CRIMINALS
IN THE
HOUSE OF GOD

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BACKCOVER
Chapter One

SPIRITUAL CRIMINALS

In this chapter, we shall look at an unusual subject entitled "Spiritual criminals in the house of God." Unusual because criminals are commonly found in police cells, in the prisons, in courts, in the streets or generally in dark and unholy places. But you may be surprised to know that there are actually criminals in the house of God. That is the topic we are looking at.

Luke 15: 3-9 says, "And he spake this parable unto them, saying, What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety nine just persons, which need no repentance."

Here we are made to understand that witnessing or evangelism is still the heartbeat of God. We cannot dodge from it, it is an assignment given to all of us. The passage goes on:
"Either, what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, does not light a candle, and sweep the house and seek diligently till she finds it? And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and neighbours together saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost."

THE LOST SHEEP AND THE LOST COIN

Beloved, in these verses, we see two things that were lost. One was the sheep and the other was the coin. The lost sheep was easy to find because it could cry out. As a living thing, it could try out if it was in danger so that people could find it. Somebody would hear it and say, "Something is crying in that corner," and he goes there and fetches it. The lost sheep represents sinners who are outside the family of God. That is why the Bible says that if one of them repents, there will be much joy in heaven. Even if at a crusade there were twenty thousand people and only one person gets born again, there will be joy in heaven for the one person.

Then we have the lost coin. The lost coin represents those who are lost in the church. On service days, the Holy Spirit has to take a torch light and search for them under the benches where they hide themselves. The lost coin is so difficult to find as it could roll to anywhere. It could roll under the rug, under the mat or under the bed. So you have to really search for it. Many people are like that. They are dodging God. God says, "Go to Nineveh," but they are on their way to Tarshish. The spirit of Tarshish has come upon them because they are not in the right place. A sinner in the right place and a righteous man in the wrong place are birds of the same feather. Both of them will not receive any blessing.

One of the most serious verses in the Bible that can make any backslider become serious is I Peter 4: 17-18 which says, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" It is therefore very dangerous to be in the church and be lost inside it.

PURGING TO START FROM THE HOUSE OF GOD
The state of the church these days is very lamentable. God is going to clean His house and any unprofitable tree shall be uprooted. God is looking for quality not quantity. God had 120 quality people in the upper room and, they were sufficient to turn the world upside down. A certain pastor had his congregation weighed on the scale by an angel of God. Out of 2,900 people in the church only 80 were ready for heaven. It will be very sad if the trumpet sounds or God says, "Son, daughter, enough come up," but you are not ready. What will you say? Will you plead for more time because you are not ready. What will you say? Will you plead for more time because you want to get rid of anger? It will be too late. You cannot get more time.

There are many spiritually lost coins in the house of God. The church has therefore become like the ark of Noah. It has elephants, rats, pigs and cockroaches. In the ark, the animals had their toilet and ate there with human beings as well. The church is just like that today. But for the fact that there is flood outside, many people would have preferred to run back to the world. They cannot stand the smell in the church just like in the ark of Noah, and they know that running away is running into perdition. Paul says, "We are not of them that draw back into perdition". There are many like that who are lost in the house of God.

**WHO ARE THE LOST COINS**

1. **Those under partial control of the Holy Ghost.**

Supposing you by a house and when it is to be handed over to you, the estate agent says, "There are ten rooms in this house, but I will give you keys to one or two rooms." Instead of getting all the keys, you get one two, meaning that, you are in the house, but you are not yet in total possession. You are yet to possess your possession. So, it is with the Holy Spirit. He dwells in us but has not taken complete possession of many of us. Some of us have given Him the control of our minds, but our eyes and tongues are not under His control. You have refused to give the Holy Spirit all the keys He needs to enter into every department of your life. The Holy Ghost is a gentle dove, He will not gatecrash, but will be watching you until you decide and say, "Okay, take my eyes, my tongue, my legs, my stomach and every part of me," then He will gladly collect the keys and move in. When a believer is completely possessed by the Holy Spirit and the totality of his being is filled with power, who is the witch or wizard or familiar spirit or herbalist that can harass him? The reason we are being harassed is that many of us have partial deliverance and partial salvation. We have not handed over everything to the Holy Spirit because we are afraid of what will happen to us if we drop all the keys. Some are afraid; they say, "If I become too serious with the Lord, that will mean no painting of my nails, no wrestler's belt, no chain and no party. I have to be memorising Bible verses. What a boring life." I feel sorry for such people and they need to be more serious with the Lord. The Holy Spirit is only in one room in their hearts, the other rooms have been barricaded against Him. Such people are lost in the church. When there are things in your private life that you are not willing to surrender and discuss, then you are lost.

Sometime ago, a man came to me with a piece of bread in his hand and said, "Doctor, this bread is my wife." I could not understand him initially, but later I realised what he was saying. How could he tell another person that kind of thing? But he had to confess it so as to be free. There are many things hidden in so many lives and many of us have the erroneous belief that God cannot see us. Behold, He sees all that we do and hears all that we say. Once you give the key to the Holy Spirit then He will come inside, and do a proper cleansing. There may be plenty of commotion when that is happening. He will clean under the carpets and sweep the whole house. There would be commotion because people would turn against you. All your money may go and people would laugh at you and call you all sorts of names. But the Holy Spirit is doing His work, as a gentleman. The thing about the Holy Spirit is that if He says, "Son, daughter, do this, do that, and you say, "I am not going to do it," He will leave you alone and write it against you. If you try to argue with Him, He would leave you alone and write it against you. After sometime, you will no longer hear His voice. At that level, you have gone too far. I pray that we do not get to that level, in Jesus’ name. If you have kept the Holy Spirit in one room for too long and then one day, you surrender all, there will be commotion because things
will happen.

I remember an European mend of mine who said he was told that once he received the Holy Spirit, his problems would be over. But the day after he received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, he was chased out of his church because he could no longer pray the way they were praying there. He could not understand their cool and frigid type of prayer any longer.

When the Israelites left Egypt, they first of all had a Red Sea experience. They crossed the Red Sea and started their journey in the wilderness. When they were about to enter the Promised Land, again, they crossed River Jordan. They had two experiences: they crossed the Red Sea and the River Jordan. When you are going to your Promised Land, you have to cross the Red Sea and the River Jordan. But when you box the Holy Spirit into a corner and He cannot do anything, then the gap between your Red Sea experience and your River Jordan experience will be very wide. You will stay for a long time in the wilderness of life because the Holy Spirit has been boxed into a corner. We have so many wilderness pilgrims filling the churches everyday; they are lost.

Cosmetic Christianity is so easy. All you need to do is to smile at people and say, "Praise God! Glory be to the name of the Lord." Then you sing all the funny songs that people always sing. Christianity from the heart is different from that, it would demand something from you. It is so nice the way we gather in the church, but when we leave the church, how do you represent God?

1. True worshippers

Are you a true member of the body of Christ? Or do you just come in for the miracles and the blessings which are part of the reasons God established His church? The main purpose is to prepare a large army of people who are going to heaven, and they will be unstoppable no matter the obstacles. So are you prepared? Are you under partial control of the Holy Spirit? Are you the kind of person who, when asked about his pride would say, "It is reducing gradually." What are you doing about anger? "I thank God, it is getting better now." "What are you doing about fornication?" "Well, I have graduated from physical activity to just looking." "What are you doing about drinking?" "Well, I really do not drink, but Madam and I share a glass of wine before going to bed." "What are you doing about all your strange friends?" "Well, you know, old friends are better than new ones. We have been together from our primary school days and it will be so sad if because of religion I drop them this time. They helped me when I was in need." Those helpers when you were in need may eventually end up being your undoing. The Bible says, "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what friendship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness and light? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; and as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; I will be their God, and they shall be my people" (2 Corinthians 6: 14). Or are you the kind of person who says, "My boyfriend is still in the world, I have been inviting him to the church meetings. I believe that God will touch his life and he will change, then I will marry him." Do you have the power to change yourself? Do you know that you can take a horse to the stream but cannot force it to drink? The horse may be pretending to drink water whereas it is not taking in anything. You can dip your mouth into the cup and not swallow anything and somebody would be rejoicing that you are drinking.

Are you lost in the church? The testimony of a certain. Suddenly, called Ucheme goes thus: He fell down one day and died. Suddenly, he saw himself going to heaven and met an angel of God standing at a gate asking questions. There were three people before him on the line. The angel asked the first person, "Are you a Christian?" The person said, "Yes." The angel said, "Wait." Then he pressed a button and one TV set that looked like a shoe polish suddenly appeared. Everything the man had ever done in his life was played back on the TV and he was watching it. At a stage, the man cried out to the angel, "Please, turn it off." Those things he thought were covered 'were being revealed. He said, "But I have asked God to forgive me all these." The angel said, "Yes, God has forgiven you, so we will close that chapter. But now what do you have in your
pocket?" The man put his hand in his pocket and brought out a charge of lying. In another one, he brought out a charge of anger. The angel said, "You call yourself a Christian, how come all these things are in your pocket?" He replied, "The devil deceived me." Then they brought the devil who said, "I deceived you? When I came to you, was I a white man or a black man? How did I come?" The man could not answer and the devil laughed. Then they took him to hell fire. Why? Partial control by the Holy Spirit. It is so easy to be vibrating on the spot while praying but when you come down from your vibrating mountain and face the reality of life, it would be clear whether what you are saying is in your heart or only in your tongue.

2. Those who have been elevated above their spiritual level by church post.

The second group of those who are lost are those who have been elevated above their spiritual level by church post. Unfortunately, these include pastors, church workers, pastors' wives, pastors' children, superintendents and elders. These people, because they seem to be so close to the altar, take the issue of salvation for granted. Many of them are just convicted but not converted. Unfortunately, many are after positions but not after the possession of the power of God. There are also so many people who call themselves ministers but their eyes are always on the gifts, what people would give to them. If you are like that be assured that though you are a minister, you are lost. You completely lost. The Bible says, "The gift will blind the eye the prophet. Freely you have been given, freely you will give.

3. The dark workers

These ones know that they are possessed. They mow they have familiar spirits. They know they meet in the water, yet they come to church. They collect sicknesses, arrows and all kinds of things from the house of God. Witches, wizards, and familiar spirits know who they are but they try to hide, not knowing that God can locate them easily.

A brother was coming to one of our meetings and one day, while we were praying, a word of knowledge came, that one brother had been followed there by an evil follower who had received the fire of God. That brother did not know that it was his mother. But by the time he got home from the meeting, the body of the mother was hot and she was vibrating. She confessed that she followed him to the church. She said, "I put you in so many bondages but. I noticed that everything was broken apart. I wondered where you got the deliverance that was why I followed you to your church, but when I got there, there. was fire and it was burning me." She confessed everything before she eventually died. Such evil people, if they come to the Mountain of Fire & Miracles Ministries, they become dust bins to collect problems and sicknesses that God removes from other people's lives. This is the truth, beloved.

If you do not have the baptism of the Holy Ghost, it would be a tragedy for you to sit at home when there is a Pentecostal meeting in the church. You may be saying funny things like. "I dream and it comes to pass." Herbalists can dream and it will come to pass and children of the bondwoman as well. You cannot say you have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit until it is done the biblical way.

Think about it, witches and wizards are really fools. What good benefit can one derive from being a witch or a wizard? Why should one be playing inside water when other people are playing on dry land? What sense is there to eat your own children and other people's children? Why should you terminate the progress of those who will help you at old age? How many of the children of witches have scholarships? How many of them are brilliant? How many of the children of possessed people are doing well? The society of witches and wizards is a useless one. If you are there, you had better get out now.

I remember a girl, who after a crusade, said to a man of God, "Help me, I want to get out of this cult." He asked her what the problem was and she said they were four children in her family. One was a medical doctor, one was a lawyer, the third was a hunch-back and she was the youngest. The members of the cult ate the lawyer and the doctor with all their qualifications. It was the medical doctor and the lawyer that were
paying her school fees. Academic excellence without fire makes you a bush meat for the enemy. The cult members were now asking for the life of the one with the hunch-back. And the girl knew that if they ate him also, she would be the only one left, so she wanted to get out of the cult. There are people like that who come to church. People usually say that witches do not come to church. If they do not come to church where else will they go? If you have a church and you do not see witches there, it means that there is no power of God there. If there is, they would send spies to look at how their colleagues are being killed. If they abandon your church, it means they have captured it and are in charge there.

Are you lost in the church? This is not a question of collar on your neck or head gear or painting of face or nails. These are physical things which will perish. When a person dies, it is dust to dust and ashes to ashes. All the pride and fashion are gone and you now face God, who you have deserted for so long. What will you say to Him when you meet Him? When you face Him and He brings your life programme out for you and you see that you have only done two out of twenty-three things and you cannot go back to continue. The journey of life is a one way traffic. Think about it.

4. Spiritual Methuselahs

This is another group of people that are lost in the church. Methuselah, the Bible says, was the oldest man. But he was old for nothing. We do not see anything spiritual that he did for the Lord. Spiritual Methuselahs are those who have stayed long in the church and know everything about it. They know when the pastor-in-charge was born. In fact, they were present at his naming ceremony. They know the history of the church and how it started. All the young pastors were born in their presence. However, they come late to church, and even when they come early they sit at the back. They have made covenant with the back seats. Some people, even if there is space at the front seat, still prefer to sit at the back. They go to the very last row. We call them Methuselahs in the house of God, sinners in Zion. There, at the back seat, these Methuselahs can gossip and sleep, read the Sunday papers, crack dirty jokes and disturb others when the message is going on. Many of such people are the friends of the pastor. They are close to him and like him. You would see them running after him and think that they must be serious. No, it has nothing to do with it. You may be carrying the bag of the pastor and not have the anointing of the pastor. After all, Elisha collected double portion of the anointing of Elijah, but Gehazi instead of collecting four portions from Elisha, collected leprosy. Most of those who have been so long in the house of God and are not doing anything specifically for God are unsaved. They should retire from the school of past stories.

What are you doing for the Lord now? You may say, "I was a choir master/church warden in those days." Fine. What are you doing now? You may say, "I was in the battle arm of the fellowship in those days." Which battle are you fighting now? Think about it, beloved.

5. Spiritual bats

This group of people come to church but hide their faces from the preacher. They go to services where nobody will make them uncomfortable. They prefer the praise worship sessions. They are hypocrites, and because they have skeletons in their cupboards, they would always hide from the truth. They can be in the church for years without being discovered. When you ask them to pray, they would pray deep and high sounding prayer. They can discuss any topic in the Bible but they are bats. A pastor can be a bat. An organist can be a bat. A Sunday school teacher or an usher can be a bat. But the Bible says that the hope of the hypocrite shall perish. If they are admonished to be serious, they would do all kinds of things to keep themselves busy. They are spiritual bats. Jesus accused some people of being busy doing nothing. They are busy but are not doing anything.

6. Spiritual snails

This group of people are nonchalant about spiritual things. They come to all church programmes late but
will never go late to their offices, business meetings or any worldly appointment. Such people do not know the God of discipline. I tell you one secret today: you cannot receive spiritual power without discipline. Such people have other gods they are serving. They have made covenants with wandering spirits. When the pastor is preaching or praying, their minds are somewhere else. They would be looking out for the well-dressed people and noting what they are wearing. Some would watch the well-dressed people very well, follow them to their cars and beg them for money. That is what they come to church for. Such lives have no zeal, no divine fire. They are called bench-warmers or "submarine Christians." From Monday to Saturday, they are inside the water playing, on Sunday they come out to take fresh air and on Monday they are back in the water again. These are people who are never committed to the Lord. They are "Sunday - Sunday" Christians.

7. Those who are busy doing nothing

People in this group refuse to join any group in the church. They are always busy roaming around like a rolling stone that gathers no moss. No group, no house fellowship, no commitment, yet they have been in the church for one or two years. They however find useless assignments that keep them busy. There was a church I attended a longtime ago. All the elders had received serious arrows from the enemy. Those that were still alive were suffering from the arrows. It is a very dangerous thing to come to the house of God and not be committed, or be lost therein.

MODERN-DAY MARTHAS

Luke 19: 41 says, "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it." Jesus wept over Jerusalem. The people were busy with religion and were not doing anything. We have some people who are Christian politicians, Christian organizers and Christian administrators. They do not listen to the word of God. They are modern-day Marthas. When Jesus was speaking, Mary was absorbing what He was saying, but Martha was rushing about. After sometime she appealed to Jesus to tell her sister to assist her. Jesus told her that she was busy doing nothing. Some people will not even pray by themselves. They are busy doing nothing. That is why the MFM runs its ushers through a very serious training programme to help them to do away with any tendency for unseriousness. There are some people who are not ushers but because they are not serious, they convert themselves to ushers by walking around when nobody asked them to walk around. They do any mundane thing to keep themselves busy.

When we get serious with the Lord, things must happen. A lady came to one of our meetings and dropped her son who could not walk on the bench. A few minutes later, he started walking before the meeting started because of the anointing on the bench. When we get to the level where God wants us to be, we will not need to pray for people before they get healed.

In many places where I went to preach, I always noticed that there were people behind me. After the message, they sat by the drums or the organ and when I said that people should pray, they would be playing soft music or waiting for me to sing so that they would beat the drums. I chased some away last time at a church and told them that they needed the prayers as well instead of playing soft music. That was something to keep them busy and most of the time the music they played was rubbish. I helped them to help themselves. They were lost in transit. They were busy doing nothing.

8. Spiritual traders

This is the group of people who come to church to look for business associates. They come late and are impatient. They just want to discuss business. Others would go to the toilet four times during a four-hour service. They come to search for physical benefits. They take the house of God as a buying and selling place.

A long time ago, a male "hunter" came to the house of God to search for a godly wife. Many men want godly
wives and many women want godly husbands but the question is, "Are they themselves ready to be godly?"
So, the man came and learnt some choruses. He was a very clever pretender and was not born again. He
memorised a few songs from the person sitting next to him. When he heard people speaking in tongues, he
began to snake and vibrate, imitating them. Not long afterwards, four sisters said that God said he was their
husband. They did not know that he was a clever pretender. Eventually, the fastest sister got him. When they
came home from the reception on their wedding day, the brother said, "Sit down. This is the last time I want to
see your legs in that church. If you go back there, I will first of all beat you thoroughly, then I will go and
report you to your parents." The girl's parents who were not born again had been complaining about the
"strange" church she used to go to, where they do not wear earrings and trendy dresses. They said they would
pray that she got a husband who would drag her out from the church. The man did that and the sister has now
backslidden. The last time I heard about her, she had gone to Mecca.

Many people have their names in the church register but not in the Book of Life. Many know God but do not
have God. Many are married to conferences, workshops, crusades and church programmes, but are not
members of the true church.

9. Almost there

You have a lot of "Almost there" Christians in the church of God. There is somebody in the Bible who was
known as "Mister almost there." Acts 26:27-28 says, "King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that
thou believest. Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost, thou persuaded me to be a Christian." Almost, but the
king never became a Christian until he died. "Almost there Christians" are lost in the church. Such people look
extremely serious on the outside but are dead internally.

HYPOCRISY IN THE HOUSE OF GOD

A man thought he was mole clever than God. He had his normal wife in the church, then in another church in
a different town, he had a girlfriend whom he promised marriage. Unfortunately for him, he did not know that
when the trap of heaven decides to work, it catches everything and nothing will escape. The day this trap of
heaven wanted to catch him, both the legal wife and the girlfriend came to the same counsellor, and mentioned
his name. The girlfriend came first to the counsellor and said, "Help me to uphold my fiance that God would
provide money for him and our wedding will be successful." The pastor asked for the man's name and she
said, "John Ologbenla." The pastor then gave her some prayer points and dismissed her. Suddenly, a woman
rushed into the pastor's office and said, "Man of God, help me to pray. My home is in trouble. My husband is
always beating me up." "What is the name of this man?" asked the pastor. "John Ologbenla," replied the
woman. Quickly, the pastor did a mental calculation and found out that it was the same man earlier reported.
Very active in the church, but he was lost. Something within him wanted to serve the Lord, but another thing
was limiting him: "Almost there spirit." Such people claim new birth but there is no genuine transformation.
Everything is so calm when nobody offends them. When someone provokes them, hell would be let loose.
Later, they would go to God and say, "O Lord, I am sorry, it is just one of those things." No, it is not just one
of those things. They are not transformed. Such people have the form of godliness but no power to live above
sin. This is why we must know that a large crowd in the church does mean that everybody wants to go to
heaven. Some people do not want to go. They just want the miracles. When you take such a person to be your
business partner, not knowing that he is not interested in heaven, that he just wants money, problem would
start.

