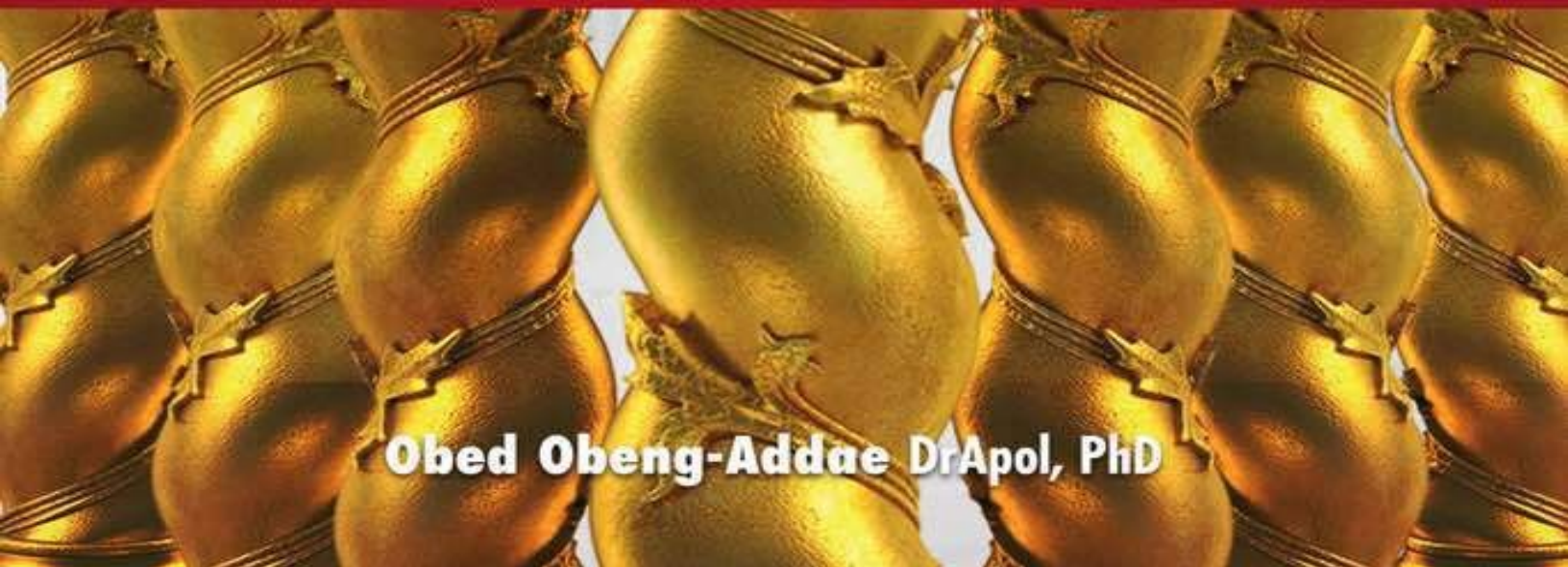




THE SEVEN PILLARS OF WISDOM

The Hidden Elixir of LIFE

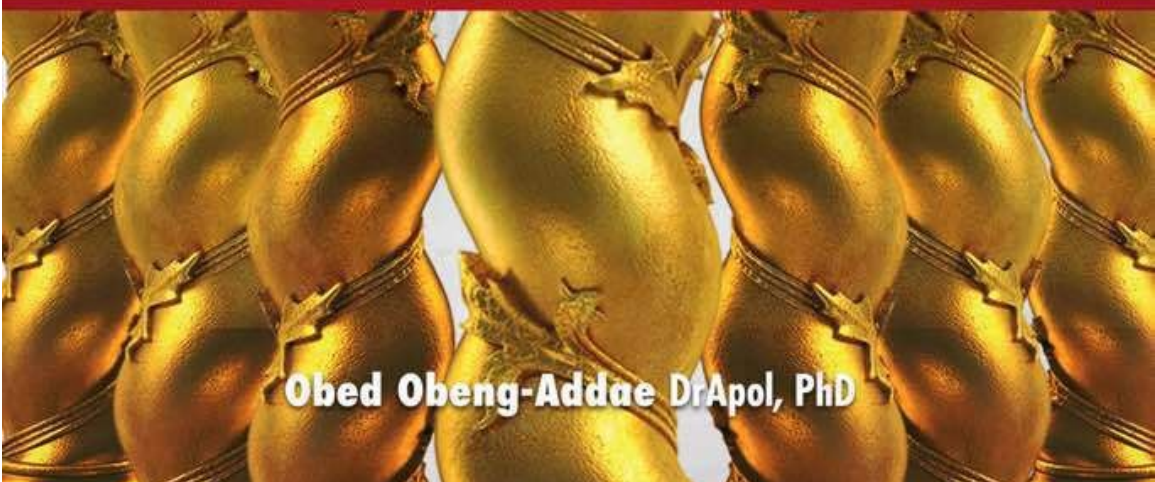


Obed Obeng-Addae DrApol, PhD



THE SEVEN PILLARS OF WISDOM

The Hidden Elixir of LIFE



Obed Obeng-Addae D^rApol, PhD



In every generation, God appoints men who are totally submitted to fulfilling His vision for His creation and commits to them dispensations of His gospel. Pastor Obed Obeng-Addae is such a man in this generation.

Commissioned in an encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ, he carries the apostolic mandate of raising men to measure to the fullness of the stature of Christ and has been actively doing the work of the ministry for close to two decades.

He presides over Christ Cosmopolitan Incorporated and its network of Churches in Ghana, Africa and Europe. His messages are packed with supernatural flow in revelatory dimensions, revealing the verities of the new life in Christ. His emphasis is on the mystery of Christ and the glorious ascendant walk of the new man in Christ. With signs and wonders accompanying his ministry, Pastor Obed is a blessing to many especially with the institution of the weekly Healing and Miracle Line, where people from far and wide with various oppressions and bodily ailments, receive their miracles.

Pastor Obed graduated from the university with a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Geodetic Engineering and also has to his academic laurels, a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA). He also holds a Doctorate degree in Apologetics and a PhD in Prophetic/Eschatological Hermeneutics. He is married to Pastor Brenda Obeng-Addae and their marriage is blessed with children.

The Seven Pillars of

WISDOM

The Hidden Elixir of LIFE Obed Obeng-Addae DrApol, PhD

The Seven Pillars of WISDOM: The Hidden Elixir of LIFE

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All scripture quotations in this book are from the King James Version of the Bible, unless otherwise specified.

Keys for other Bible translations used:

NKJV – New King James Version NIV – New International Version ESV – English Standard Version MSG – The Message Translation TLB – The Living Bible ASV – American Standard Version BBE – Bible in Basic English RSV – Revised Standard Version MNT – Montgomery’s New Testament NLT – New Living Translation YLT – Young’s Literal Translation AMP – The Amplified Bible WEB – World English Bible NASB – New American Standard Bible ERV – Easy To Read Version

All Greek and Hebrew words and their definitions were picked from the Strongs and/or Thayer Bible Dictionaries.

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PREFACE

D

Dear reader, I will like to give you a glimpse into the cogitations of my heart as I put together this treasured work on wisdom before we kick start. As I sat to pen down my thoughts per

what the Lord had taught me for a period of almost two decades in ministry, I had a sense of both heaviness of heart and joy; heaviness of heart because I wondered why the Church as a body had meddled in lower dimensions of the subject matter of wisdom with so much passion and enthusiasm, and joy because of the secrets I have been opportune to peer into in the Word of God.

As a matter of fact, very few have dared to scratch the truth about God’s blueprint in the scriptures concerning the matter of wisdom, and for the few who try to touch it, intellectual and high sounding verbose statements are made synonymous with this beautiful subject of wisdom. Nevertheless, it is not supposed to be so, and that is the reason for this book. The thought of this almost moves me to tears.

Yet, in the gloominess of that sadness, a light of joy sparks within me because it is the dawning of a new day as Scripture declares in Habakkuk 2:14:

For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

It is a new day because of the privilege granted me to share on this expansive

and insightful subject matter of wisdom in correspondence with the blueprint of the scriptures. I see giants awakened and stirred up into great manifestations because of the light they will contact in the pages that follow.

i | [The Seven Pillars of Wisdom](#)

I write to you, the believer in Christ, the churches of Christ and the Holy Catholic Church which is the mystical body of Christ. My desire is that you would come under the inspiration of the Holy Ruach of God to see into this mystery of the ages, which is WISDOM. I am very certain that you will never be the same again as you come on this journey with me. Shalom!

Pastor Obed

[The Hidden Elixir of Life](#) | ii

INTRODUCTION

C

Christ is the sweetest mystery of the ages. The sages and mystics of old sought to experience this great mystery, and yet were only allowed but to see momentary glimpses of it. When it

was presented to the Greeks, they said, “ *this is foolishness* ”, because to them, wisdom consisted in oracy and the unraveling of philosophical concepts. When it was presented to the Jews, they called it anathema, because their hearts were hardened, and the mystery became their greatest stumbling block. Nonetheless, God had called a remnant who would handle this mystery with their very hands. To them, Christ is the Power of God, even the Wisdom of God.

But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. (1 Corinthians 1:23-24)

I cannot say that I have heard all that preachers in Christ have said, neither can I say that I have read all that authors have inscribed on the subject of Wisdom. Nevertheless, for all that I have seen, certain indispensable ingredients have always been absent, that is, how Christ, who is our wisdom, advances us into Christ-growth through the seven houses of wisdom; grounded on the seven pillars of wisdom, to the place of the fullness of light, where we, having the eyes of our understanding flooded with light, tread through the seven ascents of the overcomer’s walk. This ushers us into the unsearchable riches of Christ, where

there is a constant and onward cycle of an eternal record-beating and revising of set standards. This may sound complicated and stringed because you have not yet read the book, but I need you to take your time and go through each chapter prudently. In the pages ahead are buried secrets you have not yet been told.

iii | The Seven Pillars of Wisdom

There is a divine journey ahead; your new birth is not enough. There is a whole mountain of resources lying untapped within you that I will expose, for you to explore. I am excited you hold this book in your hands. It is a key that will unlock the gates of the expansive and incomprehensible realm, and for sure, it will make a wonder out of you. Enjoy reading.

The Hidden Elixir of Life | iv Chapter 1: **THE DIVINE FUSION**

T

he subject of wisdom is a matter widely spoken of in Christendom and in all major religious circles. Unfortunately, however, when wisdom is spoken of, the common definition men ascribe to it is

that it is “ *the proper application of knowledge* ”. Yet, there is no record in the Holy Writ that authenticates this definition. When placed under proper biblical scrutiny, we discover an anomaly because, actually, knowledge is a product of wisdom resident within and not the other way round. Wisdom is the mother and fount of all creation and ingenuity, and knowledge is one of its emanations. The application of outwardly gained knowledge is just a show of logical aptitude. The true procession of wisdom is from within where no eye can see. These are cardinal statements that have been explained in profound details in various chapters of this book. Besides, others also wrongly define wisdom as the beautiful sounding of the cascading and articulation of words. This as well, is a far cry from the truth.

