

1st Lesson: Luke 20:35

2nd Lesson: Luke 14:33

Golden Text: 1 Corinthians 7:30

THE ELECTS BY GRACE DO NOT MARRY

BRETHREN, these are our lessons as revealed to us this morning. You will discover that all the teachings delivered to us by Christ were such which would take us into the kingdom of God. If people had successfully practised the words of Christ the world would have been in perfect peace today.

All the teachings of Christ were given to us so that we might practise it wholly for our own benefit. You cannot be the follower of Christ if you do not first of all practise His teachings. Christ's teaching is life. His teaching is the way. His teaching is the truth. This is so because Christ had never spoken on His own authority but He was directed by the Father. From the gospel of this morning you will discover that those who will be counted worthy to obtain this world and the resurrection shall not marry nor give up their children in marriage.

Therefore, if you are married you will not see His salvation nor be His follower. The world awaits the coming of the Lord in the dark clouds because, they do not practise His teachings. You have been told plainly that, those who will be counted worthy to obtain this world and the resurrection from the dead shall not marry nor give in marriage.

You have heard the gospel yet you harden your hearts and go further to marry and give in marriage. You claim to wait for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and long to be His follower if He should appear. The question is where did Christ go? God has never deceived us and He will not deceive us. The kingdom of God does not belong to prostitutes nor adulterers and adulteresses. The kingdom belongs to those who do not marry nor give in marriage but who have surrendered themselves to God

by keeping their flesh and spirit free from vices. The aforesaid is the only task you have to fulfil before you enter into the kingdom. Those whom God dwells with and those who have the inspiration of the Holy Spirit do not marry nor give in marriage. It is left for you now to take a stand.

You have seen clearly from our lesson that, a person who is single fixes his thought on ways and means of pleasing God. But married persons fix their thoughts on how to please their couples and as such the person diverts from seeking for means and ways of entering the kingdom of God.

These things are no mysteries nor do I speak with proverbs. I speak in plain terms and these things you have seen and tested them on your own selves. Now the vineyard is wide and we do not have the harvesters. It is said that once a man and a woman are married, they put their thoughts on the earthly things for they would seek after ways of pleasing themselves and as such forget totally about the works of God. Brethren, think about this, how will you enter the kingdom of God when you continue to please yourselves.

You are fond of caring for your husband and each time you desire to please him. You ask him to keep your company. If you suggest a fasting your husband would say "what sort of fasting, please let us enjoy ourselves". If the husband wants to set aside a week for devotion to God the wife would constitute a stumbling block to him. She would complain bitterly, she may even subject the husband as being unfaithful and demand that she be sent home to her parents. Which woman will you even cohabit with and be at devotions for six months and she would not react. She will not be pleased and the home would not be in peace. The same condition applies to the man, if the wife says "I want to devote six months to please God, let us stay apart". This situation might breed disharmony, if not controlled, it may degenerate into divorce. If then is the true position of things in our marital homes, how then would you be able to please God and enter into His kingdom.

When I tell you that those who will be counted worthy to enter into the kingdom of God will not marry nor give up in marriage you will laugh and disbelieve me. Yet I have revealed the true situation of things in the matrimonial home to you. You demand a wife from God. You say God give me a wife so that I may perform your work effectively. Some of you say well if I remain single, I may be tempted to fornicate, hence you decide to get married. Now that I have revealed the true relationship of married couples with God, I hope you have realised that even that one

wife of yours can be a stumbling block to you. Some of you say I will remain single so that I can please God, but you later go to fornicate, you too, cannot enter into the kingdom of God. You are now in the same shoe with the married couples.

WORLDLY PEOPLE MARRY AND ARE GIVEN IN MARRIAGE

Marriage on its own is ordained by God; it is not a bad thing at all. But the problem is how do we keep ourselves clean for the Holy Spirit to dwell in us and direct us. Christ has come, the Holy Spirit wants to dwell in the house which He loved and bought with a precious price. How does He dwell in His house? You may spend a lot of money in building a Cathedral, but God is not interested in dwelling in this Cathedral. He wants to live in any person who keeps himself or herself clean. Therefore, the things which we take for granted and joke with are considered very serious in the sight of God. Tell me: how will the Holy Spirit dwell in the heart of a man who fornicates and commits adultery? You demand power from God. You say God give us the power which you gave us when you first revealed yourself. You should then remain as you were before and see whether you will not have double such power. Now you say we live in the hospitals but in the past you used to heal our sickness. Yes, it has to happen this way because whoever sins becomes the slave to sin. Do not be deceived to believe that a married man or woman can please God.

Have you not heard what has been said that if you do not forsake all the things of this world that you cannot enter into the kingdom of God? It is said that there are Eunuchs who are born naturally so. There are other Eunuchs also who are so because they have been made to be Eunuchs. Others have made themselves Eunuchs because they have seen that there is no other way of getting into God's kingdom, therefore they make themselves Eunuchs in order that they might inherit the kingdom. Paul was a good example of the above group of people. The Holy Spirit which you joke with is not a light matter. Today, you pray God to endow you with the Holy Spirit. Where is the house in which the Holy Spirit will dwell? Let us take for example, a young man who seeks a lady for marriage. If he does not have a house, where will this young couple live in? It is said that it is the worldly people who will marry and give up in marriage because they do not have share in the Holy Spirit.

But for those who will occupy this kingdom they will not marry nor give up for marriage. The Holy Spirit is not merchandise nor does it come to you because of the number of cars you have. You do not receive it because you are brainly or educated. You achieve it through self-sacrifice and self-denials. It does not come to you through preaching. What do you preach about? Is it not earthly things? If you like trumpet the words of God from street to street, if you are not sufficiently chaste the Holy Spirit will not dwell in you.

MARRIAGE PARTNERS SEEK TO PLEASE THEMSELVES

Therefore, those who please God do not marry nor do they give up for marriage. They keep themselves clean. The Father seeing this holy and clean house occupies it immediately and uses this people to reveal and manifest His works and accomplishments. God does not want our money, our cars, our mothers and fathers but God wants us individually to purify and surrender ourselves to Him. Some of you are fun of saying that if I have had money I would have used it in the services of God. No, keep your money to yourselves, enjoy and spend it as you like, but give yourselves to God. You say that you are engaged in the services of God, what services are these? The only way one can serve God is to forget completely about sexual coitus and surrender oneself as a living sacrifice to God.

Take for example, John the Baptist. If he had married, this would have pre-occupied his time. He would not have been the fore-runner of Christ. Christ was another typical example. This is His kingdom, He does not want your money or any possession of yours but He wants you as a person. God does not dwell in a house built by hand; He does not dwell in your cars but God dwells in you. God is a jealous God. If you satisfy your fleshly desires, God will not dwell in you. Do you want to claim that you do not know that your sole aim of marrying is purely to satisfy your sexual desires? Befriend a woman now, give her money, shoes and other things, she will not be satisfied, she will demand that she wants you in person to comfort her, the same applies to men. Today the Holy Spirit wants you in person. Your cars, money and wealth are useless. A servant cannot have two masters, you have to hate one and love the other. If you seek the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves clean; your wife can get annoyed when she is tired, she may decide to get away and you will

then be free to please God. If on the other hand you want your wife, forget about the Holy Spirit, you sleep with your wife on the same bed and request God to give you the Holy Spirit; which Holy Spirit do you want? From where will it come to you? You have no light at all, you are covered with darkness because of sexual act; you say that you enjoy yourself. Yes, you are free to enjoy yourselves for you have no share with the Holy Spirit.

PURIFY YOURSELF AND BE A USEFUL TOOL TO GOD

You request through songs that God should give you power and boldness. Well, if you truly want God's power, why not purify yourselves and follow Him. The Holy Spirit is the stone which the builders have rejected. It is that rock which you have to lay your foundation. If you fail to lay your foundation on this rock then your house will crumble. Anybody who wants God to use him as a tool but fails to keep himself clean will not achieve this aim. Remember how the Spirit led our Lord Jesus Christ to the desert, how He fasted forty days and nights and how He was tempted by the devil. What were the things which were used in tempting Jesus? You may be interested to know. During this period pretty women with nice shapes were used but He did not succumb to this temptation. Assorted drinks were also used but Christ did not taste any. Money was also used but He did not yield. The devil further gave Him half of the kingdom to rule but He rejected it all.

You see, it boils down to the same point that whoever seeks to enter this kingdom must forsake earthly things. You say that you want to follow Christ, yet the love for money is immeasurable in you, your love for women is very deep, your love for riches and position is at its own peak. How will you manage the two situations? To inherit this kingdom, first and foremost you have to forsake the earthly things. You say that it is difficult to seek heavenly things, yes you would find it difficult because there are many things of the world which you love. You still love the world and what is in it. Some of you love positions, you want worldly respect, you want to be seen as a good man in the sight of worldly people and as such you find it difficult to work as a man of God. There is an adage that if the passing of urine was an easy task, the hens, would have done so. If it was easy to please God, the Holy Spirit would have continuously been with man but this is not so. Man has

always loved the things of this earth more than God, so he fails to retain the Holy Spirit, hence you find the world in the present deplorable situation. That was why Christ asked Peter, "Do you love me more than what is in the world?" And Peter's answer was yes. The answer was also true for he did love God more than the world. If Peter had loved money, wife and children more than God, he would not have had the Holy Spirit and would not have surrendered himself to God. Why the Holy Spirit dwelt with Peter was because Peter had forsaken the things of this world.

Peter made himself the house of Christ. He dwelt in Him and moved out from time to time to accomplish his task and manifest his Father's glory. His duty was to beg God to send down His Holy Spirit unto those who were not yet baptised. There is no other reason why one should not marry except that the Holy Spirit would not like to share His bride with any other. If somebody advised you to fornicate, tell lies, steal and quarrel, the sole aim of that person is to make you a desert place for Christ.