For you to marry someone who says he is a Christian you have to pray. For you to do business with someone
who says he is a Christian, you have to pray. You can be unequally yoked together with a believer too,
especially now that there are so many fraudulent Christians around. When they go to prison for their crimes,
they still say. "By the grace of God, I am born again."
A pastor forced a girl to commit abortion three times and did not marry her. When she was fed up, she reported the pastor to me. I asked the pastor, "As a man of God, are you supposed to do this?" The pastor looked at me and said, "Shout Alleluia." I asked, "Alleluia?" He said, "The devil has power but not salvation." I said, "Is that all you have to say?" He replied that, "A righteous man can fall seven times, but I have fallen only three times." Then I told him to go. He said, "Let us pray." I said, "No, don't pray here, you can go." Having the form of godliness but no power to live above sin. Many people are like that, they will almost get to heaven, but they will miss it. That is why if you have ever seen the vision of the rapture and you did not go up, you had better cry to the Lord. It is like one of my friends who saw a picture of heaven with people going up. She also tried to go up, but could not. She thought it might be because she was fat, but she saw people who were fatter than her going up. She then knew that she had a serious problem. God had mercy on her and showed her her score sheet; she had 22 per cent. As far as God is concerned, 99.5 per cent is a failure.

Some people will get to hellfire in their three-piece suits. They may not commit sins openly, yet they are sinners in their hearts. They are not fit for the kingdom of God as they cannot enter there. Please, think about it. Do not wait for God to cut you off.

In a parable, Jesus said that a man planted a tree and did everything, but the tree did not bear fruit. When the man came, he said, "Cut it down, why is it using the manure in vain." You can receive deliverance today from, evil thoughts, evil motives and evil intentions. Do not remain a clever sinner in the house of God. Do not remain an intellectual sinner in the house of God. Do not go from church to hell fire.

I learnt that in one church, the organist put three girls in the family way and he was still playing the organ and the people were still dancing. A sinner is playing the drums and sinners are dancing. A righteous man too is dancing with them and they all think they are going to the same place. The sinners are dancing because they know there is no dancing in hell fire. Are you lost in the church? Ask yourself because this is a very important question. Are you committing any unknown sin now? The Psalmist says, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, God will not have any regard for me." Hence, prayers will not be answered when you are living in sin. The Bible says in 2 Timothy 2: 19, "Let all who name the name of the Lord depart from iniquity." Progress is impossible in Christian living until we break away from sin. Are you living in sin whether hidden or open? Are you presenting the same picture you present in church at your working place? Are you the kind of person who would remove all your Jezebelian attachments when coming to church only to pick them up again when you leave the church? Are you living in obedience to God's word? Have you really surrendered all to God? When I say all, I mean your life, your ambitions, your programmes, what you wear and what you eat. Will you go where God wants you to go? Do you still want your own way all the time? God must have obedient children all the time if they are to go to heaven. God may sometimes permit blunders, He can even overlook mistakes, but He will never tolerate disloyalty and rebellion. Are you spending sufficient time each day in prayer? No Christian can be victorious without prayer. No Christian can be successful without prayer. If you have neglected prayer, then it shows that you are weak.

Isaiah 40: 31 says that it is only those that wait upon the Lord that can renew their strength. Not those who are always running all over the place with no time for the Lord. Unless you live in a prayerful atmosphere you will be open to the attack of the enemy. Do you pray? Do you have an appointment with God everyday? Will He come and find you sleeping when you should be praying? Are you a serious student of God's word. Do you have time for Bible study or are you too busy with other things?

Have you read through the Bible? Do you read it everyday? Do you confess Christ publicly? Do you witness to others? Have you lost your first love? Does the fire of evangelism still burn in your heart? If as a bachelor, you cannot serve the Lord because you are weak, when you get married, you will be worse. Do you have a burden in your heart for lost souls? If you do not care about lost souls, something is wrong with your salvation and you should find out what it is. Are you giving to God liberally as He is prospering you? What are you
doing for God now? Are you filled with the Holy Ghost or are you just partially filled? Because you command a demon to get out and it does, do you think that all the power ends there? Are you bearing spiritual fruits? Your answers world determine your spiritual condition. We all need to cry out to the Lord today.

CONDITIONS FOR HEAVEN

When Jesus told His disciples the conditions for heaven, they told Him that there would be very few people in heaven. This was when Peter asked, "How many times will my brother offend me and I will not retaliate?" Jesus said, "Seventy times seven," that is 490 times per day. They said, "Lord, increase our faith, if it is like this, then only very few people will enter heaven." Jesus did not say yes or no, rather, He advised them to strive to enter by the narrow way, for many there be in the broad way but the way to life is narrow, and only a few would find it. He did not say that a few shall find money. You can be so rich that you can eat money as bread but that does not matter. Only a few people will find the way. You must also know that if you are not making your way to heaven and you are the richest man in the world, you are indeed the poorest man. How long can you live with your money? If you live up to 120 years, you will be useless to yourself and others. What about eternity? It is so long. It has no end. You cannot compare eternity with 120 years on earth.

A man of God said, "If you cannot fly, run. If you cannot run, walk. If you cannot walk, crawl. But by all means in the life of faith, keep moving." Dig deep and keep moving. The book of Revelation says that some people have a name as if they are living but according to God's word, they are dead. If you love yourself, please, pray the following prayer points very well.

PRAYER POINTS

Open your life up to the Lord. Tell Him how you are. Tell Him to forgive you and help you get out of your situation. Do not cover up your sins and let the enemy rejoice over you.

1. Lord, purge me from the sin of pride, in the name of Jesus.
2. Father Lord, I reject every power that comes from beneath, in the name of Jesus.
3. I renounce every unprofitable power in my life, in the name of Jesus.
4. Father Lord, clothe me with the garment of fire, in the name of Jesus.
5. Lord, let your anointing soak me from the crown of my head to the soles of my feet, in the name of Jesus.
6. Lord, let the wind of the Holy Spirit blow His fullness into my life, in the name of Jesus.
7. Let the fire of the Holy Ghost incubate every department of my life, in the name of Jesus.
8. Let a mighty portion of the anointing of the Holy Spirit fall upon me, in the name of Jesus.
9. O Lord, Clothe me with power from on high, in Jesus' name.
10. Lord, change me to what you want me to become, in Jesus' name.
11. Lord, let all falsehood depart from my life, in Jesus' name.
12. Lord, let all lukewarmness depart from my life, in Jesus' name.
13. Make a covenant with God. Mention the particular sin that captured you and tell God you want to be released from it now.
14. I command every oracle prophesying evil against my life to turn against its master, in the name of Jesus.
15. I will make heaven, whether the devil likes it or not in the name of Jesus.
16. Everything that I have lost because I was not where God wants me to be, I recover them now, in the name
of Jesus.
The title of this chapter may seem strange to you. How could there be a church in the graveyard? You may then wish to meditate on the differences between a church and a graveyard.

The church, as you know, is a place of worship for the living, while the graveyard is the final resting place for the physically dead people. It then follows that if a church is built in a graveyard, no activity would take place therein. To understand this message, I would like you to prayerfully read through it. Open your heart, and the Lord will give you understanding, in Jesus' name.

Our first Bible passage is taken from Revelation 3: 1-6. Please, remember that the book of Revelation was written by Apostle John and is addressed to the seven churches in Asia. Three of those churches are addressed in chapter three. Verses 1-6 are addressed to the church in Sardis:

"And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches."

The Bible says that the church had a name, but as far as God was concerned, that church was dead. When you look at this fact very closely, you will understand that it is not what you call yourself that actually matters but what God calls you. It is possible for you to call yourself double apostle, or even an angel, but as far as God is concerned, He may be thinking differently about you. The Lord said that the church in Sardis once had a name but was lead thereafter. It follows that it would no longer function as it used to. A dead person will behave like the dead and a living person as the living. While some people in the churches today are spiritually awake, others are spiritually dead. The latter are those the Bible refers to as dead people. A quick look at the word of God will show you that the Bible talks about five groups of spiritually dead people. If however the Bible regards one as dead and the person is regarding himself as living, then such a person is deceiving himself. The groups of dead people are as follows:

1. BACKSLIDERS

Backsliders are those who have stopped following the Lord the way He should be followed. They are people whose spiritual lives are now very weak. Indeed, they are people who find it difficult to pray and study the word of God. They find it difficult to witness to others about the Lord Jesus Christ. But the Lord is now asking spiritual sleepers to stand awake. He is also challenging the spiritually dead people to rise up. It is certain therefore that backsliders are spiritual sleepers. As far as the Lord is concerned, they are dead.

2. SINNERS
All sinners are spiritually dead people. The day a sinner becomes alive is the day he repents of his sins and cries for forgiveness. When that happens, such a sinner has become aware that he was dead and needed to give his life to the Lord Jesus to come alive. All sinners, as far as the Bible is concerned, are dead people.

3. CARNALLY MINDED PEOPLE

Romans 8:6 says, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." It follows therefore that a person who is always thinking of carnal things is dead while alive. Such a person is not interested in how he can grow spiritually. He is only interested in how to make more money; and become more comfortable. A carnal mind is an abomination to God, that is why the Bible says that to be carnally minded is death.

4. HATERS OF KNOWLEDGE

The fourth group of dead people is found in Proverbs 21:6 which says, "The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead." Haters of knowledge are not interested in learning more about the Lord Jesus Christ. They are just comfortable or contented with what they are spiritually. Such people think they have got it all.

5. PLEASURE SEEKERS

The last group of spiritually dead people is found in I Timothy 5:6 which says, "But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth." As far as the Bible is concerned; pleasure seekers are dead people. A lot of pleasure seekers today attend churches. They are only happy when there are a lot of singing and dancing and entertainment around. As far as the Bible is concerned, dead people are not even qualified to praise God. It is amazing that many have not known this fact that those who are spiritually dead are not qualified to praise the Lord. Psalm 115:17 says, "The dead praise not the Lord, neither any that go down into silence." Isaiah 38:19 confirms this. It says, "The living, the living, he shall praise thee..." Thus, dead people are not qualified to praise God. Dead churches are not qualified to praise the Lord too. Such people should not expect anything that will last from God. In fact, the Bible says that they are not qualified to handle the word of God.

Beloved, at this point, I would like you to very quietly examine your spirit. Perhaps you have been classifying yourself wrongly. Perhaps you are not aware that you are not where the Almighty wants you to be. Begin to talk to the Lord at this moment. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the true picture of your life today.

In Acts of Apostles 16:16-19, while Paul was preaching the word of God in Phillipi, a certain damsel who had the spirit of divination from the devil kept following him and prophesying that Paul and his ministers were servants of the most High God sent to preach salvation to the people. Although she was saying the correct thing, Paul nonetheless had to keep her quiet. The reason he did that was to ensure that an unworthy vessel, who was possessed of satanic spirit, did not speak the word of God. He rebuked the spirit in the girl and commanded it to depart from her right at that moment. The lady was not allowed to handle the word of God because she was not spiritually fit. Many people stubbornly sit tight in their dead churches and many take solace in their dead environment. It is in such places that household enemies ensure that people are given church posts to tie them down and they would never be able to attend a living church where they would be saved. When such people are told to pray they would start naming their church posts instead of praying. The devil has deceitfully planted things in them. It is evident that they are not alive to God at all.

MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE
MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

A long time ago, I was attending a very big church where I played the organ and was the choirmaster. The church bought a big organ practically because of me. The church was even indebted to the tune of ten thousand naira because of the organ. They promised me heaven and earth in that church. I resumed my choirmaster job in full as soon as I returned from England. The turning point came, however, with a night vision. One night, I saw something terrible. I saw a tall black man standing right at the middle of the church. All of us in the church that were very prayerful and did not like the way things were going on there started fighting the tall black man with horse whips. Each person had a horse whip in his hand. We were beating him with all our strength. But the more we beat the man, the stronger he became. Then at a stage we conferred together on what to do. We concluded that the man was the cause of the trouble in the church. As we conferred together in that vision, somebody observed that the black demon was not affected because the horse whip we were using was not effective. To confirm this, we decided to test the horse whip on the body of one of us. The horse whip was used to beat one of us, and blood started oozing out of his body. Then the man we were fighting started laughing at us, that although we came to fight him we ended up fighting one another. Almost immediately, the voice of the Lord came to me in the vision very audibly, that He, the Lord did not ask me to stay in that church. I left the church immediately. Thereafter, about six of us started our fellowship meeting in a small shop. People laughed at me and in fact ridiculed me. They said that if I had studied mathematics in the university, they would have said I was mad. They wondered how I could leave a big church to fellowship in a small shop with five people. But I thank God that I did not listen to them at all. If I had listened to them, there would not have been MFM ministries today. What answer would I have given for the blood of numberless believers that the Lord would have required from me? The lesson to be learned here is that taking up a post in a dead church is tantamount to voting for the graveyard. Numberless people are tied down with church posts which later turn them to cemetery wardens or cemetery police. A police man put in the burial ground to look after the dead is doing a useless exercise. They make people church wardens of the dead, choirmasters of the dead, patrons of the dead, matrons of the dead, etc. All such posts are to ensure the death of such people themselves. If somebody is spiritually dead he does not see the way any longer. Such people may not know the trouble they are in until the Spirit of God departs from them.

I used to attend where all we did on Sundays was dance, clap our hands and sing. We jumped on the benches. After we would have done all that, the pastor would announce that our time was far spent, therefore he would not be able to preach any sermon. But we had enough time for endless offerings. Thereafter, we would say the grace and go home. While we were busy doing that, the devil not only rejoiced, but also planted calamities into the lives of members. I was going to that church until one day something happened to me which shook me out of that condition. Somebody was boiling oil on fire and I was sitting down nearby reading my book. Then something strange happened. All of a sudden, the oil became a ball and flew to my direction and fell on my leg. I could not move at all. I cried out to the entire household for help. The first person who came said, "Let us put ice water on his legs," another person said, "Let us put pap," and another pleaded that they should put egg, all this while my leg was busy burning. Eventually, they agreed on what to do. I was nonetheless managing with one leg. Within two months, my left hand got broken also. So, I had a broken hand and a roasted leg. Then one night, the Lord came to me and warned me that I would end up being killed in the dead church if I did nothing about it. He told me that if I was attending a living church, I would have been able to reject the calamities that befell me. It was at that time that I started calling on the name of the Lord the way it should be called. He heard me and promoted me from my terrible spiritual position to the top of the rock.

The problem of the church today is that there are many hypocrites in the church now. They have refused to leave their sins. The Lord cannot help such people. You do not do the work or the Lord deceitfully. You cannot cheat God. If you do, you will pay for it. If you hide your spiritual condition, God will leave you to your problems. If you are struggling to do some other things that you are not supposed to do, then you must do something about it, for God is concerned about you. If the trumpet of the Lord should sound today, the evidence that you are in a good church is that you will reign with Christ.
A lot of people are too worldly to be useful spiritually. They are afraid or ashamed of being tagged fanatical for Jesus. But the truth is that the Lord expects a believer to be fanatical in his mode of dressing and in whatever he does for Him. So many people do not want to serve the Lord because of certain things in their lives which they do not want to drop. They are afraid that if they join the Christian fold, they would not be able to do such things that please them again. Those things have become idols to them. Anything at all that you cannot drop for the sake of God, has become an idol in your life. All you want to do is to please human beings. When the time of rapture comes, these people you are seeking to please will not be able to help you at all. They are totally useless as far as spiritual help is concerned. Why should you design your life after the thoughts of the people of the world? Why should a child of hell fire decide your dressing pattern for you? Why should they be the ones to tell you whether or not you are looking fine or dull? Even if you are looking dull, is that the business of a child of hell fire? If they say you are looking dull and heaven says you are looking bright, would you not be happy?

Immediately you begin to live the type of life the Lord wants you to live, you will invite enemies automatically to yourself. Nobody will have the guts to invite you to worldly parties again. You cannot be hot for God without becoming automatic enemies of people of the world. It is a pity however that some people compromise their faith so much to please people of darkness. When somebody is dead spiritually, good things that are spiritual will not be open to the person. A dead person cannot see God. Only a living person can serve the Lord Jesus Christ. At the end of the day, when Jesus Christ will come to take His people home, then many people will realise how much debt they owe to the Lord. Many of such people will realise that the world is vanity. Each person will account individually for his or her stewardship on earth, even couples will account individually. So, you cannot blame your husband, wife or children for your lack of spiritual development. Why should believers follow unbelievers to their parties and help them to do their cooking?

If you are still worshiping God in your sins, then you are not in any way different from the dead church of the Sardis, a church that was in the burial ground. Take a step of faith today by separating yourself from the churches or groups of the dead. Separate yourself in your mode of dressing, conversation, attitude, faith, way of life, etc. Quit from the congregation of dead people today. It really does not pay you. The end thereof is eternal death.

Are you still hot for God or you have started backsliding? Do you find it difficult to witness to others? Do you still harbour sins in your life? Are you still carnally minded? Do you lack the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.? Are you still a pleasure seeker? If your answers to these questions are yes, then you are spiritually dead and indeed one of the worshippers in the graveyard church. Repent of all your sins today and the Lord Jesus Christ will receive you back into His divine fold with open arms. Remember that you alone will give account of your stewardship. Shun every worldly shame and criticism. Come to God and He will bless you mightily.

Note this: to be dead without Christ is hell. It is even more hellish to be spiritually dead without Christ. He who has ears to hear let him hear what God is saying at this end time. Remember that heaven will always listen to the cries of believers.

**PRAYER POINTS**

1. Let the Holy Spirit fill me afresh, in the name of Jesus.
2. Let every unbroken area in my life be broken, in Jesus' name.
3. Father, incubate me with the fire of the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name.
4. Let every anti-power bondage in my life break, in Jesus' name.
5. Let all strangers flee away from my spirit and let the Holy Spirit take control, in the name of Jesus.
6. Lord, catapult my spiritual life to the mountain top, in Jesus' name.
7. Lord, fill me with spiritual gifts, in the name of Jesus.
8. Let heavens open and let the glory of God fall upon me, in Jesus' name.
9. Let signs and wonders be my lot, in Jesus' name.
10. Let the joy of the oppressors about my life be turned into sorrow, in the name of Jesus.
11. Let an multiple strongmen operating against me be paralysed, in Jesus' name.
12. Lord, open my eyes and ears to receive wondrous things from you, in the name of Jesus.
13. Lord, grant me victory over every temptation and satanic device, in the name of Jesus.
14. Lord, ignite my spiritual life so that I will stop fishing in unprofitable waters, in the name of Jesus.
Chapter Three

JEZEBEL IN THE HOUSE OF GOD

If you are a good reader of the Bible you would realise that what you find in the Old Testament is like a shadow and in the New Testament you see the proper manifestation. To understand what we mean by the spirit of Jezebel, we need to go back to the Old Testament to see what it stands for. But first, I want you to pray this prayer point with a holy cry to the Lord: "Anything that will prevent me from eating from the tree of life, get out of my life now, in the name of Jesus."

WHO IS JEZEBEL?

The spirit of Jezebel is:

1. THE SPIRIT OF IDOLATRY

I Kings 16: 30-33 says, "And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD above all that were before him. And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nabat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him."

Please, note this scripture very well. It tells us the characteristics of Jezebel. There was a Jezebel physically, but there is a spiritual Jezebel amongst us now. It is just like Babylon. There was a physical Babylon which has been destroyed, but the spirit of Babylon is with us now.