Wisdom is not the proper application of knowledge. It is the mother and fount of all creation and ingenuity, and knowledge is one of its emanations.

You will be ushered into a room of understanding, as we progress, to appreciate that, there is an inward regenerative work in the believer that amalgamates his spirit with the very Spirit of God in a divine union called Christ, which the Bible calls, “Wisdom”. This wisdom is not learnt in the schools of this world, neither is it accessed through the reading of myriads of volumes; it is only hidden in one

place; the believer. The believer is the very embodiment and repository of this wisdom, by means of the divine union aforementioned and yet to be discussed intricately.

There is an inward regenerative work in the believer that amalgamates his spirit with the very Spirit of God in a divine union called Christ, which the Bible calls, “Wisdom”.

In ignorance, many believers are caught in an incessant plea for wisdom, when they are supposed to engage the search within. Nonetheless, you will not believe it if I told you that, as a believer, you are never to ask for wisdom. This may come as a surprise to many because James, the apostle, in James 1:5 said,

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

This notwithstanding, I will explain to you, dear believer in Christ, that if you have ever prayed, asking for wisdom, after you got born again, you have wasted your breath! The first question that you must ask is this: *“Do I as a believer lack wisdom?”* —Take note, that the man that should ask for wisdom is the man that LACKS it. Why then are many believers praying for wisdom when 1 Corinthians 1:30 emphatically asserts that,

BUT OF HIM ARE YE IN CHRIST JESUS, WHO OF GOD IS MADE UNTO US WISDOM, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.

Listen dear, the believer does not lack wisdom; Christ is wisdom from God to him! The man that lacks wisdom is the unbeliever who does not possess Christ and is not a part of Christ. It is imperative therefore that the unbeliever asks for wisdom which will produce the new birth in him and thus birth wisdom in him. Christ Jesus is this WISDOM. Who or What then is Christ?

As a believer, you are never to pray asking for wisdom! Christ is made wisdom to you.

First of all, in understanding it fundamentally, Christ is the fusing of our spirits with the Spirit of the Lord. When you hear Christ, do not only think of the man, Jesus, who walked on this earth in the kickoff of the first century. There is the aspect of “who” Christ is and there is the other aspect of “what” Christ is. The

“who” of Christ does not generate much debate in the Church because it simply speaks of the personality, office and function of the man who walked this earth two millennia ago. However, there has been a great deal of dispute about the “what” of Christ and therefrom have been formed, manifold opinions. The “what” of Christ speaks of the resultant work of the death and resurrection of Jesus in producing the new creation man in the same order of the divine life as Christ Jesus, the resurrected Lord possesses. This gracious work was accomplished by the joining of the spirit of the believer with the Lord in resurrection, to produce “One Spirit”. This is principally iterated by Paul, the apostle, in 1 Corinthians 6:17:

But he that is joined unto the Lord is ONE SPIRIT.

Thus, anytime you hear the name Christ, think of a divine amalgamation of many members assimilated into one corporate body. This corporate body is the mystic body of Christ, of which Jesus is the head and the Church is the constitution of the various members in particular.

And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. (Colossians 1:18)

Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. (1 Corinthians 12:27).

Thus, just as the man Jesus is Christ, you also as a believer are a part of Christ in the sense that, Jesus is Christ the head and you are Christ the body. Accordingly, you should never be afraid to identify yourself as such. If you get this, then you should as well realize that the life that you now live is now in Christ. That is to say, you have no life outside Christ. Thus, the apostle, Paul, said,

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

By this, the apostle simply meant that the life he was living was by the avenue of Christ which is the fusion of the Spirit of the Lord with his spirit. This divine fusion is the Christ of God that releases and causes us to walk in divine counsel in the fulfillment of our heavenly assignment. After this experience, we advance in the Christ-growth in all Wisdom. Thus, the progressive walk in Christ by

avenue of the earnest of the Spirit is the exploration of Wisdom. To state it from a different perspective, *growth in Christ is a systematic journey through the seven houses of wisdom* . We will discuss all these into details.

The divine fusion is the Christ of God that releases and causes us to walk in divine counsel in the fulfillment of our heavenly assignment.

Outside Christ, the Spirit of the Lord is in absentia and the consequence of such a life is simply foolishness in the heart. You should understand that any man who is not born again in order to gain advantage of the Christ within is not wise. At best, such a person can only operate in SENSUAL WISDOM or DEVILISH WISDOM but not the WISDOM FROM ABOVE. This is because outside of the Holy Spirit within us, the function of the mind as a product of wisdom is called sensual wisdom, which ultimately becomes devilish wisdom. Speaking on this, James said,

This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. (James 3:15)

This is the wisdom that most people define as “the proper application of knowledge”, and it is very far from spiritual wisdom.

Outside of the Holy Spirit within us, the function of the mind as a product of wisdom is called sensual wisdom, which ultimately becomes devilish wisdom.

Unfortunately, a Greco-Roman thinking of accounting wisdom to words is the inclination of most people. However, from the Hebraic perspective, wisdom is demonstrated in POWER and WORKS and not in articulacy. Many believers view the scriptures with a western mindset and worldview; they try to understand Hebraic concepts with a western viewpoint. Nonetheless, the greater chunk of the Bible was written by Abraham’s descendants, who had Hebraic values, language and outlook. Thus, many of the concepts presented in the Bible are molded and entwined in Jewish antiquity. To rightly divide the word of truth, requires a doing away with errant perceptions of biblical interpretation by western-cultural influence. We must have a volteface in our thinking and account wisdom to proof of works rather than envisioning it as well-articulated words.

In Mark 6:2, when Jesus did **mighty works** , the nub of the concern of the Jews was the kind of wisdom at work in him:

“...and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?”

That simply means the proof of wisdom is by the demonstration of power and mighty works and not in words that sound sweet and verbose or even worse, attempts at rhymes. The world's definition of wisdom as the right application of knowledge places a great restraint on its exhibitions. This is because a man could gain knowledge, apply it as right as he should, and yet, there is the possibility of not getting the desired results as expected. Do we not see this happen in the real world; where a person acquires knowledge, applies it to the dot but still does not get the desired outcome?

The proof of wisdom is by the demonstration of power and mighty works and not in words that sound sweet and verbose or even worse,

attempts at rhymes

In the days of the early Church, Scripture recounts a very distressing story of the seven sons of Sceva who had acquired knowledge of the name of Jesus and thus decided to apply it in casting out devils. The outcome of their action is not one that any man would want to experience:

Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. (Acts 19:13-16)

At the crux of this matter, we must understand that you could have knowledge and apply it, but if you lack the underlying wisdom of that endeavor, you will not have positive results. The casting out of devils is not a formula; it is a work of wisdom that is at work within.

When a man does not show proof of works, it simply means wisdom has not been given its proper placement in his life. This being the case, it is vital to comprehend that the accessibility and application of knowledge does not necessarily guarantee growth in wisdom. If wisdom is well defined, in the face of any enigma, one will not be found wanting because wisdom is not constrained

to acquired knowledge; it goes beyond that into witty inventions. Wisdom lies within the intuition of our spirits and opens us up to the Spirit of God, in order to apply ourselves to challenges.

The accessibility and application of knowledge does not necessarily guarantee growth in wisdom.

This is because wisdom expresses itself in novelty. Accordingly, if one is wise, he cannot be overcome; he surely will find his way around problems and challenges and produce works. This is the true definition of wisdom; “WORKS” and “POWER”. If the seven sons of Sceva knew this, they wouldn’t have been in dire straits, because they would have found a new way around the demon possessed man. Psalms 104:24 declares that

O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

Works are a manifestation of wisdom. God could not have expressed novel and manifold works if he did not possess wisdom. Thus, in Proverbs 8:22 & 30, wisdom said,

The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old...Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him.

I was right there with him, making sure everything fit. Day after day I was there, with my joyful applause, always enjoying his company. (Proverbs 8:30, MSG)

Your current expression of works is the level of your wisdom.

The importance of understanding that wisdom is a manifestation of works and power cannot be overemphasized because I intend to carry you into a realm of all possibilities where no debilitating situation can overcome you. I want you to understand that it is not beyond you to be named as one of the richest men in this world. It is actually within you as a deposit of wisdom and if you want it, you can have it. You can become anything you want in this world on this premise of wisdom. However, you cannot explore such a realm if you think that you are wise because of your words. Your current expression of works is the level of your wisdom.

There is an inward deposit in you, if you are born again. This inward deposit is a present functional reality in you and not a future expectation to be gained. 1 Corinthians 1:30 does not say that God will give us wisdom but rather said God has provided Christ as our wisdom. Thus, the wisdom is already present. All the believer has to do is to understand and seek for this Christ to be stirred up as his wisdom.

We discover in the book of Colossians 2:2-3 that in Christ are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge:

*That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of **Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.***

Do you understand what it means to have all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge? That means everything in this world should lie bear before you; no situation should outwit you in any way. Christ is a gold mine of wisdom resident within believers. The word treasure is the Greek word “*thesaurus*” which means a storehouse, a repository or a magazine; a mountain of wealth or deposits. This treasure unveils the importance of appreciating why the believer should not ask for wisdom but to mine the deposit of wisdom within by avenue of the resident Christ.

Christ is a gold mine of wisdom resident within believers.

I have come to a place in life that I do not allow any situation to irritate, drain and overstretch me, because I understand that buried within me are the treasures of wisdom and knowledge in Christ. On the premise of the innovative works and exhibitions of wisdom, Jesus told the disciples not to be bothered about what they will say, when arrested and called to question, on any matter. He said,

For I will give you a MOUTH AND WISDOM, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist. (Luke 21:15)

The possession of the mouth and wisdom grants the believer the prowess to answer any hard question on the spur of the moment. There is no need to prearrange thoughts before the perfect answer to any question can be given. The operation of this grace is what the Torah recounts in the life of Moses and Aaron. In Exodus 4:10, 14, when God called Moses, he identified in himself, his

inability to speak, for which reason God gave him Aaron as his mouth.

And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue... And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.

In that moment, Aaron became Moses' mouth, meaning that Moses did not become eloquent; he rather allowed Aaron to do the talking when they appeared before Pharaoh. It simply meant that Aaron was a spokesman or an advocate for Moses, in the same way a lawyer speaks for his client in court. This is the mode of functionality of wisdom in the life of the believer - do not exert your brain; allow the inward Spirit to gain expression. Depend on the infinite deposit within, called Christ, which is our wisdom. Christ as our wisdom simply means we should allow him to do his work and understand that in ourselves, we are foolish but in our fusion, we are wise.

The possession of the mouth and wisdom grants the believer the prowess to answer any hard question on the spur of the moment. There is no need to prearrange thoughts before the perfect answer to any question can be given.

