).

The above excerpt depicts that the tribulations you suffer today for doing good are for a short time after which you will have eternal glory. The word of God is true and satisfying.

Do you not know that your friendship with the world makes you an enemy to God? Forget about what you see happening today, for at the end of it all, it is the children of God who shall enjoy everlasting glory.

THE IMPORTANCE OF FASTING:

Fasting is very important. It is an important avenue through which you could be spiritually uplifted. For instance, members of the Nigerian National Football Team, the Super Eagles, are today enjoying their success as a result of their resolution to observe two days fasting while preparing for the finals of the 19th edition of the African Cup of Nation in Tunisia. Therefore, whenever you are hungry for the sake of righteousness, you are exalted in the spirit. But when you are filled materially, you are very low in the spirit.

The scripture has it that, food is made for the stomach and stomach for food but both will be destroyed. Note that as you fast, your spirit is in unity with the Father and your soul is highly elevated. It is a fact that the things that man loves are what God hates and vice versa. Fasting which you recard as tedious and insignificant is very important in the sight of God. Besides, the tribulation you always avoid is the channel through which man graduates to eternal glory provided the tribulation suffered is for the sake of righteourness.

If you are rejoicing while living in sins you are worse off because your soul is in hell. But if you confess your sins and repent of all your sinful deeds and then fast, you are better off because your soul and spirit are in unity with God. This gospel is the answer to all the questions you have been asking. Afterall the word of God is true and bound to be fulfilled at the fulness of time. (Read Luke 6:21-23).

AN EYERLASTING FOOD:

The scripture has it that you should not labour for the food that shall perish, but for the food that endures forever. It is also said that who ever humbles himself shall be exalted and whoever exalts himself shall be debased. Therefore, you have to endure all forms of tribulations, blasshowny

talse accusations, hatred and all adverse conditions that come your way as a result of serving God. It is through these that you would find everlasting food and exaltation.

Beloved, fasting and prayer work miraculously. Our Lord Jesus Christ after fasting and praying for forty days and forty nights was able to over come the devil throughout His advent on earth.

If you claim that fasting is tedious, how would you pass into the kingdom, since this is the only gate into the kingdom? When Jonah derailed from the path of rectitude by disobeying God, he confessed his sins, pleaded with God for forgiveness and was forgiven. So, there is nothing as rewarding as being penitent.

A PENITENT HEART:

The type of sacrifice that pleases God most is being penitent and showing remorse for every wrong you do. God is also pleased with one who surrenders every problem he faces to God. This is what Our Lord Jesus Christ did during the death of Lazarus. God promptly granted His request by raising Lazarus from death. So, at all times, we need to prostrate ourselves before God in order to have our requests granted. If for the sake of righteousness you go about in old and torn clothes and are mocked at, do not mind, for you are exalted in the spirit and at the same time you are glorifying God.

EVERTHING WORKS TO GOD'S GLORY:

This gospel seeks to inform you that there is nothing evil, rather, all things done by God work together as something good to those who believe in God. Being great in the spirit entails enduring all forms of tribulations for the sake of righteousness.

Read the first lesson again:

FIRST LESSON: LUKE 6:21-23:

Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

BE CHARITABLE:

You may be poor yet you are benevolent and charitable to people. On seeing such an act, people may laugh you to scorn. They would regard you as one who could not afford three square meals a day but spending the little you have to charity. When you experience this do not relent in your efforts, because the glory of God that awaits you is great.

The scripture says that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. If you were to fear Him, you would not have come here to make a noise, quarrel, fight, struggle and engage in other vices. Rather, you would have been at all times, obedient to Him. Believe that at any point in time you are reviled, deprived and mocked at, the abundant blessings of God have come your way.

AN ILLUSTRATION:

I once told you the story of a certain city where so many people died as a result of an outbreak of an epidemic. And to help eradicate the situation, the council of elders and chiefs of the city met and decided to commission one of their sons to study religion and philosophy and graduate as a priest so as to pray for the resurrection of their deads and also to pray to God for the epidemic to stop.

Beloved, this story is related to us today because of the love of God to us. And at the end of this story, we shall have agreed that, the grace of God is sufficient to us. At the completion of this man's ministerial course, he returned home. A day after his return, someone in the city was reported dead. While some people suggested that preparation should be made for the burial, others suggested that the learned minister should be invited to come and prove his worth. The people agreed that he should be invited and so, the minister was called to come and display his acquired knowledge. But surprisingly, when he got to the place, he only thanked God for what had happened and added that if such thing did not happen, something worse would have happened. He concluded by praying to God to accept the soul of the departed. When the people heard this they were astonished but took consolation in the fact that, the dead person was not a distinguished one in their society and that, when a distinguished person dies, the minister would prove his worth. Thereafter, they went and burried the dead. The next day, a distinguished person in the city died and the people were happy for they thought this time around, the minister was going to display his acquired skill. They also drew conclusion that if he fails to raise the dead person, it would mean that his study is not benefitting to the whole community that sponsored him.

On reaching the scene, he prayed thus: "God thank you for what has happened for if this did not happen something more serious would have happened. God take his soul." The people were surprised to see this. But they still took consolation in the fact that if it were to be a person from the king's family who died, he (the priest) would have displayed his skill. They said this because, the king contributed much towards his studies. But as God would like it, not quite long, the first son of the king died and everyone expected that the minister was going to prove his worth. When he was invited to the king's palace to prove his worth by raising the prince from death every-body was in attendance to see this minister prove his worth. But surprisingly, he repeated the prayer he had rendered in the previous occasions.