The first great tragedy of Ahab was that he married God's enemy. This outsider called Jezebel seduced God's people into unfaithfulness through her idols. King Ahab who was a "female husband" just followed her and was serving her gods. Jezebel was the one who introduced the worship of the idol called Baal in Israel. She seduced God's people into idolatry. An idol is anything you place before God or anything you place beside God. The spirit of idolatry ravaging this age is the spirit of Jezebel.

2. THE SPIRIT THAT KILLS GOD'S PROPHETS

I Kings 18:4, 13 says, "For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took a hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water. Was it not told my Lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the Lord, how I hid a hundred men of the LORD's prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water?"

Jezebel was a prophet killer, killing the prophets of God. A prophet does not have to die physically before you declare him dead. Once his mouth has been silenced, he is dead, or if the prophet has his head on the lap of Delilah, he is finished.

3. THE SPIRIT THAT THREATENS GOD'S PROPHETS

I Kings 19:1-2 says, "And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."
What was the effect of this threat on Elijah? He ran. The spirit of Jezebel still threatens prophets with all kinds of things.

4. THE SPIRIT THAT BREAKS GOD'S LAWS

1 Kings 21:7 says, "And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? Arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry; I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."

The king had gone to a man called Naboth, and asked him for the use of his vineyard and the man said, 'No, it is against the law of our people that I should hand over the inheritance of my father to someone else.' Truly, that was the law; one should not hand over something he or she inherited to someone else. So, the man told the king, No. The king said, "I will buy." The man said, "No, I will not sell. It is against the law." Jezebel now advised her husband on the issue. She told him to organise for the man to be stoned to death and he would take over his land. Jezebel gave Ahab Naboth's land. She broke the law of Israel by organising and killing Naboth. Thus she misled her husband and turned the wrath of God upon the man. This kind of thing had never happened in Israel, that a king should take over the inheritance of another person forcefully. Jezebel made the man to break the law. So, Jezebel is that spirit that boldly breaks God's laws, knowing fully well that it is wrong. It is part of the organisation of Jezebel spirit.

5. THE SPIRIT OF WITCHCRAFT

In 2 King 9:22 we read: "And it came to pass, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, is it peace, Jehu? And he answered, What peace, so long as the whoredoms of thy mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so many?"

6. THE SPIRIT OF HARLOTRY

2 King 9: 30 says, "And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she painted her face, and tired her head, and looked out at a window." Here we see another character of Jezebel. We will discuss this later.

7. THE SPIRIT OF IMMORALITY AND SEDUCTION

Revelation 2: 20 says, "Not withstanding, I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols."

Jezebel died and was eaten by dogs many years ago, but you can still see the spirit at work in the book of Revelation.

IMPORTANT FACTS

There are certain facts that should be very clear to us before we go on with this message. A lot of people put themselves at the mercy of the enemy, believing that they cannot help themselves. "I don't know what to do," they say. The following are the facts:

1. When you belong to God, satan cannot take over your spirit.

To belong to God means you are born again, you have given your life to God and by His grace you have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Bible says that no one has the power to snatch God's servants out of His hands. Nobody can snatch a person out of God's hands. However, while satan cannot touch your spirit,
he can torment your soul and body if you are disobedient to God, if you are not living the kind of life God wants you to live. The fact that someone runs after you in the dream and succeeds in defeating you but you are not dead, means that he cannot touch your spirit. But somewhere along the line, through your disobedience or incomplete brokenness, he can gain access into your life. So, the prayer point which says, "Every ladder of the enemy, be broken," is an important one.

2. Satan cannot force his will on you

Satan cannot force his will on anyone. The only power he has is the power of persuasion. He persuades the person out of the place of holiness, out of the place of power, out of sanctification, out of brokenness; then he would deal with the person. So, no matter how evil a person has been. God still preserves a part of the person that can he receptive to Him later. And when he responds to God's will, he is delivered.

3. It is possible for evil powers to physically afflict a Christian

This happens because of sin. This is why God hates sin with perfect hatred and all sinners are waging war against God. When we live in sin, evil powers can physically afflict us. This is why the Bible tells us to submit ourselves to God and that we should present our bodies as a living sacrifice. It means that if our bodies are not completely sacrificed to God, it can be influenced by satan. Any mark of unbrokenness in any part of our lives opens that place to evil forces to afflict us physically. Many of the sicknesses that are afflicting Christians today for which a wide variety of drugs are being taken may have been demon-inspired. Sometimes there is nothing wrong with that body physically except the torment and affliction by evil spirits.

4. Satan cannot take your life unless you allow it

The day of our departure is appointed by God and no evil power can steal or take away that authority from God unless a person permits it.

5. Satan has no free gifts

What satan offers to somebody in one realm, he will extract at a horrible price in another realm. If he gives you a benefit, he will eventually take it back at a high price. Satan has no free gift. What he does is simple primitive trade by barter and what he gets out of it is more than what he gives. Any unwillingness to lease a satanic benefit would be a foothold for demonic trafficking to continue.

6. Satan can control the thoughts and the words of a Christian if the Christian is not careful

You may ask how can this be. We read about Peter in Matthew 16: 18-17: "When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Phillipi, he asked his disciples, saying, whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist, some, Elias and others Jeremias or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, but whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou Simon Barjona for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee but my Father which is in heaven."

In the same Matthew 16, while Jesus was talking about His death, how He was going to die and rise up on the third day, the same Peter said, "Far be it from you, you are not going to die." Jesus turned and said unto him, "Get away from me, satan." The same Peter who spoke by the Spirit of God a few minutes earlier had yielded to satan and Jesus had to rebuke him.

Another example is that of Ananias and Sapphira, husband and wife who were liars. The Bible says, "Why did you allow satan to put it in your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit."
MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT OF JEZEBEL IN THE HOUSE OF GOD

We have seen Jezebel as the rebellious, dominating and manipulating wife of Ahab. She intimidated, dominated and manipulated people. She singlehandedly forced millions of Jews to bow to an idol called Baal. The spirit of Jezebel has caused and is still causing many problems for Christians today. It has hundreds of thousands of people in its grip. It is part of the spirits of the last days. It is the spirit responsible for worldliness and unseriousness of Christians today.

It is the spirit responsible for the conversion of the house of God into entertainment halls where people go to be entertained; where sinners come to hide their sins and to be excited, only to go back to their sins. It is this spirit that is responsible for the production of disco pastors, disco churches and 'psychedelic Christians'. It is the same spirit that makes the hair of the pastor longer than the hair of his wife. This is the spirit that causes the Jerry curls and Tyson hair cuts in the house of God.

The introduction of wrong doctrines in the church is also part of the manifestation of this spirit. For example, a young lady went to her pastor for advice on how to obtain a life partner. The first question the pastor asked was whether she had a boyfriend before. She replied, "Yes, when I was in primary school." The so-called pastor said, 'Well, you started your own quite early, didn't you? Didn't you have any sexual relations with the man?' She replied that it was the man that broke her virginity. The pastor told her that that man who was now married with four children was her ordained husband, and if she did not marry him, she should forget about marriage. Obviously, this is not a Holy Spirit-inspired advice. Jezebel spirit is responsible for this.

Why should someone come to the house of God and in a three-hour service, dance for two and a half hours. After the dance there is no message; nothing to take home, nothing to pray about. You just go like that. So, the house of God has become a social gathering, where people just come to meet their friends and to socialise. This is the spirit of Jezebel.

The spirit of Jezebel is responsible for the perversion of the male responsibility in the home. It is the one responsible for the conversion of husbands to wives and wives to husbands. Recently, I read in the front page of a newspaper a story captioned, "Woman beats husband to death." This is an abomination. It used to be the other way round, in fact, this one still happens regularly. Some pastors and Sunday school teachers beat their wives. There are some women too who pull at the tie and shirt of their husbands, pushing them here and there and throwing punches at them. This is the spirit of Jezebel; male wife, female husband. This is Jezebel spirit in action.

This is the spirit that got Ahab into trouble until God was fed up with him and for the first time in the Bible, God called a committee meeting to decide who would go and persuade Ahab to go and fall at Ramoth Gilead. A committee was formed in heaven to deal with Ahab and his fate was sealed spiritually and that was it. See I Kings 22:19-23.

The spirit of Jezebel is also responsible for the revival of revengeful spirits in the house of God. It says. "I will retaliate," or "When I pray, this one does not say Amen, so when he prays I will not say Amen." "I must get my own back." So, people cheat themselves through the spirit of retaliation.

It is the spirit that killed Naboth, the owner of the vineyard. It is the spirit that kills God's prophets prematurely. Many ministers of God have been killed prematurely, not only with guns or bullets but sometimes with money or sex. The spirit of Jezebel is the one responsible for seduction. that is so rampant now. A sister came to a man of God for prayers and said, "Pastor, something is wrong with my thighs." The pastor said, "Lay your hands on them and I will pray." She said. "No, no, you have to lay your own hands on them:" This is the spirit of Jezebel.
A certain sister told me this story. She said a pastor wanted to pray for her so that her husband could come back, but the pastor insisted on putting his hands inside her clothes to pray. I said, "Madam, do you know that was wrong?" She said, "What do I know? I am a converted Moslem and I thought that this is what they do."

There are sisters that have had eggs rubbed all over their bodies by fake prophets. The eggs were smashed on the floor and they saw tiny needles inside. The fake prophets made to believe that the needles were from their bodies. No, there was no single needle in their bodies. It was an opportunity for those fakes to rub their hands all over the bodies of the ladies.

All those involved in "panel beating" of the, body, spraying of the body, painting the lips, scraping off hair on the face, painting the face with strange colours are daughters of this woman called Jezebel, because Jezebel is the mother of all demonic painters. You can say, "Well, I watched an American video and I saw everybody painted and they were speaking in tongues." Yes, why not. No problem. But have you checked the Book of Life and seen their names there? You want to imitate backsliders?

Sometime ago. I read about a popular American preacher who fell into the sin of immorality and was imprisoned. He has since been released. In the magazine, he said that all the messages he preached in those days were wrong, that Jesus told him in the prison that they were all wrong. The only message he preached in those days was prosperity; "just prosper, money. Have money even if you have money and your soul is in hell fire it does not matter. Just have money." He has now written a book entitled, "I was wrong." Meanwhile many people have been led astray.

PRISONERS OF JEZEBEL

There are so many secret prisoners of Jezebel today. Who are they? They are the people that have no control over their sexual desires. Pictures of naked men and women fill their hearts. They have this hot desire to always be in the midst of the opposite sex. Females hating the company of females and preferring males. Males hating the company of males and preferring females. All these are prisoners in the prison of Jezebel.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE NAME JEZEBEL?

Jezebel means: without cohabitation. Jezebel will not live with anyone unless she can control and dominate him or her.

The spirit of Jezebel has penetrated the world of entertainment, the world of fashion and the house of God. It has destroyed preachers and politicians. It is the spirit behind abortions, family strife and unsettled homes.

ENEMIES OF THE SPIRIT OF JEZEBEL

This spirit will stop attacking you if you embark on a strong and aggressive counter-attack. Jezebel's enemies are the prophets of God. The spirit of Jezebel hates repentance, prayer, holiness and purity. This spirit has captured so many modern-day Christians. Some people say that they are going to some places to seek salvation and deliverance only to get possessed by the spirit of Jezebel which then compounds their problem.

STRONG MEN IN THE BIBLE

Readers of the Bible will recognise that there are four strongmen that the Bible recognises:
1. The spirit of death and hell

This is a terrible spirit. Nothing is going to happen to this spirit until the end of the age when it shall be cast into the lake of fire. Death will reap and hell will keep. Death and hell are in collaboration.

2. The spirit of anti-Christ

This is the second strongman that the Bible recognises. It is the spirit of lawlessness permeating the age. People are not willing to be obedient again.

3. The spirit of Babylon

This is the third strongman. It is the spirit of compromise. It says, "Don't drop your faith, just add something else to it. Dilute it."

4. Jezebel

The fourth strongman is Jezebel. She is a strongman: There is a war going on between the spirit of Jezebel and the spirit of Elijah. Elijah represents the manifestation of God's presence and power.

THE ISSUE OF SIN

The issue of sin is not something that you pamper. It is something that can destroy a person in this world and in the world to come, and life has no duplicate. The greatest destruction that can happen to a person is to expect to get to heaven and simply do not arrive there. Then why are you wasting your time here?

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

Where do you belong now? Are you representing the spirit of Elijah or the spirit of Jezebel? Some people come to our prayer meetings and they like the prayer, the word, the testimonies and the singing, but they do not like the discipline. They say we restrict people, we do not allow them to enjoy themselves. They say that because we preach against alcohol, adultery, bribery, prostitution and introducing young girls into commercial sex. That is what they mean by not allowing them to enjoy themselves. It is better for them to go to another place where they would be allowed to enjoy themselves. All they want to hear is prosperity. But the Bible says the prosperity of the wicked is only for a short while.

Which kingdom do you represent? If you still have Jezebelian materials in your house and you come to the church pretending to look dull, or you keep them in your car, you are representing the kingdom of Jezebel.

Elijah represents the kingdom of God and the things in heaven, calling people to repentance and to return to God. On the other hand, Jezebel represents principalities whose purpose is to hinder and defeat the purpose of God. Many pastors and congregation members have failed to repent. What some people call repentance is not repentance at all, because they go back to the same sin. When you look deeply into the scripture, you will discover that Elijah was bold and so was Jezebel. Elijah was violent against evil, Jezebel was violent against righteousness. Elijah spoke for the ways and the word of God. Jezebel was full of witchcraft and the word of Baal; and so the war still continues today.

It is sad that the spirit of Jezebel has entered so deeply into the house of God. What is a man of God doing with six cars? Why does a man of God want to wear an outfit that costs two hundred thousand naira? We cannot find these examples in the word of God. Certainly not in Jesus. This is part of the spirit of Jezebel running through the age. Why should a man of God want to employ a special barber to cut his hair? This is part
of the problem and some of us sitting down in their churches are the ones encouraging them, hailing them to continue and they think they are doing a good thing.

**IMPEENDING JUDGEMENT**

Judgement will come and there will be a separation between the goats and the sheep. Right now, the goats and the sheep are together. Jesus says, "leave them alone." The wheat and the tares are growing together. You may be a tare growing with the wheat. You may be a weed pastor. The time is coming when there will be a separation. The owner of the harvest will come and take the wheat and the weed will be destroyed by fire. Anybody coming to the house of God whose life is an evil influence on another person's life, is a weed and that person is controlled by the spirit of Jezebel.

There is Pentecostal witchcraft now, manifesting fake prophecy: "Blah blah blah, thus says the Lord, this must be done and that must be done," whereas the Lord did not say anything.

**KEEP WATCH!**

Beloved, we have to have our eyes wide open. Many Christians walk about with their eyes closed. If you have a child that is disobedient, if beating will lead him to Christ, beat him so that he complies. You have to go to the meetings with your children. Sayings such as, "I don't believe in beating children," is where the trouble starts, because by the time they go too far you cannot get them back. Or you say, "They are adults in their own right, you have to leave them alone, let them do what they want." God will give you a query for this. Sometimes we need to drag someone to where he will be blessed. After he is blessed he will thank you. When my Daddy gave me this warning: "The next time I see you playing ball around this house, you are in trouble," I thought he was a wicked man. In those days at the Sunday school where we were forced to learn memory verses, I thought our teachers were wicked people. But now I wish I can see them to thank them. They are all dead but when I get to heaven I will thank them for not allowing me to perish, for allowing me to know what I know now. I was forced but eventually I understood.

In the book of Kings, we read that Jezebel had systematically murdered all God's servants, until the only functional one left was Elijah. We thank God that the God of Elijah is the God of fire. He will fight against your Jezebel today, in the name of Jesus.

Think about this: how can Elijah run away after a fantastic battle? How can he run from Baal after that fantastic victory? The place where the contest took place was a day's walk to the city. People trooped out to watch the contest and they went home saying, "Jehovah is God." If Jezebel had appeared there on that day they would surely have grabbed her and dealt with her. But then after that kind of victory, one would have thought nothing would make Elijah run away. What kind of pressure overwhelmed this man? How could such a mighty man of God turn around? The answer is simple. Jezebel released a flood of witchcraft and demonic powers against Him and that put fear and discouragement into his heart. She spoke words anointed by evil spirits, so Elijah ran. I prophesy to you that wherever your Elijah ran to, he will run back today, in Jesus' name.

A lot of people do not know that their Elijah has ran away. You that used to pray before, and the Lord was talking to you every second, and suddenly you do not hear anything again, your Elijah has fled! You that used to minister in the bus and people would say, "Excuse me, Madam, where is your church?" Now, immediately you enter the bus, you sleep and other commuters have to wake you up to ask you if you have arrived at your destination. You that God used to show revelations about your family and business, now you do not see anything You must wake up and change.

**WEAPONS OF JEZEBEL**
The two powerful weapons that Jezebel uses to fight the children of God are:

1. Fear.
2. Discouragement.

She put fear and discouragement in the heart of Elijah. Elijah now said, "O Lord; they have killed your prophets and I only am left of all your prophets and they are looking for me to kill me. They have thrown down your altars and I am jealous for you. Now. O Lord, take my life for I am not better than my fathers." He was discouraged.

After Elijah left, John the Baptist came in the spirit and power of Elijah. Again the dancing daughter of Herodias got John killed. What happened was that the spirit of Jezebel got the prophet killed. This dancing girl was tutored by her mother to ask for the head of John the Baptist on a platter. What Jezebel did to Elijah was what Herodias did to John.

MINISTRY OF ELIJAH TODAY

You must realize that the ministry of Elijah is not over yet. Elijah is still coming back to fight and to restore. This message is not being sent as a joke, God wants firebrand Christians. Malachi 4:5-6 says, "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD; And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."

God is raising up His own Elijah today, a company of prophets, spirit-filled, to kill the prophets of Jezebel and to drink their blood. How many of us are ready? How many sisters are ready? How many brothers are ready? As a sister, if you say that you are ready, is there anybody that you do not greet? Is there anybody that you wink at? Is there anybody that you have abused? Is your tongue sanctified by the fire of the Holy Ghost? Do you talk clean? As a brother, what takes more of your attention, your money or Jesus? Are you the leader of the family altar in your home? Do you have girlfriends in addition to your wife? God is raising up His own company of Elijahs. You cannot be in that company if Jezebel still has a hold on you.

So, if you are under the grip of Jezebel and you want to be in the company of Elijah, that grip has to be broken completely. If your enemy cannot affect you directly, he will seek to bring you into sin to bring you under the judgement of God. Those living in the power and in the spirit of Elijah have a serious fight against the children of Jezebel. Who are the children of Jezebel? They are habitual sins which include smoking all kinds of things, drinking heavily, adultery and moving about with all kinds of strange women, arrogance, deception, fear, fornication, hatred, harlotry, idolatry, incest, jealousy, lust, unclean thoughts, masturbation, sexual perversion, oral sex, false religion, pride, spiritual blindness, spirit of religion, witchcraft, occult involvement, etc.

If it is just one quarter of what I have said that is in your life then you have to pull down their strongholds today.

OTHER EVIL SPIRITS

* The spirit of Esau sells his birthright.
* The spirit of Manasseh transfers his blessings.
* The spirit of Pisgah makes people to see blessings but never to touch it.
* The spirit of Saul turns one from a prophet to a consulter of witches.
* The spirit of Pharaoh is the spirit of the stubborn pursuer.
* The spirit of Herod kills blessing in infancy.
* The spirit of Jezebel kills God's prophets.

It is the spirit of Jezebel that prevents revelation from heaven. It is the spirit that pushes a person into God's judgement, like it did to Ahab. It is the spirit that seeks artificial glory instead of God's glory. It is the spirit responsible for anger in the home. It is the spirit responsible for manipulation and domination in the home. It gives birth to baby husbands and giant wives. It is the spirit responsible for immoral thoughts and activities.