The scriptures said that Stephen's wisdom could not be resisted, not because he was wise in himself, but because of the influence of the fusion of the Spirit producing Christ as his wisdom. That which he spoke was not generated from smart thinking; it was spawned from the wisdom within him. No wonder, they could not resist his speech, because to argue with such a man is like arguing with God.

And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.
(Acts 6:10)

Remember that the scriptures had already said concerning Stephen that he was a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost.

And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost... (Acts 6:5)

Thus, wisdom from our spirits outside of Christ is FOOLISHNESS. So we must

understand and allow Christ to be stirred in us. In case there is a debilitating situation that calls for wisdom, the practicality is that, you have to switch and rest on wisdom. Hence, prayer, meditation, and the word of God allow the free flow of wisdom through us and this is actually our LIFE, which is called CHRIST.

When Christ, who is our life , shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. (Colossians 3:4)

We do not rack our brains to release wisdom; we stay on the divine mingling of our spirits' fusion with the Lord's spirit to manifest wisdom. That is why, it is very wrong for you as a believer to pray and ask for wisdom. The simple reason is that, you as a believer do not lack wisdom, because the Christ within you is the one in whom all the treasures of wisdom are hid. The word "hid" is the Greek word "*apokruphos*" which means secret, hidden and stored up. The treasures of wisdom are hidden in Christ – that is where we seek it. Wisdom is sought within not without. In every believer is the deposit of wisdom ready to be stirred and mined.

We do not rack our brains to release wisdom; we stay on the divine mingling of our spirits' fusion with the Lord's spirit to manifest wisdom.

Make a decision in life as a believer never to ask for wisdom again but rather to stir it. Knowing the expansiveness of the good things that have already been deposited within the believer, Paul, the apostle, did not say things should be pursued without. Rather, he asserts that your faith and its communication only become effective by the acknowledgement of every good thing IN YOU.

That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus . (Philemon 1:6)

When Christ is allowed to flow through us, we surely will express wisdom without struggle. In the archives of biblical prophecy, John the Baptist was chosen as the herald of the wisdom, known expressly as the "WISDOM OF THE JUST".

And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, AND THE DISOBEDIENT TO THE WISDOM OF THE JUST ; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. (Luke 1:17)

This wisdom is known as "*phronesis*". It is a particular kind of wisdom

different from “*sophia*” – the wisdom of man. “*Sophia*” is the Greek word from which we get the English word philosophy. “*Philo*” means love, “*sophia*” means wisdom. Thus, a philosopher is simply a lover of wisdom. This can be exhibited by every man especially the academicians of our time. However, “*phronesis*” is accorded only to the just and it is gotten by the Spirit of the Lord: the righteous has this wisdom called Christ. This wisdom manifesting at peak potential is also known as PRUDENCE.

Prudence denotes all the treasures of wisdom in full force of manifestation and lustrous arrangement, based on complete insight into the whole counsel of God. Prudence is the beautiful display of wisdom at its full manifestation. So in Ephesians 1:8, Paul demonstrates how God abounded towards us in all wisdom and prudence:

Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence. (Ephesians 1:8)

It simply means God has abounded towards us in all “*sophia*” and “*phronesis*” . When all “*sophia*” is exhausted, man’s problem cannot be solved except by Christ; who is the supplier of life. It is when this life supply is manifesting itself at peak potential of wisdom that we are said to be Prudent. This Christ wisdom concerns the fulfilment of the entirety of the holy counsel and will of God. Hence, in simple terms, when “*Sophia*” is exhausted, it provokes wisdom to be stirred, and the stirring of wisdom, manifesting at peak potential is Prudence.

Prudence denotes all the treasures of wisdom in full force of manifestation and lustrous arrangement based on complete insight into the whole counsel of God

This is the reason why the apostle prayed that the Ephesians will be filled with the spirit of wisdom and revelation so that they may walk in his will unto all pleasing and in every good work:

*For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire **that ye might be FILLED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WILL IN ALL WISDOM AND SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, AND INCREASING IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD*** (Colossians 1:9-10).

The spirit of wisdom combined with revelation is what gives us the full knowledge of Christ. This spirit of wisdom is from above and is distinct from sensual wisdom. The extent to which we are filled with the full knowledge of God is what determines the quality of our walk in Christ and the prolificacy of our fruit bearing.

What then does prayer do when it comes to wisdom? - Prayer fuels the outburst of wisdom. We do not pray to receive wisdom. We pray to stir it up.

The stirring of wisdom opens us up to God's will so that having full knowledge of that will, we can:

1. Walk pleasing the Lord
2. Bear fruits in every good work
3. Increase in the knowledge of God

The extent to which we are filled with the full knowledge of God is what determines the quality of our walk in Christ and the prolificacy of our fruit bearing.

This still brings us to the fact that the proof of wisdom is not well arranged sayings or thoughts, neither the proper application of knowledge. Rather, the proof of wisdom is in the manifestation of works. If we want to please God and bear fruits, we must know his Will in our spirits via the spirit of wisdom that brings us unto the full knowledge of his will.

Simply put, it is wisdom that opens us up to knowledge, because it expresses itself in discovery and novelty. A man who is operating in wisdom can operate in a certain knowledge he was not previously exposed to. Thus, in this sense he was not applying knowledge but was discovering knowledge through the riches of wisdom.

Being filled with full knowledge of God's will is cardinal if we must walk with him and bear fruits. In clearly appreciating this, we ask ourselves the means to this full knowledge of God's will and the scripture says it is by the spirit of wisdom and revelation. Revelation is an unveiling and wisdom is the force that makes the unveiling useful.

Chapter 2: **KINDS OF WISDOM**

A careful perusal of the scriptures reveals that wisdom could be classified into

two main kinds. These are:

- The Wisdom of this World / Wisdom of Men
- The Wisdom from ABOVE / Wisdom of God

The Wisdom of this World / Wisdom of Men

The wisdom of this world is the wisdom that is not generated from God or from above but of men. The scripture emphatically refers to this wisdom as the wisdom of men in 1 Corinthians 2:5;

That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

James, the Apostle, classifies this wisdom into three main kinds in James 3:15: **This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is EARTHLY, SENSUAL, DEVILISH.**

Thus, in this verse, we see

- i. Earthly Wisdom also referred to as Manners.
- ii. Sensual Wisdom, which is the Wisdom of the Schools of this World.
- iii. Devilish Wisdom, which is the Wisdom of the Princes of this World.

The wisdom of this world is the wisdom that is not generated from God or from above but of men.

Earthly Wisdom

The first classification of the wisdom of this world, is Earthly Wisdom. It is concerned with things such as Etiquettes, Child Raising and Grooming. This wisdom deals with the conventions of correct or polite social behavior. The impartation of this wisdom begins with child raising in the house or home. It is from this wisdom that we meet and distinct people who are cultured and people who are not cultured. For instance, somebody's table manners may be bad because he was not taught at home. Someone may have a bad body smell because he lacks the proper grooming in keeping certain parts of his body clean. This is the wisdom of man and is necessary, yet according to the Bible, it is not the possession of this wisdom that gives a man the accolade of being called "wise".

Sensual Wisdom

The next is sensual wisdom which deals with the wisdom of the Scribe, the

wisdom of the Wise, and the Disputer of this world or the Philosophers of this age.

For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? (1 Corinthians 1:19-20).

It is rather unfortunate that many are deemed wise by the expression of sensual wisdom. Yet, to express this wisdom is to be wise according to human standards and not God's standards. All scholasticism, philosophy, secular education and professionalism are gendered from sensual wisdom. Beliefs and concepts such as atheism, agnosticism, exclusivistic naturalism, uniformitarian evolution and many more are all of the sensual kind of wisdom. Thus, you will realize that the majority of men that are inclined towards these belief systems and principles are quite educated. This assertion is not to imply that secular education is not necessary, since it makes you relevant in the systems of this world. As a point of fact, Moses, the man of God, was learned in all the wisdom of Egypt which is sensual wisdom, because he attended the best schools of Egypt.

To be educated in the wisdom of Egypt or Babylon does not make you beat systems and set records beyond human comprehension.

And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds. (Acts 7:22).

However, to be educated in the wisdom of Egypt or Babylon does not make you beat systems and set records beyond human comprehension. At best, it makes you conform to the systems already set in place, and rather unfortunately, this is what many of the educational institutions produce out of students, year after year. Yet, to break into the dimension of witty inventions, you need to operate in a higher wisdom than the wisdom that the schools of this world impart. Thus, many people who refuse to be limited by the certificates they have acquired in school are deemed non-conformists because they think beyond the syllabi they are taught in school. This was the case of Daniel and his three friends in the nation of Babylon, when they refused to eat the meal offered them by the educational system of Babylon. Yet, at the end of the period of trial, they emerged ten times better than their contemporaries.

To break into the dimension of witty inventions, you need to operate in a higher wisdom than the wisdom that the schools of this world impart.

Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, “Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see.” So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days. At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. (Daniel 1:11-15, NIV).

Scripture emphatically says concerning these young men that,

As for these four children, GOD GAVE THEM KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL IN ALL LEARNING AND WISDOM: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. (Daniel 1:17).

I declare over your head that in whatever endeavor of life you are involved in, the wisdom that makes you ten times better than your contemporaries should be at work in you, in Jesus Working name!

Sadly, when one expresses the wisdom of this world, he is deemed wise by men, yet, it will interest you to know that God scorns such wisdom.

Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? (1 Corinthians 1:20, NIV)

Where is the wise man (the philosopher)? Where is the scribe (the scholar)? Where is the investigator (the logician, the debater) of this present time and age? Has not God shown up the nonsense and the folly of this world’s wisdom? (AMP)

So where can you find someone truly wise, truly educated, truly intelligent in this day and age? Hasn’t God exposed it all as pretentious nonsense? (MSG)

So then, the clever people in this world are not great really. The clever students in this world are not great really. Some people know how to argue. But those people are not great really. No, BECAUSE GOD HAS DIFFERENT IDEAS.

HE HAS SHOWN THAT EVEN THE CLEVEREST PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD ARE FOOLS. (Easy English)

The Easy English specifically states that ***even the cleverest people in this world are fools*** . That which man celebrates is what God despises. God actually has a different idea and concept of wisdom. While we laud great academic accomplishments, the Word of God says that God deliberately bypasses these manly feats to show the greatness of his wisdom, so that no man can deny it or glory in his presence.

[No] for God selected (deliberately chose) what in the world is foolish to put the wise to shame, and what the world calls weak to put the strong to shame. And God also selected (deliberately chose) what in the world is lowborn and insignificant and branded and treated with contempt, even the things that are nothing, that He might depose and bring to nothing the things that are, So that no mortal man should [have pretense for glorying and] boast in the presence of God. (1 Corinthians 1:27-29, AMP).