Therefore, brethren this is the final chance in which you have to purify yourselves and surrender yourselves to God. If you did not believe, note that the words of Christ was nothing but the truth. Do not claim that, those who are single and you who are married are just the same, no, this is not so. For you to be saved, let the married couple remain as when they were single. You and your wife have to, accordingly, surrender yourselves to God. Let the first lesson be read.

1st Lesson: St. Luke 20:35

"But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage."

Have you heard what has been read out to you? Of all the gospels I have been delivering, how many of you have been able to practise them? If I do not compel you to practise the words of God, then it means you have no place in the kingdom of God. If you like bring your mat, spread it right in the altar and sleep there all days, if you are a fornicator you will not inherit the kingdom of God.

During Pentecost it will be pronounced "receive the Holy Spirit" but you will not receive it because you are not clean. The Holy Spirit will not

take control of you because you have failed to open your heart. You have not known that God does not want our songs, our dances, but He wants us to surrender ourselves personally to Him. It is written in the Holy Books that the Tabernacle of God is with men. He shall be their God and they shall be His people. God is supposed to dwell in you. Today He cannot do so because we have not kept ourselves clean. *We are dirty and filthy. God is just at the door knocking.*

Why do you harden your hearts? Why have you failed to open your hearts and receive Him? In the mornings I preach to you that you should practise the Gospel, in the afternoons and evenings I preach that you should keep yourselves clean; who among you have been able to receive my words and practise them. It was written that today, when you hear His voice harden not your hearts as your fathers. Well, it has always been the trend of events in the world that each time they hear and receive the truth, they mourn and become sad because they do not want to forsake evil and seek after the truth. Their position here can be compared to that of a stubborn child. Any time you advise a bad child against bad ways he would be very sad because he would want to continue in his ways!

SANCTIFY YOUR BODY FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT TO DWELL

Understand now that the road is narrow and slippery; the task is difficult, so difficult that the flesh cannot accomplish it. That is why you have to surrender yourselves to God so that He may pass into you, dwell in you and accomplish His set goals. In this situation, you will have little or no problems. Any young man who has made up his mind, that is, take a decision to the effect that he would not have to indulge in any act which will connect him sexually with the opposite sex by abstaining from sexual act with the opposite sex, will be bold and free. Nobody will pass orders to him. For example your husband will order you not to fast, that you should cook or prepare a dish which you have to eat with him. Your wife may also order you not to go to prayers and so on. If you so keep yourself clean, Christ will be your own guide and He will direct you. You can bear me witness that once a lady is married, she becomes a slave to the husband's decisions. The husband may decide to treat her anyhow. He may even decide to withdraw her from any group which he does not like. For example, your husband can move into the Church, and order you out. If he is questioned he will quickly answer, "she is my wife".

This answer is enough to make the surrounding people ignore whatever he might do to you. The Government and the Churches have no hands in the management of your matrimonial home. Your parents and family too have no hands in the manning of your marital affairs. Christ Himself is not concerned with marital problems. It is purely and simply two persons' contract. If you marry, you commit no crime, but the problem there is that you will suffer untold hardship, disgrace and you may be made to face other odd conditions. And the painful thing there is that you do this at a loss because this suffering cannot carry you to the kingdom of God.

What is the sole cause of this, is it not because you want to satisfy your sexual desire? Despite all these difficulties you still manage and struggle to keep the marriage on because of the lust of carnal desire. There is a common adage which goes thus, "things you like may very likely be the cause of your death." You see now that the worldly people seek hardship instead of everlasting life. Their choice is death instead of life. The Holy Spirit is right at the door of your hearts, who amongst you is prepared to receive this Holy Spirit.

All the preachings which Christ delivered to us was a preparation to make us ready for the coming of the Holy Spirit. This Holy Spirit was meant to dwell in our hearts. Some people praise themselves and say that they are preparing for the new advent of Christ. They claim they were really prepared because they have gone to America, and listed societies which they have joined to enable them trace when He will come easily. To this group of people, I have this questions to ask. Are you married? Do you have a husband or wife living with you? If you do, do not seek for God because you will not find Him. For any man who is married and given up in marriage can never see God. If you are married, you automatically become the enemy of the Holy Spirit. Do you think that during the last advent of Christ that there were no beautiful ladies whom Christ would have got married to. There were many of them.

MAKE YOUR BODY A LIVING SACRIFICE UNTO GOD

If Christ had got married and misused his body as you have done today, what would have been the situation in the world today. Where would you and me have gone to? If Mary were not a virgin do you think the Holy Spirit would have dwelt with her. Mary was quite a beautiful

lady. She was up to the age of maturity. But she exercised self-control and waited for the promise of God to be fulfilled in her. She was among those who set themselves aside to please God. It was time for her to be discharged but she refused to leave because she had earlier received a vision from Angel Gabriel that she shall be the mother of God. Today you cannot control yourselves nor can you do anything if you do not have a lady beside you. You cannot stay a day without having an affair with a man. Since you choose to behave this way then, be convinced that you do not have Christ neither do you believe in Him. Christ spoke openly and in very plain and simple language that those who will be counted worthy to obtain the kingdom of God will not marry or give their children in marriage but the whole world today rate marriage as number one thing. Man cannot operate without a woman, likewise the opposite sex. Enquire from people today they would tell you that the coming of the Holy Spirit is still yet to be fulfilled. To such group of people I say if you wait for the moon you shall always tread in darkness. If you do not keep your body clean and holy, you will not behold or receive the Holy Spirit, neither will you perceive His presence here on earth. You will not know how He operates, you will be empty because you will have no God.

Samuel who was given to Eli, kept himself clean and moved rightly in the sight of God. He did not smoke, or eat meat. You would see that God is not a respecter of persons. Eli had two sons who did not have the love of God in their hearts. They behaved anyhow and even committed fornication in the house of God. They also got married. Samuel on the other hand, was not the son of Eli. He was taken as a houseboy but because He moved rightly in the sight of God, God chose him to fill in the priestly family of Eli. This shows that whoever prepares himself or herself to receive God, accordingly, He will reveal Himself to him. Samuel was in the group. God accordingly revealed Himself to him.

Samuel heard a voice calling him "Samuel! Samuel!" He rose up and went to Eli, but Eli said unto him, "I guess that it could be that God wanted to speak to Samuel. He gave Samuel the clue; and said to Samuel, if you hear the voice again, say "Master speak for thy servant heareth." Samuel did accordingly and God revealed to Samuel the future of both himself and Eli his master. He also discussed the weakness of Eli, the nature of the children of Eli and the punishment they would face thereafter. In order to show you what human beings are, Eli threatened to deal drastically with Samuel if Samuel failed to tell him

what God had told him. Samuel fearing the outcome told him all what God has revealed. He talked about the punishment which God will mete to his children and for his failure to give his children the correct training that he will be punished also. God promised that He would not forsake the house of Eli because He saw Samuel and he knew that he was going to make use of him. Eli and his two children died on the same day. The children were killed at the battlefield and his father died on receiving the news of their death. Samuel occupied the position of Eli and his children in Israel.

Do not say that I am not from the root of Mary and Joseph. Surrender yourself to God and He will make use of you. Many of you here cannot even dream dreams, if you do you would not be able to recall them. You do not hear or see visions yet you do not ask yourself what your mission in Brotherhood is. So many of you hear about earthly things. How you count money; how the woman you love rally around you; how you eat feast and drink. Can you dream godly dreams? This is so because you are of the world; you are bare; you do not keep yourself clean and holy hence you cannot see the beauty of this kingdom. Those dreams about godly things are very few. If you keep your person clean and holy, God will reveal everything to you. He will come directly to you and tell you what he has for you. Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters do not be deceived, God is not very far away from us, He is very close to us but we have refused to surrender ourselves to Him. If you seek Him carnally you will not see Him but just prepare yourself and He will come to you. A good example of this which illustrates this situation is that of Cornelius. Though he was a soldier, he had given himself to fasting, praying and giving of alms to the poor. Due to this God revealed Himself to Cornelius and he received the Holy Spirit. So whoever wants to surrender himself to God as a living sacrifice, God will make use of him. So many of you here, because you have seen the dead being raised, the lame walks, you become convinced that God is in your midst. When you are confronted with temptation you stumble and fall. Look at the second lesson.

2nd Lesson: Luke 14:33

“So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.”

FORSAKE EARTHLY THINGS TO BE A WORTHY ELECT OF GOD

A look at the second lesson will reveal to you why you cannot serve God. You have been told not to love the world and the things that are in the world because they who love the world cannot love God. If Peter had loved the world and the things therein he would not have loved Christ. If he did not love Christ, He (Christ) would not have revealed Himself to Peter. You have heard about how Peter was called through the marvellous catch of fishes. This miracle convinced Peter and he, therefore, forsook everything and followed Christ. He had never had the mind of going back to the world. To prove this attitude of Peter to you I will draw your attention to a situation in which Peter posed a question to our Lord Jesus Christ saying what will be the reward of those of us who have forsaken all the things of this world to follow you? Today, instead of you to forsake the things of the world, you pray to God to give you money. What do you want to do with money? You want to use it to run after women. What do we quarrel about today, is it not money? You say "He does not give me money nor food nor clothing."

THOSE WHO FORSAKE MUNDANE THINGS WILL HAVE THE KINGDOM

Remember Paul, he was called on his way to Damascus and from that day he did not go back to the world but decided and followed Christ all the days of his life on earth. Do you think that it is a joke to decide to follow God? It is no joke. If you want to follow God, do not think about lack. Today you play politics with the words of God; you joke a lot with it. Do you think it is a thing to joke with? When I observe you very closely, I feel very sorry for you. You will be a living witness of those who will obtain this kingdom. What do you think they will do with money, clothing, children, marriage and respect? They will ignore these things. What did Paul say to the people of Corinth about marriage? He told them that it would be very nice if one can abstain completely from marrying a woman. But when he gave it a second consideration, he said well to avoid fornication but one man should marry one wife. The injunction he further gave is a complete and sufficient proof to you that it is a nice thing for people to remain single while giving themselves unto God.