THE END OF JEZEBEL

What was the end of Jezebel in the Bible? According to 2 Kings 9:30-37, she was thrown down and dogs licked her blood. Jehu had no mercy or sympathy towards her. He trampled her underfeet, meaning that we as Christians, must not tolerate this spirit. We must cast it down. Today, God is giving you the privilege to participate in the eternal judgement of Jezebel. You have to cast her down and let the judgement of God come forth. It is time for the children of God to unite against the spirit of Jezebel under the anointing of Elijah and in the power of the Holy Spirit. You have to arise in the anger of the Lord to cast Jezebel down. We have to proclaim holy war against it and paralyse it out of our churches.

Beloved. we have some prayer points to pray. For those who want to make heaven and heaven is their goal they just pray them and get away from the grip of the spirit of Jezebel.

PRAYER POINTS:

1. Every spirit of Jezebel, release me and release your captives, in the name of Jesus.
2. I cast down every stronghold of the spirit of death and hell in my life, in the name of Jesus.
3. I close every door that I have opened to the enemy, in the name of Jesus.
4. I break every ungodly association with the spirit world, in the name of Jesus.
5. O Lord, convert my life into a power generator of divine power, in the name of Jesus.

CONFESSION

Wonderful God, I thank you for your power and glory. Thank you for the company of the prophets of Elijah gathered together to disgrace Jezebel. Wonderful God, any area in the past where I have consciously or unconsciously opened the doors of my life to Jezebel. I close the doors forever, in the name of Jesus. Eternal Rock of ages and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, let the anointing of the Holy Spirit and the power of the Most High begin to fall upon me. Thank you heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Every spirit of Jezebel, depart from my life, in Jesus' name.
2. You the mountain of frustration, be removed from my life, in the name of Jesus.
3. Oh Lord, place me on the mountain that is higher than I, in Jesus' name.
4. I refuse to be controlled by the spirit of religion, in Jesus' name.
5. Oh Lord, help me to focus on you, in the name of Jesus.
Chapter Four

THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY

This chapter focuses on iniquity and its attendant effects. From our topic of discussion, two things stand out very clearly: mystery and iniquity. It is important to know the definitions of these two key words.

Mystery is something which is impossible to understand, or that of which little is known. Mystery can also be taken as a certain knowledge being withheld by a group of people. A secret that cannot be explained to somebody who does not belong to the group of people who share it. On the other hand, iniquity is lawlessness, wickedness or evil deed.

An avid reader of the Bible will recognise that there are so many mysteries in the word of God. We shall examine some scriptures to establish this.

Matthew 13:11 says. "He answered and said unto them, because it is given you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given."

So, the kingdom of heaven is a mystery given to some people and not to everyone.

Romans 16: 25 says. "Now to him that is of power to establish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began."

It follows therefore that salvation in Christ Jesus is also a mystery.

1 Corinthians 2: 7 says, "But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory." The wisdom of God is also classified as a mystery.

1 Corinthians 15: 15 says, "Behold, I shew you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed." The resurrection of Jesus remains a mystery, and makes us to understand that resurrection is real and that some people will not die.

1 Timothy 3: 16 says, "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." Godliness is also a mystery.

2 Thessalonians 2: 7 says, "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way."

The mystery of iniquity is already at work but someone is withholding it from causing complete havoc on people. However, a time will come when that person will let go. Please know that this person is the Holy Spirit, and when the rapture takes place and all the Christians have departed from this sinful world, the mystery of iniquity would be let loose. The world is enjoying some relative level of peace today because fervent Christians are interceding ceaselessly in prayer. If all Christians do not bind the devil for one day, hell would be let loose and terrible things may come to pass. The Bible says that the mystery of iniquity is already working. Please, know that the mystery of iniquity does not work on trees, stones, or lands, but on human beings.

Psalm 51: 5 says, "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me."
You ought to have noticed that no one teaches children how to tell lies. The vice of lying comes to many of them very naturally because of their human nature. This is why it is easy for children to pick up bad habits effortlessly. All these occurrences have their roots deeply hidden in the mystery of iniquity.

Sometime ago, a medical doctor who understood the adverse effects of hard drugs began to inject himself with them. Although his wife warned him to stop the terrible act, he nonetheless continued until he killed himself. The point to be made clear here is that by his training, the medical doctor knew what hard drugs were and their poisonous effects. He knew that hard drugs could kill him, but he was not ready to stop taking them. The mystery of iniquity did not allow him to recognise that he was in a mess, and he consequently went ahead not only to cage himself, but to sentence his life to eternal damnation.

The mystery of iniquity would keep a man on a path of self destruction without giving him any opportunity of retracing his footsteps. It would then appear to observers that such a person has been glued by invisible forces not only to a life of sin, but of self-destruction. This is why the victims of the mystery of iniquity are seemingly deaf, dumb and blind. It is better for you to always fashion your life after the indestructible things of heaven. A lot of people have fashioned their lives after hell fire, but that should not be your portion, in Jesus' mighty name.

A long time ago, a manager in one cosmetics company got born again and confessed that he was a satanic agent who had used aborted babies to produce lipsticks and some other kinds of cosmetics. A woman who buys and uses such products becomes an eater of flesh and drinker of blood without knowing it. Although she is ignorant of what was used in making the lipstick, her ignorance will not help her in any way.

God does not consider one's ignorance as an excuse for exemption from His divine punishment. Without doubt, ignorance is not an excuse before God. The development of iniquity is as mysterious as the development of a child in the womb. Unless you take the issue of sin very seriously, you may not know why you are in bondage and why your enemies succeed effortlessly in your life. A lot of people have good character but are weighed down by terrible loads of iniquity.

I wish to emphasize that all sinners, whether of good or bad character, rich or poor, tall or short, wound God in the heart. The devil which is the father of all sinners wanted to bring God down, but he failed woefully and fell in the process. It is sad to know that many people are now doing worse things than the devil, and repeatedly wound the heart of God. My prayer for you is that the Lord will open your heart to the divine understanding of the mystery of iniquity. Iniquity may present a golden cup to you, but with poison hidden inside. It may also present enjoyable food to you but may hide something that could affect your health terribly within it. Every lack of control of one's evil behaviour or emotion comes from the mystery of iniquity. It is indeed a powerful force of hell fire.

Sin is a deeper sleep which come fall into and never rise up again. It is baffling to know that some people eat and make merry in sin, without knowing it. They even consider themselves as enjoying the fruits of their labour. It is a pity however, that such people would end up in hell fire. Whosoever has eaten his dinner with the devil cannot expect to pass the night in the same place with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Please, know that the worse businessman on earth is not the man who owes millions of naira, but the one who has sold his eternity for pitiable temporary riches of this sinful world.

Many have also sold their eternity to sin. Do you know that sin has the power to bewitch a person? Sin gives satan enough power to lay claims to the lives of sinners. If you are wondering why satan defeats many people easily, sin is the answer.

Another terrible strategy of iniquity that it, paints itself in deceptive but attractive colours. This is why people who have the spirit of pride, drunkenness, etc, believe that they are sociable. They really do not know the depth of the vice satan has built into their lives. Satan relies heavily on deception. This is why he and his
agents paint indiscipline to represent freedom. He also paints lying to mean diplomacy, and dishonesty as smartness. He makes a fornicator to regard himself or herself as being smart. As long as a believer continues to commit sin, satanic parasites will always be alive in his or her life.

A sinless believer is indeed regarded by stan as an untouchable master. However the reverse becomes the case the moment a believer goes into the stinking water of iniquity. When a person in a particular family dives into sin, satanic trouble becomes the lot of his children, his family, his present generation and even generations to come. Although God planned a mountain top life for the Israelites, they nonetheless chose the valley for themselves because they were neck-deep in one sin or the other. Sin is a destroyer of all ages. It was sin that made God to destroy three million people. It is a pity that many believers still commit one sin or the other today. Listed below are some of these sins:

1. Murmuring/complaining

Without mincing words, murmuring is the grandfather of worry. Anyone who has acquired the bad attitude of murmuring cannot rely on God for anything. This vice in a person negates all principles of faith. As far as God is concerned, anyone who worries for any reason is a sinner, and has no regard for God. God got angry with the Israelites in the wilderness because they murmured against Him. Apart from the spiritual penalty, people who worry usually look older than their true age. It follows therefore that worry kills people silently. There is a negative force behind what a person worries about, such that one's negative thoughts usually come to pass. If a person does not depart from the school of worry, depression and frustration would be his lot. Murmuring is a disgrace to God. Believers must not engage in it at all.

2. Jealousy

This is a terrible sin of anger and unhappiness. Because another person has something that you like but you do not have, you are envious of him. Believers have no reason to be envious of other people. If you are fond of comparing yourself with other people, you have to examine yourself to know whether or not you are still a follower of Christ.

3. Unbelief

This is refusal to believe in God's ability to do the seemingly impossible. Unbelief makes many people, even the so-called born-again Christians doubt the fulfilment of the numerous promises of God for His people. Many Christians will not enter God's rest because of unbelief.

4. Pride

This is another terrible sin that God hates greatly. People with the spirit of pride derive evil satisfaction in themselves and their accomplishments. Such people attribute their performance to their skills. It is the pride in them that makes it impossible for them to humble themselves and be in a place where God can bless them.

5. Spiritual depression

Unknown to many people, spiritual depression is also considered as a terrible sin by God. Many people envy those who are well-to-do to such a terrible extent that they grudge against God for not making them what they wanted to be. Such people become depressed and temporarily or permanently keep God away from their lives.
6. Impatience

It is unbelievable to know that very few people possess the virtue of patience at this present time. Impatience is a vice freely noticed in the attitude of many people particularly those who call themselves Christians. To be impatient with God is to sin against Him. After all, the Bible makes it clear that faith and godly patience are the divine tools with which one can possess or inherit God's numberless promises.

7. Adultery

This terrible sin makes God to regard most people as rebellious souls. Adultery is not found in sexual immorality alone but also in the evil and wicked act of replacing God with something else.

8. Discouragement

When some people are discouraged, they do not know that they attract the wrath of God. Discouragement is a sin in all its ramifications.

I advise you to stay away from iniquity and it shall not be able to manipulate you, in the name of Jesus. One cannot help but pity people who refuse to do what God wants them to do because of earthly gains which will eventually glue them to the earth. Such people may end up unrapturned.

**People who commit sins usually follow three basic steps:**

1. I saw, then I became tempted.
2. I wanted, then an evil desire began in my heart.
3. I took. That is, finally, I carried out the act.

Many people are not bold enough to commit certain sins physically. But they commit them in their hearts. The Bible makes us to know that they are as guilty as those who commit them physically. This is a mystery of iniquity.

The purpose of this message is for you to stand firm and break the evil chains of iniquity which have held you captive in the satanic cage for a long time. These evil chains which you must break completely at this moment have made you a candidate for the valley instead of the mountain top.

If you are able to break the chains of iniquity, you do not need to pray for breakthrough. It will pursue you on its own accord. Before the blessings of God can pursue you and overtake you, you must break away from iniquity. Perhaps, you have to pray to God to deliver your tongue, ears and eyes now. It is part of the task of the mystery of iniquity to see that people do not get to the level where God wants them to be. The reason you are not where God wants you to be now could be iniquity. Why don't you pray so that the chains can break now and you will walk into God's covenant of liberty and breakthrough for your life.

**PRAYER POINTS**

1. You chain of iniquity, break, in the name of Jesus.
2. All the poison that iniquity has introduced into my body and blood, go out, in the name of Jesus.
3. All the visible spiritual loads that iniquity has introduced into my life, be roasted, in the name of Jesus.
4. All the spiritual coffins that iniquity has constructed for me, be roasted, in the name of Jesus.
5. Every good thing that iniquity has stolen from me, be restored, in the name of Jesus.
6. All stubborn pursuers that iniquity has attached to my life, be roasted, in the name of Jesus.
Chapter Five

NEGATIVE ANOINTING

If you believe that anointing is in the positive form alone, then you have got it all wrong. Much as anointing can be positive, it can also be negative. Anointing therefore, is an issue of two extremes: positive and negative. The question you may wish to ask then could be how negative anointing can be defined and identified. What is negative anointing and who are the negative anointing carriers? These and other related questions will be answered in this message. This topic is therefore very important and I would like you to prayerfully read it because it is what sometimes makes the difference between two persons at a place where God pours down His anointing. One person receives while the other does not.

A lot of people are going about unconsciously with excess luggage in their bodies, souls and spirits. The enemy of their souls knows that if they dare find out that they are in that condition, they will fight aggressively. What the enemy does then is to operate secretly. But all such secrets shall be exposed, in the name of Jesus. There are only three powers in the universe: The positive power, the negative power and the human power.

THE POSITIVE POWER

This is the divine power that proceeds from the Almighty God. It is the first and most powerful some of power. In case you are thinking that God has gone on holiday and the devil is now reigning because of your problems, you are wrong. The positive or divine power is the most powerful. It is creative. It does good. It is benevolent but by no means sparing the wicked.

THE NEGATIVE POWER

This is the power that comes from Lucifer. It is evil power. God did not create the devil, He created Lucifer who converted himself to satan.

THE HUMAN POWER

This is the power of man. It is a neutral power that can be influenced by the negative or positive one. If you have ever consulted a negative power in your life, then you must have acquired some evil marks that must be robbed of.

WHAT IS ANOINTING?

Many people have been misled with various forms of definitions. To some, anointing is to blow breeze into the microphone and everybody falls down. We read nothing of this sort about our Lord Jesus Christ. Only the time He was attacked in the garden of Gethsemane, He asked His attackers some questions and they fell down. Some people think that anointing is the power to heal the sick and pray for people who are demonised.

What exactly is anointing? Anointing is a supernatural equipment that will enable an ordinary human being to achieve supernatural results in what he is doing. It is a divine electric force. It is the power of God on a person which brings sweatless results. It is the supernatural power to produce outstanding results. I want this to be very clear in your spirit.
There may be two believers with the same faith, experience, talent, resources, exposure, and facility, yet their achievements may be miles apart. They may go to the same Bible college, read the same way, be of the same age and have the same amount of exposure, but what they will achieve for the Lord would be miles apart. It is the anointing that makes the difference. Anointing, therefore, is the expression or the manifestation of the extraordinary power of God's Holy Spirit in a person's life. If you have the anointing of God, then you will have the divine ability to do a particular thing outstandingly. That is to say that God has supernaturally touched your effort, skill, ability, memory and strength. When God's touch is upon you, you will begin to operate under such power that cannot be equalled with anything else. It is the way to excellent and sweatless victory. When you receive the Holy Spirit, the rain of God's power falls upon you and there is a noticeable increase in the living water in your life, then you have the anointing of the Almighty God. When the anointing of God falls upon your life, you will break bondages, reverse curses, and certain things cannot stick to your body again.

There was a big conference that had morning and evening sessions. The conference was well attended. During one of the morning sessions, a man had the privilege of singing a special number from Psalm 23. When he finished, everybody clapped and gave him a loud ovation. In the evening of the same day, an old missionary who had been preaching the gospel for so many years came and sang the same Psalm 23, but with a difference this time. By the time he finished, everybody was crying. Somebody from the congregation asked him thereafter why everybody was crying while he was singing. He told the missionary that when another man sang the same Psalm in the morning of that day, people laughed and clapped. The response of the missionary was quite brief but adequate. He said the man who sang in the morning knew the Psalm, but he, the preacher, knew the writer. Who is the writer? The Holy Spirit. That is the difference; the anointing.

If you take time to read your Bible, you will discover those people that were specially anointed by God to do great things. You will do yourself a world of good to do a study on them. You must know that the enabling power of God to perform supernaturally is in the anointing.

There are counterfeit human beings in our streets now. When you see them, you will mistake them for nice men, women, girls or boys, but they are the opposite. The fact is that they are not nice, they are simply satanic agents walking all over the place. The devil always finds a way of producing counterfeits of God's blessings. Everything created by God is good but the devil has corrupted some and because of that corruption a lot of people are entering into fresh bondage everyday.

Leviticus 10:1-2 tells the story of the two sons of Aaron, Nadab and Abihu. Their father was a priest and it was their duty to sacrifice on the altar. But they offended God and God did not want to know whether their father was a priest or not. He promptly executed them. Leviticus 10:1-2 says, "And Nadab and Abihu the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer and put fire therein and put incense thereon and offered strange fire before the Lord which He commanded them not to. And there went out fire from the Lord and devoured them, and they died before the Lord."

They died before the Lord because they were offering strange fire before the Lord of hosts. The Lord Himself executed them right there.

The days have come when people who claim to be filled with the Holy Spirit need to be checked. Many have started to light strange fire before the Lord and it is therefore time to check every situation. The Bible tells us to test every spirit. The devil can perform magic and can work false miracles. Do you remember the story of Moses? Moses threw down his rod and it became a serpent and the magicians too threw down their own and they became snakes. However, they lost their rods because the snake of Moses swallowed theirs. The example reveals the degree of the power of satan. He can imitate some of the gifts of God. Therefore, we must be alert to his deception. One of the most amazing statements in the scriptures is made in Acts 7:48: "Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet." It therefore
follows that no matter how well or beautiful you build your temple, God will not live in it.

Acts 7: 49-50 says, "Heaven is my throne and earth is my footstool; what house will ye build me? Saith the Lord; Or what is the place of my rest? Hath not my hand made all these things?"

YOUR BODY THE TEMPLE OF GOD

Believers are regarded as temples. Jesus Himself referred to His body as the temple of God. God does not live inside the room or the roof. He lives inside man and that temple is your heart. I Corinthians 3: 16, says, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" The Bible is saying you are God's temple. It is sad to know that many Christians who answer Christian names and whose fathers are priests and prophets fall easy prey to the devil. Their Christian upbringing does not stop the devil from destroying the temple of God in them. It does not prevent the devil from turning the temple of their lives to what is written in Revelation 18: 2 which says, "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird."

It is a pity that such a spirit is dwelling in the lives of believers: some with their knowledge, some without their knowledge. This is why sometimes it can be very sad when the angels of God pick only one or two people for blessing and miracles, in a Christian meeting and others are not blessed because they are strangers in the presence of God. Of such people the devil can say, "I will return to my house." Demons call the bodies of human beings their houses.

What is supposed to be happening in a temple? It is for God to be there and for the worship of Jehovah to betaking place there. God dwelleth not in temples made with hands. When Jesus said He would raise up the temple in three days if it was destroyed, many did not understand Him. They thought He was talking about a physical temple. However, He was talking about the temple of His body. When the worship of Jehovah takes place in the temple of your life, no dirtiness can reside therein; When the glory of God fills the temple of your life, you do not need to paint your body and finger-nails to look beautiful. You do not even need to buy special soap to look lighter because the glory of God in your life will make you radiant. It is when that glory has departed that men look for fake glory. They paint, panel-beat and re-spray their bodies because the glory of God has departed may cry, jump, or do all kinds of things, but that temple is still unclean and the glory of God cannot fill it. That is why we have Jesus.

Jesus whipped and chased out the people trading in the temple in Jerusalem. He knew that without that, blessings, favour and mercies would not be received from the temple. At the temple in Jerusalem, Jesus was there, and the traders too, were there. Likewise today, the temple is you; Jesus is there and the traders are the dirty things residing in you.

There are many things that many people do not understand about the temple of their lives. Have you ever thought about the fact that many people, like the powerful men of God, sometimes commit terrible sins and come out and say. "Be healed," and the people are healed? Why do some prophesy the word of the living God in one minute and the next moment they abuse and curse people, yet at the next service they still prophesy? Why is it that some people pray and the power of God falls upon their lives and some pray and nothing happens? Somebody can sing, "Anointing, fall on me" and in a few minutes, the anointing falls while another person does the same thing from morning till night, yet nothing happens to him. Why? It is because there are strangers in the temple. Why should a child of God exaggerate on what he or she has done for the Lord? You preached in the bus and one person gave his life and you go on to broadcast that twenty people gave their lives to Christ. Why do you boast of the power that is not yours? Why is it that unclean spirits put evil thoughts in someone who has taken a decision to pray? He sits down to pray but evil thoughts would not just allow him. Instead of his mind to be calm, it would be wandering about. Why is it that after a hot session of prayer, fear
will still be gripping some people's hearts as if they never prayed? Why is it that after a serious prayer session, many still queue up saying, "Man of God, woman of God, I require that you lay your hands on me." Why? It is because they are still traders in the temple.