The exposure to the Wisdom from Above makes all worldly wisdom lose their significance. Thus, Paul, the apostle, at a point in his ministry cried out,

But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ. (Philippians 3:7-8).

When a man finds Christ as his wisdom, every crown of accomplishment means nothing to him, because he comes to understand that the wisdom of God surpasses any other wisdom of this world. That is why history has a record of several noble men who ascended the heights of academia and yet, gave it all up for the sake of the work of the kingdom of God. Nothing surpasses the wisdom from above.

When a man finds Christ as his wisdom, every crown of accomplishment means nothing to him, because he comes to understand that the wisdom of God surpasses any other wisdom of this world.

Devilish Wisdom

There is a third category of wisdom that James, the Apostle, highlights which is called Devilish Wisdom. ***“This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.”*** This is the wisdom that is operative in the dark world and in the infernal regions of the universe. All the works produced in witchcraft covens, satanic sects and in occult meetings are gendered from this wisdom which is a culmination of worldly wisdom. Devilish wisdom is actually a craft which involves special skills in crafting evil against believers and humanity in general. The expression of this wisdom is seen in the manufacture of evil concoctions, the engagement in extra-terrestrial projections and the involvement in the occult in order to have power with the elementals to determine the course of events. Such is the way of astrologers, sorcerers, diviners, stargazers and monthly prognosticators. By the use of evil tokens, these men, who operate in devilish wisdom seek to divine and cast enchantments in the path of men. Nevertheless, Scripture asserts that God will make their knowledge foolish;

That frustrateth the tokens of the liars, and maketh diviners mad; that turneth wise men backward, and maketh their knowledge foolish. (Isaiah 44:25)

1 Corinthians 2:6 explicitly calls this wisdom the wisdom of the princes of this world:

Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought.

The wisdom spoken amidst the mature or perfect is the wisdom from above and not the wisdom of this world or of the princes of this world which is devilish wisdom. Scripture says that the wisdom of this world comes to naught. That means, whatever they plan at the end of the day does not come to fruition but turns against them. To put it in another way, they fall into the pit that they dig for others.

Devilish wisdom is actually a craft which involves special skills in crafting evil against believers and humanity in general. The expression of this wisdom is seen in the manufacture of evil concoctions, the engagement in extra-terrestrial projections and the involvement in the occult in order to have power with the elementals to determine the course of events.

Devilish wisdom is always intended at causing misfortune in the lives of men. It never produces anything good. When devilish wisdom operated against Jesus, it

ended him up on the cross. Yet, Scripture asserts that if the princes of this world knew, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

*But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: **Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory** . (1 Corinthians 2:7-8)*

Ultimately, the harm they intended to cause turned to their hurt because it was through hanging on the cross that Jesus made a public spectacle of principalities and powers.

Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. (Colossians 2:14-15)

The man that operates in the wisdom from above can never be overcome by devilish wisdom.

Wisdom of God / Wisdom From Above

The reception of Christ into the spirit of the believer is an act of God that infuses wisdom into his spirit. This wisdom is neither of self-exertion nor from the wisdom of this world. Rather, it is the very wisdom of God which produces good fruits in the lives of believers.

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. (James 3:17)

The wisdom from above is greater than all the philosophy of this world and actually scorns the wise of this world. It will take the wisdom of God one day to accomplish that which sensual wisdom will accomplish in a thousand years. That is to say, the Christ wisdom is the means through which God cuts his work short in righteousness.

For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth. (Romans 9:28)

For instance, by what strength and might was Joshua going to overthrow the wall of Jericho? If he operated by sensual wisdom, it would have literally taken him over two thousand years because it was not until the twentieth century that atomic bombs which can cause that kind of destruction was invented. Again, the principle of resonance which causes things to crush at a certain vibration had also not been discovered. Yet, by the wisdom of God, Scripture asserts that in just seven days, the wall of Jericho came tumbling down, and the means by which this was accomplished was not by ammunitions of war. It was simply by the operation of the wisdom of God that Joshua had contacted. (Joshua 6:15, 20)

The wisdom from above is greater than all the philosophy of this world and actually scorns the wise of this world.

The accomplishment of the work of salvation through Jesus Christ is one of the greatest wisdom ever expressed in the universe of God. If God were to wait for man to attain that estate of the righteousness of God, it would have simply been impossible. Yet, through the divine wisdom of God, he through the Christ of God can accomplish the work of salvation in every man who believes. Thus, 1 Corinthians 1:21 says that

For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

The operation of the wisdom of God defies mental thinking. It makes sensual and devilish wisdom appear foolish to God because Scripture asserts that he takes the wise in their own craftiness.

For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. (1 Corinthians 3:19).

By the operations of the wisdom from above, the believer, through the assimilation into the Christ of God, is allowed, to peer into the heavenlies to see things that are beyond human comprehension.

The operation of the wisdom of God defies mental thinking.

Chapter 3: **THE DISCOVERY OF WISDOM**

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. (Matthew 7:7-8)

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here are many applications that could be derived from the scriptures. Thus, from one piece of scripture, several meanings could be arrived at per the applicative interpretation. However,

in the bid to interpret certain scriptures, whether contextually or in the applicative sense, certain meanings are sometimes arrived at, which become unnecessarily injurious to the faith of believers. Such is the case of the verses above in many Christian circles. Over the years, we have been made to believe that the verses above refer to levels in prayer. Thus, what is usually taught is that, you begin in prayer by asking. When you ask and the request is not granted, then you start seeking. When this demand is still not granted, then desperation must set in and the seeker, at this point, must knock. This teaching is dangerous to the faith of the believer. This assertion may seem a little critical of the popular notion until you read the scriptures prudently. The principles of asking, seeking and knocking must not be mixed up. There are things that one must ask for, and there is that which he must seek for. There is also what to knock for, for doors to be opened. You cannot go seeking for what you must ask, and you cannot go knocking for what you must seek. The exact principle must be followed to deliver that which you desire into your hands.

The Principle of Asking

Jesus said in Luke 11:11-13 that,

*If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? **If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: HOW MUCH MORE SHALL YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER GIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THEM THAT ASK HIM?***

There is only one promise of the Father in the Bible; every other promise you will come across is encapsulated in this one promise, and that is the promise of the Spirit. In the book of Genesis, God made a promise to Abraham in which he was told that all nations of the earth will be blessed through his Seed. (Genesis 22:18). Yet, when the apostle, Paul, came on the scene, this is what he said concerning the blessing of Abraham:

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for

*it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: **That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*** (Galatians 3:13-14)

In the epistle to the Galatians, we realize that the blessing of Abraham is actually the promise of the Spirit, which is received through faith, which leads the sons of God into the inheritance of their adoption. Interestingly however, Paul enlightens our minds when he points to the truth that the Seed is not just the physical progeny of Abraham but is actually Christ.

The blessing of Abraham is actually the promise of the Spirit, which is received through faith, which leads the sons of God into the inheritance of their adoption.

*Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to **THY SEED, WHICH IS CHRIST.*** (Galatians 3:16)

What is interesting, which you must understand, is that Christ is not a single entity but a composite body with the same life flowing through it. Thus, 1 Corinthians 12:12, 27 says that,

For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ...Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

Christ is therefore the divine mingling of the Holy Spirit with the spirits of men, emphatically iterated by Paul in 1 Corinthians 6:17:

But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

This divine fusion that births the new creation man in Christ is what deposits the treasures of wisdom in his heart. *It is with this foundation that we know what it means to ask and what exactly we must ask for* . Though Jesus Christ is the one who said we should ask, as we peruse the divine counsel of God, we come to realize that his true desire for his children is not that they should ask for things. There is only one thing every man needs, and should ask for on this earth in order to have all that he wants *and that is the Spirit, who is the promise of the Father* . Thus, Jesus said, ***“how much more shall your heavenly father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?”*** The production of Christ by the divine fusion is what gives man wisdom. When this wisdom is dwelling in the heart of

a man, there is no need for him to go asking for wisdom again. What he now needs to do is to seek.

There is only one thing every man needs, and should ask for, on this earth in order to have all that he wants and that is the Spirit, who is the promise of the Father.

The Principle of Seeking

The kingdom of God has its own set of norms and values. Nothing is to be assumed. As we read the scriptures, they guide us toward growth. To seek is very different from asking. For instance, Solomon, the king, asked for wisdom in a dream from God in 2 Chronicles 1:10, yet, it was not until Ecclesiastes 7:25 that he started seeking wisdom. He said,

I applied mine heart to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness.

Though he had already been given wisdom, he understood that in order to express this wisdom, he had to do a searching in his inward parts. Accordingly, he iterated in Proverbs 18:1 that

Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom.

In view of this, Jesus comes on the scene and says that if there is anything you must seek, it is the kingdom:

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (Matthew 6:31-33)

It is rather sad that believers ask and seek for things. Preachers sometimes even tell Christians to knock for things when they have sought and did not find. Yet, Jesus clarifies this matter by pointing out that the things that you are bothering yourself and asking for, your heavenly Father already knows that you have need of them; so stop asking and SEEK THE KINGDOM and thereafter, the things you need, will be added unto you. The kingdom runs on the adoption of sons

who are ushered in by the Spirit of adoption, Who has been given as an earnest to accomplish the work of the Christ-growth which is WISDOM. Thus, the advancement of the believer in the Christgrowth after the divine fusion is what is called the discovery of the hidden things in Christ also referred to as the treasures of Wisdom. This is what is meant by the seeking of the kingdom.

The advancement of the believer in the Christgrowth after the divine fusion is what is called the discovery of the hidden things in Christ also referred to as the treasures of Wisdom

The seeking of the kingdom is the search for the visibility of the kingdom, because there is the seeing of the kingdom and the entering of the kingdom – they are not the same. That one has seen the kingdom does not mean he has entered the kingdom. In John 3:3, Jesus told Nicodemus,

... Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

The reception of the divine life of God through the divine fusion within a man is the ushering in of the kingdom. In this regard, a man only becomes aware of the kingdom. Correspondingly, the Greek word for “see” is “*eido*” which means to be aware. However, beyond the seeing of the kingdom is the entering of the kingdom:

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. (John 3:5).

The word for “enter” in the Greek rendition is “*eiserchomai*”, which means to enter into or to go all about in. This concerns the exploration and seeking of the kingdom, which is the growth in wisdom by the search of the heart, because the kingdom is neither in heaven nor on earth; the kingdom is in the heart of the new creation, where wisdom resides.

Neither shall they say, Lo here! nor, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you. (Luke 17:21)

The seeker of the kingdom is the man who gives himself over to the advancement in the Christ- growth as wisdom. He does an inward search and admits upon the premise of discovery, through his seeking, that coming to the full assurance of understanding is to acknowledge the mystery of Christ in whom

are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (Colossians 2:2-3)

The seeker of the kingdom is the man who gives himself over to the advancement in the Christgrowth as wisdom.