Paul ordered that one should not force the wife to have an affair with Him, likewise, the wife should not force the man to have affairs with her. But it should come when they both agree and it should be done briefly. ~~After that they have to do three days dry fasting else, the devil might tempt them or them. They have to really beg God for forgiveness so that God can dwell with them.~~ This is a clear proof that to obtain the kingdom of God you do not have to marry. So, do not lay claim to Paul that he authorized you to marry. It is not completely a bad thing to marry. But when you do so, how will you be clean, both in flesh and in spirit? You who understand all proverbs, explain to me. The Holy Spirit being holy, dwells in a clean house. He does not want any filthy environment. How will He dwell in you if you are married.

You who choose to marry, you cannot even fast six to six on Thursdays. How will you be able to fast at all the time you meet yourselves? Do you not think that it is a good thing for you to refrain from marrying? If people had abided by the instructions of Paul there would be no problem. Paul has directed that after each sexual intercourse between married couples, they should fast and pray. If you fail to do this the devil will control you. What has the hymn book told us? We are told that the evil spirit can easily remove the peace which is of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. If condition of things is so tough with those who marry only one wife, what will become of you who marry many women and flirt around? This was why Paul stressed that it would be a nice thing if people could emulate him. Paul did not have anything to do with any woman right from the day he was called on the road to Damascus to when he departed this earth. Paul was a better follower of Christ not because he was a lawyer but because he had surrendered himself to Christ as a living sacrifice unto God. He did not marry nor had he any possession. He did not drink wine nor strong drink. He did not eat meat or fish. All those things that were of the flesh were forsaken. But today you eat around, yet you protest that you want to serve God. I know you want to serve yourself and not God. When the Holy Spirit takes control of you there are so many hidden things which He will teach you which I cannot teach you right here. Take for example this meat issue, a carnal person would say what is wrong with meat, after all, it is rich in protein. I need protein for growth, so, I will eat meat; but if the Holy Spirit reveals to you what is in the eating of meat you would dread meat.

All these things I cannot explain to you right here. If the Holy Spirit

does not direct you, you will see nothing wrong with drinking. But if the Holy Spirit directs you, you will regard it as poison. Even the odour can disturb you to the extent that the Holy Spirit departs from you. Some of us here when we did not receive the Holy Spirit regarded man, money and food as everything on earth. But when you receive the Holy Spirit, your eyes shall have opened and you would find out that the food which many people want is nothing, hence, you are very free, you are no more sick and you do not lament.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NOT FEASTING, BUT POWER, JOY AND PEACE

Who can understand what Paul meant by saying that the kingdom of God is not in eating and drinking? That the kingdom of God is power, joy, peace and salvation. If this statement were false, how could Paul as a lawyer withstand the disgrace when he was beaten 35 strokes of the cane? He also faced confrontation within and without the church. He was imprisoned and kept hungry yet he was strong and he still testified to the glory of God. He was even thrown into the sea yet he had comfort. What was it that gave him the comfort?

Since Paul started preaching, have you heard about him having a child from any woman, have you heard that he had built a house for himself. He did not buy even a tyre of a bicycle, but today you want to serve God in order that you might have a car. Now, you say that since you started serving God you have not got a car nor built a house. You say, "well let me go and build a house and also struggle to get myself a car." You say, "God, what is it, nobody seems to look after me, things are not working the way they should with me," hence you are tempted to desert God and seek your own glory.

If you had believed that if you did not forsake everything, you would not enter the kingdom of God, would that had happened? After joking with the gospel, you go away, those who will practise the word of God are coming. You will see them with your eyes; not in the dreamland. Wherever you find people quarrelling and fighting, the cause must be linked to earthly things. If you forsake everything you will have no problem. It will be joy all the time. Money, clothings, car, land, etc. are all earthly things.

It is easy for somebody to take them from you, but who will take Christ away from you? That is your problem. You have not forsaken the things of this world but you say that you want to follow Christ. Can you succeed? That is why you cannot serve God. You do not come to the knowledge that to serve God requires your removing your heart from these earthly things. Remember that young man who wanted to follow Christ but he begged to go and bury his dead parents. What did Christ say to him? He said, "Let the dead bury the dead but you go and preach the kingdom of God." The other person said, "Lord I will follow you but let me say goodbye to my people." Christ told him that whoever seeks God should not look behind or he would not succeed:

Golden Text: 1 Corinthians 7:30

***"And those who mourn as though they were not mourning,
and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing,
and those who buy as though they had no goods."***

**FRIENDLINESS WITH THE WORLD
IS ENMITY WITH GOD**

To be friendly with the world makes you the enemy of God. If you are the enemy of the world, you become a friend to Christ. Those who want Christ truly are those who have forsaken children, husbands, clothings, shoes, houses, cars, etc. and open up their hearts to Him. This group of people do not have problems because no matter what you do, you will not take Christ away from them. There is joy! joy! joy! Those who quarrel have not yet forsaken the things of the world; but for a child of God there is no problem because he has no regard for anything.

Take example from Christ when He received the Holy Spirit. He did not have anything to do with the world. His affairs centred mainly with His disciples. Today, you profess to serve God but you go back and bury the dead. You keep mourning houses and mourn yourselves. You also practise the tradition of your people. You are likened to a dog which vomitted out food and later fed on it again, because you had forsaken the world and later go back to it.

Has it not been written that wife be submissive to your husband and husband love your wife? The love of the husband is profound for the

wife. And the wife is all out to obey the husband. If he said do not worship, the wife will not worship also. If your husband asks you to stand you have to do same. If he orders you to move you have to do same. If you fail to obey your husband then you are not a child of God, and your husband can easily mislead you.

I may reveal this situation to you. When Christ said, "wife be in submission to your husband and husband love your wife," was Christ referring to the church? Christ is the head of the church. If Christ was the Sole controller of marriage, there would be no problem. The wife would not have disobeyed the husband, the husband too would not have beaten up the wife. Marriage today is a seat of fighting and quarreling. **They may even fight to the point of disgracing each other and going naked.** There are so many problems in our matrimonial homes today because it is not controlled by Christ. Today I tell you to come forward and bless your marriage so that Christ and the Holy Spirit may take control of it. I demand no money, yet you refuse to bring your wives because you know that when Christ controls marriage that you do not have to misbehave. If you go and tell somebody that you want to bless your marriage in Brotherhood, you will be told 'what? Will you be able to withstand it?'

A man who is not married, according to the Bible, wants to please God and seeks after how he will achieve same. But married men seek to please their wives. He would seduce thereby messing the temple of God. Why you have to bless your marriage in Brotherhood is so that Christ may take dominion and you become brother and sister. Brother and sister implication is such that requires you to refrain from any sexual act. It will place you in such a situation that you will become the tool of God. This is why many have refused to come forward because they still want to please themselves. Does it not go to confirm that which is written? That the worldly people marry and give up in marriage because they want to please themselves, but the children of God do not marry, neither do they give in marriage?

You would see that married women are not free. They cannot go to work for six months without helping the home. No husband will tolerate her. A husband may not even want to part with the wife even for three days. If you are a married woman you cannot prepare food for the preacher because you will be accused by your husband of being in love with that preacher. The reason why she is not free, likewise the husband

is because one acts as a check to the other. If you misbehave or give him any cause to suspect any situation, the quarrel starts right there.

You will bear witness that right from the time you got married, your whole heart is centered on what you would do to please and keep your husband. If you say that as a married woman you also seek to please God and not your husband. then you are a liar. For example, even when it is time for you to receive the Gospel you would say, "Oh! in a short time let me leave and go to see about my husband's lunch. If I do not he will not allow me have rest of mind."

Well, do you now see that by marrying that you have signed contract with the demon. If your wife wants to go on a ministry work, you will say no, do not go. Anywhere you want to go, we shall go together. You will truly say that you do not permit her to go on any ministry work alone. If the husband wants to go on a ministry work, the wife will say, yes, you are preparing to go to somewhere else.

TO BE CARNALLY MINDED IS DEATH, BUT TO BE SPIRITUALLY MINDED IS LIFE

"How could it be a ministry work that you intended to go? Do you want to trick me and go out and live elsewhere?" One partner would continue to accuse and suspect the other and as such there would be no peace. Why both of them behave this way is because they do not think about any other thing than to keep each other. If this is what occupies their minds now, why would they think about God? When couples come to receive the teaching of God, the husband will preserve the wife to watch her behaviour with other men. As such while the Gospel is going on, the woman would be busy telling any man who wants to sit close to her to move apart because she is married. The husband on the other hand will not want to sit close to any other woman. When will they receive the words of God delivered?

They both live the life of envy and suspicion. When the husband is away the wife mixes up well. But once he is around the wife will cease all friendly talks. You see now that a servant cannot serve two masters? You have to love one and hate the other. So all those who are married love themselves and not Christ.

How do you know the children of God? You know them from these things. The worldly people like satisfying the carnal desire which is the

duty which prevails in marital homes. To be in this kingdom, let he that is married remain as though he is single. Like brothers and sisters now, let us serve the Lord. You have to behave like Adam our first parent. Adam had five children, immediately after that Adam prayed to God to remove from him the sexual urge and God did same. So for the very long years which he lived, remember that he departed this earth at the age of 930 years. During this long period they remained as brother and sister. The same thing can happen today.