He (King) ordered that he The king on hearing this, was not happy. (priest) should be killed. In order to successfully kill the priest, the king commissioned four hired assassins to ambush the man in a road leading to a neighbouring village which he normally used while going to preach. The road was bad: full of gallops. These four men hid in a position which they knew the minister would inevitably apply brake while descending the hill. So one Sunday morning as the minister was going on his motor bike to a neighbouring village to preach, on getting to the rough hill his brake failed and he rolled unconsciously to a leveled spot where the four hired killers were hidding. But then, the minister was unconscious and blood was oozing from the wounds, he sustained. Then the four hired killers ran to help him and asked him how it all happened. He told them that he was thankful to God for the accident because if it did not happen, something worse would have happened. When these four men heard that, they led the minister to climb the hill and finally got to the city. When the minister met with the others, he repeated his statement thus: ``I am thankful to the Father for what has happened, because if this did not happen, something worse would have happened' He was later taken to the king and as the king inquired from him of what happened, he repeated this same statement. The king on hearing this was shocked. The four hired killers also confirmed that the minister has not said anything apart from that very statement right from the spot of the accident. Then the king asked for all to be gathered, so that he may make a pronouncement about the minister. According to him, he has never come across this type of person in all his life. It was there and then that the king and others realised the significance of the minister's popular slogan: "Thank you God for what has happened, for if this did not happen, something worse would have happened. "When all the people were gathered, the king confessed his wrong deeds and disclosed that, he was the person who

commissioned the four hired killers to hide in the bush so as to kill the minister. After he had confessed his sins, he ordered that the minister should be given a befitting reception. Right from that time, things got on well in that city and people were no longer disturbed about the death of others.

Read the second lesson again:

SECOND LESSON: 1ST PETER 2: 19-21:

For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience towards God endure grief, suffering wrongfully, For what glory is it, if when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps.

THE WAY OF THE LORD:

The way of God'confounds man. God is always happy with youndarytime you are reviled, neglected and disregarded as a result of doing good. Beloved, if you suffer as a result of your sinfulness, you are suffering for your sins. But if you suffer for the sake of righteousness. Your reward in heaven is great. And the joy involved in this thing is so great, provided you do not relent in doing good.

OUR MERCIFUL FATHER:

The penitent robber on the cross accepted to sufter for his wrong deeds but pleaded for forgiveness while the other robber did not show any remorse. While he was saved, his unrepented fellow robber got eternal damnation. So, whenever you show a penitent heart, you are saved. If you suffer tribulation for the sake of Christ, it means that you are an heir to His kingdom.

YOUR REWARD TO STEADFASTNESS:

If you are hated by your master, parents, and friends for serving God, rejoice for your reward in heaven is great. After all, Christ experienced same during His ministry.

Recall that there was a day when the Sons of God went to present themselves before their Father and satan also went with them to present himself before the Lord. And the Lord said to satan, "Whence have you come? Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and from on the earth and from wandering on earth". And the Lord said to satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?" God went on to inform satan that Job was very faithful and steadfast although he (satan) was attempting

to destroy him without cause. Then satan answered the Lord saying, "All that a man has he will give for his life. But put forth thy hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face". And the Lord said to satan. "Behold, he is in your power, only spare his life". (See Job Chapter two).

THE KINGDOM OF GOD ON EARTH:

Brotherhood of the Cross and Star, the promised kingdom of God on earth is for the salvation of all. It is the last resort for mankind. So, it is erroneous for you to be annoyed to see sick people who are in a hopeless situation often brought to Brotherhood. This is the only place of salvation to man. Therefore, such people have to be admitted into the kingdom any time they are brought in. It is high time those who often scare such people away changed their attitudes, or they leave the fold. It is out of knowing the truth that you accept to labour for some one else. So, always live as true childrenof God by accepting to endure other people and serving people at the expense of your comfort. If you labour for the salvation of a fellow man, you have paved the way for your own salvation. But if you suffer for stealing, falsehood, murder and other vices, you are suffering for the sake of your own sins. By being reviled, beaten, hated and accused falsely for righteousness sake, you have established the kingdom of God. Therefore, you should rejoice for having achieved such glory. The joy that is in Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is great. And this joy is for those who know and accept the truth. So, if you are not prepared to accept the truth, you have to give way for those who are prepared. God has His reasons for making anything happen at every time. So, do not question God for anything that happens. Should you know the truth and walk by it, God will hand over great possessions for you to control. Our Lord Jesus Christ also suffered for the sake of righteousness. After all, there is no father who would not be proud of his promising child.

THE RESERVOIR OF VIRTUS:

True children of God are the house of power, love, patience and all other virtues. They are the embodiment of all good things and for that reason, they have no cause to fear, lament or complain, for their Father, His Christ and the Holy Spirit have come to dwell with them.

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD:

Brotherhood is the light of the world. The fold continues to thrive and to shine at the expense of all other religious organisations. It could be likened to a white garment in the midst of black garments. Other church organisations are so numerous in the world just as sinners abound in the world. But as a

mighty river cannot be salted no matter the quantity of salt emptied into it, so has the kingdom overwhelmed the churches and religious sects of the world. They too would not be able to over come the true children of God who have known the truth and stood by it.

A PERFECT HEART:

The Father has never heard or seen anything evil. He has never seen satan, ghost, mermaid, juju etc. And you are expected to emulate Him. What you see as bad, ugly or evil is always good, fine or righteous before me. This is because we were called to do good so that glory can be given to God.

FROM CROSS TO CROWN:

Fasting and tribulation for the sake of Christ lead to a better and higher life. It is for this reason that you are asked not to lament because whenever you cry or lament over an adverse situation, you are invariably trying to cause a more serious situation in your life which would have been carefully avoided if you were to endure everything patiently. It is from cross that one graduates to crown. If Brotherhood did not take this pattern, none would have believed it to be a kingdom from above.

When Brotherhood manifested physically on this earth plane, people initially laughed the fold to scorn. But today, their laughter and mockery have become sorrow and weeping on their part. This goes in line with the saying that, an heir to the throne is not different from a slave when he is still an infant. Having heard this very gospel, I do not think there would still be any member of Brotherhood who would not take delight in doing good no matter the degree of suffering involved. Our Lord Jesus Christ also suffered for this tence, God spoke about Him saying:

(This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased). (Matthew 3:17).

That statement has manifested today in Brotherhood for we have witnessed the truth and have also accepted it.