The Quest for Wisdom

I applied mine heart to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness (Ecclesiastes 7:25)

The function of Solomon's wisdom was not because he had been educated in the best schools of his day. That would have classified his wisdom in the field of philosophy. Yet, the Wisdom of Solomon far transcended all the philosophy of his day, because this was not sensual wisdom but wisdom from Above.

As a matter of fact, a man could read all the books in this world and yet, would be operating in sensual wisdom. Climbing on the highest ladder of education as well is not going to fill you or get you close to the wisdom which the divine fusion brings. This is the reason why Scripture explicitly asserts that the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God:

But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty. (1 Corinthians 1:24-27)

Wisdom is not limited to acquired knowledge! It expresses itself in fresh works not known to man.

That a man is a professor does not mean anything to God. Actually, in the exhibitions of God, he picks the things which are despised in this world and uses

them to confound the wise of this age. There is a certain realm of wisdom that when a man begins to operate in, he becomes a wonder because he operates in novelty and witty inventions. Though Solomon had not been educated in the best schools of his day, this is what Scripture says concerning him:

And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol: and his fame was in all nations round about. And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five. And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes. And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.

Solomon's wisdom was not because of the books he had read. It was because of the contact of God within his spirit in a dream, which generated wisdom within him. Wisdom is not limited to acquired knowledge! It expresses itself in fresh works not known to man. Thus, with wisdom at work in a man, he may not need to learn the skill of a certain trade before he can perform it, as evidenced in the case of Bezaleel and Aholiab –

See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship. To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship. And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee;
(Exodus 31:2-6)

By the residence of the Spirit of God in a man, he is ushered into the realm of wisdom, where unknown things are known to him.

It is worth noting that Bezaleel was filled with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, understanding and knowledge, in all manner of workmanship. Think about it – he had not been to the school of carpentry to be taught how to work with wood. He had not been to the university to study industrial art to know how

to work with stones, gold and silver. Yet, Scripture says that he could devise cunning works in all manner of workmanship. How was that possible? This is impossible with men but it is possible with God, because by the residence of the Spirit of God in a man, he is ushered into the realm of wisdom, where unknown things are made known to him.

In a dream of the night in 1 Kings 3:5-6, 9, 11-12, the word of God recounts that Solomon was given wisdom in Gibeon:

In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee. And Solomon said...Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?...And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I HAVE GIVEN THEE A WISE AND AN UNDERSTANDING HEART; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

Having been invested with such wisdom, why would Solomon make such a statement in Ecclesiastes 1:17? –

And I gave my heart to know wisdom, and to know madness and folly: I perceived that this also is vexation of spirit.

“I gave my heart to know wisdom?” Didn’t he already have wisdom? The answer is very simple. The riches of wisdom are buried within and must be searched out when one receives it. Though wisdom may be resident within a man, he will not express it in works until it is searched out. Additionally, though the proof of wisdom is works, there will be no manifestation of works when one is devoid of the riches that go along with wisdom, such as the largeness of heart. In 1 Kings 4:29 the Word of God says,

And God gave Solomon WISDOM and UNDERSTANDING exceeding much, and LARGENESS OF HEART, EVEN AS THE SAND THAT IS ON THE SEA SHORE.

The riches of wisdom are buried within and must be searched out when one receives it.

A man will not function in the fullness of wisdom until he has had largeness of heart. Fascinatingly, Solomon was given largeness of heart even as the sand that is on the sea shore. This is an interesting statement to make because the first time the phrase, “sand on the sea shore” appeared in the Bible, it was said to the father of faith, Abraham, when he was given the promise of a multitudinous seed in Genesis 22:17:

*That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying **I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore;** and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies.*

The extent of the operation of the largeness of heart in a man determines the expanse of the functional wisdom at work in him. The sand on the sea shore speaks of a number of people in multitude. This simply meant that Solomon’s wisdom transcended all the wisdom of men put together in his age. No wonder, in 1 Kings 4:30-34, he is lauded as astonishingly sapient and astute than all the men in existence in his era. The journey into illumination is not outward but inward. Until you reach deep into the wells within, you will not be able to tap the resources of wisdom and hence cannot intermeddle with wisdom. When many believers pray, they expect wisdom to pop up in their heads, but it does not work that way: wisdom is God’s gracious deposit in your heart.

The journey into illumination is not outward but inward.

The prayer for wisdom must not be offered twice! Once the Holy Spirit has taken residence, there is no need to pray and ask for wisdom again. Actually, James, the apostle, said concerning this matter,

But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does. (James 1:6-8, NIV).

The man who offers incessant prayers for wisdom is want of understanding. Solomon’s bargain with God for wisdom was just once. Why then do we keep praying for wisdom? This is a sure sign of doubt. The apostle says, **“Let not such a man think he will receive anything from the Lord.”**

And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron’s garments to consecrate him,

that he may minister unto me in the priest's office. (Exodus 28:3)

Scripture clearly states that in the hearts of all that are wise hearted, ***“I have filled with”*** wisdom, not ***“I will fill with”*** wisdom. The reference to a man as wise hearted necessitates that God must have already filled him with the Spirit of wisdom. Reckon the absurdity thus, of such a man who keeps requesting for wisdom. Bezaleel and Aholiab, without dispute, were filled with wisdom and understanding in all manner of workmanship. If believers will abandon themselves over to the wisdom deposit within, the world will be bowled over the remarkable feats they will accomplish; things deemed impossible by science and things that will cause the ears of men to tingle will be the mark of the Church. Actually, there is nothing impossible with wisdom and this is God's dream for his children.

The reference to a man as wise hearted necessitates that God must have already filled him with the Spirit of wisdom.

Beloved, the required wisdom for that breakthrough you seek is within you. You need to take time off in meditation and do a searching of your heart, to seek wisdom.

This leads to the life path and a divine walk through the seven houses of wisdom grounded on the seven pillars of wisdom.

The Principle of Knocking

To knock is to have advanced in wisdom to the place where an abundant door is opened for you into the everlasting kingdom of our God. Accordingly, 2 Peter 1:10-11 admonishes,

Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an ENTRANCE SHALL BE MINISTERED UNTO YOU ABUNDANTLY into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

“Knock and it shall be opened unto you” How do you knock? You knock by making your calling and election sure. The Amplified Version renders the verse as follows:

Because of this, brethren, be all the more solicitous and eager to make sure (to ratify, to strengthen, to make steadfast) your calling and election; for if you do this, you will never stumble or fall. Thus there will be richly and abundantly

provided for you entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (AMP)

To knock is to have advanced in wisdom to the place where an abundant door is opened for you into the everlasting kingdom of our God.

As a man focuses on the Christ of God, he is released and caused to walk in divine counsel in the fulfillment of his heavenly assignment. The release and fusion of the divine Spirit of the Lord with our spirits, is the beginning of wisdom, however, it is an earnest and a down payment of the fullness of the entire inheritance. Thus, a believer must advance in the Christ growth through the seven houses of wisdom to the place of fullness where he receives the fullness of the purchased possession which is his celestial body.

In conclusion, in the discovery of wisdom, we ask for the spirit, (for the divine fusion in the production of Christ as wisdom), we seek for the kingdom (in the exploration of the inward resident wisdom), and we knock on the door of the fulfillment of our divine assignment (for an abundant door to be opened into the everlasting kingdom of our God). In a more simplified way,

1. Asking pertains to the Spirit for the divine fusion in the

production of Christ as Wisdom

2. Seeking pertains to the exploration and stirring of the inward resident wisdom

3. Knocking pertains to the fulfillment of our divine assignment in wisdom.

The release and fusion of the divine Spirit of the Lord with our spirits, is the beginning of wisdom, however, it is an earnest and a

down payment of the fullness of the entire inheritance.

Chapter 4: **THE RESIDENCE OF WISDOM**

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if you were God and you had a treasure as valuable as wisdom, where would you hide it – in the seas? Men will dive into the deepest oceans to find it; – On the highest mountain? Men will climb to

find it; – In the deepest forest? Men will search and wipe out the entire forest until they find it. When God sought for a hiding place for wisdom, he said, *“let me hide it deep down in the heart of man; there, he will do an endless search in*

order to explore it because the heart of man is unsearchable” . Scripture says that it is the glory of God to conceal a thing, and it is the honour of kings to search out a matter. Seeing the depth that man would have to dig within to explore wisdom, not many embark on this search, yet the wisdom you need concerning every matter of your life is within you. Job 28:12, 20-23 says that,

But where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding?... Whence then cometh wisdom? and where is the place of understanding? Seeing it is hid from the eyes of all living, and kept close from the fowls of the air. Destruction and death say, We have heard the fame thereof with our ears. God understandeth the way thereof, and he knoweth the place thereof.

Seeing the depth that man would have to dig within to explore wisdom, not many embark on this search, yet the wisdom you need concerning

every matter of your life is within you.

Wisdom cannot be found in the land of the living. It is not with the fowls of the air neither is it with the aged. If you use your optical eyes to look for wisdom, you will not find it. The hiding place of wisdom is nowhere any eye can see. It takes the spirit of revelation for you to be opened up to these realities.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. (1 Corinthians 2:10)

Psalms 51:6 declares that,

Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and IN THE HIDDEN PART THOU SHALT MAKE ME TO KNOW WISDOM.

There is only one place you can discover wisdom, and that is the hidden parts. To search out wisdom, do not go around looking for it in the world – you will not find it. Take a journey within!

The Hidden Parts

...Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Scripture says that all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hid in Christ. However, this Christ is resident in the hidden parts by the joining of the Spirit of the Lord with our spirits. Thus, to advance in the Christ growth, there is the need

to understand what the hidden parts are. It is impossible to understand the hidden parts if there is no proper understanding of the makeup of man.

More than an outward being, man is a spirit. This spirit has a soul that expresses itself with the life of the spirit, and lives in a house called a body. The spirit of man is his true self and essence. The soul of man is sparked when there is a joining of the spirit to the body. Thus, the soul is the expression of the spirit in the house of clay which is the body. 2 Corinthians 5:1 declares,

For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Accordingly, this body is an earthly house or tabernacle through which the inward man expresses himself. It can be likened to the manifestation of light in a light bulb. The spirit of man can be likened to electricity that powers the bulb, (which in this case is the body) to produce a third element which is light. The light produced as a result of the combination of electricity and the bulb can be likened to the soul of man. Scripture asserts that man became a living soul when God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. (Genesis 2:7)

That which was formed from the dust of the ground is the body. The breath of life is the spirit, and produced a living soul when it came into contact with the body. Having understood this, what are the inward parts where wisdom resides? Proverbs 20:27 says,

The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

2 Corinthians 4:16 also asserts,

For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

There is the inward man and there are the inward parts. These are not the same but are related. The inward man is the spirit of man that resides within his body. The inward parts are the spirit and the soul and all their corresponding organs of perception. That is to say, when the spirit and the soul interact, there are other parts that come into play, such as the heart and the reins. The heart is the place where every form of reasoning takes place. A man cannot reason until the

questions and thoughts of his mind descend into the depths of his heart. Hebrews 4:12 unveils this aspect of man to us:

*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, **piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.***

A man cannot reason until the questions and thoughts of his mind descend into the depths of his heart.