Today, instead of demanding this you are doing the opposite. You will put to birth until you reach the menopause age. Your husband may become completely weak and impotent yet you still long and have contact with each other. This is borne out of greed and this really displeases God. Why do you not now decide and keep the temple holy for God to dwell in? You fornicated right from your youthful age to now that you are old. While going out to chase, you may have confrontation with your son because you want to chase the same girl that he is in love with. Are you not ashamed of old age? Why do you continue in evil ways?

So, beloved, this is the appointed time. The Holy Spirit has come to reign, surrender yourselves now to Him so that you may have peace and everlasting life. You were slaves to the things of the world. So also shall you toil in this new kingdom. A word I know, is sufficient for the wise. **He that has ear to hear, let him hear.**

Let God bless His words in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ — Amen.

metal cross, no circle is drawn, no mystical books used, it does not worship angels, no incantations, it does not worship money or persons, **But worship the REAL TRUE GOD** that is why it is hated by the people of the world. It is because Brotherhood has refused to run in the same way with them that is why they have become disgruntled and are surprised at Brotherhood. Because Brotherhood worships the real true God, it is having abundant peace and harmony in all its undertakings.

TRUE WORSHIPPERS OF GOD MUST GUARD AGAINST IDOLS

The hour is come when the true worshippers of God must worship God in Spirit and in truth. What is the Spirit? It is the word of God. What is the truth? It is the word of God. It is this word of God that we are applying in our daily lives, this is the difference between us and the world. This is what keeps us happy. It is the application of the word of God in our worship to God that keeps us within the bounds of this new kingdom of God to render God exclusive devotion to His eternal praise and honour. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen!

Brethren, those who have ears to hear, let them hear. Let God bless His holy word. Amen!

FATHER'S FAREWELL ADDRESS AT THE END OF AUGUST 1981 PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY

The significance of August Pentecostal is to remember the day we first wore the white soutane and marched out from Eton Street to Mbukpa Road.

That was the first day that our Lord Jesus Christ was revealed to the entire world. A great many of you who write something about Brotherhood of the Cross and Star do not present the correct facts to the world. Some of you use your own wisdom. If you want to know anything about Brotherhood, humble yourself and lie low on the ground, study the teachings that you receive and the things that you see here day by day. Rely no more on your personal knowledge.

THE FIRST OUTING OF BROTHERHOOD IN WHITE SOUTANE

It was on the 8th of August, 1958 that members of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star put on white apparel and marched out from Eton Street. That marked the beginning of the Pentecostal Assembly for Brotherhood of the Cross and Star and that was the day Christ was revealed to the whole world. Before then Brotherhood of the Cross and Star was not heard of and was not very much known.

Some of the members here who were there at that time can tell you what took place at that time. We used to have a very good attendance, some days the number used to be up to 700 members, but today where are they. I mean those members who were with me at that time. Of all

the thousands of Israelites who left the land of Egypt to the promised land, how many of them reached the land? Were they not two people? I want to know what you are thinking about those members who were here in 1958, I do not say something about those who were with me in 1920 or in 1930. What does God require from you, is it not a thankful heart?

1st Timothy 4:8

“For while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.”

I want you to realise that it is more profitable to serve God than to serve man. We are going to make a feast to thank the Father for the mighty work those people did. The people of Israel when they were about to leave the land of Egypt celebrated the feast of passover. They still continue to celebrate that feast till today to commemorate the day they left the land of Egypt. When God does something for you and you show a thankful heart, He will continue to do more and more for you.

THOSE WHO ARE FIRM IN BROTHERHOOD WILL BE REWARDED

Many of you do not know what will happen to those who are firm in the business of Brotherhood in future. Those who stand firm in Brotherhood will be remembered by those Europeans who will be coming, some with long beards, some millionaires who will come as we are remembering these few brethren who were at Eton Street and are still firm till today. The advice I am giving to you is that if you want to dance Brotherhood with two legs, dance, if you want to dance with one leg, dance and if you do not want to dance at all, you can sky away, but one thing that you have to take note of is that a labourer is worthy of his pay.

In the past we used to observe only the 8th of August as the Pentecostal Assembly day and after that date we dispersed. Now have you seen what that one day has brought about, we have shifted from one day to four weeks.

Brethren the way of God is wonderful and his wisdom has confounded the wisdom of man. As these people are remembered so will it be with

many of you on the last day, you will be called out and will be given the glory which the Father had with you according to your services to God. Anyone of you who wants to serve God either dubiously or with all sincerity, will be rewarded accordingly.

It was in the same way when King Hezekiah was called by the Lord and asked to get prepared for his days were over, and would die. He cried unto God that God should remember his services to Him during his youthful days and be merciful unto him. God remember what Hezekiah used to do to Him in his youthful days and again sent Prophet Isaiah to tell him that his life span had been increased. The goodness of the Lord to you extends to your brothers and sisters, to your family, village, kins and kindreds and even to your souls from generation to generation. It is good to do good to any person who serves God; you are not doing to him but to God. If you thank any person for whatever he does you are not thanking that person, but God.

There will come a time when we shall call upon all those who were present when this hall was opened. Every year has its own assignment, glory and blessing. The scriptures say that any person who perseveres to the end shall be saved. It is not the beginning of a thing that matters, but the end of it. In the same way, from September 21st to 27th of every year shall be observed as the Students' Week and we shall thank the Father for calling each of them into His service and shall rejoice with them. This is why you see the celebrations, meetings and functions of various Fellowships. This is in remembrance of the children of God.

SIGNIFICANCE OF DECEMBER PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY

All the activities in December Pentecostal Assembly have no other significance than to commemorate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you are asked, why do you rejoice so much in December, tell them that you are rejoicing because we are commemorating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. We commit no offence eventhough we extend the celebration to five or six weeks. For someone to come and die for the sins of the whole world, is it not worthy for us to glorify Him?

If the whole world had realised that the Son of Man had come and died to save the whole world, they would have rejoiced and glorified Him more than we have done today. He as the redeemer had come and redeemed us from sin and from the bondage of satan. If He could tell

people, "take your mats and go away," and they became cured, do you think it was a mere word of mouth, or just an efficacy of prayer. It is because He is the King of kings and Lord of lords. After all many people have been praying.

This is the time of the reign of our Lord Jesus Christ, this is the time of His glorification, this is the time to magnify His name. That is why we start from the beginning of December to the end, and it is not even sufficient. Therefore, the December Pentecostal Assembly is in commemoration of the birth of Christ.

When you think about the significance of April Pentecostal Assembly, it serves to remember the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Do you not know that it is proper for us to remember the Man who was crucified for our sins, and for the redemption of the whole world. At least that day should be remembered. Even if you give yourself to be crucified now, you are not the person who redeemed us, it was the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ that redeemed us; whatever you have done you have not redeemed us but only our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our Lord Jesus Christ died on Thursday. The reason we observe the Bible Class on Wednesday is because, that was the day He gave the last supper to His disciples. All that we do here in Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is what our Lord Jesus Christ did. He had said that when that Comforter shall come, he will teach you all things and will remind you of what I said and did. The washing of the disciples' feet which we observe was what our Lord Jesus did. It was on Wednesday that He selected the Apostles out from the rest of the world and ordained them and called them His disciples. That towel that I used to tie around my waist was the same thing that our Lord Jesus Christ did when He washed the disciples' feet and wiped them with the towel. I do that in order to show those who did not know and do not believe.

The three days' dry fasting signifies His three days and three nights in the grave. Why we observe it one week before the beginning of each Pentecostal Assembly is in order that it might not worry you during the Pentecostal Assembly meetings. We have got to prepare and sanctify ourselves to be pure and acceptable to God for His services. We do not observe the dry fasting so that we might get wealth, become healthy, have wives and husbands or any carnal thing, but we do it so that we might subject ourselves to His services because if you suffer with him you will be glorified with Him.

The Thursday fasting is to remember the day He was crucified on the cross. The Wednesday Watch-and-Pray signifies His arrest and trial. We have got to do this for eternity. The worldly people say that Brotherhood of the Cross and Star does not worship Jehovah God and His Christ. I am asking them, between Brotherhood and the world, who worships Christ, glorifies Christ and honours Christ?

A great many of you do not take part in our fasting here. You do not know what we are doing. It was at six o'clock in the morning that judgement was delivered against our Lord Jesus Christ and He was condemned; it was at nine o'clock that He was crucified, He remained on the Cross till twelve o'clock; at three o'clock He shouted and surrendered His Spirit unto the Father; and at six o'clock in the evening He was lowered from the Cross and taken to the grave.

We conduct the Bible Class every Wednesday under sun or rain; it was conducted throughout the period of the last civil war. At 3 a.m. the following Thursday that we end the watch-and-pray was the time our Lord Jesus Christ was arrested. Most of you do not care to take part in watch-and-pray. This is not a good life of a true christian.

We are doing these things to uplift the glory of God. The bible class that we conduct and the last supper that we observe represent exactly what He did. To manifest the glory of God is the fulfilment of the scriptures which said that when the Comforter shall come He will teach you all things and will show you the glory which belongs to me. Brethren our Lord Jesus Christ has been revealed. A great many of you do not take part in the watch-and-pray and the last supper, that is the feast which is conducted on Wednesday.

All of you come in here complaining that you have no wife, you have no husband, you are sick, you are poor etc. But you have not observed the watch-and-pray and the fasting on Thursdays. From now henceforth, when you go back, observe the watch-and-pray, stay till three o'clock and take the last supper, then on Thursdays, you observe the fasting from six to six; try that for some weeks and see what will happen to you whether all your problems will not vanish.

What are you? what is your occupation, what height have you attained that you cannot participate in the watch-and-pray? If our Lord Jesus Christ were to die today, would you not suffer with Him? We have got to give Him the glory. His glory is greater than everything. This is the glory that we will have, the glory that belongs to our Lord Jesus Christ.