One of the most horrible things that can happen to a person is for two opposite spirits to be operating in the person's life. It is a fearful thing, but it is true. This is what we call negative anointing. When it falls upon a person, the person gets under evil influence.

**DIFFERENT TYPES OF NEGATIVE ANOINTING**

1. The anointing of anger

   When the anointing of anger falls upon a person, his body will be shaking. When some people are under this anointing, they would start to stammer. Some grow wild and violent. Some refuse to be pacified. Yet the same people pray in tongues and prophesy. Such people have the Holy Spirit and a negative spirit. They usually box the Holy Spirit in them into a corner. A fearful thing would happen on the judgement day when Jesus would say, "Get away from me, you workers of iniquity." The fact that such people healed people and worked wonders in Jesus' name would not matter on that day. People who would suffer such a fate or punishment would receive it because they refuse to cast away the evil spirits which contested for a place with the Holy Spirit in their lives. If you still have the spirit of anger in you, pray to receive deliverance right now, in Jesus' name.

2. Anointing of sexual perversion

   When this anointing falls upon a person, he or she becomes senseless. If it falls upon a man, such a man would not even remember that the girl he is making passes at is his wife's house girl. The negative anointing is upon him, so he will not remember anything again. He will not remember that he is a General Manager or a Professor. He will not even consider that he could be caught fornicating with the house-help. If what you are reading now makes you feel uncomfortable, then you need deliverance. It is the blunt truth. When the anointing of sexual perversion falls upon some sisters they would vow to marry even the common hemp smokers. They would foolishly vow to change the hemp smokers to born again Christians.

3. The anointing of evil speech and foul language

   Once this anointing comes upon a person, he will speak numberless words in a minute. Nothing can really bring him under control at that point in time. There are people like that amongst us disgracing the name of the Lord all over the place. Such people allow stark unbelievers to talk nonsense about the Lord.

4. The anointing of depression

   Many people are under the anointing of depression. It therefore explains why such people rejoice for a while, and then become depressed the next moment. They praise the Lord for a short time and weep at the next available time. At such a time, they are downcast beyond description.

5. The anointing of bad inspiration

   Some people do receive good inspiration and write good music under the positive anointing. But the moment a negative anointing descends on them, they would lose control and begin to plan evil and unimaginable things.

6. The anointing of sickness
Many are afflicted with sicknesses on a regular basis. Today they are healthy, tomorrow they are not. Regular sickness is therefore their lot. This is nothing but negative anointing. Remember this: God gave us power to be perfect. He made all things perfect and wants us to be perfect.

7. The anointing of gluttony and drunkenness

People under this anointing will not just want to rest until they are overfed or drunk.

8. The anointing of addiction

Those under this anointing keep asking for useless things on regular basis. Things like kola-nut, coffee, drugs, etc: As a matter of fact, a person who is addicted to such things is ready to look out for them even in the middle of the night. There are examples to tell you that you may be a believer, with the Holy Spirit dwelling in your spirit, and yet be possessed with demons afflicting your body. That affliction is a trader in the temple.

A lot of people would have remained solid in the Lord if not for traders in the temple. The Holy Spirit has been boxed to a corner in the temple of the lives of many who have attended Bible colleges. As a result of this, they backslide. I hope you know what backsliding means? Backsliding in the Bible does not mean that you have completely abandoned your faith. No.

1. It means standing away from the Lord.
2. It could mean leaving your first love, that is leaving the Lord.
3. It could mean departing from the simplicity of the gospel.
4. It could mean spiritual stagnancy, that is to say, you are not growing.
5. It could mean weakness in your regular spiritual exercises.
6. It could mean hypocrisy.

It is very sad but true that there are many people going about with two kinds of spirits in them. It is therefore time for serious examination and violent prayer. You must understand these things. If you see people attending a place of prayer where holiness is preached and they still behave strangely outside, then you can rest assured that the Holy Spirit in them has been boxed to a corner. There are other spirits in their temple trading therein and doing very well in the business.

In I Samuel 10, we read about one king called Saul. Saul was not only a king but also a prophet. Verse 6 says, "And the Spirit of the Lord will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them and shalt be turned into another man." Verse 10 says, "And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them."

Saul was prophesying but unfortunately, he was an unstable character, self-willed, envious and of violent temper. Impatience finished him up and eventually, the spirit of the Lord departed from him and an evil spirit took over. I Samuel 16: 14 says, "But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him." Verse 23 says, "And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand; so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him." He had temporary relief, but the problems were still there. The Spirit of the Lord was in the life of Saul and an evil spirit was also there. While the evil spirit was tormenting him, the good Holy Spirit was prophesying through him. For this reason you must be careful. Spiritual inconsistency in your life could open the door to evil spirits and bring about the type of situation in which Saul found himself.

At this point, let me ask you some questions. Please, be faithful in your responses. Since you received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, has your life got on fire or are you still your cold self? If you are still your cold
self, there are traders in your temple. When you pray aggressively, do parts of your body begin to vibrate or become hot? If so, there are strangers in your temple. Are you like some Christians who give long list of prophecy but disobey the prophecy thereafter? For such people two spirits (positive and negative) are controlling their lives. Or are you the type of person who after giving her husband or his wife a dirty slap at home, comes to church to pray in the spirit? Do you prophesy the things people have told you instead of what God has told you? Are you in a place when you are employed to be prophesying to other people? Are you the type of person whose ears always make noise and you do not hear anything? God wants to be talking to you, but it seems as if something is blocking your spiritual ears. It is like a telephone ringing in your ears and when you say, "Speak Lord, for your servant is hearing," then everything goes blank. There are serious strangers blocking you from hearing from God. Do you hear ungodly voices asking you to do strange things, for example, jump into the river, cross the road, etc? Then there are strangers and traders in the temple of your life. Do you have difficulty in reading the Bible? Can you sit down to read the Bible for a long time? If you cannot do that, then there are strangers in your life. Do you have more problems now that you are serious for the Lord than when you were not? It shows that there are strangers who are afraid that at the rate you are going, you will soon slaughter everyone of them. Do you sometimes go blank? Do you experience nightmares? Do you lose self control and after some time begin to regret, apologise, breakdown and cry, only to fall into the same trouble again? Then, there are strangers in the temple.

Are you the type of person or secretary who sleeps with the boss in order to retain your job? Then, serious strangers are in your temple. Are you the type of person who has difficulty in receiving the Holy Spirit? Are you the type of person who is always thinking of committing suicide? There are strangers in the temple.

How clean or unclean is the temple or your life? If you pray seriously, does your body shake terribly? Why is it that you, who ought to be on fire for God, are the first person that would get discouraged when there is a small problem? Strangers are undoubtedly in the temple of your life. What I am talking about does not exempt anyone because a lot of people have had these strangers planted in them at birth. You must be very determined to fight against these strangers. Pray against the beggarly powers preventing you from actualizing your potentials.

Many lives have been converted to a boxing ring and the good things in such lives have been boxed to some corners. The enemies keep raining blows upon blows on such people. It is time for you to strengthen that which is at the point of death. Perhaps your problem is that the good things in your life have been boxed to a corner or the enemies have given the good things a technical knockout. It is time for the wind of prophet Ezekiel to blow on them and for them to come alive again. You are going to pray now and the prayer must be very aggressive.

**PRAYER POINTS**

1. Father Lord, let your fire fall on me now and destroy every negative anointing in my spirit, soul and body, in Jesus' name.
2. Father Lord, let every negative anointing upon my life be drained off, in the name of Jesus.
3. Every agent of negative anointing in my life, be paralysed with the fire of God, in Jesus' name.
4. Lord Jesus, walk back into every second of my life and deliver me from the clutches of negative anointing, in Jesus' name.
5. Let every anointing that is different from the anointing of the Lord depart from me now, in Jesus' name.
6. Father Lord, baptise me with your positive anointing, in Jesus' name.
7. Father Lord, let me begin to experience your positive anointing in every area of my life, in Jesus' name.
8. Father Lord, let the source of every negative anointing river flowing into my life, dry now, in Jesus' name.
9. Henceforth, no evil spirit or negative anointing spirit will share me with the Holy Spirit of God. in the name of Jesus.
Chapter Six

THE SLUMBERING SPIRIT

In this chapter we are going to look at the secret of failure in the lives of many Christians. You have to read this topic very carefully and prayerfully. The first thing we have to understand is that man is basically a spirit living in a body. So the real you, whatever your name, is the spirit within. The Bible makes us to understand that immediately that spirit leaves, the person is dead. The Bible says, "dust would go to dust, ashes to ashes" The spirit will go back and report to God what you have done with your life. So, the real you is the spirit. When the end of the age comes, the corruptible body which is subject to sickness, troubles, mosquito bites, etc cannot see God. It has to be changed.

Let us look at some scriptures so that we can understand very well what we are saying. Isaiah 56: 10 says, "His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down loving to slumber."

Watchmen are supposed to be very active and knowledgeable people. They are not supposed to be like dumb dogs that cannot bark when robbers come. They should not be found lying down and loving to slumber. But the truth is that this is the correct position of the spirit of many people. Blind, ignorant, dumb, unable to bark, lying down and loving to slumber.

Romans 11: 8 says, ("According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day." This scripture makes us to understand that apart from somebody sleeping naturally, there is the spirit of slumber which can come upon somebody and make him slumber in the spirit. Romans 13: 11 says, "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed." If the Bible says, "Awake," it is not talking about physical sleep.

Mark 13: 35-37 says, "Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning. Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch?" When the Bible says that Jesus could come at any time and that He would find some people sleeping, it does not mean that they will be physically sleeping.

I Thessalonians 5: 4-9 says, "But ye, brethren are not in darkness, that, that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all children of light, and children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep, sleep in the night and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, (meaning that some people are of the night) be sober putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ."

The Bible says that God is a Spirit and if you are made in His image, you are spiritual. The only difference is that you are living in the physical body now, but a time is coming when we shall be changed, and it is the spirit that will be very important then. This is why we emphasise the importance of looking after your spirit. Many people spend a lot of manpower and hours on their bodies, but very short time on their spirits. That which is to last for eternity is not being looked after. The physical body has a maximum of one hundred and fifty years; but eternity goes on forever. But many people just leave the spiritual part of their lives for the enemies to deal with anyhow while they are busy looking after the flesh.
Psalm 121: 4 (a verse we all ought to know) says, "Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep." God is a spirit, He never slumbers, nor sleeps. So, our spirits are also supposed to be awake.

It will be important to know the functions of our spirits so that when we observe that we are not doing what we ought to do, it probably, means that we are sleeping and need to wake up. The first function of the spirit as designed by God, is to worship God. That is why John 4: 23-24 says, "But the hour cometh and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit and they that worship Him, must worship Him in spirit and in truth."

If your spirit is awake, whenever you are in a worship service and praising God, you will feel the uplifting presence of God. You will feel His anointing pouring all over you. You will find that your joy will increase, no matter the problems you have, and you will understand what the Bible calls unspeakable joy. When God moves within us. He moves first upon our spirits. All awakened spirits during praise worship are carried to the presence of God. But people who have slumbering spirits never feel God's presence. Sometimes, they feel as if something was touching them but that is just temporary because there is no power for it to abide.

People who are busy meditating on their problems; what to eat, drink, houses to build and what they left at home while praise worship is going on do not catch the flow of God's move. They do not know how to bathe in the river of God. While others are flowing in the spirit, it appears as if a big load is placed on them. Such people find it difficult to comprehend why people like Paul and Silas were praying and singing when they were thrown into jail. When we say, "Rejoice in the Lord always," they will say, "Why won't you say so, when you have five shirts and I have only one. Why won't you say so, when you are looking so bright?" The trouble is that until you begin to rejoice like that, brightness will not come. Such people also would not understand why the apostles were laughing when they were being beaten up. They were saying, "Thank God, they are beating us because of the gospel" The Bible says that they rejoiced because they were counted worthy of being beaten. I am sure those who were beating them would have said, "This is first class madness." Yet, it was because their spirits were awake. People who are asleep spiritually never really experience the fullness of God.

Some people sing, "My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in the Lord," but within them they are troubled. This is why sometimes when God comes in His power, many people are left behind. When God passes by them, He finds their spirits sleeping and cannot lift up the heavy load upon them. Problems have been allowed to suffocate their spirits.

Inability to worship God and flow in His presence is an evidence of a slumbering spirit. If you know that you are concerned, lay your right hand on your chest and with aggression in your spirit pray like this: "You spirit of slumber, depart from my life, in the mighty name of Jesus." There is no point in coming before God and when He wants to touch you, you are so heavy that you cannot rise up. Whereas the Bible says that those that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength and they shall mount up with wings as eagles.

Many people have never experienced their spirits mounting up. Sometimes some people are chased about in their dreams and they see that while their pursuers are fast, they are slow. This is because their spirits are sleeping. You are going to pray again: "My spirit, wake up, in the mighty name of Jesus."

The second function of our spirit is for meaningful private devotion like I have said earlier. Job 32: 8 says, "But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding." People who are awake always look forward to their personal devotion with excitement. They look forward to their quiet time. If you notice that personal devotion, waking up to read the Bible and praying bore you, something is wrong. People who are awake always look forward to the opportunity of praying for a long time. When you have a prayer meeting and your heart is not joyous, then Something is wrong within you. People who are awake grab any opportunity to join a prayer meeting.
Slumbering people always have dry quiet time and when they come out of it, they have nothing to share. If you say, "Brother, what did God minister to you this morning?" He would say, "Well, I just read the Bible since they said we should be reading it." They have no message from the Lord. People who are slumbering in the spirit run out of words when they are praying. You can always tell what they will pray about because it is the same thing day in day out. The devil has a list of their exact words and knows that they wouldn't go beyond that list. He will say, "Don't worry, you demons stay here, they would not say more than this. First of all, they will thank God, then ask for forgiveness of sins. Ask for washing away of sins, ask for protection, then they will sleep, that is all."

Such people threaten on January 1 to read the Bible through. I call it a "threat" because they would not carry it out. They begin to read and after one or two passages, they abandon the idea. Something is wrong. The inspiration of the Almighty is not touching their spirit. This is necessary for understanding to come.

A certain brother was living a dry spiritual life. He depended on the alarm clock to wake him up. If your life is being controlled by the alarm clock, I feel sorry for you. You should go for deliverance. Supposing the white man did not make the alarm clock. does it mean that you will not pray? Sometimes some people will hear the alarm clock in their sleep but will think that they are dreaming and so will continue to sleep. This brother would be woken up by the alarm clock and would pray like this: "Father, in the name of Jesus. I thank you for such a beautiful day. I lifted up my hands they were liftable, I lifted up my legs, they were liftable, I lifted up my body t was liftable. I thank you for my wife, I thank you for my children. receive all the glory, in the name of Jesus. I am going to work, all those who drink blood on the street, silence them, close their mouths. Be with me in my place of work, in Jesus' name. Amen." He did not spend more than two minutes. Then, while going to work he would put a Gideon's Bible in his pocket. Any time he succeeded in getting a seat in the bus, he would bring the Bible out and try to read. You know that commercial buses are always noisy so he could not concentrate. He continued like this until one day something happened. Somebody came to him in his dream and said, "Mr. man, you are the principal of the school of desert in the world of the spirit and you are fifteen years behind your schedule." He was shocked and said. "What should I do?" The person said, "Begin to pray like this: O Lord, wake me up and revive me." And that was how God revived him.

For years he had been reading the scriptures without understanding. But the day that his spirit woke up, he began to understand. For people who are sleeping, Bible reading is mechanical and barren. They do not gain anything from it. Their quiet time becomes a duty instead of a blessing. What I am saying now transcends all cadres of people in the society, both the educated and the uneducated. In fact, there are a lot of brilliant men who are spiritually asleep, men like Nicodemus who cannot understand the simplest things of the spirit. I have a friend who used to boast when we were in the secondary school that he would become a fantastic lawyer. Then he went to the university, read law and passed out with a master's degree. One day, he came to me lamenting: "Look, when we talk about law, I understand it, but this book called the Bible, I don't know what it's saying." I said, "Well, you cannot understand the Bible with your brain, you can only understand it by the Spirit of the living God." If you know that you are like that and you want to begin to understand the Bible and enjoy reading it, put your right hand on your chest and pray like this: "My spirit, receive divine inspiration, whether you like it or not, in the mighty name of Jesus." We have a lot of modern-day Jonahs who sleep when others are praying. While those people in the ship were calling on their gods and doing all kinds of things, the Bible says that Jonah, was sleeping. They went to Jonah and said, "Wake up, why sleepest thou? Call upon your God." But he said, "It is not necessary because it is my God that is causing the trouble, throw me inside the water and my God shall be pacified: God has methods of waking up sleeping Jonahs. They are not nice methods. So it is good for us not to discuss them.

HEARING FROM GOD
In Numbers 12, we see several ways that God talked to people. If you call yourself a born again Christian and have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, God should be able to talk to you in one of these ways. In Numbers 12: 6, the Bible says, "And He said, hear now my words; if there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision and will speak, to him in a dream." God can talk to somebody in a dream.

Verse 7 says, "But my servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all my house. With him will I speak mouth to mouth." God can speak mouth to mouth, clearly and not in dark speeches. You can now see the levels of prophets. God can talk to you in dark speeches if that is the level of your spirit. He can speak to you in visions if that is the level of your spirit. He can speak to you in the dream, if that is the level of your spirit. People who are awake have dreams or revelations or visions.

You must have read about Ananias in the book of Acts. Although we do not talk much about Ananias today, he was the man who prayed for Paul to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. So, Paul should refer to him as his Father in the Lord. Ananias's ministry may look quiet now but he did a fantastic job for Christianity. He was praying in his house and God came to him and said: "Ananias." God called him by name and he said, "Yes, here I am." God said. "Now arise, go to a street and enter a house where you will find one man called Saul praying, lay your hands on him so that he might receive his sight and be filled with the Holy Ghost." (Specific instructions, no ambiguity.) When Ananias heard this, he said. "God, I am sorry, what did you call his name?" God said, "Saul." And then he said, "The man that has been arresting Christians. His purpose for coming here is to arrest Christians and kill them. I am sorry, Sir, I don't think I want to die yet." God said, "No, go, for this purpose have I raised him up to be light unto the Gentiles. For I must show him what great things he must suffer for my sake." Ananias went and everything went as the Lord said.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we were all like Ananias? A lot of people do not want to work themselves to that level. People who are awake always hear from God and receive revelations. But people with slumbering spirits will never have clear divine dreams. They will never see a vision although it is by our spirits that God speaks to us. To them, it seems that God is deaf and dumb.

People with slumbering spirits are deaf and blind and as such they cannot hear. You should be able to commit even the smallest thing in your life to the Lord and get straight answer. You must even be able to ask God, "Shall I wear this head gear? Shall I use his cap? Shall I use this wrist watch? Shall I wear these shoes?" And other simple details like that. God is able to speak to you, but the problem is that the ears are deaf, the eyes are blind and the spirits are not functioning very well. At this juncture, I would like you to raise up your voice, depending on how serious you want to take this prayer point, and pray like this "Oh Lord, open my spiritual eyes and my spiritual ears, I want to see you and I want to hear you, in the name of Jesus."

If you turn the search-light of the Holy Spirit on yourself, God will help you to locate certain things that are making your spirit weak. People say that the same sup that melts the candle, makes the clay strong. So, the problem that will knock somebody down, and he will not be able to rise again, is the same which another person will overcome and boast about.

**INSPIRATION FROM THE LORD**

When your spirit is awake, ideas will be blossoming in your mind. Creative ideas will come from within you and you will discover new ways of doing things. But people with slumbering spirits will not have fresh ideas about anything. They are used to playing spiritual games. They are the kind of people who hear messages of eternal judgement, holiness and things that ought to challenge them, but they go out as if they heard nothing. They are the people who go out from under the anointing of God's word and do the opposite of what they have heard. They are the people who still embarrass us by their actions despite all the messages they have heard here. It is because their spirits are sleeping. And if they are not woken up, that is exactly how they
will arrive at the judgement seat of God and end up in hell fire.