The thoughts and intents of the heart are referred to as reasoning. When the intents of your heart are carried into deep contemplations such that strong passions and desires are produced in you, then you have entered your reins. The psalmist asserts,

*I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel: **my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.** (Psalms 16:7)*

***Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.** (Psalms 73:21)*

The Hebrew word translated in these verses as reins is “*kilyah*” which means the kidneys, or the seat of emotion or affection. It also means the loins or the sexual parts. This is the place where the strongest desires are produced in you. The Bible refers to all these compartments within a man as the inward parts of the belly. The belly of a man is the womb of the spirit that houses all the inward parts, where all the issuings of life are generated. Thus, a man cannot birth anything until it has been taken through processing in the belly, which comprises of the spirit, soul, heart and reins. As a matter of fact, nothing can be birthed outside strong desire, because desire is resident in the reproductive region of the inward parts. It takes desire to intermeddle with wisdom in the hidden parts because wisdom is resident in the inward parts. Simply put, when God gives wisdom, he hides it in the inward parts. Proverbs 18:1 affirms,

THROUGH DESIRE A MAN, having separated himself, seeketh and INTERMEDDLETH WITH ALL WISDOM.

The mistake of believers is to search for wisdom outside themselves, but to seek and to intermeddle with wisdom, you have to look in the hidden parts.

The belly of a man is the womb of the spirit that houses all the inward parts, where all issuing's of life are generated.

Now, this is what happens when a man receives the Spirit of the Lord – there is a divine mingling of his spirit with the Spirit of the Lord. The life of the Spirit eats into his spirit and causes him to become regenerated. At this point, the seed of wisdom is sparked in the person to cause him to advance into the tree of life, which is the elixir of life.

The Spectacle of the Heart of Man

There are seven great wonders in the universe of God. Of these seven wonders, God gives special attention to three of them for the purpose of growth. Yet, of the three, one stands out in the sight of God and that is the mystery of God dwelling in the heart of man. Proverbs 30:18-19 lists four of these seven wonders -

There be three things which are too wonderful for me, yea, four which I know not: The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent upon a rock; the way of a ship in the midst of the sea; and the way of a man with a maid.

- The way of an eagle in the air
- The way of a serpent on a rock
- The way of a ship in the midst of the sea
- The way of a man with a maid
- The Heavens (The Omniscience of God)
- The Earth (The wisdom of God in the Church)
- The unsearchable heart of man

The last three wonders are revealed in Proverbs 25:2-3:

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter. The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings is unsearchable.

I would not speak extensively on the seven great wonders of the universe here but to just scratch them; the way of an eagle in the air speaks of how the Spirit of God leads men as an eagle in their spirits, and how men draw power from the Spirit for works on earth. It also speaks of the conviction power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of men to turn them to the way of salvation in Christ.

The way of a serpent on a rock speaks of the work of Satan in the Church, both as an agency and an agent, because Satan works both for and against the Church.

The Church is the rock upon which the serpent lies. Satan has a work in the Church that many believers are oblivious of yet, at certain times, God uses Satan to accomplish certain works for Him. The Church also has this special privilege of using Satan to accomplish certain works for them. For instance, in 1 Corinthians 5:5, Paul, the apostle, said to the Church,

To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

David also declares that Satan should stand on the right hand of his enemies: ***Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand.*** (Psalms 109:6).

The way of a ship in the midst of the sea speaks of the evangelistic work or the outreaching of the Church into the world to win souls. The work of a fisher of man is a wonder. For a man to go out there to turn a soul for Christ is not a mere thing; it is a great wonder. Psalms 107:23-24 declares that,

They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.

There are certain wonders you would never experience until you reach out into the deep in evangelistic work. It is in such endeavours that God shows wonders untold.

Satan has a work in the Church that many believers are oblivious of yet, at certain times, God uses Satan to accomplish certain works for him.

The way of a man with a maid expresses the mystery of marriage, which is Christ and the Church. It is the mystery of the one body with many parts, which is Christ. (Ephesians 5:25-32).

Proverbs 25:2-3 speaks of the other three wonders:

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter. The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings is unsearchable.

Zechariah 12:1 also says that,

The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which

stretcheth forth THE HEAVENS, and layeth THE FOUNDATION OF THE Earth, and formeth THE SPIRIT OF MAN WITHIN HIM.

God gives special attention to these three wonders – the high heavens, the deep earth and the unsearchable heart of kings. The heavens speak of the omniscience of the Father; his infinite knowledge into all things in the heavens, earth and under the earth and beyond.

The earth speaks of the depth of the display of the wisdom of God in the Church. It is in this wonder that the mystery of Godliness was revealed when God was manifested in flesh. How God was able to fold himself into the womb of Mary is a mystery and a wonder.

God gives special attention to these three wonders – the high heavens, the deep earth and the unsearchable heart of kings.

However, what makes the heart of man very wonderful is that it is the only place in the universe which is so small and yet large enough to contain God. Scripture clearly spells out the truth that the heart of kings is unsearchable. Actually, God has placed eternity in the heart of man. Thus, all that pertains to the universe and the ages can actually be found in the heart of man.

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in their hearts , yet so that man can't find out the work that God has done from the beginning even to the end. (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

All the books in this world will not be able to contain the wonders of the earth alone. If we are to talk on the wonders of the earth, we would have to start from the formation of the earth's foundations and talk about how the Lord hanged the earth on nothing, and also speak on the things that are on the earth itself. Day in and day out, the discoveries of science have bewildered our minds with the wonders that exist beneath the crust of the earth, in the sea, on the land and in the atmosphere. Think about the mountains, the forests, the oodles of life forms, volcanoes, thunderstorms and snowfall. Think of our history, and do not exclude past civilizations and the fossils that have been found beneath the earth crust. In the oceans alone, over two million species of marine life have already been discovered, not to speak on the vastness and depth of the ocean itself. Some scientists place the number of species of animals living in the world's rain forests alone, which cover only about six percent of the earth's surface, around

twenty million, not considering the new species that are discovered every now and then. Consider also, how the earth is fine tuned to support life. If the gravitational force of the sun or the earth were altered by as much as one in a trillionth percent, the earth and the moon, will escape their orbits into the cold regions of space, which will end all life on earth. If the rotation of the earth took longer than 24 hours, temperature differences will be too great between day and night. Again, if the 23-degree axial tilt of the earth were altered slightly, surface temperatures would be too extreme to support life. These and many more inform us that a lot of precision is required to make the earth a habitable place. These make the earth one of God's greatest wonders in the universe, and yet it does not surpass the wonder of man's spirit.

The attention that God accords the making of the spirit of man parallels and even surpasses the attention he gives the heavens and the earth in all their complexity and grandeur.

Yet, as wonderful as the earth is, it appears insignificant when it is compared to the expanse of the heavens. According to NASA, the Milky Way Galaxy alone has at least a hundred billion planets and earth is just one of those. Just in our solar system, you can fit one million planet earths into the sun. However, our sun is nowhere close to the largest star known in the Milky Way galaxy; UY Scuti, a variable bright red supergiant in the constellation of Scutum. This star is located 9,500 light years from the earth and has a radius which is about 1,700 times larger than our sun's radius and twenty-one billion times the volume. If this star were to replace our sun, it will engulf the entirety of Jupiter's orbit, swallowing the sun, the first five planets in our solar system, and the asteroid belt. (Brendan Hesse, digitaltrends. com) To speak on the vastness of the heavens, stars are just tiny parts of galaxies. According to the estimates of astronomers, there are at least one hundred billion galaxies in the observable universe, all these are filled with innumerable stars. Scripture asserts in Psalms 147:4 that God knows all these stars and calls each of them by name. These are wonders that the minds of men cannot yet fathom. Yet, the Bible says that God stretches the heavens like a curtain.

*Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: **who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:** (Psalms 104:2)*

The attention that God accords the making of the spirit of man parallels and even surpasses the attention he gives the heavens and the earth in all their complexity

and grandeur. Isaiah 42:5 says,

*Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; **he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:***

Just as the heavens are large, the heart of man is also infinite in composition. It is as vast as God! Man's spirit is the greatest treasure in the universe of God. The value of man's spirit before God is great. 1 Peter 3:4 gives weight to this truth,

But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even THE ORNAMENT OF A MEEK AND QUIET SPIRIT, WHICH IS IN THE SIGHT OF GOD OF GREAT PRICE.

Peter, the apostle, reveals that the hidden man of the heart, which is the spirit of man, is not corruptible, and is of great price in the sight of God, especially one that is adorned with meekness and quietness. The Greek word translated as "great price" is the word "*poluteles*" which means very costly or of surpassing value. The heart of man surpasses the value of anything because that is the residence of wisdom.

To be meek and quiet does not mean gentility or mildness. Rather, it speaks of one who is mindful of the inheritance reserved for the saints in the kingdom of God. Scripture asserts that Moses was the meekest man on earth, and yet, Moses' life defies the world's definition of meekness.

(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.) (Numbers 12:3)

How can a man who killed his fellow man and buried him in the sand with his bare hands be referred to as meek? (Exodus 2:11-12). If meekness is gentleness and calmness, then this description does not fit Moses. He was described as the meekest man because he was the one who had understanding into the divine inheritance of the children of Israel, and he was ordained to deliver them into that inheritance. To be meek is to be mindful of your inheritance.

To be meek and quiet does not mean gentility or mildness. Rather it speaks of one who is mindful of the inheritance reserved for the

saints in the kingdom of God.

Thus, Psalms 37:11 and Matthew 5:5 assert,
But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

The word of God declares that the heavens cannot contain God; it is his throne, neither the earth because it is his footstool:

Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?
(Isaiah 66:1)

There is no place large enough and suitable to give God rest. There is only one place in the universe that is so small and yet, large enough to contain God and that is the heart of man. This is one of the greatest wonders in the universe; how this big God can squeeze himself to live in the heart of man, and yet, the whole universe is not large enough to contain him.

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. (2 Corinthians 6:16)

Your spirit is a wonder! It is as vast as the heavens and as complex as the earth. Zechariah 12:1 speaks of the formation of man's spirit.

The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and FORMETH THE SPIRIT OF MAN WITHIN HIM.

The account we read in the book of Genesis is the formation of man's body. We never see how God formed man's spirit in the beginning. The formation of man's spirit is something I have not yet heard any man speak about. Of all that God made, he expended the greatest energy in the making of the spirit of man. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom but the progress in wisdom is the wonder of your own spirit.

There is only one place in the universe that is so small and yet, large enough to contain God and that is the heart of man.