You should not add or subtract anything. If you add anything to it punishment will be added unto you, and if you subtract anything, your name will be removed from the book of life.

The angels hail Him and say that He is worthy of this honour because He died for the salvation of mankind. We, therefore, have to give Him the glory.

On the Sunday morning when He rose from the dead we proclaimed to the whole world, and on the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ we went out to proclaim to the entire world. It is not only here but in the entire world that the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ must manifest. It is only His glory that must be revealed now. It was on a Sunday that God created heaven and earth, therefore, creation started on Sunday which is the first day of the week. You have heard that God used six days to finish all works of creation and rested on the seventh day. Sabbath is not the first day of the week but Sunday. The whole world is blind, deaf and I have to reveal the glory of God to the whole world.

BROTHERHOOD DOES NOT WORSHIP DAYS AND MONTHS

In the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star we do not worship anything, but God, we do not worship days, months, hours, time but we practise the word of God.

Many of you do not understand yourselves, you do not know what you are; you do not even know what to do. We are saved by grace. Being saved by grace means ~~that~~ we are living by the words of God. Your problem is that you observe the instructions of man. The instructions of man is the law, though you keep the law you cannot keep it to the letters. That is why it is said woe unto him who does not observe the law to it entirety. I want to show you what Brotherhood stands for, what Brotherhood-is, what Brotherhood honours and worships, and also what is our salvation.

St. John's Gospel 1:1—5

“In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

Heaven and earth shall pass away but the words of God shall never pass away. All the people in the world are opposing the will of God. If you do not obey the instructions and commandments of God, you are against God. Therefore you are given instructions in Hebrew chapter four verse seven. Look at it. I want all the troubles and tribulations that you have found yourself in to leave you right now!

Hebrew 4:7

“Again He sets a certain day, “Today,” saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted, “Today, when you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.”

If you call the first day, I would know, if you call a second day I would know but if you say Sunday, Monday I would not know because I am bringing to you what was in existence from the beginning of the creation. When the disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ were challenged by the Pharisee in Bethlehem, our Lord Jesus Christ said that what was not planted would be uprooted. You will notice that the word Sunday comes from Sun, that is the light. It is an angel that takes charge of the sun. You have Monday which is derived from moon. That is an angel that takes charge of the moon. Then you come to Saturday, which is derived from the word Saturn that is the angel which controls Saturn. We have no connection with these days nor the angels which control them.

In the colonial days Saturdays used to be working days up to half of the day, but now that old order has changed. In the institution of man they are worshipping days but we are worshipping the words of God. Anybody who worships the days of the week, woe betides such a person. A great many people worship Fridays, others worship Saturdays and call it Sabbath, others worship Sundays. We do not worship the days or moon or stars because these were created by God. Why should you worship what was created by God? You should worship God, the Creator:

Colossians 2:11 to the end

If you read Colossians 2:11 to the end, you will realise that all what is referred to there is about observing tradition by men. Why do the world hate Brotherhood? This organisation has it that at the fullness of time everything shall be folded, so it should be hated.

Many of you take December as the end of the year. It is not the end of the year, it is the ninth month of the year. The first month of the year is April. Tell this to the Governments and churches. January is the name of an angel which rules that month, February is the name of the angel which rules that month and so on and so forth. The end of the year is March. If you go beyond that you are a rebel. The Government cannot legislate over what God had instructed. January is the tenth month of the year.

THE CHURCH IS THE GOVERNMENT OF A COUNTRY

Nigeria has not yet attained a republic of its own. It will have a republic when it has a church of its own which controls the country. What we are doing is to worship in churches which are imported from Rome and America. I have not seen a church which originates from Nigeria. At the moment you have no God, that is, you cannot rejoice about your own God. It is God that is the government. The church is the government of a country. Educational institutions grow from the church. Take for an example the Church of England, all the Kings and top Government officials are members of that church. If the church is in control of the government there will be no friction, fighting, discrimination and unhealthy rivalry.

Initially, Britain used to be under the Roman Catholic, but afterwards, they founded the Anglican Church. Africa and indeed Nigeria is not yet liberated because they are still attached to the apron strings of America, Roman and England. I have said earlier that the church is the government of a country. If the Prime Minister, the kings and queens are all the officials of the church, governmental control will be easy. Conversely, if the Moslems receive instructions from Mecca, the Roman Catholics receive instructions from Rome, and other churches whose headquarters are either in England or America receive instructions from their headquarters, for the instructions to be implemented, there may be conflicts. It is only Brotherhood that has brought liberation and salvation to Nigeria and Africa. Brotherhood of the Cross and Star has no headquarters in Nigeria, nor in Europe. It is a new world and her motto and doctrine is love one another. If we dwell in this love for one another, there will be no passports and visas for people travelling from one country to another.

THE HEADQUARTERS OF BROTHERHOOD IS IN YOU

Practically one may say that Brotherhood of the Cross and Star originated from Nigeria. This is falacious, it comes from God. It is the belief of many people that the headquarters of Brotherhood is in Nigeria, but I am telling you now that the headquarters is in you. You are the church of God, you are the temple of God, you are His vineyard and everything is in you. There is no use trying to site the headquarters. **Wherever you are, you are to practise the love for one another because God is in you.**

We have got to obey the Divine laws of God. The government of Nigeria was in consonance with the arrangement of God which accepts the month of March as the end of the financial year. If you go outside this arrangement you are operating contrary to God's will. You should know that the first month of the year starts from April and the end of the year comes in March. It is not true, when people talk of December as being the end of the year. December is the month which we commemorate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and not the end of the year.

The ten commandments was given to Moses by an angel. You are to judge and not to worship them, why do you go to bow down to angels and worship them.

1st Corinthians 6:2—4

“Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? Do you not know that we are to judge the angels? How much more, matters pertaining to this life! If then you have such cases, why do you lay them before those who are least esteemed by the church?”

If you do not understand, know ye, therefore, now that you are to judge the angels and human beings. You have to listen to the precepts of God and abide by them, you do not have to listen to the advice and precepts of men. If you act according to the dictates of men, you are a curse. You are all aware of the fact that if you want to build a house, you have to sacrifice a goat and pour libation, and that is called foundation laying rite or ceremony. That is worshipping of angels. In any undertaking you intend engaging yourself, be it function or ceremony,

make sure you commit it to God, otherwise you are in for trouble with God.

As you are being sent home now, go and invite the whole world, go into the villages, and into the churches, and get them united, tell the government to be united and remain in love. This is the reign of our Lord Jesus Christ. Do not be annoyed or quarrel with any person. Do not bear malice against any person. Whoever bears grudges against any person should reconcile and make peace with such a person. In your undertakings let the words of God be your guide and light. You do not need the sun and moon, but the words of God.

GOD ALONE CAN OVERCOME ALL PROBLEMS

Do not be deceived by any person that this and that type of illness cannot be healed by God. This and that problem cannot be overcome by God because what God does not do, no person can do it, what God does not take away, no person can take it away. Whatever ailment, whatever sickness, whatever trouble that you have, do not take herbs, roots, leaves, or medicine even when it is directed by an angel. God is the only healer, bow down and worship Him.

If you have any illness and someone comes and tell you that, that sickness is from man rejoice because it will soon be over, but if someone tells you that the cause is from God, prostrate before God and ask Him to forgive you. Any person who tells you that your ailment or tribulation is from man, juju, witchcraft or from the world is the messenger of satan and a deceiver. All the problems that you have, all the sicknesses and all the afflictions that beset you is because you do not submit yourself to God and do not listen to the words of God and practise same.

THE WORDS OF GOD WILL BE THE JUDGE

I do not judge anybody but the words that he has spoken will judge him. Do you not see how the whole mankind is suffering by refusing to accept the words of our Lord Jesus Christ? Redirect your minds and ways to the first love that you had for our Lord Jesus Christ. Being a jealous God, He tells you not to have any other gods before Him or even worship them. He tells you to worship Him in spirit and in truth, because He is the Almighty God. He does not know segregation, intrigue or

division. For this reason, you must be of good service to everybody in the world irrespective of creed or tribe because everybody in the world is Brotherhood.

God did not create the whole world in one day, therefore, He cannot also call everybody in one day. He does it gradually until the whole world is called unto Himself. Whether the people are baptised in the flesh or in spirit, all of them are saved. Do not say that your family or your village do not like Brotherhood, everybody is Brotherhood, your assignment is to love everybody. Love covers all sins. As soon as you love people, you will not hear of any evil, touch any evil and will not see any evil. If you see any person reporting someone, it is conclusive that he has no love for one another. Any person who criticizes or says that this sister or that brother is bad has no love for one another, so you pray fervently for such a person.

You are not called into Brotherhood to come and detect the faults of others, or judge others, fight or cause confusion, but to come and love one another. We come here to love every creature such as the fishes, animals, etc including the trees and human beings. You have heard that everything shall pass away but love lives for eternity.

Do not say that you are going to Brotherhood Church or that you are going to Brotherhood Prayer House or that Brotherhood is no church, you do not join Brotherhood. Brotherhood is no church, it is no Prayer house, Brotherhood is love, we are practising love here. Do not struggle for position. God is definitely absent from where people struggle for position. The act of struggling is ungodly.

GOD IS GRATEFUL TO FAITHFUL CHILDREN

Do not claim to head the people you might find around you, because LOVE the owner of the universe now rules His world entirely alone. This is why you are called at this last day to enable you receive the words and the directives of God from the Holy Father, so that you are not led astray when you meet with the people of the world. The two persons I have called out here were the first set of people who put on the white soutane and marched along the Streets of Calabar from 8 Eton Street to 26 Mbukpa Road Bethel on that fateful day. My showing them to you does not permit them to bragg or say that they started Brotherhood with the Father. They did not start Brotherhood with anybody. Nobody knows

how Brotherhood started not even myself. I cannot use trees to represent to you but human beings, that is why I use them to demonstrate our moving away from 8 Eton Street, Calabar.