GOD'S WILL MUST PREVAIL:

come to pass no matter what people will do to stop it from manifesting. Take the case of Joseph for instance. It was destined that his parents and indeed his brethren would worship him. You are all aware that in spite of every opposition, at last they all worshipped him as was said. Recall that at a stender age Joseph had a dream which he told his brethren saying: Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright, and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance

to my sheaf. And his brethren said to him, shalt thou indeed reign over us? Or shalt thou have dominion over us? and they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words. And he dreamed yet another dream, which he again told his brethren. He said. Behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. This was interpreted to mean his down to worship him. They rebuked him and parents and brethren bowing desired that that should not come to pass. His brethren were not happy and so they planned to murder him in the field and to report to their parents that he was devoured by a wild beast. Reuben was not in support of Joseph being killed. Judah rather suggested that he should be sold to a merchant who later sold him to Portifer. In order that the will of God for Joseph should manifest, Portifer loved Joseph and made him his store officer. On realising the extent of love which Portifer had for Joseph, his wife demanded of Joseph to have an affair with her. Joseph, with full respect for Portifer as his master, objected to this request. But she insisted. Having tried unsuccessfully on several occasions to induce Joseph into having an affair with her, she resorted to falsehood and reported to her husband that Joseph attempted to rape her. Note that, had Joseph accepted to sleep with her, she would not have reported Joseph to the husband and above all, Israel would not have been freed. Consequent upon the false accusation, Joseph was imprisoned. But as God would have it, Joseph still had his way in the prison. While there, he was the interpreter of dreams. For his commendable performance in interpreting the dreams of his officers in the prison, he was recommended to interprete Pharoah's dream. His interpretation came to pass and his recommendations saved Egypt from a very serious famine. Base on this, he was appointed a governor in Egypt. When the famine struck, his brethren came to buy food in Egypt. He was able to recognize them and pretend as one who did not know them at all. After some interview with them, he got the fact he wanted from them and ordered them to go and bring their "last born". He gave them grains free of charge but held one of them bound till they brought Benjamin, their last born. When they got home and reported to their father that they were ordered to come and fetch their last brother while one was held hostage there, he (their father) was not happy.

This was because he did not want to lose his son again having missed Joseph. At last, due to much pleadings he released him but with strong warning that they should bring him back, that if anything should happen to him, he will not be happy with them. He gave them some more money in addition to the one they had gone with and then gave them some fruits too. When they arrived at Egypt they presented Benjamin to Joseph. He received them, dined with them in his house and treated them well although he was

yet to disclose his identity to them. He ordered that all their sacks be filled with grains and money refunded. His drinking cup was hidden in the sack of the youngest: Benjamin. When they went away he ordered his servants to pursue them and to arrest among them whoever had stolen his cup. It was agreed among them who would be in possession of the cup would be taken for a servant by the governor. The cup was found in Benjamin's sack hence Benjamin was taken back to Egypt. Joseph did this purposely to find out whether they were still nursing the same hatred they had for him for Benjamin. But it was not so with Benjamin. They all pleaded that their father would die should they return home without Benjamin because Benjamin's elder brother by name Joseph had died. He then disclosed his identity to them and ordered them to go home and bring their father Jacob to come and live in Egypt. You can now see that once God has made you an instrument of salvation, so it would come to pass no matter all odds. Let reference be made to the golden text:

GOLDEN TEXT: 1ST PETER 4: 14 - 15

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the Spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

DO NOT AGITATE FOR ANYTHING:

Brethren having critically looked at the three main lessons, what have you learnt from this message? You should rejoice and be exceedingly glad when you suffer reproach in Christ. God is the controller of every situation and there is always a way out for the children of God who patiently wait for His will to prevail.

There is much glory in suffering reproach for the sake of righteousness. The coming of God at any point in time is often accompanied with tangible experience. In all cases, the children of God normally have one or two things to hold on to. For instance, during the advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, it was marked by gold, myrrh and Frankincense. Today the presence of the Holy Spirit is marked by the marvellous works done in this world. Do not for the sake of anything agitate for what is not desirable in the sight of God. Be rest assured that whatever you suffer for the sake of God leads you to immesurable blessing.

A stroke of cane is enough for a wise person. He that has ear should hear what the Holy Spirit has imparted to the world. May God bless His Holy word, Amen.

Thank You Father.

THE NEW LAW:

FIRST LESSON: JOHN 16:13

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but wnatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak; and he will shew you things to come.

SECOND LESSON: JOHN 6:45

It is written in the prophets, and they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

GOLDEN TEXT: JOHN 14:26

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

A REMINDER:

INTRODUCTORY CHORUS:

"Teach us Lord, for it was written that the Spirit will teach..."

This gospel is a reminder to all the inhabitants of the world of the events that took place in the past, those that are happening now and those that will come to pass shortly. It has pleased the Father to remind you of everything because of our regular observances in commemoration of His advent. It is a fulfilment of the words of our Lord Jesus Christ that when He, even the spirit of truth shall come, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that Christ had said. This is why worldly teachings or doctrines are not required in this kingdom. Here in the kingdom it is only the KNOWLEDGE OF TRUTH that reigns.

Your problems are brought about by putting a new wine in an old skin and using a new cloth to patch an old one. All of you would have been free from problems by now if you had listened to the teachings imparted to you by the Holy Spirit. There are portions in the scripture indicating the fact that the world passes away with all its lusts. Our Lord Jesus Christ has said that, whatever was not planted by His Father shall be uprooted. Therefore, do not doubt the teaching to what you had received before now It is written:

Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him lest they should be put out of the synagogue: (John 12:42).

Your problems and predicaments are as a result of continuing in the old doctrine. You had been cultivating in the flesh and that was why you harvested and are still harvesting death.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF DRY FASTING:

The self-mortification of the flesh for 3 days and nights has re-united you with the Father and tense you to eternal life. Unfortunately, many of you have, after the dry-fast, gone back to your old ways and resumed the activities of your old master the demon. You could be compared to a dog that takes back its vomits. A local adage says that, a particular food that is so palatable to a sick man leads him to death. All the teachings and doctrines you had received from the world are sources of death.

to refrain from drinking, smoking, eating of meat and fish, snuffing and committing fornication you do not want to listen, instead you laugh such divine instruction to scorn. For that reason, your problems continue to be compounded. Everything about this kingdom, the do's and don'ts, have all been imparted to you. But because of disobedience you flout these injunctions and thus expose yourselves to various afflictions and death just as your fore-fathers did.

NEW WORLD:

The old world with its order has since passed away, we are now in a new world with an entirely new order. All those who continue to live according to the dictates of the flesh will die, such persons will not fail to be sick and be variously afflicted. But those who obey the Holy Spirit and abide by the spiritual injunctions shall live for ever.