Chapter 5: **THE SOURCES OF THE IMPARTATION OF WISDOM**

I

Impartation is a common word in Christendom. Yet, many believers have a wrong understanding of what it means according to the Bible. To many, impartation has to do with receiving a certain spiritual

gift that you never had. Contrary to the flow of the band wagon, impartation does not mean receiving a certain spiritual grace you do not have. Rather, it is a mutational walk of ascension, in an atmosphere of excitement, by the aid of a greater one, especially a father in the Lord, who carries you to the same place of his experience, by means of a journey within you.

In Romans 1:11, the apostle, Paul, spoke of his intent and longing to impart spiritual gifts to the Church in Rome. He said,

For I am yearning to see you, that I may impart and share with you some spiritual gift, to strengthen and establish you; That is, that we may be mutually encouraged and comforted by each other's faith, both yours and mine. (AMP)

Paul expressed his desire to see them, that he may impart unto them some spiritual gift. The word "impart" in the Greek is "*metadidomi*". This is a combination of two words, "*meta*", which means "accompanying change or mutation" and "*didomi*" which also means "to give". It therefore suggests a giving, that positions one to participate in a higher realm of unusual change. A clue to how *meta* is used in the Greek transliteration into English, is seen in a word like, Metamorphosis, which infers, an unusual higher change in the morphology of a thing. The same applies to Metaphysics, Metabiosis, Metabolic, Metabolon etc. Do you realize that Paul, the apostle, explains emphatically what "impartation" means? "***That is, that we may be mutually encouraged and comforted by each other's faith, both yours and mine***" It was intended that, the church in Rome may become sharers in Paul's spiritual estate and this was to cause a mutual strengthening and encouragement in each other's faith. Thus, in the Message Bible, the meaning comes out more perfectly;

The longer this waiting goes on, the deeper the ache. I so want to be there to deliver God's gift in person and watch you grow stronger right before my eyes! But don't think I am not expecting to get something out of this, too! You have as much to give me as I do to you. (MSG)

It will interest you to know that the impartation of a father does not only strengthen the son; it strengthens the father as well. In this regard, impartation is

depicted as the sharpening of two irons. Proverbs 27:17 says that,

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. (NIV)

You must appreciate that impartation is a hearty thing. It involves the emotions and a strong desire and affection towards each other. Accordingly, it was with a passionate heart that Paul spoke of imparting the brethren in Rome. There was an excitement in his heart and a strong desire to see them. Impartation, which is outside the premise of excitement is frustration.

While it is clear that iron sharpens iron, Solomon goes further to illustrate the atmosphere that harnesses this sharpening in Proverbs 27:19;

As in water face answereth to face, so the heart of man to man.

Impartation is a mutational walk of ascension, in an atmosphere of excitement, by the aid of a greater one, especially a father in the Lord, who carries you to the same place of his experience.

Beloved, impartation is sparked and ignited when two hearts are opened to each other. The reason is that, impartation goes beyond the preaching of the gospel. It is actually a hearty encounter of bringing one to share in all the experiences of the life of a father.

So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us. (1 Thessalonians 2:8)

Take note of Paul's choice of words. He was affectionately desirous of the brethren in Thessalonica to the extent that he was willing not only to impart the gospel to them, since impartation goes way beyond the preaching of the word. It really went as far as the sharing of his soul. As much as impartation denotes a spiritual experience in sharing spiritual gifts, this experience as well touches the realm of the soul. As a result, in Philippians 2:20, when Paul spoke about his dear sons, who had enjoyed his impartation, he spoke of them as being like-minded.

But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state. For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state. (Philippians 2:19-20)

The Greek rendition for “like-minded” is “*isopsuchos*” which means equal souled. By reason of the impartation that Timothy had enjoyed from Paul, he was now of the same quality of soul as Paul.

The settling of the condition that a father and a son must be excited about each other cannot be downplayed in any moment of impartation. You cannot receive impartation from a father until you are enlarged in your heart. This was the challenge that Paul, the apostle, had to face with the Corinthian Church. While the apostles had enlarged their hearts to pour out to the people, the recipients unfortunately were shut in and were not ready to receive. Thus, the apostle admonished them,

O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged. Ye are not straitened in us, but ye are straitened in your own bowels. Now for a recompense in the same, (I speak as unto my children) be ye also enlarged. (2 Corinthians 6:11-13)

A man may come with the fullness of spiritual gifts to impart, but if you do not enlarge yourself, you cannot receive from him. No wonder in 1 Corinthians 3:1, Paul complained bitterly when the Corinthian Church were not enlarged to receive his verities.

And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. (1 Corinthians 3:1)

He was ready to impart but they had closed themselves in and were not ready to receive. You must be opened with great emotional excitement in order to receive. What is buried within you, will only be activated by the special grace of impartation, when you position yourself to receive with an attitude of sincere excitement and desire. Do not forget that Paul had to direct the Corinthian church to channel their desires towards spiritual gifts. Outside of desire, the flow of the gifts of the Spirit faces frustration.

But EARNESTLY DESIRE and zealously cultivate the greatest and best gifts and graces (the higher gifts and the choicest grace). And yet, I will show you a still more excellent way (one that is better by far and the highest of them all – love).

As a result, biblically speaking, any spiritual grace which is imparted to you does not come from an external source; it is only stirred within you. The agent of

impartation only unearths that which was buried within you all along. For all that a man will receive on earth, he came along with it from his mother's womb. It is only actualized and stirred by means of an encounter with a divine vessel of God sent your way to uncover it. Thus, even Paul, the apostle, who was known to be a staunch persecutor of the Church said,

But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood. (Galatians 1:15-16)

Impartation is a walk in an atmosphere of excitement through the great hall of divine treasures by the aid of a greater one, especially a father in the Lord, who carries you to the same place of his experience, by means of a journey within you.

As we study on the sources of the impartation of wisdom, you must not perceive it as a reception from an external source. Rather, see it as an arousing of the inward flame in harmony with the admonishment of the apostle, Paul, in 2 Timothy 1:6;

That is why I would remind you to stir up (rekindle the embers of, fan the flame of, and keep burning) the [gracious] gift of God, [the inner fire] that is in you by means of the laying on of my hands [with those of the elders at your ordination]. (AMP)

Laying on of hands

The first means of the impartation of wisdom is the Laying on of Hands. Scripture asserts that the spirit of wisdom was stirred up in Joshua when Moses laid hands on him. This experience carried Joshua to the heights of Moses' experience in wisdom.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him. (Numbers 27:18)

The doctrine of the laying on of hands is so primal if one desires to operate in certain heights and depths of wisdom; it is a means of gracious impartation. Take note that it was God who instructed Moses to lay hands on Joshua, and interestingly, the word of God accords the splendor of Joshua's wisdom to the

fact that Moses had laid hands on him:

And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses. (Deuteronomy 34:9).

Dear one, do not joke with spiritual things nor take them lightly. Something definitely happens to your spirit man when hands are laid on you.

The word of God accords the splendor of Joshua's wisdom to the fact that Moses had laid hands on him

I strongly affirm that the extent of wisdom at work in me has been strongly connected with the hands that have come upon my head. I am a product of the impartation of wisdom through the laying on of the hands of God's special vessels he assigned my way. The force of wisdom is sparked to tremendous realms when hands are laid on you. Do not take it for granted!

Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. (2 Timothy 1:6)

The word "stir" is "*anazopureo*" which means to fan to flame or to kindle. The Amplified version of the Bible, makes it clearer in how he puts it.

That is why I would remind you to stir up (rekindle the embers of, fan the flame of, and keep burning) the [gracious] gift of God, [the inner fire] that is in you by means of the laying on of my hands [with those of the elders at your ordination]. (AMP)

Paul reminds his son, Timothy, to attend to the deposit of the gift of God that is in him by the laying on of his hands and to fan it to flames because the gift of God within a man is an inner fire. Do not forget that, when fire is left unattended to, its vehemence turns cold. The consciousness that the gift of God within me is an inner fire, sparks a delight to fan it to flames, till it becomes explosive in mighty power. One of the means to this explosion is the laying on of hands. Interestingly, many churches rarely encourage this ordinance on the premise that Paul warned Timothy, not to lay hands quickly on any man;

Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure. (1 Timothy 5:22)

In as much as that is true, the laying on of hands is a fundamental doctrine of Christ according to Hebrews 6:1-2:

*Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; **not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of LAYING ON OF HANDS** , and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.*

The wonder and beauty about the laying on of hands is that, when all other means of spiritual impartation fails, it does not fail at all. Why do I say so? Jesus is spoken of as laying hands in a place where he could not do mighty works, not forgetting that the mighty works of Jesus were accounted to wisdom (Mark 6:2). That is to say, when the ministration of the Spirit got very difficult because of the people's unbelief, his last resort was the laying on of hands.

And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. (Mark 6:5)

Do not take the moment of the laying on of hands as a normal or a usual moment. Time and time again, hands have been laid on me, to move me from my present operations in the wisdom of ministry to new heights untold. Child of God, access operative wisdom by the special ministry of the laying on of hands. Be conscious that something has happened to you and keep stirring yourself when hands are laid on you.

The wonder and beauty about the laying on of hands is that, when all other means of spiritual impartation fails, it does not fail at all.

On the matter of stirring yourself, the scriptures depict a very interesting scenario at the pool of Bethesda. This pool had curative abilities but it was no different from any other pool in Israel until it was stirred by the angel of the Lord.

For an angel of the Lord went down at appointed seasons into the pool and moved and stirred up the water; whoever then first, after the stirring up of the water, stepped in was cured of whatever disease with which he was afflicted... The invalid answered, Sir, I have nobody when the water is moving to put me into the pool; but while I am trying to come [into it] myself, somebody else steps down ahead of me. (John 5:4, 7, AMP)

Stirring provokes; stirring reveals the depths; stirring augments; stirring causes the deposit of the spirit within you to produce and birth spectacular wonders of bliss.

Consciousness

To stir up the deposit of wisdom within you, you cannot ignore the practice of CONSCIOUSNESS. Actually, consciousness is a gateway to manifestation. When you become conscious of a certain reality, it gains manifestation in your life. Peter, the apostle, in 2 Peter 1:15 says,

Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease TO HAVE THESE THINGS ALWAYS IN REMEMBRANCE.

He admonished them to call to mind the truths that he had shared with them. The Greek word translated as “remembrance” is the word “*mneme*” which comes from the root word “*mimnesko*”. It means to be mindful of, or to turn to one’s mind. It also means to recall. Thus, the admonishment of the apostle was for them to be conscious or aware of the verities he had shared with them. The way to manifest the gift of wisdom buried within you is to stay your mind on it. Thus Scripture asserts in Isaiah 26:3 that

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

This means that the focus of the mind is what determines the flow of the resources of peace from God.

Consciousness is a gateway to manifestation.

Speaking in Tongues

Another means of stirring is by SPEAKING IN TONGUES. There is a mystery about speaking in tongues that many people do not realize. First of all, you have to understand that to pray in tongues is to pray with your spirit.