The example above illustrates exactly what will happen to most of you in the last day to show you that God is always grateful to faithful workers.

Let me drive this point home for sober reflection; for the period you remain in Brotherhood, the amount of money that you have contributed for the upliftment of God's work, in the end, all your contributions in any form will be remembered. In spite of the fact that they cannot practise the words of God, in the last day I will use that basis and say, although you did not practise the words of God, but in so far as you have stood firm from the beginning to the end you are saved, take your position.

Do you not know that what has been done to the Israelites will be done to the Gentiles? In the same way it will be said, in spite of the fact that you have not been able to practise the words of God since you have stood firm from the beginning to the end, you will be saved and given a position.

If you see a man who married a wife and eventually the wife divorced him and he scandalised the woman, he should be taken for a bad husband; he will do same to his second wife. In the same token, if a woman is married to a husband and eventually she is divorced and is married to another man, and starts scandalising the previous husband, she is also a bad woman. The scandal against her former husband will be repeated against the present one.

Some people do not know that they praise themselves by praising others who have done praise-worthy jobs. They do not know that they get direct reward from God for encouraging people who lend helping hands to others. They do not also know that one who stands against the progress of another man stands against his own way. This is in tune with the law of retributive justice.

For your information, the Father wants to prepare for these people a sumptuous feast. He is using this occasion to test your faith. The faith of these people has been tested and found unshaken.

At that time, walking along the Street of Calabar with your soutane on meant exposing yourself to all sorts of humiliations. They withstood the storm and have today become embodiment of faith worthy of emulation.

Enlightened blacks and whites respect people who have served a government or an institution for a good number of years. Often they are rewarded with important gifts for remembrance, because they must have in one way or the other passed through difficult times during their services.

What is done to the Jews must be done to the Gentiles; therefore when the turn of the white comes, you will be called upon and introduced to them as the pioneers in the Father's vineyard. Whatever you do at the fullness of time shall be remembered.

The students have a week-long celebration. It is fixed for 21st to 27th September. The date for the Christ Servants week is receiving due consideration. It may come up any time. Two members should give thanks to the Father. He should be glorified for His love and preservation of those brethren during the period. This should be accompanied immediately with a melodious song. The song should be rendered by the students.

Many of you failed to participate in the Pentecostal from the first day but come for the last blessing. Do you think that you will be blessed with water? It is with the very words which you have refused to receive. I have said so much about the holy oil but you insist on having it, instead of receiving the words of God. Do not forget that it is with words that I make the holy oil. You are also very much after the Biakpan water, no matter how slippery the road is, you like to rush to Biakpan to have the water forgetting that ~~it is with the words that I made the water~~. You will even refuse to give the water to your intimate. Christ made it clear to us that the flesh does not give us anything. The word of God which is given to you is life, power, wealth, food and everything that you need.

THE FATHER HAS CALLED YOU TO REMOULD YOU WITH HIS WORDS

You were invited to the Pentecostal Assembly to be transformed through the words of God. Brotherhood of the Cross and Star as you were earlier told is love. Strife hard to love one another and forget about the pattern of our nomenclature, it is as reflected below:

Ordained, Students, Christ's Servants, Choristers and the Congregation, you are all one flock under one shepherd. Do not allow the system of nomenclature to confuse you.

It is now twenty-four years since we transferred from Eton Street to Mbukpa Road. The batch of members then, were the first to be dressed in white soutane. Though Brotherhood had existed before the foundation of the universe were laid, it materialised in 1910. This year is remembered for a very significant occurrence. That was the out-break of an epidemic called influenza since it was associated with the first world war.

All the evildoers died during the out-break of the disease. Some of the survivors formed Brotherhood in 1920, 1925 and 1930. The growth of Brotherhood started from then on. Many people have fallen by the wayside since they were ignorant about the kingdom. The scripture has it that all those who persevere unto the end shall be saved. Nobody should claim to be the originator of Brotherhood, it is blasphemous. The Spirit of God has directed Pastor Henshaw down here. He was not in your midst some moment ago. The security of one's position in the kingdom is very important. Take for example, Pastor Henshaw was converted into Brotherhood by Brother Okon Ikpeme, but Okon Ikpeme is not here any longer.

What I have done here today is an illustration of the heavenly things with the use of earthly examples. This type of honour has never been given to any person since the manifestation of Brotherhood in 1918. The pioneer members discussed among themselves that the Father had long forgotten about them. They stressed that nothing important has been done in their remembrance. Most of them are very surprised today. They have been highly honoured and rewarded and this trend shall continue. It is only human beings who promise and failed.

Pastor Henshaw should not be contented with the fact that he has been honoured. He should search and bring Brother Ikpeme back to the fold. There was one pioneer member of Diobu Bethel who backslided for sixteen years. He is back in the fold now. I attach great importance to antiquities, I preserve them how much more the pioneer members.

THE HOLY FATHER GIVES YOU FREEDOM TO SAY AND DO YOUR WISH

Many people say that the Leader is a witch, well that is their assignment. I have my own assignment and I am doing it. When they

come to me, I bless them, entertain and give them all that they require. Whatever you want to do, I allow you the freedom to do it. If you want to put human faeces on the altar I would not stop you. I will remain in peace with you. Until I clean the faeces you will not know. That is why I am clothed with all the virtues of God. No matter how filthy you may be when I touch you, you are cleansed. Brotherhood is practical christianity. If you sing and the song is not harmonious, I will harmonise it.

DO NOT DISGRACE YOUR FELLOW HUMAN BEING, LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Brethren, I am appealing to you not to disgrace your fellow human beings. Test your capabilities, utilise them where necessary and specialise in your field. If you lack the ability to cope in a particular field then withdraw. The qualities of the new kingdom include love, peace, humility, long-suffering, righteousness, kindness, freedom and mercy.

So, brethren I am appealing to you not to disgrace your fellow human beings. Whatever God has given you ability to do, do it, but if God does not give you ability to do anything, bother not yourself. This new kingdom is love, peace, humility, patience, long suffering, righteousness, kindness, freedom, and mercy. You did not bring any person into Brotherhood, it is God who brought all of us to come and receive His glory and be saved. He also reveals His glory on earth. Do not practise Brotherhood in your bedroom, come here and practise it. It is said that only sick people look for doctors. Physicians do not look for sick people. Christ said that He did not come to call the righteous but the unrighteous people to repent. That is why I ask you to go and bring in all types of sinners, for example murderers, robbers, fornicators, idolaters, in order that they may be transformed. In your own case you drive away people. Though you drive away people, I call you unto myself and call those people unto myself, otherwise my work will be meaningless.

The only instrument we use in the new kingdom is love. Christ said that if you see any brethren defaulting, use good virtues to correct him and bring him back.

God does not rejoice on the death of any sinner. Let your exemplary life attract people into the fold. Love, peace, truth, patience, righteousness, endurance and kindness are the qualities which you must

utilise. Though some of you are knee-deeped in sin, you want others to refrain from sins. Do not give this spirit the chance — since there is no perfect man in the world. But think about your imperfection, let this encourage you to tolerate one another.

The Holy Father has come to please everybody. But your problem is pride. You want to occupy the paramount position with no consideration given to others. You claim that the Holy Father loves you most, but realise this fact that the magnitude of His love to you and others does not vary. This applies to members and non-members alike. It even extends to those who speak ill about Brotherhood. They speak evil about me in defence of Christ that is why I love them so.

Brethren, what you have seen today is just the beginning of it. Do not bear grudges. Demonstrate love to the whole world. Mix up with them and acquaint them with the message of truth.

From August 8, 1958 until 1960 and thereafter nobody had ever asked them where they were and what they were doing. They had lost hope that they would be recognised. You will realise that although God is patient and longsuffering, He will not fail to judge you. You would lament, cry, pray and call on God, He would remain silent. So, wherever you may be at any time have the faith and confidence in God that at His appointed time He will give unto you what He had kept for you. It is more profitable to serve Christ than to serve human being. Even if it is only one day that you have worshipped God, He will never forget. Whether you only joined in prayer, He will not fail to reward you. Even if you were only looking at God He will not forget you.

SERVE GOD WITH OPEN MIND, DO NOT MURMUR

Therefore, serve God with an open mind and surrender yourself unto God completely. All those who surrender their lives unto Christ will regain it, but all those who seek to preserve their lives will lose it. God does not beg any person. For what does He need that you have. So many of you have blasphemed against God, you have insulted, and asked Him questions. You tempt Him as though He is a human being. Do not abuse God, do not tempt Him because He is caring for you. He cares for everything from the birds of the air, the animals in the field, the shrubs and up to the smallest thing like ant.

He does not care for us because of our righteousness, or because we are just, but we are just like flowers which have to be planted, watered, trimmed, nursed and transplanted.

God alone knows for what purpose He created us and what He wants to use us for. Do not be angry with God. Do not abuse and grumble about Him. He is not a human being but will remain God forever. The event of today is an eye opener to you. Among these brethren, how many of them are academicians, how many lawyers are there, how many beautiful or handsome people are there, how many rich people do you find among them?

BE HONEST AND TRUTHFUL

Wherever you are, whether in the civil service or in the private sector do not steal and do not receive bribe. If the salary you receive is not enough for you, resign and seek another employment. I want you to maintain a high reputation. I do not want to hear that a Brotherhood member has received bribe or has stolen. If you do that you have disgraced God. Do not abuse the position of trust which you are kept. Do not petition or engage in industrial action. Be satisfied with whatever position or salary which you are paid. Your promotion and increment will come in due course. Be faithful to your wife and loving to your husband. Be honest in your dealings and truthful to your community. Speak the truth always even at the point of death. Do not take urgent action against anybody, not even a civil proceedings.