Our Lord Jesus Christ had completed and accomplished His assignment that was why, He said that when the comforter would come, He would lead you to all truth and would not speak of His own accord, but as He heard same would He declare to you and He, the Comforter, would glorify Him (Christ). In His 1st advent His main duty was to reconcile man with God. But In this present dispensation, His duty is to lead you to the accurate knowledge of truth as earlier promised. He will teach you all things. He nad known that it would be a sheer waste of time to preach to people as at that time to refrain from drinking, smoking, anuffing and fornication. This is why He promised the coming of the Comforter who would then lead those who

accept Him to the accurate knowledge of truth.

LONGIVITY: THE FRUIT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS:

Adam, it is recorded, lived for 930 years. That was made possible because of the way he lived his life. Noah also lived for more than nine hundred and sixty because of the way he lived his life on earth. Today the case is different, people hardly live up to a hundred years. Now, there is high rate of infant mortility. Instead of taking stock of their ways of life human beings rather attribute this high rate of untimely deaths to the activities of apparition, juju, witches and wizards among other vain things which do not exist at all. The hope of the whole world today is in medicine or drugs for the cure of illnesses. All acts of diabolism lead to death. The traditions and observances of men are laborious, injurious, sickening and deadly. explain man's preparations for death, he opens mortuaries and creates cemeteries all over the place for the preservation of corpses and burial. In some countries abortion is legalised. Nigeria attempted this but I warned her of the spiritual consequencies - that whoever commits abortion is treated as a murderer. Abortion is now the order of the day by both men and women alike. All those who aid and abet abortion, in deed all the medical personnels, involved in this act should pray fervently for themselves for their impending doom except they repent. They will pay dearly for all the souls they have destroyed whether knowingly or unknowingly.

THE ISSUE OF LOAN FROM INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUNDS (IMF):

When Nigerian rulers made their intention of obtaining an International Monetary Fund loan (IMF) public, I advised them not to do it. But the then rulers secretly and stubbornly went ahead to obtain the loan for their selfish ends. As a result of that, Nigeria is today in bondage. The situation could be compared to the case of Esau and Jacob. Esau bonded and belittled himself by selling his birthright for a plate of meal. This is why you are enjoined to surrender yourselves completely to God and refrain from going to hospitals or herbalists' homes for any form of treatment. Any person who loves himself and his fellow man will not tell lies, commit fornication, smoke cigarette, drink or live unseemly because these are sources of illness and untimely death. Whoever perishes as a result of his failure to practise this gospel will have his blood upon his own head.

ONE MAN ONE WIFE:

No man has the right to marry more than one wife, and no woman should

marry more than one husband. The condition is that you either marry one wife or husband or remain a collibate. It is funny to call yourselves members of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star yet you do not listen to the injunctions given to you in this New Kingdom.

ABOUT MONEY AND MATERIALISM:

You are enjoined not to be carnally-minded yet you will not listen. All your thoughts bodies and souls are centred on money and mundane things. Any man who is carnally-minded will not fail to die.

BROTHERHOOD: A UNIQUE KINGDOM:

Why do you think Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is different from every other denomination? Why are we using a different hymn book from others? It is a manifestation of the New Heaven and the New Earth. This explains why everything here is new. Our songs, mode of prayer, styles of dance, attire and every way of doing things are new and unique. Why then do you take delight in the old order? Why do you think Our Lord Jesus Christ said he who believes and is baptised shall be saved? The essence of baptism is to wash you clean and all your sins forgiven. After the exercise of baptism, you then have to live according to the dictates of the Holy Spirit. You should therefore, free yourself completely from the things of this world; from stealing, hatred, fornication, telling of lies and idolatry. It is only by complying with this order that the clory of God will manifest in you. It is rather unfortunate that most of you who even call yourselves Pastors carry the things of the world squarely on your shoulders. The sign of that beast is still found on you.

A NEW KINGDOM WITH A NEW LIFE:

In this kingdom there is no preroing of the ears of females for the purpose of earings. The hanging or chains around one's neck and bangles on the wrist are also forbidden here. There is no plaiting or perming of hair here. Ours in this kingdom is to the distributional life. Unfortunately, even the Deaconesses do not only perm their hair but adorn themselves with cosmetics for the sake of beautification. They paint their faces, nails and bleach their skins.

Brotherhood of the Cross and the also abhores the keeping of mourning houses and other burial rites. There is no mourning nor wearing of sack-cloth.

should continually teed the people or community until the mourning period is over, if at all it gets over. Many people get into a life-time indebtedness in order to fulfil burial rites. What for? You should blame yourself for whatever happens to you. All the traditions and doctrines you stick to are man-made and perilous. But I have brought you the truth and all those who seek for truth will receive it and gain salvation. This is the end of time and the gospel given to you is EVERLASTING.

DECREE ON MARRIAGE IN BROTHERHOOD:

Marriage in Brotherhood is completely different from what obtains the world. It is desoid or the burden placed on people by customs and traditions of the world. It is for this reason that here in the kingdom, there is neither bride price nor dowry as practised by the world. The Bible says freely ye received and freely you should give. Let your dealing be led in love. When a man and a woman decide to get into marriage, what the parents should do is to organize for a feast and bless the marriage. Do not receive any amount in the name of bride price or dowry from the would-be husband. Such an act is satanic and if you fail to adhere to this divine instruction you have you self to blame.

WE ARE ONE:

You are taught that; there is no division between a Jew and a Greek—Therefore, in this kingdom, there is no class or any form of distinction at all. Many of you in spite of this injunction would continue to discriminate. By so doing you are inviting calamity to yourselves.

NO EVIL FORCE:

I have also told you that there is no juju, no mermaid, no witches and wizards; in fact, nothing of the sort, yet you would not believe. Other members take delight in desuading their fellow brethren from believing this teaching because according to them. He is God, who is not exposed to the hazzards in the world. Do not listen to such instruction because it leads you to destruction.

ABOUT BEGGING AND LAMENTATION:

are not poor and should not go begging. It is a mark of ungratefulness to lament or complain. God knows all your needs and problems. So, you do not need to remind Him on what to do. Our duty is to continue to thank Him to a

His grace and His goodness. He has enjoined us not to be carnally-minded, which rejoice over that which you have too the Lord has promised, never to disappoint you nor to leave you connectless. Those are the words of God to which He does not toy with. It is better and more beneficial to practise these injunctions than those given by the world.