PROTECTION FROM DISEASES AND PREVENTION OF SICKNESSES

Our spirits protect us from diseases and sicknesses. Proverbs 18: 14 says, "The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity..." Proverbs 17: 23 also says, "A merry heart doeth good like medicine, but a broken spirit drieth the bones."

When the spirit is sick or sleeping any kind of junk can be put in it. Spirits that are awake throw off sicknesses. They can never be sick because sicknesses bounce off them like football. But those who slumber in the spirit go down under every sickness that the devil throws that them. Somebody told me that it seemed as if any new weapon in the kingdom of darkness was first tried on him. This is because his heart is slumbering. The problems of such people become the dominating centre of their lives. They do not have what is called the "see through ability," the stamina to wait before the Lord and lasting joy.

GOOD CONSCIENCE HELPS US TO STAY OUT OF TROUBLE

For example, what stops us from stealing other people's things is our conscience. When you have the knowledge of the Lord, it reveals to you that certain things are wrong and should not be done. But mere knowledge never keeps anyone from sinning. That is why Christianity differs from other religions. The Bible says that as many as received Him, to them He gave the power to become the sons of God. So, you need the power to become the son of God. You may know all the rules of "thou shall not" just as other religions will tell you what not to do. But the power not to do these things is not available. You know that something is wrong, yet you do it. So, the knowledge of the Lord does not keep anybody from sinning. For example, the fear that what you are doing may be discovered does not keep you away from committing adultery.

But when your conscience is there, if you are doing something bad, this policeman called conscience will talk. It will talk quietly, and you may shut it up. But when you have an awakened spirit, you know that certain things should not be done and you do not do them. But the sleeping spirit will not have enough check not to do something wrong before trouble happens. People with such spirits are only aware that they have made a mistake. when it is already late. These are the problems when the spirit is slumbering. Some people complain that they cannot pray for a long time. It is probably because the spirit is sleeping and you need your spirit for serious praying.

THE SPIRIT KEEPS THE BODY ALIVE AND FUNCTIONING

Ecclesiastes 12: 7 says, "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was and the spirit shall return to the Lord who gave it." Immediately the spirit leaves the body, the body instantly begins to decay. Awakened spirits will always be mentally and spiritually alert. A slumbering spirit would be dead, although it is still living and it makes no impact on anybody.

EVIDENCES OF A SLUMBERING SPIRIT

1. Clever pretence:

There is something we call the ostrich behaviour. You put your head in the sand and think that you are hiding and that nobody sees you. This is the ostrich behaviour. Clever pretence is an evidence that the spirit is asleep.
2. Unreasonable silence:

When something has gone wrong and you refuse to speak out because you do not want to own up your responsibility, it is the evidence of a slumbering spirit.

3. Forgetfulness:

Some people forget things easily. Some just find that their minds are dark, with no light at all. Any time they pray, all they notice is that there is darkness around them. They have never experience the bright light. The Bible says that Jesus is the light that cometh into the world and lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

4. Day dreaming:

This is another evidence. People who day-dream just sit down and day-dream about good old days and the future without making effort to achieve anything.

5. Inability to settle down and read the word of God:

If you can read other books but find it difficult to read the Bible, it is evidence that the spirit of slumber has taken over.

6. Inactivity:

When you come to the house of the Lord and you are not interested in anything. You just sit down, enjoy the prayers or the word of God, take what you like, and think that you are cleverer than anyone else, it is an evidence that the spirit of slumber has taken over.

7. Complete spiritual blindness:

When you cannot see beyond your nose. A witch is standing before you, another one is serving you a meal but you cannot recognize them, something is wrong.

THE REASON MANY POSSESS SLUMBERING SPIRIT IN THEIR LIVES

Let me try and explain this. The human being is the only creation which will not become like his own kind if it is not raised by his own kind. That is, if somebody drops a baby among lions after birth and for some reasons the lions refuse to kill the child, when the child grows up, he will behave like a lion. When you take a human baby to a foster parent, when the baby grows up, he will be behaving like the foster parents. But other animals do not behave this way. If you raise a goat among sheep, it will still behave like the goat. If you raise a duck among chicken, it will still behave like a duck. But put a human being among wolves he would sooner or later begin to act like a wolf. A human being is dependent on his parent or his environment to influence his behaviour when he grows up. So, the reason some people have slumbering spirit is because they were not properly looked after when they were young. This is why broken home is bad. When a child is being looked after by a single parent, the child would have problems because be never enjoyed the affection of the other parent. This can create room for slumbering spirit in the person's life.
Another reason is that the enemy of man's soul may send the spirits of some people to sleep. We need to pray that such spirits get awakened. Beloved, I like you to close your eyes and pray this prayer point with your spirit and your strength. "Any department of my spiritual life that is asleep, wake up now, in the name of Jesus."

There are different levels of sleepers. The Bible even talks about dead sleep. There are some people that you will tap or push while they are asleep and they will not wake up. The alarm clock would sound but they would still be sleeping. Do you know that the spirit also behave like that? To wake up some people's spirit's, you need a tragedy to happen. Then, they will wake up and start praying. Do you have to wait for a tragedy to happen? Lay your hands on your chest, and take this prayer point: "Father in the name of Jesus, wake me up from any spiritual sleep."

Why do you think some people are suffocated in their dreams or something presses them down? They will call the name of Jesus many times before they are given some comfort. Others will just say, "I command you to be roasted, in the name of Jesus," and they will not even move where they are. Their spirits need to wake up. Spiritual robbers have sneaked in and have given some people spiritual valium and they are just sleeping. As long as they are sleeping, they constitute no threat whatsoever to the powers of darkness. The powers of darkness know that in that state, they can always catch the people anytime they want. Won't you speak to the Lord again to restore all that you have lost through spiritual slumber, and claim back your victory, in Jesus' name?

Let us look at another thing called spiritual imprisonment. The Psalmist was a man who had problems and understood what the host of darkness meant. He was a warrior. When you read the Psalms, you will see a lot of war strategies there. The Psalmist says, "He teacheth my hands to war." Some of the languages of the Psalmist are not too clear. But when you look at them spiritually, you will understand their deep meaning. Psalm 107: 16 says, "For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder." Which prison is this talking about? Certainly it cannot be a physical prison where they put somebody who had stolen yam or something from the market. He is talking about a spiritual prison.

There are prisons in the spirit world, and this is a very serious situation because spiritual imprisonment is a situation where somebody a spirit is trapped or put inside a spiritual cage. This situation can even happen from birth. The enemy can cage a child immediately after birth and replace the spirit inside him. Sometimes, when we tell some people that they are not in their normal bodies, they wonder and say, "How do you know that my body is somewhere else?" Yes, it is because your body is somewhere else that is why things are not working well. They would say, "You mean I'm not like this?" We say, "Yes, your correct body is better than this, this one is second hand, not the original." There are many people like that who are trapped from birth. For others, the spirit is inside the body, but it is locked up and cannot express itself. This is one of the secrets of failure.

**HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN THE SPIRIT IS IMPRISONED?**

1. Feeling empty inside continually as if something is missing. One may be praying in tongues and doing all kinds of things but somewhere deep down, something is missing.
2. Inability to settle down in marriage.
3. Inability to achieve one's divine potentials.
4. Feeling of loneliness even in the middle of a crowd.
5. When a person feels tormented.
6. You have looked at yourself and known that you have talents and powers within but you cannot reach them.

You know you can do certain things, but somehow something has locked up your talent and therefore those
who are supposed to be saying, "yes sir" to you are the ones telling you what to do. It is because somewhere within, your Moses (talent), has been locked up.

7. When it appears that you are moving farther and farther away from success as you are growing older.
8. A feeling of being lost inside when everything seems to be going on well outside.

Sometimes when ministers are invited to big men's meetings you find a lot of interesting things there. Sometimes when you talk about money, the big men are not moved. Talk about security, they are not moved because they have private security systems; and if anything happens, they will jump into the plane and fly out. It is the common people that will be left behind. If you talk about armed robbers, the big men have no problem. Their houses are walled round and the walls have barbed wire on top. But, when you say, "Beloved, although your house is surrounded with barbed wires and high walls, there are some powers that do not need to pass through the gates; they pass through the walls and enter into the bedroom without your seeing them," They will then sit up. You can be in the midst of affluence but still be lost inside. You just feel that trouble and danger are around the corner, but you cannot locate where they are. Inwardly, you feel unsafe, whereas on the outside you are perfectly safe.

9. Internal anger against no person in particular.
10. Sleeping while prayer is going on. Or sometimes when prayer meetings are powerful, and you suddenly become dizzy.
11. Inability toward off spiritual attacks. If you find that during satanic attacks in the dream, you are always unable to move. When the enemies come, you cannot run, stand or talk. They seem to achieve everything they want to achieve each time they come. There are also powers that can extract a man's spirit and substitute it with another. When you look at the person and say, "You are not the person I used to know. What happened to you?" His spirit has been trapped. Imprisoned spirits are under the control of satanic powers and can never actualise their potentials in life.

When you put all these things together and think about them the wounded spirit, the slumbering spirit and the imprisoned spirit, you will discover that they are the secrets of spiritual defeat. All other defeats take their roots from the spiritual one. When Jesus was in the world, sometimes He would speak and speak and some people would look at Him and say, "Get lost. Is this not the carpenter's son? Are his brothers and sisters not here with us?" But others would say, "Lord, what shall we do?" These are the two groups of people in the world. Those who are asleep, trapped and imprisoned and cannot see the light when it is shining belong to the first group, while the second group are those who are awake.

Supposing somebody is not born with all these, how can he start to sleep in the spirit, get spiritual wound or be imprisoned spiritually?

THE MAJOR WAYS THROUGH WHICH THE ENEMY COMES IN THESE DAYS ARE:

1. Disobedience.
2. Stubbornness.
3. Rebellion.

Disobedience to God's command in any way would dull our spiritual senses. As a person continues in disobedience his perception and ability to hear from God will begin to fade away gradually until God totally withdraws His presence. So, it is a great prayer to say, "God, cast me not away from thine presence, in the name of Jesus." As a person continues to disobey God, stupidity will increase and errors will continue in his life. The truth is that anyone breaking God's law is only breaking himself. You cannot insist on your own way and escape from its consequences. God despises disobedience. Saul was dethroned because of his
disobedience. Disobedience was the first sin in the Garden of Eden through which the whole of the human race is in trouble today, just like pride was the first sin that the devil committed.

Psalm 107:10 says, "Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, being in affliction and iron." How did they get into darkness? How did they get to be bound in affliction and iron? They did by rebelling against the word of God and holding with contempt the counsel of the Most High. They neglected what God told them to do. Rebellion against the word of God and holding God's counsel in contempt would bring drastic consequences. No prophet can assist, until you fall down on your knees and say, "Oh Lord, have mercy on me, I am a sinner." That is where you start from, at the feet of the cross again. Saul disobeyed God. God did not pardon him. Adam and Eve disobeyed God. God did not pardon them. Moses disobeyed God. God did not pardon him. Samson disobeyed God. God did not pardon him. So, think about it very well. Think about it very deeply. Everything God has been asking you to do, do you do them? All the warnings that God gives, do you take heed of them?

There are some Christians who are working where they are not supposed to work because everything they are coming there is dirty business. Such Christians cannot make heaven. For instance, a believer is asked to go outside his station to represent his company. He slept in his car but later bought a receipt from one hotel with twenty naira and with the receipt claimed six hundred naira from his company purporting to have slept in the hotel. Such a person is taking a stand against God. With all the messages that some people hear, they still attach extra things to their hair and thereby make their deliverance difficult. It is rebellion. A sheep must listen to the shepherd if he wants to belong safely in the fold. If not, when the wolves come they will grab the sheep that has gone astray. We have to pray about all these things. Ask the Lord to restore all the spiritual years that you have lost.

PRAYER POINTS

1. You spirit of slumber and heaviness, release me, in the name of Jesus.
2. Holy Spirit, help me to really discover myself, in Jesus' name.
3. My spirit, I command you to wake up from any spiritual slumber, in Jesus' name.
4. Oh Lord, set me on fire, in the name of Jesus.
5. I bind and cast out of my life the spirit of the tail, in the name of Jesus.
6. Let every evil eye monitoring my life, receive everlasting blindness, in the name of Jesus.
7. Father Lord, cause me to do the right thing at the right time, in Jesus' name.
8. Father Lord, give me an excellent spirit, in Jesus' name.
9. I command all my mistakes to be converted to manifold blessings, in the name of Jesus.
10. I stand against the spirit of Pisgah in my life, in Jesus' name.
11. O Lord, let your glory completely cover my life, in the name of Jesus.
12. Lord, cause my life to please you in every way, in the Jesus' name.
Chapter Seven

SPIRITUAL ADULTERY

The Almighty God has specially prepared this message for you to open your spiritual eyes to things which irritate Him. Much as He does not want you to be involved in any way with physical adultery, He detests very strongly too your involvement with spiritual adultery. In considering this topic, we shall examine certain scriptures. Let us start with I John 2: 15-17 which says. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world, if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever." From the passage, we can establish one premise: Those who love the world have one sickness, the love of the Father is not in them.

James 4: 4 says. "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." You must understand one fact therefore, if you are worldly, you are an enemy of god. There is a song that says, "Let God arise and all His enemies be scattered." You can be singing that song and still be an enemy of God.

Let us make an indepth study of John 8: 1-11. Jesus was teaching in the temple very early in the morning; at a time when all the people who wanted to be spiritual should be in the temple to pray. But some men there were not interested in hearing anything Jesus had to say. They were supposed to be holy men, but on that particular morning, the holy men were doing something unholy. They were dragging on the floor, a woman they claimed to have caught in adultery. By the time they dragged her to Jesus, she had bruises all over her body. They sought to tempt Jesus, not only with the law of Moses concerning adultery but also with that of the Roman government. The divine wisdom of Jesus was however too much for them to cope with. They brought the woman caught in adultery, but left the man she committed it with. The man was probably one of them. Jesus did not answer them, He simply stooped down and began to write on the sand. He was probably writing the sins of those that brought the woman, for as they read what He wrote on the sand, they departed from His presence one after the other. Jesus uttered one statement that caught them napping. He said, "He that is without sin should cast the first stone at the woman." This shows one big trade mark of a spiritual adulterer hypocrisy. Although all these men were guilty, they were accusing the woman. There was only one man at that time who was qualified to throw a stone at her, that man was Jesus. He was the only one without sin. Others went to Jordan to confess their sins, but He went there with no sin to confess. Jesus had the right to throw stones because He came to save. He did not come to judge but to rescue.

Why did Jesus not tell them to do what Moses commanded? Was it because it was not a serious sin? No. All sins are serious. Was it because it was a woman? No. The reason was that Jesus was already on His way to Calvary to die in the place of the woman. These men ran away from Jesus instead of asking for help. They came face to face with the Saviour but gained nothing. They came close to the Saviour, yet they were far away. Hypocrites are the first group of people who would remain untouched in the house of God. They always throw stones at others.

Sometime ago I was invited to a youth meeting and the topic of my message that day was "Prevailing prayer." The boys were between the ages of 12 and 20. I was shocked when they started playing. I did not know that I had told them that much. When we jingled the bell and beat the drums to indicate the end of prayer, they did not stop. They stopped about 20 minutes later. By then, they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and some of them were prophesying on the floor. Two of them were the children of an Air-force officer. They also got filled with fire.
When they got home they joined their hands and continued what was started in the church. Their parents who were coming from outside felt aggrieved because of their noisy prayer. They felt disturbed that their children had attended a fellowship of fanatics and promptly planned to deal with them. But as their father entered the house, one of them started to prophesy. He told the father that he should repent from his adultery and charged him to break down before the Lord and ask for forgiveness. The man then began to cry out to God for forgiveness. The revelation made their mother to be angry. But as she started to accuse her husband, the second boy began to prophesy about her too. He revealed her own type of adultery which was going after sugar daddies. She was asked to beg God for forgiveness. The adulterous and hypocritical parents then took over the prayer, while the two boys watched.

Consider the golden message in Isaiah 54:5 which says, "For thy maker is thy husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; the God of the whole earth shall he be called." This is one of my best scriptures and it makes me happy whenever I read it. He is a wonderful husband because He is going to marry both male und female one day. And when is that marriage going to take place? The answer is explicitly stated in Revelations 19: 6-9 which says, "And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linem, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God."

Now, we know the husband and we know about the marriage that is coming. I am ready to give up anything I have in this world for this event. I am not interested in any other thing, but this marriage. If you do not get to this marriage supper, it would mean that you came to this world in vain. It is true that we receive miracles and healing, but what is the use of all that if we miss the marriage supper of the Lamb? Your exploits on earth will amount to nothing if your name is not in that great and all important book. They would have only made you a spiritual signpost, pointing to the way but not going there yourself. Your headgear and your cosmetics may be visible. However, it is only your Bible that shows the sign that something is inside your life. God has been looking forward to seeing you do things for Him but you do nothing. You need to repent today and make your way right before Him so that your name will not be left out of the Book of Life.

Thy Maker is thy husband and He will personally come to take you, His wife, home. You will not need someone to use a Mercedes Benz car with a 'Just married' sticker on it to carry you to heaven. The Lord Jesus Christ will stay in the sky and like a divine magnet, attract all the people with like spirit unto Himself for the greatest party that would ever take place. I will not miss it for anything. All other things are useless when compared to the marriage of the Son of God.

Rapturing with Christ is the greatest thing that can happen to any born again Christian. It is not possible to be spiritually neutral. You cannot play a spiritual bat game with God. You cannot put one leg in His kingdom and one leg in the kingdom of the devil. It is not possible. God would prefer you to stay on one side. He wants you to be either hot or cold. If you want to be cold, then be iced block. If you want to be hot, be boiling. Do not stay in the middle because He will spew you out if you do. If you are hot, God can use you and if you are cold, He can also use you, but as a bad example of somebody not to be emulated. If you are on the fence, you are useless both to the devil and to God, and both of them would be fighting you.

Get it clear in your spirit that God is not bothered about majority, as one with God is majority. From the beginning of Christianity it has always been the same. All those who want to serve the Lord wholeheartedly will always be in the minority. God wants quality and not quantity. If I offer you three houses in Victoria Island. Lagos or 20 houses built on top of the lagoon with wood, of course, you will prefer quality, and
therefore take the three built with bricks at Victoria Island rather than the 20 built with wood on the sea. Enoch preached and so did Noah. Although eight people were saved, God was not worded. Of the 32,000 people enlisted in Gideon's army, only 300 were selected after God's test. What is the ratio of 32,000 to 300 were selected after God's test. What is the ratio of 32,000 to 300? Out of the over 600,000 people that left Egypt, only two reached the Promised Land. After Jesus ministered for three years, only 120 people were gathered in the upper room. Someone could preach at a crusade and 1,000 people would get saved, but when the Lord Himself came, He got only 120 people to spread the gospel. But the difference was clear. The 120 people were on fire. By the time they were filled with the Holy Spirit and went into the streets they converted about 8,000 people within two weeks because they were people of great quality.

In those days, Christians did not beg people to get converted like we do now. Peter told his converts to repent and be baptized. Christians in those days were stripped of their possessions and driven from their homes. Indeed, they sealed their testimonies with their blood. They were accused of doing bad things which they did not do. Not only were their finger nails torn off, one after the other, their beards were also plucked off and their blood flowed freely. Yet, they were committed to Jesus.

If you are heading for that marriage, your life will point towards it. A time is coming when that money you are running after would become valueless, when the body you are dressing up and exposing to people would be like wood, when the designer wears would become useless, and the definition of true enjoyment would be clear. True enjoyment is being in God's presence. A time is coming when all the beer you have hidden in your refrigerator and all the breweries would be answerable to the fire of God, when you would sing the last verse of your best song when you would wear your last dress and have your last drink. At that time, grammar would become useless and any knowledge you have acquired would be of no value to you.