Do not imitate the worldly people. They tell lies, fornicate, steal and engage in vices. All those things ruin people and reduce them to position of penury. Do not condemn any church and do not seek to know what church somebody attends. Brotherhood is love so love everybody. You are the church of God, the temple of the living God, others too are the temple of God, therefore you have to love them. Do not compel people to change their denomination to Brotherhood.

BROTHERHOOD ENHANCES POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GROWTH OF THE GOVERNMENT

Brotherhood had made positive contribution to the growth of the Government. She encourages the people to be honest, patriotic and

deligent. She preaches and demonstrates love, unity and disobedience.

Show sense of gratitude and appreciation to people. Do not forget the finger that fed you. Be servicable. Reciprocate good for good and even good for evil.

Brotherhood is not constituted in the white robe you wear, neither is it in singing and dancing. Brotherhood depicts practical christianity. Today, I have been invited to a function, I have also been invited to another tomorrow, but they know that I do not attend functions. What they want is nothing but my donations. They are not the people inviting me but the Father in them, they are not the people doing the function but the Father Himself. Whatever invitation is given to you honour it, because you are uplifting the glory of God.

HELP BRETHREN WHEN IN NEED

Give support to people especially when under hardship, mishap, illness, death, and tribulation. The facts enumerated above if practised will help you please the Father. If someone offends you talk to him personally about it. Point out to him your grievances and reconcile with him. Do not bear malice against anybody, do not hate anybody. If any person hates you, he hates God.

Before you settle any dispute, give fair hearing to the parties concerned. Do not depend on hearsay evidence. Nobody has ever lighted a lamp and put it under a bushell. It must be set up on a lamp stand to illuminate the place. You are aware of the fact that there is no peace, love, mercy and righteousness in the whole world, it is the place of Brotherhood members to go into the world, practise and spread these good virtues.

What you have to go and spread in the western world and African countries is not "Jesus said", but practical christianity, i. e. love, patience, mercy, peace etc. I am appealing to you all both strangers and indigenes that you are all one in Christ Jesus, therefore practise love. On that day I will not listen to passionate appeals, I will not recognise you if you do not practise the gospel.

What you have to do is that in as much as God has forgiven all your sins, do not reckon sins on others. If you forgive others, tolerate other sinners, and God will not hold any sin against you.

AN EXHORTATION TO GODLINESS

1st Peter 2:18—21

“Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to be kind and gentle but also to the overbearing. For one is approved if, mindful of God, he endures pain while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it, if when you do wrong and are beaten for it you take it patiently? But if when you do right and suffer for it you take it patiently, you have God’s approval. For₂ to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps.”

Have you heard that. Servants obey your masters, not only the good masters even the cruel ones; this is also applicable to husbands and wives. If your husband is very rough, unkind, and bad, you have to obey and tolerate him, if your wife is disobedient, unfaithful, and rough, you have to love her and tolerate her. This is what we teach and uphold. If you are only good to those who are good to you what is the difference between you and the people of old.

If you commit either adultery or murder you will be seriously afflicted when the law of retributive justice is set in motion. In effect, it will be wrong to claim that such persecutions and tribulation is a consequence of one’s position with God. The thief on the cross is a good example to illustrate the operation of this law. I am telling you in truth that there is no suffering here in the kingdom of God, you are suffering for the sins that you commit. **When you commit adultery and fornicate, steal, murder, offer bribe and receive same and all other vices, you have to suffer.**

Some of you say that you have suffered a lot since you became members of Brotherhood; the cause of your sufferings can be traced to you. You have not practised the gospel. You complain that people hate you, but I am not hated by any person. In the entire world everybody loves me, but they blame you. They say that they do not talk about the Leader because He is a gentleman and a man of God but they blame you for your actions. Many people ask why does the Leader allow murderers, fornicators, idolaters and sinners to remain with Him? But they have not considered that they are equally sinners. Others complain that what annoys them is the fact that when some people steal, they come into

Brotherhood and are discharged and acquitted in courts. This criticism cannot be taken seriously since the critics themselves are sinners.

THOSE THAT CALL ON THE NAME OF GOD WILL BE SAVED

Romans chapter ten verse thirteen says that *“For, everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.”*

Romans 10:13

If someone offends his brother, and afterwards he goes to his brother and asks for forgiveness, what is your problem? Every wrongdoing we commit, we commit against God, and if we go to God for forgiveness and He accepts us back why should other people bother themselves. If God wants you to suffer and perish, He will harden your heart, deafen your ears and close your eyes to reasoning and you would not run to God for forgiveness. In that case He wants you to suffer. Before you find yourself in such a position it means you have deliberately committed atrocities without a conscience .

Brethren, this era is not the era of human being, it is the era of Jehovah God and His Christ, therefore, you cannot say that your brother is a Pastor, Bishop, an Evangelist, a Leader and therefore will help you. This is the era of the Holy Spirit. Go into the world and impart this message unto them, if you or anybody wants to adhere to the instructions and advice given you, he can do so in order to be saved. Many of you are afraid to preach this truth. Your friends who are lawyers, permanent secretaries, heads of institutions, are starved of the gospel, consequently incur punishment for their wrongdoings. Since they are made to suffer because you refuse to teach them, you are not free.

The kingdom of God is not for you and I alone, it is not only for Nigerians, it is for the whole world. Go ye, therefore, and inform the adulterers, fornicators, idolaters, thieves, murderers, and all sinners to refrain from sin in order that they may be saved. If you watch closely, you would realise that things have changed in the Government. In the past if you commit any crime in the government you will be mildly reprimanded, but now any crime you commit in the government you are greatly punished because this is the reign of Jehovah God and His Christ.

You would remember that a few years ago it was decreed that members of secret societies should resign from the civil service or public service, or

they should resign their membership from the secret societies. It was also said that all those who are decadent i.e. the fornicators, fraudulent people, those that receive and give bribe should leave the civil service, though that instruction had been suppressed, within a short time this instruction will be enforced.

DO NOT OBSERVE THE TRADITIONS OF MAN

I have told you many times that when anybody sleeps in the Lord, you should not keep mourning houses, you should not cry and yell, you should not entertain people with drinks, do everything in the Brotherhood way. Brotherhood has the correct method of organising the occasion. Refrain from the native law and custom. You cannot please the world and God at the same time. When you try to please the world, you have displeased God, and when you try to please God you certainly will displease the world; but it is more profitable to please God than to please the world.

Any business venture with the people of the world is a great loss to you. If you contribute periodically a little sum of money with the people of the world, you will give them your own share, but they would not give you your own because they know that Brotherhood members do not go to court. When you ask them they will jest at you and tell you to go to court. We do not keep mourning houses, we do not drink, we do not smoke cigarette, we do not observe tradition, why then do you buy drinks, cigarette and keep the tradition and customs of your village? Now you are receiving double punishment for yourselves. You are celebrating feasts for members of Brotherhood and at the same time you are buying drinks for people of the world, what is your gain? Is the feast which you make in Brotherhood not greater than all those things they make in the world? You should adhere strictly to the doctrine of Brotherhood when someone sleeps in the Lord. Keep vigil night where you sing for the soul of the departed; and on the following day you carry the remains of the departed to the last resting place. Thereafter, you keep prayers for seven days. That is good for the soul of the departed person. Do you know that you are being watched and emulated by the world. You fear people of the world and say that your late parents were elderly people in the family, that is why you keep mourning houses, and hold memorial service and wake-keeping for them. In conforming with the

traditions of men you perish and your brethren perish also. You would see people rushing into Brotherhood because of our ways of doing things. We only eat groundnuts, biscuits, bananas and sugar cane, which is very simple. That is why other wealthy people would not join us. They know that in Brotherhood people are not extravagant, they would chose Presbyterian or Catholic where they would spend on drinks and entertainment in order to boost their ego.

DO NOT DRINK OR OFFER WINE

So long as you do not drink wine, do not offer it to anybody. Since you have seen this wonderful light, try to teach others to see the light too. If you do not keep mourning houses, others will copy from that. If you do not buy wine, the people of the world will not come, therefore, we should not go beyond our normal fruit feast. This advice is for your own good and to lessen your burden because if your father or mother dies, Brotherhood will come and conduct the burial in a lighter way than is done by the world.

DO NOT PUT ON EAR-RINGS AND NECKLACES

You have been advised never to put on ear-rings and necklaces, but when you come in here you remove them and put in your hand bags and when you go out from here you put them on again on the pretext that you are wearing them to the office. Does it mean that if you do not wear ear-rings you would not be paid your salaries? Do you not know that when you put on the ear-rings you are disgracing God; many people have realised that Brotherhood is teaching the truth and they uphold the truth, do away with this practice.

When you are advised never to put on ear-rings and necklaces, but when you come in here you remove them and put in your hand bags and when you go out from here you put them on again on the pretext that you are wearing them to the office. Does it mean that if you do not wear ear-rings you would not be paid your salaries? Do you not know that when you put on the ear-rings you are disgracing God; many people have realised that Brotherhood is teaching the truth and they uphold the truth, do away with this practice.

When you are baptised into Brotherhood you should refrain from those acts of abomination, i.e. wearing of necklaces, ear-rings and other such forms of dressing because these are the signs of the beast. When the angels of God see you they would not recognise you as the child of God, you would be marked for destruction. Do not snuff or smoke, because many of you come in here with your snuff boxes in your pockets and when you come in here you feel that the Leader has not seen you or brethren do not see you, I have seen all those who have snuff boxes in their pockets. I know the in and out of every one of you, but my policy is that I will not disgrace anybody. Pouring of libation is an abominable thing before God, but for the fact that God is merciful, you would suffer greatly for it. Everything that you give thanks unto God is clean and fit to eat.