Read the first lesson again:

FIRST LESSON: JCHN 16:13

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but who soever he shall hear, that shall he speak; and he will show you things to come.

THE ONLY WAY TO SALVATION:

Think about it now, God has enjoined that no man should kill, tell lies, hate, steal and indulge in any evil yet man has continued to commit these vices. How then will you obtain salvation? Other commandments include, thou shall have no other god before Him; thou shall make no graven image unto yourself; thou shall honour your father and mother; love thy neighbour as thyself, that you should not swear falsely. God's name and so on. Of all these commandments, none has not been violated. This is the source of the problems and woes of man.

A NEW WORLD AND A NEW ORDER:

This is a new world and all things are new. When a country is still under the yoke of colonialism, it is bound by the laws and constitution of its colonial master. But the moment such a country attains independence, the yoke of colonialism is broken thereby giving way to new laws and constitution that suit the people. That is what is happening in the world today with the fulfilment of this new kingdom. If you refrain from eating of meat and fish, drinking, smoking, stealing, fornication, drugs and medication all will be well with you.

Moreover, many countries that have attained the status of a republic fail because they continue to be tied to the apron strings of their colonial masters.

THE NEW LAW:

But the new law in this kingdom is brotherly love. Love you one another. In the nearest future all the things I tell you now will come to pass. Christ made it clear when He said, my commandment is this, that ye love one another even as I love you'. If mankind fails to do this, the world is doomed.

He said again that, if ye love one another the world will know that ye are the children of God. It is only obedience to God's commandments that will being peace, unity, prosperity, and all the good things to man. All the things people do now are carnal and damnable. In the beginning was love, love was with God and it is God. This same love is oneness and whoever has it has eternal life. The flesh leads you to destruction and damnation. Do you know what is incised into your body or by swallowing? Do you know what you rub on your body? These are the things that bring problems to you. Your body is that of Christ and you have to keep it holy. This is the real truth but you do not want to listen. Funny enough is the fact that none of you knows the consequences of all the sins you commit that they lead to death. Your main concernation interest are money, wife, husband, children and all the glittering things of this world. Once you have these things you feel you are on top of the world. Let me tell you categorically clear that, with such things you are under death.

Let our second lesson be read again:

SECOND LESSON: JOHN 6:45

It is written in the prophets, and they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

HE IS THE ONLY TEACHER:

Is there anywhere it is written that a man shall teach? Or is it willing anywhere that the angel, ghost or mermaid will teach you? People all over the world resort to juju and sorcery for salvation. It is the height of foolishness. He has made it abundantly clear that God will teach you. You are variously afflicted because you stick to the ways and doctrines of the world. Has God at any point in time commanded you to steal, kill or hate your fellow man? Has He ever taught you to fornicate or include in fetish? This exactly what happened to Adam when he refused to practise this same teaching imparted to you in this generation. What was his end? He perished. God did not mandate any person to teach Adam but did it Himself. He has continued since then to teach man. All those who listen to and obey Him will surely obtain salvation and those who disobey Him will be condemned.

IGNORANCE IS NOT AN EXCUSE BEFORE GOD:

Many continue to give one excuse or the other that they eat only eggs and not chicken. Which is worse, to eat chickens or eggs? What is an egg afterall? Others say that, they do not eat meat but they continue to drink milk. What is the difference between cow meat and cow milk? A true member of Brotherhood can never be anaemic. Such a person is a reservoir of blood.

and strength and He has no need to consult a physician. One who lives a natural life is an embodiment of love, peace, power and prosperity. The Father, the son and the Holy Spirit dwell with such a person.

HOW FORNICATION CAN DESTROY YOU:

Consider this illustration, if a man provides you with a car with enough tuel to take you to say. Lagos but you waste the fuel here in Calabar by driving from one street to another, will the same quantity of fuel take you to Lagos in the end? By the time you finally set off to Lagos half-way the fuel is finished. That is what is happening to man, especially with regards to fornication and adultery. You lose many years by committing fornication just once. Once you meet a woman, the little drop of blood passed into that woman is enough to sustain your life for many years. Did you people know this? When you die of your sin others would attribute it to the activities of witches and wizards. Do you know the nature of the man or woman you meet with? For instance, if you sleep with a woman or a man who suffers from any disease, you are bound to contact that disease. In the same vein a man or woman who is a thief or with any other misdemeanour would easily transmit that evil spirit to you through sexual intercourse.

Christ said I am the way, the life and the truth and except by me no man can see the Father. Whoever practises the teachings imparted by the Holy Spirit here is saved and shall have eternal life. But whoever rejects it is condemned.

THE LIFE IN THE WESTERN WORLD:

Most of the evil practices exhibited by Africans are imported from the west. The level of atrocity in the western world is unspeakable. Anyone who fails to practise the injunctions of God shall not have eternal life.

THE BASIC TRUTH:

but those who shall be counted worthy to inherit the kingdom of God neither marry nor are given in marriage because they are the children of resurrection who are likened to the angels. It is my conviction that all those who come into Brotherhood with the intention of practising the gospel would always testify of the wonderful blessing of God. You stand to gain nothing from smoking, drinking, fronicating and living abominable life. It is only those who refrain from these acts that continue to wax stronger, prosper and have eternal life. All those who surround themselves with the most expensive cars, houses, big beds, shoes, clothings, the most beautiful wives and children live in a world

initial fantacy; life does not consists of such things. Why do you fight and even your fellow man because of money, land, car, woman, and other mundares things? Is that not the height of insanity? It is only Jehovah God and this Christ that hold evenal life. Whoever has the Father has no problem.

MAN: THE MOST TREASURED OF GOD'S ENTIRE CREATION:

Of all the things created by God, man is the most expensive. No other creature apart from man did God address, 'thou are my son, i have begotten thee this day'. Why then do you seek to curse, to harm, or and critically your fellow man? Any person, who does evil to any man should pray ferventher himself. Our Lord Jesus Christ had warned Peter to put his sword back into the sheath for whoever takes the sword shall also die by it. Why then do you continue to kill your fellow men born and unborn? Man pays no regard to the life of his fellow man. What people cherish in doing is to dehumanize their fellow men to satisfy their selfish interests. Do you not know that what you call spirit is man and man too is spirit?