**WHO ARE SPIRITUAL ADULTERERS?**

1. **Worshipers of modern-day idols:** These are people who are not completely for God. Sometimes the Spirit of God would come upon one and he would say, "Thus says the Lord, do this and do that." Then the same person who prophesied would still get angry. Prophecy and anger do not go together. You are an adulterer when you put up a holy attitude but inside you are bad. It is a big insult to God to share you with something else. Are you completely holy and given unto Him? Hypocrisy means that God is sharing you with something else. All those who are worshiping modern-day idols are adulterers. An idol is anything you place before God or beside God. In modern times, there are five idols that men worship:

   a. **Money:** Some people worship money as if it is the only thing that exists and matters. There are many people who want money at all cost.

   b. **Pleasure:** People now enjoy themselves outside Christ. Many Christians now take pleasure in leaving the church premises for the bar beach to relax, enjoy and socialise with one another, particularly during festive seasons. It is a pity that this is happening. Why are they doing this? They have not seen the revelation of Jesus. There are many things that people are now wasting time on. e.g. Television. This has polluted many lives. It is one tool the enemy has used a lot and is still using. Thank God, there are a lot of Christian programmes on television now.

   c. **Power:** Many people are ready to die for power.

   d. **Knowledge:** A lot of people believe that when they acquire university degrees it means that they are the most intelligent people and nobody else knows better. The irony of the situation is that someone with a degree in one subject is a novice in another one.

   e. **Sex outside marriage:** Having sex outside marriage is adultery. You can have a woman or a man at home
and still be an adulterer or adulteress. This happens when you just live with a woman or a man without marriage, without the man paying the dowry and without any holy wedlock.

2. **Those who commit adultery of the heart.**

3. **Addicts:** Addiction to alcohol, smoking bad habits, etc, are indications that you are a spiritual adulterer.

There are many idols sitting at the temple of human hearts. Many have demons playing there. If you have demons inside you, you are an adulterer. Jesus is not coming for an unclean church that is why the Bible calls demons unclean spirits. He will not take you with those unclean spirits. Therefore, they must go. If you know that your maker is your husband, cry to the Lord in prayer at this moment. Pray like this: "Oh Lord, don't divorce me, in the name of Jesus." Anyone who breaks any of the ten rules of Christian living can be considered as a spiritual adulterer. What are the ten rules?

1. **You body must be the temple of the Holy Spirit:** Immediately you begin to do anything against your body, you annoy the Holy Spirit and you are an adulterer. You can sin against the Holy Spirit, quench the Holy Spirit, or grieve the Holy Spirit when you do not consider your body as His temple. Your body is not for fornication or adultery. It is the temple of God. The Bible says that whoever pollutes the temple of God, him would God destroy.

2. **You must have a firm control over your thought life:** You have to be very careful over your thoughts. Make sure that you do not think evil. Those who have vagabond thinking patterns think anything: When you do not have a firm control over your thoughts, then something is wrong. Take time to be holy. Anything in your life that is not holy converts you to an adulterer.

3. **Read, digest and meditate on the word of God:** Every Christian must have a plan for Bible reading every day. That you always have a busy day at work and tired at night and in the morning is not acceptable to God. If you fall down and die one day, someone else will be employed to replace you, and that company where you work will not collapse. Beloved, think about it. Why are you starving the inner man and feeding the body that will not get beyond this planet. You are punishing the eternal for the temporal. You must have a regular Bible study time, If you are so confused and do not even know where to read, go and buy books on daily devotion. There are also many good ones in most Nigerian languages.

4. **You have to be a prayer addict:** If something else is battling with your prayer life, it means that you are an adulterer. The Bible says, "Pray without ceasing." If you are not praying at all, you are not just disobeying God, you are also an adulterer.

5. **Neglect not the assembly of the people of God:** If you neglect the house of God, you are an adulterer. When you spend your time attending to friends or entertaining people when you should be in the church, then you are an adulterer. Those are not the kind of friends you should have. Your friends should be those who would be ready to follow you to the church. You should not have friends that drink alcohol. When you serve people alcohol, you are guilty of the name offense.

6. **Be filled with the Holy Ghost:** If you are not filled with the Holy Ghost, that space would be occupied by something else. If you fill your cup to the brim with water, you cannot put any other thing in it. Likewise when you are filled with the Holy Ghost, there would be no space for any other thing.

7. **Be a witness for Christ anywhere you are:** If you are hiding your Christianity because you do not want people to say that you are a fanatic, then you are an adulterer.

8. **You must be completely obedient to God:** That means that you must be ready to do whatever God tells you to do.
9. Trust the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

10. Watch your tongue: The bad things you use your mouth to say about others is another key to spiritual adultery.

If you are breaking any of these ten rules, then you are an adulterer. But there is a way out: Run back to your husband. If you have sold yourself to the enemy, God can buy you back from the market of the enemy. The story of the woman caught in the act of adultery tells us a lot about the nature of man. Although the Bible does not tell us what Jesus wrote on the ground, it says, "think evil of no man." If you want to smear someone else with mud, you will first of all stain your own hands. It is the powerful force of hypocrisy that hinders us. So, if you are going to see good days, keep your lips from speaking guile and do not talk evil of anybody. Know that you are not perfect that you are only trying to be so.

A song writer says, "Take a good look at yourself and then you can see others differently." So, it is time for you to check yourself up. The sins that we have in our nature have made us to be needful of God's mercy. The Bible says, "If thou shalt mark iniquity, O Lord, who shall stand?" No one could rightfully throw a stone at that woman. Something darkens the heart of men and their knowledge. They want to criticise others. They want things exposed in others, while they want their own sins to be covered. It is foolishness. God did not create us in the same way. It is therefore a terrible thing to say bad things about other people. It is a sign of spiritual adultery and it will not help you to live the way God wants you to live.

Many believers are hypocrites. Hypocrites are counterfeit Christians. A counterfeit is a corruption of the original. Although hypocrites were so close to Jesus, yet they were far away.

THE WAY OUT:

REPENTANCE: Repentance involves everyone. You need to check the situation you are in right now and change for the better. Make a decision and God will back you up. Is God sharing you with something else? You need to repent right now!

DISCIPLINE: You must learn spiritual discipline, that is, to keep yourself under the discipline of God. Paul says, "I put my body under, I bring it under subjection, lest at any time after I have preached to others, I myself will be a cast away."

DELIVERANCE: You know that there are certain things in your life that should go. Do not be shy or afraid. Say them out, no matter how shameful they are. A woman came to me sometime in the past for counselling. Her story was stunning. She opened her bag and brought out a candle. She said that whenever she was in place for a few minutes, something would order her to go to the toilet. She would then use the candle to excite herself sexually. If she did not do it, she would not be okay. She was a married woman with four children. If she did not reveal her problem, who would have known how to help her? Are you just looking good, speaking good English, smiling at everybody and yet your husband is a candle? You need deliverance. The Lord set that woman free and she burnt the candle. Many people are doing sinful things like that and are covering them with nice dresses. How would they be free? Do you want to wait for the devil to use these things against you? Is it not better for one or two people to know about the problem and you find your way to heaven, than hiding it and deliverance will not come?

DOMINION: You must understand your authority in God. I have been invited to many places to preach. The worst one was a church in Akoka, Lagos: My hosts said they were holding a week seminar on the second coming of Jesus and I was happy. I was to be the speaker on the last day of the seminar. At that time, I had only one suit because prayer warriors do not wear suit. So, I dry-cleaned the suit, took my Bible and went to the church. With all the advertisements done on the seminar, the oldest person I saw sitting in the congregation
was about 12 years old. I sat down there, looking over-dressed. Then a few elderly people came in and one of them introduced me to the congregation of children. I did not know where to start. I came expecting to teach the Second Coming of Jesus to old and young people alike as led by the Spirit of God. I read from the book of Zephaniah 1: 14 which says, "The great day of the Lord is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the Lord; the mighty man shall cry there bitterly." Immediately I read the first verse, all the elderly men took their Bibles and went out. Later, I discovered that they did not want to hold the programme. They just wanted to use the forum to collect money from people; Hypocrisy in the house of God. Before hypocrisy could have been institutionalised there, individual members would first of all have become hypocrites. If human beings can brand you a hypocrite, I hate to see what God would write about you.

I know that my Redeemer and my Maker is my husband and I do not want a divorce. I do not want Him to call you an adulterer on that day because you want to share Him with something else. The end of the matter is eternity. I want you to benefit here in the world and in the world to come.

PRAYER POINTS:

1. Any area of my life that is friendly with God's enemy, I separate myself from you, in the name of Jesus.
2. O Lord, purge me clean with your blood, in Jesus' name.
3. I refuse to be trapped by anything, in the name of Jesus.
4. Talk to God, expose yourself to Him, do not hide anything. Pray this way: O Lord, I am a ... I refuse to deceive myself. Help me Lord, in the name of Jesus.
5. O Lord help me to recover my wasted years, in Jesus' name.
6. I remove my name from the register of failure, in Jesus' name.
7. Let every limit to my life be roasted, in the name of Jesus' name.
8. I reject the spirit of lukewarmness, in the name of Jesus.
9. I paralyze every power distracting me from the gospel, in the name of Jesus.
10. I command every evil influence over my life to be neutralised, in the name of Jesus.
11. Father Lord, give me the grace to focus on Jesus all the time, in the name of Jesus.
12. I destroy the activities of beggarly powers against my life, in the name of Jesus.
Chapter Eight

WOLVES IN OUR MIDST

In this chapter, we will look at a man of God in the Bible who dealt with criminals in the house of God and borrow a leaf from his method. Jehu carried out an attack against the enemies of Cod (prophets of Baal). He invited them to a feast and made sure all of them were there. That is what is described as Jehu's method."

The prophets of Baal drew power from the sun. They worshipped the sun and turned the nation or Israel upside down. They confused kings and took their hearts from the Lord. So, Jehu invited them to a purported feast, put all of them inside a big hall locked the doors and put men by the entrance with swords and said, "Let none of them escape." This man succeeded in eliminating Baal worship from Israel at his own time (2 Kings 10:19-28).

We must emulate Jehu. So, I would like you to do a simple exercise before you read further: Ask the angels of God to give you a cage and thereafter, order the things that have been harassing you to enter into the cage. Ask the Lord to cage them permanently so that they would not be heard of again.

Prayer Points

1. O Lord, let your angels put a cage here now, in Jesus' name.
2. All my full-time and part-time enemies enter into the cage, in the name of Jesus.
3. Angels of the living God, drop the cage inside liquid fire, in the name of Jesus.

As the end of the age is approaching, we have plenty of wolves in our midst. Many infiltrate the house of God. In Matthew 7:15, the Bible talks about wolves. It says, "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves." We have a lot of false prophets in our midst now that have infiltrated present-day Christianity and are causing a lot of havoc. In Matthew 10: 16, Jesus said, "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves; be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." If you are going to operate as a sheep amidst wolves, this is the key to your operation: "Be wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." Luke 10: 3 says, "Go your ways: behold I send you forth as lambs among wolves."

After Paul's ministration in Ephesus for a long time, he called the elders of the church together and addressed them by the seaside as he was going away. This was part of what He said: "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore, watch and remember, that by the space of three years, I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears" (Acts 20: 28-31).

Paul spent three years in this place but there is no Christian witness there again now. The people there now are predominatly muslims. I want to believe that Paul did not shake the dust off his feet there.

If you claim that there is no witch in your church, then it is not a church. It means that everybody there is a witch. Wherever the truth of God's word is preached and men and women are being delivered from bondage, satan will always send his agents to attack, divert and fight the place.
PHYSICAL WOLVES

Wolves look like dogs but they have longer legs; bigger feet; wider heads and long bushy tails. So, if you imagine a tall dog with big feet, wide head and long bushy tail, you get a wolf.

Wolves are expert hunters because they have excellent vision; excellent sense of smell and sense of hearing. One frightening thing about wolves is the way they howl. Wolves can live in any climate. Their sense of smell is so strong that they can smell a prey two kilometers away. Wolves have 42 teeth, very large stomach and can eat a lot of food at a time. It is said that an average wolf can eat about 9 kilogrammes of food at a time. If a wolf decides to fast, it may not eat for two weeks because it is hunting for good meat. That means that a wolf can do dry fast for 14 days, and still be very strong. But after the dry fast, it can swallow its prey completely.

The Bible uses wolves to describe the kind of satanic infiltration we have in the church these days. Every true house of God is under bombardment and woe befalls any fellowship that does not pray and read the Bible, or any church where the people are always dancing and singing. Wolves will capture everybody in that place. These demonic infiltrators in the house of God are hunters. They know how to hunt for men and women. When a spiritual wolf sits beside you in the church, he can know whether you are a strong Christian, filled with the Holy Ghost or whether you are a backslider. He has the ability to know whether you committed fornication on your way to fellowship. He knows if adultery of the heart is in your life. He sees you the way you are. This is why wolves are able to cause to many people to backslide.

Many people are wondering what is happening to Christianity these days. For instance, what made a 75 year old man who had served the Lord for 50 years to rape a girl of 20: Wolves have caught him.

Wolves have perfected their plans of deceit. They come forward with tears and say, "We saw Jesus last night and He spoke to us, Jesus came in our dreams and gave us Bible," and you may get carried away. Somebody could come and say, "I was eating with Lucifer and was flying to India, I was swimming in the water, and I have seven heads in the water." But it is all a lie. They are just saying that to gain your spiritual confidence so that you will commit your life into their hands, and then they will show you their real colour. Is it a thing of pride that one is a girlfriend of Lucifer. Is it a thing of pride that one wasted 25 years serving the devil? Is it a thing of pride that one had his residence in the sea? Some pastors rejoice when they hear such testimonies. Some would come and say, "Pastor we have been to many churches, yours is the best. You are the best preacher." If you listen to them, you are finished.

We have offering boxes in MFM but some people will not use them. Rather, they would say, "I want somebody to follow me to my car because I have money to give to the church." They just want to entice the pastor and let him know that they are rich. Some foolish pastors are already falling for that. They ask for the business card of such people. And before you say, "Jesus is Lord," they go to their houses and offices to hold night vigils. They forget that the gift of God cannot be bought with money.

Some people told me that they had been to several pastors who prayed for them and after sometime, their problems came I back. I always say to such people, "Okay, you are here now so that I will pray, then you will go away and start saying you had been here to pray and afterwards, the problem came back," Why does the problem come back? They come back because they confess that the problem is coming back.

MEN HUNTERS

Unfortunately, these days, some pastors run mad when they see money because of poverty. This is very sad. We also have lots of hunters of sisters and brothers now. They are quick to receive people and quick to see vision. When a boy of 25 is saying that a woman of 50 is God's will for him, such a brother is a hunter.
Wolves are "sermon-proof' Christians or "umbrella hearers." As the word of God is going into their heads, it is scattering away. They are the ones who support the pastor even when he is wrong. They pay strange visits to people's homes. They would say they are just passing by and merely called to say hello. They would over stay their welcome and end up sharing their guest's small meal which he had prepared for himself. A single sister who pays visits to married sisters home when the latter is not at home in a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Wolves come to the house of God regularly. A woman wrote me a letter sometime ago. She said, "Pastor Olukoya, thank God for what God is doing here. I give you this cheque but I am one of those people who will never stop wearing trousers. I will never stop painting my face." We put the money aside and announced the name of this person over the microphone for three months. She did not come forward. Wolf, she had come to hunt.

THE SPIRIT OF DECEPTION

We have those who call themselves "Men of God" but they have abandoned their faith. They have left behind all the teachings on holiness. They talk as if God has changed His mind since He wrote the Bible and is now saying another thing. When you say, "this is the word of God," they would say. "Well, the same Bible also says, "bla-bla-bla," They are false preachers of the word of God and there are many of them now, contradicting the clear teachings of the Bible. Many of them are motivated by deceiving spirits and are destroying people through wrong directions. They appear godly outwardly, but inwardly they are ungodly. They have a head knowledge of the Bible but do not know the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. They refuse to give God whom they claim to serve the opportunity to change them. The Bible says. "**Having the form of godliness but denying the power thereof.**" The Bible warns us to flee from such people. They bear names like John, Grace, Maria, etc names of God, and they dress like children of God. They have the form of godliness but lack the power to flee from sin. They get angry, shout, gossip, fight and fornicate. They are false teachers who tell people what they want to hear and not the truth. But the trouble is this, sometimes what you want hear is not what you need. They bring ideas to people and lead them into error. They make empty promises. When you talk about genuine faith and holiness, they are not interested.

I can never forget what a sister told me. She went somewhere to pray and noticed that there was a long queue of women. As they were coming out of the room of the man of God, they were adjusting their skirts and she was wondering. When it got to her turn, she was amazed when the man asked her to undress and she refused. The man told her that the other women that undressed were more beautiful than her. She undressed and the man began to anoint her all over. Now, tell me, is that a prophet of God?

THE BUSY BODIES

Many sisters go to pray in the house of prophets and come out with something else that they cannot tell anybody; wolves in sheep's clothing. They are the ones that would come to church and refuse to change their worldly dresses. They ask useless questions such as "I want to know whether this church has a constitution. Give me it copy of it's constitution." What do they want to do with a church's constitution? They have not read their Bibles and they are busy looking for church constitution. We have people like that coming to the house of God day and night. They are wolves.

SATANIC WISDOM

Some people write us letters, advising us to use prophecy to match spinsters and bachelors together; wolves. They encourage unscriptural activities in the church.
A long time ago, a certain old man came to see me. I thought he was going to give me a fantastic advice. He said, "You see in this kind of place, every end of the year, buy cows, kill them, cook rice and give to everybody." I said, "Sir, I do not have to think about it, the answer is capital No." He stood up and said he was never going to come here again. I have never seen him again. There are people like that; wolves. They tell stories of past achievements, "I was there when heavens opened in 1925 and a small coin or dropped. I saw it." Then I would say, "Thank you, sir. Since that 1925, what other visions have you seen?" They dilute the powers of pastors. In the church, when you say, "Let's open to the book of Exodus, they would open, to Matthew. Some do not even open their Bibles; they wait for prayers. They leave one church for another because of quarrels for church post. When you get to heaven nobody will ask you which post you held.

A certain man of God was taken to heaven but as he was about to enter the angels said to him, "You have worked so hard but there is one thing you have done wrong. Go and correct it before we allow you in here." According to him, at the gate of heaven were many pastors tied with ropes. They could not enter with their collar. They must have been those who misquoted the word of God.

When you see a believer who plays disco music in his house every time, he is a wolf and he is going to hell fire although he may be wearing the clothing of a sheep. Many people who come to the house of God are worse wolves than witches. They come to the house of God and refuse to carry out restitution.

**WHAT IS RESTITUTION?**

Restitution is putting right what you have done wrong. If you had stolen and now you are born again, you have given your life to Christ, you should return what you stole. That is restitution. If you have more than one wife, the extra one is another man's wife that you have stolen. You have to return her. If you have stolen goods, the stolen goods must be returned. Everything stolen must be returned. If you borrowed somebody's property and refused to return it it would hinder your prayer. Some of us would borrow other people's books and keep them for long so that they would forget. It is stealing. If this concerns you, you need to make restitution and return the books. You are told by somebody to sell something for so much, but you put your own price. It is cheating.

If you have told somebody a lie, you have to go back and tell the person the truth. If you have written an exam for somebody, you have to make restitution for cheating. If you do not do so, you are a wolf in the camp. If you are one of those diluting the power and reducing the strength of God where you worship, go back and tell the truth.

Let me ask you a simple question. Is there anyone who has never told a lie to anybody? If you say no, you have told another lie. If you have injured somebody, you have to make restitution. You may have library books that you have refused to return. You might have stolen them when you were in the university. Have you bought stolen books? Return them. Have you a false sworn affidavit? Have you told a lie about your age so that you would not be retired on time? If you want to be a true child of God and you want to go to heaven, you have to make restitution, if not you become a wolf in the camp.