Do not practise Brotherhood outwardly, but practise it both inwardly and outwardly so that you may reap the benefits therefrom. A great many people who have not yet come in here do not eat meat and fish, but 99 per cent of you here still eat meat and fish. Meat is poisonous and it is what disturbs your health. I have not hidden anything from you. Eating of meat does not give you life, and stopping to eat meat does not strain your relationship with God.

DO NOT EAT MEAT

Genesis 1 : 29

“And God said, Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruits; you shall have them for food.”

Those were the food for Adam and Eve in the Garden. Now you have a lot of oranges, paw-paw, and different fruits and vegetables, but you insist on eating meat. Where does the blood of fowl flow to, where does the blood of a human being flow to. If you kill a fowl, a goat, a cat, a dog or any type of animal you have killed a human being. But on the day of judgement fowls, goats and all the animals you have killed will come and testify that you had killed them. Some of the punishment we receive stems from there, because judgement had started, though you do not believe this fact.

Now the angels are caring for us, whether we pray or not. They care for us, for our children and belongings, because it had been written that

they will care for us. The glory which God had kept for man is what you are enjoying today. That is why people say that this is not God and I ask if it is not God what is it then.

Do not say, woe unto any person, neither should you allow any evil words to proceed from your mouth. Do not be angry with any person, either with your wife, husband, children at any time whether in the day or in the night. Always be in peace and love with everybody.

FORSAKE SINS AND LIVE IN PEACE WITH ONE ANOTHER

Matthew 13 : 40 - 43

“As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and they which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then Shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.”

Brethren that is what Christ spoke about this time. Every person has his own assignment, the police and the army, so it is in the kingdom of God. If you are a murderer, adulterer, fornicator, a robber, they have the authority over you to carry out the order which is given to them, therefore they can group you among the unrighteous people.

No matter the number of people in any station, I do not want division among you. Hearken to the advice of one another, if someone is corrected from a wrong doing he should try to take the correction kindly. Whatever the circumstance do not take your brother or sister to the court of law. Even if a brother owes you do not take him to the court of law, in order to recover the money. It is the Father's making. If he wants you to recover that money you would recover it whether or not you go to court. If He does not want you to recover the money, whether or not you go to court, you will not.

DO NOT FORCE ONE ANOTHER FOR MARRIAGE BLESSING

This is a special appeal to sisters that they should not confront their brothers and demand that their marriage be blessed. The marriage would not be smooth and peaceful if room is created for confrontations. Allow

your brothers to be prepared. If there is an agreement everything will be done in love.

If a husband is divorced by his sister and the sister later on turns round to bring a second husband before the Father for marriage blessing, the Father will not bless such a marriage. The same is applicable to a husband.

Let everything be properly done. All your files are before the Father. This contract of marriage is wonderful and it is for life. Therefore, before one signs it he should be very careful and should not joke over it: It does not mean that when you do not bless your marriage you will not enter into the kingdom of God. Many of the partners have compelled one or the other to come to the Father for marriage blessing and the Father is aware of this but does not approve of it. Let the Father do everything according to His own will. If a husband is divorced by his sister and the sister later on turns round to bring a second husband before the Father for marriage blessing, the Father will not bless such a marriage. The same is applicable to a husband.

All the problems and afflictions that come your way is because you do not comply to instructions and the teachings of Brotherhood. You continue to complain that you have suffered so much in Brotherhood, are you not the cause of your sufferings? When anyone of you comes to me and tells me that you have not been married to any person before, I will investigate before I give my blessings. The custom in some orthodox churches is, if a married couple intends to wed they must make announcement 21 days before that date to see whether there would be any objection. It had happened to one Brother who took someone's wife for marriage and on making the announcement the legitimate husband heard and objected to the wedding ceremony.

It is very disgraceful that marriages get broken immediately after solemnization. Marriage should be a life contract whether for better or for worse. The Father knows only how to join and does not know how to separate. Neither the wife nor the husband has the authority to separate any marriage once it is blessed here. Whenever marriage is blessed, not even a judge has the authority to grant divorce because they have been joined together. Whenever you are joined together in the holy wedlock, everything in the world bears witness about the union. Nobody should interfere in matrimonial affairs or permit divorce.

I am advising you that you should not be unduly jealous of other people. Do not say that because the other couple have blessed their marriage therefore you should also bless yours? You have to be quite prepared, otherwise you would fail. Before the marriage blessing is performed here in Brotherhood, the parents inlaw of both parties have to be here and sign the relevant forms, and unless they sign those forms the marriage should not be blessed. The forms are available in the office, therefore any person who wishes to bless his marriage should go to the office and collect the forms to be filled by members of their family. We do not do these things in order to bluff you, but to glorify God.

When our sisters go to Biakpan to observe the Mother's Week in November, it does not mean that Mother Ibumba was born in November, it is because at that time the rains have ceased to fall regularly; thus giving sisters chance to dance round the town. When Brotherhood will permeate the whole world it might be construed that Mother Ibumba was born in November because the celebration will be age long in the whole world. That time is fixed for convenience. What God wants is a thankful heart, give Him thanks for whatever He has done for you.

I want to inform you that marriage blessing is not compulsory. When marriage is blessed, it is not optional that you should make a full feast. Expensive flowing wedding gown is not a necessity, you can come in with a simple white soutane. What I need is mutual understanding and love.

It does not mean that it is mandatory for you to come to 34 Ambo Street before you bless your marriage. It can be done at Abasi Obori Bethel, it can be done at Port Harcourt, Lagos, Uyo, London and anywhere. Some of you would say that you would want the Father to bless your marriage, it is not the work of the Father. You the couple have to bless your marriage and be in peace with one another. So you can have marriage blessing in any place in the world. Marriage has been blessed at Ikot Ekpene, Enugu and at Ikot Abasi. Marriage could be blessed in any Bethel of the couple's choice.

COME TO THE LEADER'S OFFICE FOR AUTHENTIC INFORMATION

Anything that you do not know, come to the Leader's Office and inquire and you will be given an authentic information. Do not rely on

any other source of information. Brotherhood do not use force. You are very free to operate voluntarily.

When you have a newly born child, do not fail to bless the child. You do not need to prepare feast before you bless the child.

When you were attending the carnal churches, on your baptismal date, you bought drinks and feasted, called your relations to rejoice with you. Here in Brotherhood nobody has ever celebrated feast on the day of his or her baptism. If you have baptism by immersion and you have not had spiritual baptism, pray for spiritual baptism. You have to search your conscience and confess and forsake all your sins in order to be baptised spiritually.

DENOUNCE WORLDLY SOCIETIES AND ACCEPT GOD BEFORE BAPTISM

If someone is a member of the Rosicrucian Order (Amorc), a member of Freemason (Lodge), a member of Ekpe, Ekpo, Obon or Ekong societies, and you just take him to the water and administer baptism on him, are you sure that he has been baptised? To be properly baptised he has to destroy his altar, circle, or denounce his membership in any of these societies or cults. He has to confess his sins. Spiritually, he is not a member of Brotherhood until his denouncement takes place. Some people bear malice against five to six or several people and then baptise without confession, is that baptism? Some of the visioners or healers, would tell their clients or new converts that if they do not baptise they would not be attended to, and they would bill hundreds of naira from those people and force them to go and be baptised. The question is, has that baptism come from a repented convert?

The meaning of baptism by immersion is self-surrendering. You are made to run from the world, die, resurrect and live with Him. If someone was a member of any society or cult, he has to denounce membership of that society, cult or organisation and confess his sins before he can become a real member of Brotherhood. In addition to that he should be given the gospel of Christ and when he shall have truly assimilated the gospel then he can be baptised. I have told you earlier on that our baptism is not scheduled. It can take place any time of the day or night. I have told you that at any time of the day or night that someone approaches you for baptism, do same immediately. Do not refer them to Christ Servant Ema or Apostle Effiong Okon. Here in Brotherhood

there is no male, no female, you all are authorised to baptise. Christ is all things and in all things. He is the person doing everything here. If a child comes to you and asks you to baptise him do not refuse or say that he or she is not up to the age of baptism. There is no age of baptism. There is no portion in the Bible that stipulates the age in which someone can be baptised.

You are well aware of the fact that all the orthodox churches have got their origin. You know the origin of the Catholic Church, Anglican Methodist, Presbyterian, Qua Iboe, Apostolic Church and so on and so forth; but have you known the origin of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star? The doctrine in Brotherhood is not derived from any other church or organisation; it is got from heaven direct. You are very lucky because the words of our Lord Jesus Christ is fulfilled in you, which He said there shall be one flock under one shepherd.

The Holy Father has presented a donation to those who first wore white robes and marched from Eton Street to Mbukpa Road. Those people who suffered persecution, humiliation, torment, and were ostracised. The people who have taken Brotherhood to Port Harcourt, Lagos, Enugu, Liberia, Cameroun, London, America and other branches will be honoured in the same way in the very near future. Unless someone voluntarily asks you to take him to the Father, do not persuade him. You cannot convert a soul to him if the Father does not call, one cannot come.

You would also remember the story of St. Peter who had a vision about Cornelius and how the angels of God told Cornelius to send for St. Peter and he sent his soldiers to call Peter to preach for him and baptise him and he received the Holy Spirit. Now if you are sent to go and deliver a message to a governor, a commissioner or people who are highly placed, sometimes when you go, you would not be allowed to see the person. If you go and you are not allowed entry, go back because you have fulfilled your mission from God.

If God reveals anything to you to deliver to someone, just go and say exactly what had been revealed to you, do not add or subtract anything; whether he likes to believe it or not, be not bothered since you have fulfilled your own assignment. You have all received the Holy Spirit and all of you are visioners.

Let the peace and blessing of God abide with you now and forever more, Amen.

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