Let the golden text be read again:

GOLDEN TEXT: JOHN 14:26

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost whom the Father will send in my marne, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your rememberance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

NEW WORLD, NEW TEACHING?

All the doctrines obtained from the time of Adam prior to the advent of our Lord Jesus Christ should be discarded for they lead to destruction. The teachings imparted to you now hold all the good things such as love, peace, unity, prosperity and eternal life. Many sick ones who had been frequenting the hospitals for solution to their health problems but in vain have been healed here in the kingdom by mere prayer. Is that not surprising? God charges no fee but does everything by grace.

MAN IS THE CAUSE OF HIS PROBLEMS:

The problems that continue to plague you are as a result of your iniquity. For instance, if you steal somebody's property, or commit any other vice, suddenly you suffer from hernia. That is as a result of your evil act. Your house could be burgled for committing adultery. A lot of problems you face are direct consequences of what you did. Whatever problem or sickness that befall you is meant to serve as a lesson in order that you may refrain from evil. The scripture says, if we searched ourselves we would not be judged but when He judges us, He chastises us so that we will not be condemned

along with the people of the world. Whatever problem you realise in or around your body, search yourself very well, you will certainly discover that you have sinned. It is for this reason that, here in this kingdom, the moment a sick person is brought, first of all he will be asked to confess his or her problems after true confession, prayer is offered to the person, all his or her problems stop instantly.

Have you not remembered the story of the sick man who lay beside and pool of water at Bedsider for 38 years? The very moment Our Lord Jecus Christ ordered him to rise and take his bed, he became whole. Theresiter, the Lord warned him that having been healed, he should sin no more else worse sickness overtook him. A certain woman was redhandedly caught in adultery and was brought before the Lord for determination of her late. But Christ knowing their intention and purpose asked that any of them who was just should first cast a stone on her. At that instance the people departed one after the other until the woman was alone. When the Lord lifted up his face and saw nobody, He asked the woman where her accusers were? She replied that they were all gone. Christ told her since they had not condemned her, He too did not condemn her but that she should go in peace and she not more.

Therefore, all our problems come from our disabedience. The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life. Eternal life is the reward to whoever walks according to the dictates of the Holy Spirit. Both death and life are angels and they bear witness to all what you do daily.

Death itself is only an effect of what you did. Whenever you are found guilty and confirmed by both life and death in their testimonies, you are condemned. Sometimes, life may differ in its testimony with that of death depending on the gravity of your offence. In such a situation, your life may be spared. But once their testimonies about you agree, it marks your dimise. This explains why the few members who are obedient, just and steadfast have grown above destruction by either disease or anything. No matchet, club or gun can harm such people. On one hand, righteousness and eternal life are twin brothers while on the other hand evil and death move hand in hand. Therefore, the option is yours.

Brethren, I shall not take you much further, it is said that a stroke of cane is enough for the wise. He that has ear should hear. May God bless His Holy words. Amen.

Thank You Father.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

FIRST LESSON: MATTHEW 20: 28

Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

SECOND LESSON: II CORINTHIANS 8: 9

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

GOLDEN TEXT: MATTHEW 11:29

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

INTRODUCTORY CHORUS:

Take my yoke upon you. my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

THE TRUTH IS OPEN:

Beloved, you would realise that, the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ are easy to follow and light to carry. Whoever practises His injunctions is free from tribulation. There is no other way a man could escape from the wiles of this world except by keeping the commandments of our Lord Jesus Christ. If somebody should tell you that there is an angel on earth now who is the saviour, or that one is due on earth to save mankind, do not believe such a person. The only medium of salvation to mankind is by practising the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the only saviour and redeemer of all in heaven and on earth.

There is no other person who loves you and me than our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the only one who cares for and sustains you. There is no futher or mother that loves his or her child to the point of surrendering his or her life for the child. No husband or wife so loves his or her partner to the point of laying down his or her life for the other. No friend or relation has that much love to the extent of surrendering his life as a ransom for the other. A local adage has it that, if it is not difficult to urinate, let the fowl urinate.

HE HAS ARRIVED:

Many people have come with different names in various churches or religious sects as messiahs. They are all fakes and deceivers. They are lions

in sheep's skin. They call themselves Pastors, Bishops or Popes with the Bible in the left hand and a sword and tray in the right hand with which to defraud and dupe the congregation. Today, many people beat their chests in regret for not being present at the time of our Lord Jesus Christ to join His disciple ship to enable them serve Him diligently. What about now?

Have you accepted to serve Him? Most people who go to God or establish their own churches do so for material reasons. How then will the world be saved without a truthful servant? In the world, people are dying, lamenting and are being plagued in various ways because, there is no truthful person to liberate them from bondage. People are busy initiating into various cults and societies. The field is ripe but the labourers are very few.

The only saviour is our Lord Jesus Christ. He had said that, this generation would not pass away until all things spoken about be fulfiiled.

THE PROPHETS OF OLD ARE NOW ON EARTH:

The pleasure is in the fact that Peter, Jesus Christ, John the Baptist, James. Matthew and all the other disciples and prophets of old are now physically living on earth. From this moment the Father shall recruit labourers for Himself. This is also why I have demonstrated His qualities for all to see and emulate.

FIRST LESSON: MATTHEW 20: 28

Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

THE WORK OF GOD:

Beloved, the above passage indicates what the work of God is all about. That also illustrates the type of work our Lord Jesus Christ came to do. The work of God does not consist in commanding people to contribute money, food, clothing, cars, estates or other material things to you. Rather, it involves service to humanity. You should therefore, seek to serve and not to be served Help the sick, the hungry, the broken-hearted and the destitute. Also be ready to stake your life in the service when occasion demands it. It is your lust for material things that obstructs you from serving God. Moreover, every man strives to be a master to others instead of being a servant. None is ready to submit to another person. Everybody wants to profit from his or her contribution to the service. Visioners, dreamers, preachers, choristers and all others want to exploit every available situation. All along, man has been commercializing his activity for selfish ends. Our forefathers lusted for money, food, women, husbands and indulged in idolatery. Have such behaviours ever

suffer destruction and other pestilences because of disobedience, disbelief, textilessness and stubborness. Man hates the truth, humility, peace, patience, mercy and all Godly virtues. Human predicament today is the effect of his deeds.