If you refuse to make restitution, then the law of harvest will fight against you because the Bible says that whatsoever you sow, you reap. If you do not do the restitution now, it will affect your children. They will pay. If you do not do your restitution, you block your miracle and healing. The only thing the Lord may require some people to do for them to receive their healing could be restitution.

A teacher once came to a man of God for prayers. At 38, he was still bedwetting. When the man of God closed his eyes to pray, the Lord told him not to pray, that the man had restitution to make. Then the man remembered that a few years ago, when he was teaching in one primary school, he asked his pupils to pay money to see Father Christmas. The children paid the money and he spent it and the children never saw any
Father Christmas. He was asked to return the money to the kids. He went back to the school and asked the children the amount of money they paid and they told him and he paid them. He went back to the man of God who prayed for him and he was healed.

Is your business sick? May be you need to make restitution. The managing director that is always harrassing his secretary for sex and all kinds of things is destroying his company. If you are committing immorality in the office, you are digging the grave of the business. A husband that cheats on his wife must repent and make restitution. If not, the law will fight.

If you do not make restitution, it may hinder the anointing of God from abiding in your life. It may even hinder you from receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit. A fellow came for the baptism of the Holy Spirit and out of about 25 people present at the meeting, he was the only one that did not receive it after two weeks of ministration. He then asked the man of God to pray for him. As the man of God was praying, he saw ₦36,000 written on a blackboard. He ignored it and continued praying but the amount kept coming, then he asked the man what the ₦36,000 was. The man remembered that sometime ago, his sister gave him that sum of money to give to somebody but he spent it. He was asked to return it. He withdrew it from the bank and immediately, he got to the gate of his sister, he started speaking in tongues.

Many of us have been praying that God should open our eyes to be seeing angels, or to know the secret behind our problems. If you have restitution to make and you have not made it, you are a wolf. Look at Abimelech. He grabbed Sarah, the wife of Abraham and problem started. Nobody in his family could go to toilet again. God told him in a dream to return Sarah. Abimelech asked. Abraham why he lied that she was his sister and quickly returned Sarah and the sickness stopped.

If you have been stealing from God too, you have to restitute. You were supposed to give ₦100.00 tithe but you gave ₦50.00. You better go and pay the difference. If you fail to make restitution, it may block your way to heaven and the devil will harvest you on the last day. Wolves are people who would not make their restitution, who would come to the house of God but there are idols in their hearts. They hide all their small sins and do not want any one to talk about them.

CONSCIOUS AND UNCONSCIOUS WOLVES

There are conscious and unconscious wolves. The unconscious wolves are more than the conscious ones. When conscious wolves come into the camp, they pollute Christians. When a conscious witch comes into an environment and sees an unconscious witch, she knows that she is one of them. God forbid that a person would becoming to the house of God and the Almighty would be looking at him as a wolf in sheep's clothing because his life is not helping others to make heaven, but to backslide. The Bible says, careful you do not make these small ones stumble, because if you make any of them to stumble, it is better, that a grind stone is hanged around your neck and you are thrown into the sea."

When you ate in the choir to sing, your seat is close to the pulpit, therefore, your life must be super holy so that you too can minister life. When you sing some hymns, the sermons in them may be more than what any preacher can say in 10 years. The day of judgment will come when God will carry all the hymns and choruses you have been singing and say, See, your life does not match what you are singing."

As usher who is chewing gum is not serious. You think that being an usher is just to wear high heeled shoes and he making noise all over the place. No, it is a much more sacred business than that. You need to examine yourselves. Bow down your head and sort out yourself with the Lord. It will be a disaster if in his book of reckoning, He sees you as an outsider. You are calling yourself an insider but He sees you as a witch because the Bible says rebellion is iniquity as witchcraft. He sees your inside that it is rebellious, but you are calling yourself any name you want.
Perhaps you have been circulating yourself among false prophets. They see demonic visions for you and you are operating your life according to the visions. As far as the Almighty is concerned, you are not Serious and you are a wolf in the camp.

Talk to the Lord now, perhaps you have been stealing from the Lord or you have restitution to make, or there are people you do not want to forgive. Talk to the Lord.

How many of the properties in your house are from God? How many did you acquire by dubious means? What is in your house that your former boyfriend gave to you? What did you acquire from sinners. Do you want the blessings of God to come into that household when there is the garment of Achan in the camp? Did by clothes from somebody which you are wearing and have refused to pay? Somebody has been accusing you that there is an unholy relationship going on between and somebody of the opposite sex and you denied, whereas is it true. What are you doing about it? Is there adultery in your heart? Know for sure that the Lord cannot build on a lie; He cannot reward a lie and cannot bless a lie.

Make an immediate change so that you will experience a breakthrough. If you are in the house of God and you have the form of godliness but deny the power thereof and the God that you claim to serve has no influence on your inner-being, cry to God now.

Many people do not know anything yet. May be you are an usher or a Sunday school teacher and you did something and a fellow human being sat down and decided to suspend you from that work. It is a curse. What do you think the face of God will look like? The One that died for you, shed his blood, came to sacrifice everything for you. The small things you should do for Him, you are told that you are not fit. The devil is accusing many of us for something we have done and cannot remember. He does not forget.

Whatever the Lord is telling you to go and restitute, do so. Do not play games with God so that He will shift away the stubborn yokes that the enemy has put on you.

**PRAYER POINTS**

1. Masquerades will not rule over me, in Jesus' name.
2. Lukewarmness will not rule my life, in the name of Jesus.
3. Any pipe supplying evil water into my heart, be roasted the name of Jesus.
4. Every accusation against the root of my life, lift away by the blood of Jesus, in Jesus' name.
5. Oh Lord, anything that will make my enemies to rejoice, clear it out of my life, in the name of Jesus.
Chapter Nine

LAMENTATION IN THE TEMPLE

The temple of God is a place of worship. Matthew 21:12-14 says: "And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money changers, and the seats of them that sold doves. And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves. And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them."

Beloved, whether we believe it or not, we are in the last days and the Lord is about to visit His temple in a powerful way and when He comes, He is going to drive out everyone that pollutes or defiles the temple, because He will not take a dirty church to heaven. The temple of the Lord is becoming unsafe even for the righteous ones. Thieves and robbers have taken over and commercial activities are going on conveniently. In the past, sinners were jittery and afraid in the midst of God's children, but the reverse is the case now.

A lot of church-goers, who cannot hear from the Lord are patronizing commercial prophets. No doubt, Jehovah will drive out all the buyers and sellers in His temple and a new dispensation would be ushered in so that the lame, the wounded and the blind would come in and be healed. When thieves and satanic agents run into the midst of God's children and feel comfortable, there is a cause for concern for all true children of God. When a stubborn pursuer pursues a person to the house of God, and goes back without any injury, we have work to do. It means that there is need for internal purge in our lives. A "spiritual sanitation" has to be effected to put the house of God in order. When the disciples of our Lord Jesus first saw the temple, they were fascinated by the beautiful structure, but Jesus saw something else a congregation of thieves. The same temple, which used to harbour the Shekinah Glory of God had been turned into a den of thieves and our Lord was sad about this, hence, He described the place as a den of robbers.

WHAT IS A DEN?

A den is stronghold, a hiding place for wild beasts, a pit, a cave, a secret resort for evil and a lodging place for dangerous animals. These days, we have a lot of thieves dressed in sanctuary clothes. It is a terrible thing for God to accuse a person of lack of interest in entering His Kingdom and of preventing others from entering. At this juncture, I will like you to take this prayer point: "My life will not be a stumbling block to others, in the name of Jesus."

Recently, a pastor told me that he would like to work in Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries. I asked him to bring his wife, whom I believed would tell me the truth about her husband. When the woman came, I told her of the husband's intention. She laughed and said, "Excuse me sir, maybe he does not know that this is Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministeries". She told me that her husband was stopped from pastoring a church because he committed immorality with a girl in that church. However, I urged him to go for deliverance.

During the deliverance, instead of the pastor ensuring that he got delivered, he was busy studying the method of the programme, so that he would establish his own church. He was apparently, ignorant of the fact that if you call our prayer points without fire to back them up, nothing will happen. Not long after the deliverance, he started his own church, and soon he was caught again committing immorality with other woman. Beasts in the temple of God! Many men run to the house of God because they were being pursued by the demon of lust, only to encounter worse situations. Sometime ago, a man told me that he had attended two different churches in
Lagos. In the first one, they played music similar to the worldly disco that he was used to and as such he had no problem there. However, the case was different in the second church. He said the aura of holiness and righteousness pervaded the whole place right from the entrance of the church. Thank God, he has now given his life to Jesus as a result.

**DIFFERENT TYPES OF THIEVES**

We have different kinds of thieves in the house of God. Some people bought cars but never drove them because thieves in the sanctuary stole them. I know somebody who was forced to give out both his car and house. Some of these thieves steal people's peace by sowing seeds of discord and causing strife among brethren.

Spinsters who move too close to married men such that their wives are getting concerned, are thieves. Some people form factions and cliques within the same church. They gossip about ministers and pull them down. They turn the house of prayer into a den of wolves. It is sad but true that many thieves are now claiming to born again. Fornicators and adulteresses are now "speaking in tongues"! Many witches are now powerful and staunch members of Pentecostal churches! They have converted the churches into their dens! Many battles have been waged against men of God and most of them have been captured. In many churches now, there are members regarded as "untouchable pillars", who commit sins and nobody dares to correct them. In fact, a lot of those who claim to be God's children are suffering from spiritual kwashiorkor. They have refused to grow. They do not belong to any group or house fellowship in the church and they are interested in working for the Lord. Where do we go from here? How many of those who come to the house of God are actually disciples?

**WHO IS A DISCIPLE?**

A disciple is someone who can also make disciples out of others. In the house of God today some people are praying to receive from God, while others depend on their crooked ways. Some years ago, an unbeliever offered me two cars to pray for him. I rejected the gifts and advised him to give his life to Jesus first and begin to live the kind of life God wanted him to live, before the gift. I told him that if he surrendered his life to Jesus and began to live right, the church would then be in a position to accept gifts from him. Thieves would have taken such cars and the man would have claimed to be born again. Instead of showing genuine love, a thief would use guile and sometimes violence to steal other people's blessings.

Prayer is God-centred, but thieves are self-centred; prayer enriches man spiritually and physically, whereas thieves deprive men of their things and devour them. When the great day of the Lord comes and all men and women stand before His throne, which words would you like to hear? Is it "Well done, thou faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy master?" or "Depart from me, ye worker of iniquity!" What a fearful day it shall be.

Every thief in the house of God as well as the pastors and priests who collude with them will be in trouble that day. II Corinthians 6:15-18 says: "And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore, come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

I Corinthians 3:16-17 also says. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God, destroy, for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."
Has the temple of your life become a den of robbers? Is there an Ahab, a Jezebel or a Jeroboam sacrificing upon your altar now? Are witches and wizards roaming about on the altar of your life? Sincere answers to these questions will help you determine your true state. When the temple of the Lord becomes a den of thieves there would be a congregation, of thieves.

Who is responsible for converting the temple of God from the house of prayer to the den of thieves? Jesus identified them in Matthew 21:13. He said, "It is written, my house shall be, called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves." From this passage, it is clear that you are responsible for what is going on in the altar of your life.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Lord, give me a mind like Christ's by your power, in the name of Jesus.
2. I will not be a child of perdition, in the name of Jesus.
3. You spirit of the lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh and pride of life, release me, in the name of Jesus.
4. I withdraw myself from any evil assignment, in the name of Jesus.
5. I reject the spirit of covetousness in my life, in the name of Jesus.
6. Father Lord, baptise my life with your Holy Ghost and fire, in the name of Jesus.
7. I reject the spirit of error, in the name of Jesus.
8. Father Lord, give me the grace to depart from all unconscious stealing, in Jesus' name.
9. Oh Lord, let me walk according to your ways all the days of my life, in the name of Jesus.
10. I release myself from every curse placed upon me, in the name of Jesus
11. I withdraw myself from every inherited evil bondage, in the name of Jesus.
Chapter Ten

STEALING

Stealing is an evil act of coming into possession of another person's property without the consent of the person. Stealing as a vice comes in diverse forms. It can sometimes be done forcefully, by cajoling or by extortion. But whatever the methods used, the rightful owner loses his or her property at the end of the day. Stealing is a condemnable act and vice which must never be left to blossom. This chapter focuses on stealing in all its ramifications. It will make you to know that even you who have condemned thieves times without number, could also be a thief. That is to say that you belong by act of commission or commission to the group of those the Bible calls thieves.

Stealing as an act is so irritating to God that He spelled it out as one of the "don'ts" of the Ten Commandments. Perhaps it would be clearer if we start with the Mount Sinai experience. Mount Sinai on that day was burning with fire. So terrible was the sight that Moses said. "I exceedingly fear and quake." That was the scene at Mount Sinai and God then began to read out the Ten Commandments one after the other. The commandments spelled out what the Israelites should do and what they should not do. God spoke with a thundering voice throughout the duration of the pronouncement. One of the commandments then came out with an outstanding seriousness. This is found in Exodus 20: 15. It says, "Thou shall not Steal."

Nowadays, believers take the Ten Commandments very lightly. But they are God's words and laws. Woe unto the man, woman, pastor, preacher or anyone who would consider some parts of God's words as unimportant and as a result, breaks the law of God. The Bible does not take lightly those things many present-day believers are taking lightly. The bitter truth is that many people who come to church are guilty of stealing one thing or the other.

The Bible is against stealing in any form. "Thou shalt not steal" (Exodus 20:16.) When you pick things anywhere that do not belong to you, you are a thief. Failure to properly account for any money given to you to spend is stealing. When you are fond of dipping your hands into your father's pocket, or as a husband, you ransack the bag of your wife for money, or vice versa, you are a thief. When you ask a seller to issue false receipts for things you were asked to purchase by your employer, it is stealing. When you obtain a fake receipt from an hotel to claim lodging allowance from your company, while in fact you stayed with a friend, you are a thief. When an unmarried person fills a tax form claiming to be a parent of six children in a bid to reduce tax burden, it is nothing short of theft. You know fully well that your products/goods are locally made, yet you are brandishing them as imported items, you are a thief. When you use false balances to sell your wares, you are a thief.

In the world today thieves are made to catch thieves. It is pathetic to see a thief lining up other thieves on the firing line and shooting them. This underscores the reason God is angry with our society. and except we Christians start to exhibit the righteousness of God, the situation will get worse. The Bible says that righteousness exalts a nation. It is definitely riot the children of the devil who will start righteous living.

People are complaining today about the economic and political situations in the country. Who is going to sanitize these things? The responsibility lies on believers because all unbelievers are thieves. They resort to stealing simply because they do not believe that God can provide for them. A person who trusts God would never steal. It follows therefore that thieves are covetous people. Even though God has assured us that wealth must change hands in the lives of His children, you can only be a partaker of this blessing if you repent of stealing and seriously work out your salvation.

Do you know that the first recorded sin against the Israelites, immediately they set their feet on the Promised
Land, was the sin of theft? One of them called Achan stole and as a result everybody was put into trouble. Many people are stealing from God. How do people steal from God? When you rob God of the glory and honour due to Him, you are a thief. When you brag about how influential you are, you are a thief. When you tell people how intelligent you are as if you manufactured your brain, you are a thief. When you cannot testify to what God has done for you before others on the basis that you are shy, you are a thief. When a believer spends more money on things like birthday parties than he would on the things of God he is a thief.

The Bible describes those who do not pay tithes as thieves stealing from God. And those who can steal from God can as well steal from men. Failure to pay tithes and give offerings is the reason many Christians are not prospering. When you do not fulfil your vows or you do it deceitfully, you are stealing from God. Some people can buy shoes worth ten thousand naira while they carry about tattered and worn-out Bibles.

Some people steal from their fellow men as well. It is the blessing of the Lord that makes rich and adds no sorrow. Much of what people call fast business is clever stealing and will deprive them of many good things that are coming their way. Remember, the Lord says, "Thou shalt not steal..." When He says that, He knows what He is talking about.

There was a medical doctor who used to abort pregnancies mostly for students; That time his fee was one hundred and thirty naira. He usually gave those girls two options, either to pay sixty naira only and he would commit immorality with them before the abortion or pay the whole money. Most of the girls settled for the first option. He went on like that until he died from demonic attacks at the age of 65. There is no doubt that he is suffering in hell now for his failure to give his life to Jesus. This doctor had stolen from other people's daughters. When a tenant willfully damages fixtures and fittings of a rented apartment, he is inviting the wrath of God into his life.

Gambling is another form of stealing. A gambler wants to reap where he did not sow. Laziness and nonchalance towards a duty is stealing. When you are busy reading your Bible at the time you are supposed to be working to justify your salary, you are stealing.

Believers are not expected to postpone till tomorrow what they can do today. It is an act of stealing when you deprive your company of a day's work by obtaining sick leave when you are not sick. Any believer who indulges in this is sending an express invitation to sickness. Telling lies about injury in order to collect compensation is equally stealing.

The measure you give to your employer, would be the same measure you will receive from your workers when you establish your own company. You need to be faithful in the little you are doing now so that God can bless you. Many people convert their company's properties to their private use. You may say there is no problem because the company has vast resources; you are only blocking your chances of being blessed by the Almighty.

Sometime ago, in Nigeria, a question paper for an examination leaked in spite of all efforts made to prevent leakage. Investigation was carried out and the culprit was discovered. All he did was to memorize the questions in piecemeal and write them down at home, meaning that he used his brain to steal. Many lawyers are thieves. They tell their clients all kinds of lies and take the advantage of their ignorance to exploit them. Many doctors too are thieves. They make certain cases look more serious than they really are so that they can charge higher fees.

A person who decides to buy a copy of the New Testament Bible instead of a complete Bible is stealing from himself. When you have the money to pay your debt but refuse to do so, you are a thief. When you collect bribe before helping a person, apart from committing robbery, you are also inviting curses upon your life because when a man unwillingly gives you money, that money becomes cursed. That is why the Bible says that God loves a cheerful giver.
Profiteering is also stealing. If you have been using other people's facilities, e.g. telephone, car, etc, without their knowledge, you are a thief. As a child, if after you are ordered to go to bed by your parents you sneak back into the sitting room when they have slept and switch on the television set and turn the volume down, you are a thief. If you deal in food items and you conceal the bad ones underneath and turn the good ones on top, you are a thief. Are you working with a fake certificate or somebody wrote your examination for you, yet you are praying for breakthrough? Except you do restitution, you are wasting your time. A sister who promised to marry a man and received gifts from him only to jilt him under flimsy excuses is a thief. Brothers who are living with women without proper marriages are thieves. They need to make restitution. A woman can be stealing from her marriage when she refuses to work at it.

We have many thieves in the temple and would God be watching them ruin His temple? No. He shall act very soon. The Lord of the temple will soon enter the temple to overthrow the tables and chairs. God showed me a vision concerning a church I used to attend several years back. Half of the church was a cemetery, some members wore suits and on their feet were ordinary bathroom slippers. To make matters worse, the slippers were worn the wrong way. This means that what we were calling a church was a den of thieves. When your internal temple is cleansed, then the healing power of God will come upon your life.

A thief is an enemy of the present and a polluter of the future. Do you have buyers and sellers within the temple? Why not allow His purging whip to chase them out? When Jerusalem refused to be purged, God said, "I leave your house unto you desolate." And until now, there has been no peace in Jerusalem because the people shunned the Prince of peace. Examine your life, you may discover that you have been stealing from God in one way or the other and this could have been responsible for your problems. Make restitution today unto the Lord like Zacheus did, so that you can have your breakthrough.

PRAYER POINTS

1. I refuse to be a thief in the house of my God, in Jesus' name.
2. O Lord, whereever I have cheated others, forgive me, in the name of Jesus.
3. O Lord, whereever my virtues are leaking, seal them with your blood, in the name of Jesus.
4. I refuse to deceive myself, in the name of Jesus.
5. Fire of God, consume every altar of stealing in my temple, in the name of Jesus.
6. Holy Spirit purge my life with your fire, in Jesus' name.
7. O Lord, give me your blessings that add no sorrow, in the name of Jesus.
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