If one is not truthful over what belongs to another person, how then can one get any good thing from God? If we want people to serve us, praise us, and worship us, when then shall we grow towards God, know Him and would by Him?

How then can we inherit His kingdom? Is God meant to rule the world alone? He is the King of kings and Lord of lords. This is a clear indication that He will crown others kings and lords to rule and reign with Him. He had subjected Himself to serve humanity and even surrendering His life as ransom for many. Today, that has earned Him eternal glory. People are busy searching for glory and leadership position from their fellow men. Who else can exalt a person apart from God Himself?

OUR REWARD:

The things of this world are ephemeral and shall pass away. It is the glory of God alone that shall remain forever and it is mainly for His children. So long as people are not ready to serve God diligently in order to glorify Him, how then will they in turn be glorified? This is the last and ultimate promise to those who offer themselves to the service of God. We will rule with Him if we practise His injunctions and offer ourselves to His service. All the things of this world are fast fading out. He is the only personality left and His glory is eternal. There is no other glory, life, power, love, light or anything worthy apart from Him. One may marry as many wives as one likes and beget as many children and amass much wealth. None of these things belong to you. All belong to those that serve Him diligently in the vineyard. All the mansions on earth, the fleet of cars, mercantile houses and chains of businesses belong to those that serve God and follow Him. You cannot see the magnitude of this glory because you are spiritually blind. The time is up for all to put heads together and consider this kingdom.

ALL ILLUSTRATION:

There is a popular tale of the relationship between the cat and the mice (rats). The mice were in a state of fear and confusion because they were always chased around and killed by the cat for its food. They never saw

peace because of their worst enemy, the cat. So, one day all the rats convened an emergency meeting and finally resolved to bell the cat so as to serve as a warning signal to its approach. This was unanimously agreed upon. They all thought that they had finally found solution to their greatest problem and threat to their existence. But a lady put up her hand for a point of observation. They all listened to her. She told the people that, the resolution was plausible but the only problem was how to bell the cat. Who among them was ready to face the cat? Thus, it is from this that people derive the saying, who will bell the cat?'

The whole world today is in need of the truth. But the question is, who will go and teach the people when none is ready to give up his life for the salvation of others? The whites and blacks alike, are in need of peace, truth, treedom, prosperity and eternal life. Who is he that has all these things and who can give them to others? Nobody in the world right now has any of these virtues to give out. Afterall, a man cannot give out what he dosn't have. That is the cause of problems in the world today and in times past, it was so.

A question was asked in heaven about who would go to the world to save mankind: Heaven was quiet. There was no volunteer until our Lord Jesus Christ indicated His readiness to come down, because there could be no torgiveness of sin without the shedding of blood. Our Lord Jesus Christ accepted to come down and shed His blood for the atonement of the sins of men. He came down and was persecuted, tortured and finally killed. He did not mind the suffering and imminent death. Because of His great love He said, "And for their sake I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth." It is expedient for us all to mortify the flesh and live in spirit. Telling of lies, hatred, oppression and all forms of evil had flourished in the world.

going to do this when everybody is deeply involved in sinful acts? Who then will go out and preach righteousness, peace and truth when all are inclined towards vice, violence and falsehood. None who is unarmed can go to war with his enemy who is fully armed to the teeth. Such a man will not survive a second at the warfront. Now is the time for us to follow the footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are to fight gallantly and successfully with the same spiritual weapons. He used in conquering the world. The world is in lack of these weapons. The Father Himself knows that flesh and blood cannot fight this war. No man knew this, it is for this reason that, our Lord Jesus Christ said, it was expedient that He went away so that He would plead with the Father to send down the Comforter to us.

THE TWELVE POWERS OF MAN:

The Comforter Himself is an embodiment of twelve powers of man infused in all the disciples of Christ, each with a power. Peter, James, John and the rest were each endowed with one type of virtue (power). For instance, Peter was endowed with faith, John stood for love, and others had theirs. There is no any other mean by which any man can fight the world and conquer it except with the aid of the virtues as the most effective weapons. This also explains the reason our Lord Jesus Christ said, 'except a man be born of water and spirit he cannot inherit the kingdom of God.' How can a man devoid of the Holy Spirit go out to war against principalities and powers of this world? It is not necessary to be angry with any of the church denominations in the world because of their doctrines and practices because these churches and their leaders have eyes but cannot see. They are fighting a defeatist war because they are waging a war but without weapons. If the founders of Catholic church know this truth, would they have killed Peter and the other disciples? Peter was the only disciple whom our Lord Jesus Christ handed over the key of His Kingdom to. For this reason our Lord Jesus Christ said, it was expedient that He went away so that the Comforter would come to lead man to the accurate wisdom of truth. This is clear indication that even our Lord Jesus Christ had not the spirit and could not give same to His disciples. For that reason He had to give way for the Comforter who would then lead us to the truth.

HE IS A QUICKENING SPIRIT:

While on the Cross He shouted on the 3rd hour before dawn (6 a.m.) and the temple split open. There was thunder followed by light that brought about the physical reappearance of all the prophets of old from Adam to our Lord Jesus Christ. That great work was done more in the spirit than in the flesh. The Lord was all over the place working tirelessly. The world was then not as popular as it is today. But the Father has come today as both jet fighter and mine-sweeper. It behoves us all to submit ourselves to Him. He has fought and conquered and now He is glorified. Now is the time for us all to bow down and worship Him. It has never happened that a sick person brought to a herbalist for healing automatically turns a healer himself after being healed.

The "healer" would pretend to possess such power from his birth and even keeps the source secret. Such a claim is false and a clear indication of powerlessness, vanity and inability to impart it to others. But that is not the same with out Lord Jesus Christ. He distributed the twelve powers to all His disciples because of His abundant love. Whenever our God sends out a

person on errand, He accompanied the person and even goes ahead to perform the duty Himself. We are in a spiritual battle that cannot be fought with carnal weapons, it cannot be fought with money nor with physical power He has declared it openly that His weapons given to us are peace, love, mercy, humility, and all the virtues. These are the things that constitute the Holy Spirit. He is always in front and behind us. We are not the doers of this work but the Holy Spirit. The Father is the doer of all things. Read the second lesson again.

SECOND LESSON: 11 CORINTHIANS 8:9

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes, he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

THE SPIRIT BEHIND US IS GREAT:

If the Lord did not distribute the twelve powers to His disciples, would they have been able to perform? That is the element, that great love. Freely you received freely you should give. How many of you abide by this injunction? A man may be kind enough to feed his fellow man or friend but will dare not disclose the source of his income. Many of you claim to be healers and visioners and go about charging a fee for the thing you neither know the source nor worked for.

THE GREATEST GIFT:

The greatest gift is the power of the Holy Spirit. It is possible for a person to give another person one million naira or build a house for him. But the person who has the Holy Spirit has got the greatest gift as he is capable of conquering every material possession. It is my pleasure to reveal to you the love and power of God. As a result, of His love, the Lord gave out all virtues and power within Him to His disciples. The people of the world are today so annoyed because the Holy Father has exposed their secret to even the poor and needy by teaching them to fast and pray. He has taught those regarded as nonentity and debased how to free themselves from meat, drink and other vices.

The people of the world were using such teachings which they kept to themselves in order to charge those in need of solution to their problems. Such healers, miracle workers and juju priests often force their patients to fast and pray and once they do these things their problems are over. At any time you have a problem, what you should do is to fast and pray. It is not even necessary that you should go to the church to fast, you can remain in your house and whatever the magnitude of the problem, it will be over. It is

for this reason that, native doctors, healers and even visioners would not advise you to go home and fast. Rather, they would invite you to their houses. There is a remarkable difference between divine healing by the Father and others. It is the Father alone who gives out freely, heals freely, feeds freely and does everything to everybody free. The irony is that even those that are healed here in the fold and are endowed with the same spirit of healing and vision, turn round to charge others who go to them for solution to their problems.

Many members charge others before baptizing them, they charge money before preaching the word of God and do everything with a fee. Nothing is done free. Who can serve God without love? Before now many of you were completely empty and devoid of the Holy Spirit and could not preach or perform any great work. But with the presence of the Holy Spirit, He distributes various talents lavishly to you freely. Instead of using these diverse talents to the glory of God, you rather charge a fee. None is ready to serve others free. Yet the Father gave out these gifts to you free, It is the Father who heals, sustains and does everything. Yet a person would have the effrontery to direct his fellow man to see him or her at home before healing or giving vision. That is by way of creating avenue to dupe and extort money from the unsuspected member.

This is the product of lack of love. You fail to remember the words of the scriptures that the Son of man came to serve and not to be served.

OUR DUTY:

The duty of Brotherhood is to liberate mankind from the bondage of sinfulness. Therefore, any person who finds himself in this kingdom and he is endowed with the Holy Spirit should count himself one of the luckiest. Any person who knows that the Holy Father is always before and behind us and that He does everything free and such a person endeavours to do same, he or she is worthy. Such a person is also saved. But anybody who by any means deceives or defrauds his fellow man should pray fervently for himself or herself. Such group of persons called visioners, healers and miracles workers have tried to turn Brotherhood upside down. Some of them have now turned healing homes and bethels into shrines and magical centres. They have deceived and extorted money from others and instill fear into their minds. God wants those who are humble, meek, truthful, faithful and spotless. Many visioners and healers have what they call special oils and claim to have innate power to live in the water, hades, sky and in the air. They have held many brethren and non-baptized brethren to randsome. Many have been rendered helpless and impoverished by these extortionists.

THE SPIRIT TO LIGHT:

I have told you the truth but you refuse to accept it, you rather prefer falsehood to the truth.

For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. (John 17:8).

Preach to the people to refrain from every form of evil and return to God.

AN ILLUSTRATION:

A chief from Adim, a village in Cross River State once went to a Onune Igriga village called Idomi for peace settlement. The two communities had had a dispute between them. He successfully settled the dispute and there was peace among the people. When the people of the two Villages sought to thank him for his foresight and love, he told them to rather thank the Holy Father who was responsible for everything he had done to them. He attributed everything to God and gave Him His due glory. How many of you would have done that? Yet this chief was a newly baptized member of Brotherhood. Any person who serves God diligently will reap abundantly. Whoever tells you that he knows how the work in this kingdom is done and the source of power here is a liar. Do not allow yourself to be deceived by any man who claims to be so highly knowledgeable in the affairs of the world, with chains of degrees from conventional and metaphysical schools. All these are false and of no significance.

THE REAL SOURCE OF POWER:

There are some who believe that the power in Brotherhood is in the holy oil or water. It is not true. The power is not in any of such things. The real source of power in this kingdom is baptism. How many of you know this? Once a man repents, confesses his sins and is baptised in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost all his problems are gone. This does not require any formalities. It does not require money or academic knowledge to serve God. All that the Father requires is total acceptance and submission to Him. All the Apostles of old are here on earth. The Father, son and the Holy Spirit are all here. So, all that the Father wants you to do is to submit your life to Him and all will be well with you.

Let the golden text be read once again.

GOLDEN TEXT: MATTHEW 11:29

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

LEAVE VENGANCE TO GOD:

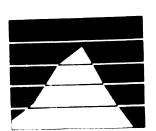
Do not quarrel with or fight your adversaries. Love all your enemies and pray for their good. Be humble, kind, meek, merciful and tolerant. That is what the Father wants from us. Do not try to copy those who go about with the Bible on one hand and on the other carry shrines, trays, fetish or amulets. These are false prophets from other churches who come into Brotherhood of the Cross and Star to cause confusion and to extort money from people. I have had occasion to refund certain amounts extorted from unsuspecting victims who came to me for help.

These extortionists form the bulk of visioners and healers who claim to be miracle workers.

I have never taught any person to take anybody to the forest, mountain or cemetry for healing or any such spiritual work which they now termed "assignment", This is the work of man. There is none that surrenders himself completely to God that would fail to have a lot of testimonies. I have been revealing to you the attitude of the Being we follow. I have taught and demonstrated His life to you. That any man who walks according to His injunctions is already saved. The first question I often ask anyone that comes to me is whether he is angry or bears malice against anyone. This is because I know that those are the real obstacles on your way. Anyone who refrains from anger, hatred, grudge, division and every form of vice has got free entry into the kingdom of God and the Father will make His abode in him.

Beloved, I shall not take you much further, it is said that a stroke of the cane is enough for the wise. He that has ears should hear. May God bless His holy words. Amen.

Thank You Father.



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