What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. (1 Corinthians 14:15)

Praying with your spirit is different from praying with your understanding. When the Holy Spirit leads you to pray, he could either employ praying with your spirit or praying with your understanding. The thing about praying with your spirit

however is that, it causes certain deposits buried within you to be stirred up or unearthed. That is why Scripture says in Jude 1:20 that,

But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith [make progress, rise like an edifice higher and higher], praying in the Holy Spirit. (AMP)

When you pray in the Holy Ghost, there is something that happens within you that causes you to be built up. It is actually a quick way to ascend to the greatest heights within you. To pray in the Holy Ghost is to be led by him in prayer. Accordingly, Romans 8:26 makes us aware;

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

As you pray in tongues, the spirit of God unearths the hidden deposits in you and he leads you in prayer to pray those things into manifestation. The mysteries of wisdom buried in your heart are spoken forth as you speak in tongues.

For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; HOWBEIT IN THE SPIRIT HE SPEAKETH MYSTERIES. (1 Corinthians 14:2)

In the face of any debilitating situation, one of the first things you should do is to pray with your spirit, and not to panic. For instance, when I am trying to recall something to memory and it is not availing readily, I begin to speak in tongues. This is the same reason why I encourage my church members to speak in tongues silently when listening to the Word of God. As they do this, the deposit of the word of God within them is stirred up and the fresh word they are receiving makes more meaning because of the stirring of the foundational truth of the word already within.

The mysteries of wisdom buried in your heart are spoken forth as you speak in tongues.

This is what you should do if you want to generate ideas beyond human comprehension. That idea you are looking for to move your ministry and your business to the next level is just a “speaking in tongues” away. Walking with Like-minded People

The next thing to do in order to stir the gift of God within you is to WALK WITH LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE. Scripture says in Proverbs 27:17 and Proverbs 13:20 that

Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend. He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

Beloved, who you keep as a close companion will ultimately tell on your wisdom. Scripture says that when you walk with wise men, the ultimate end is that you will also be wise. It was this wisdom that was at work in the Prophet Elisha when he parted the waters of Jordan.

And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over. (2 Kings 2:12-14)

By the contact of blessed materials from anointed vessels of God, the impartation of the spirit of wisdom could be received as in the case of Elijah and Elisha. When Elisha got to the waters of Jordan, he, having walked with Elijah, the man of God saw how he parted the waters of Jordan. He did not have to conjure his own style. He just went ahead and repeated the same process and the same results of Elijah came playing back in his hands.

By the contact of blessed materials from anointed vessels of God, the impartation of the spirit of wisdom could be received

Interestingly, when the nation of Israel had to cross over the Jordan River, Joshua remembered how Moses the man of God, parted the Red Sea with the rod of God in his hands. This time around, the rod was encased in the Ark of Covenant. So what did he do? He repeated the same act of Moses, not forgetting that he had received impartation from Moses by the laying on of hands. He saw right before his eyes, a playback and a repeat of the same miracle of the parting of the Red Sea replaying at the banks of the River Jordan.

And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the Lord the Lord of all the

earth — set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap... Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. (Joshua 3:13, 15-16, NIV)

Again, I entreat you, dear child of God, to find an association that creates the opportunity for you to access the ways of mighty vessels of God. Per your association, it is easy to walk in the same vein of manifestations that you see with them and so desire, in the force of the manifestation of wisdom.

Find an association that creates the opportunity for you to access the ways of mighty vessels of God.

Communion

Unfortunately, many believers are unaware that there is a potential power of the communion table which awakens your inner light of sight which is referred to as insight. Insight is also a product of wisdom. Remember that we partake in the Christ life by the communion. Actually, the Greek word translated as “communion” is the word “*koinonia*” which means participation, fellowship or contribution.

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? (1 Corinthians 10:6)

Thus, your partaking in the communion table is a participation in the very life of Christ. As you partake in the communion table, you gain insight into the deep things of God by reason of the spirit of revelation.

There is a potential power of the communion table which awakens your inner light of sight which is referred to as insight.

Luke 24:13, 15, 30-31 recounts a fascinating story of two men who were on a journey to Emmaus after the death and resurrection of Jesus –

And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs...And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them...And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

How interesting? These two unnamed men as they journeyed to Emmaus met Jesus and yet they did not know that it was him. Scripture recounts that as soon as they partook in the communion table, their eyes were opened, and they gained insight that it was Jesus they had been conversing with all along. Do not underestimate the power of the communion table in opening your inward eye. It ushers you into the secrets of wisdom through the gate of insight. On an exciting note, we read in Revelation 12:11 that,

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

To ignore the power of the blood is to scorn your victory in life and in any endeavor because the means to overcoming challenges is the blood of the Lamb. What does the blood do? Remember we read in Proverbs 9:2 that wisdom has,

...KILLED HER BEASTS; SHE HATH MINGLED HER WINE; SHE HATH ALSO FURNISHED HER TABLE.

Please understand that you cannot kill your beasts until you have meddled with the mingled wine, and the furnished table of wisdom. The table of wisdom has wine. This wine is the eternal blood of the Lamb. To overcome every challenge, answer hard questions and produce witty inventions, you must commune, fellowship or participate in the mingled wine on the table of wisdom.

Correspondingly, Revelation 12:11 asserts that ***“they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb.”*** Things get even more interesting as we read Zechariah 9:11-12 –

As for thee also, by the blood of thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water. Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee.

Beloved, please settle it in your heart: the way to kill every beast of prison is the communion table or the blood of the covenant. The next time you are faced with a challenge, whether in your health, education, business or family, take

advantage of the communion table.

Meditating in the Scriptures Meditating in the scriptures is an opportunity to rub one's mind on the mind of God and to speak the words of God. Do you know what an opportunity it is, to rub your mind on the mind of God? In Isaiah 1:18-19, God cried out to his people through his prophet,

COME NOW, AND LET US REASON TOGETHER, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land.

Then again, in Isaiah 55:8-9 he said again,

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

As high as God's thoughts are, he calls on us to reason together with him. In doing this, his high thoughts become our thoughts and his high ways become our ways. Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, the man who reasons together with God becomes a phenomenon in the earth, because he buys into the mind of God's wisdom and manifests it in the earth. This is the greatest planning a man can engage in. In accordance, the scriptures advocate planning as a matter of wisdom in Proverbs 24:3-4;

Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts. (TLB)

The greatest planning or board meeting a man can engage in is to plan with God. His thoughts are always higher and we engage in this planning process through the art of scriptural meditation.

Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, the man who reasons together with God becomes a phenomenon in the earth, because he buys into the mind of God's wisdom and manifests it in the earth.

Paul admonished Timothy, his son, to always turn to the stronghold of the word of God in 2 Timothy 3:15:

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

David also declares how he became wiser than his enemies through the scriptures:

Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.

(Psalms 119:98)

Remarkably, this same wisdom was at work in his son Solomon;

My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste: So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off. (Proverbs 24:13-14)

Whoever engages the scriptures wholeheartedly becomes a child of wisdom and the proofs of justifying wisdom pours forth in mighty works through him. Thus, Luke 7:35 says that,

But wisdom is justified of all her children.

This scripture actually means wisdom is proven by the fruits it bears. Wisdom is justified of her children by making them bear fruits and live lives that are consistent with God's eternal plan and never fighting the ways of God. This is because there is a divine alignment that occurs when a man meditates in the scriptures. He is harmonized with the eternal plan of God for his life and destiny. Thus, the secrets of God concerning his life are unveiled to him in limitless proportions and he walks in that wisdom.

Besides Micah 6:9 introduces us to another dimension of the word of God which is the rod which feeds and imparts wisdom:

The LORD'S voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see thy name: hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it.

Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old. (Micah 7:14)

When one is fed by this rod, he gets so full with the vitality of wisdom in so much that he speaks the words of God, which create the effects of God. In Ezekiel 2:2 & 7, we find the secret of the great feats chalked by the prophet, Ezekiel.

And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me...And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they are most rebellious.

We discover that, he always spoke the words of God as his words and had the God-effect and results in challenging situations. For instance, at the valley of dry bones, he spoke as he was commanded: he waited on the word of God.

SO I PROPHESED AS I WAS COMMANDED: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. (Ezekiel 37:7)

The power of manifestation in the ministry of the prophet was simply in the fact that he was always in harmony with the word of God or the command of the Lord. A man who meditates in the scriptures always becomes a living proof of the wisdom of God in the word by means of works of power. All media by which the word of God is transmitted becomes a means to contacting the wisdom of God; be it

- The Scriptures
- Books of Anointed Vessels
- Videos
- Audio Messages
- Live-Preaching
- Fellowship with the Brethren, etc.

A man who meditates in the scriptures becomes a living proof of the wisdom of God in the Word by means of works of power.

All that has been enumerated in this chapter concern the ways of stirring and increasing in wisdom. Do not remain at the present operation of the wisdom of God at work in you. There is lying in you, a great mountain of wisdom's treasures and resources yet untapped. Use the available means of impartation and stirring to discover all the deposits of wisdom lying unused. Even Jesus, the son

of God took advantage of the gracious means of stirring and increased in wisdom.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man. (Luke 2:52)

However, we find in Luke 2:40, that Jesus was filled with wisdom. How could he be filled with wisdom and yet increase in wisdom? And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

Fascinatingly, we see something very remarkable take place between verses forty to fifty-two which answers the question. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. (Luke 2:46-47)

Even though Jesus was filled with wisdom, the Bible shows us how Jesus increased his wisdom; he sat to rub his mind with the minds of the doctors of the temple ***“hearing them and asking them questions”*** An opportunity to hear the word and have your questions answered is a sure way to increase your wisdom. In the verse forty-seven, the Bible says that the doctors were astonished at his understanding and answers. The word understanding connotes intelligence.

An opportunity to hear the word and have your questions answered is a sure way to increase your wisdom.

The way to increase in wisdom is to rub your mind on minds that will sharpen yours as well. Whose books do you read? Who do you listen to? Who do you watch? Who are you following in life and ministry? You are an actual reflection of their wisdom. In Proverbs 24:3, we read,

Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts. (TLB)

Any enterprise demands planning and becomes strong through the application of common sense. Take note that Common Sense, in this context, is not the knowledge that comes to a man naturally or the ability to think about things in a practical way to make sensible decisions. The common sense of wisdom has to do with the relevant knowledge required for any enterprise. Common sense simply is “household” knowledge or understanding. Appropriately, if on a

particular matter, there is household knowledge that you are oblivious of, then you lack common sense in that regard, because that knowledge is supposed to be common amongst the people in that household. Whatever there is to know, in an area of enterprise, is what is referred to as common sense. So you are said to lack common sense if you are lacking in that industry's knowledge.

The common sense of wisdom has to do with the relevant knowledge required for any enterprise.

It is rather unfortunate that there are some people who are so archaic that they joy in doing things the same old way even when trends have far advanced. They never want to allow the flow of better ways of doing things in a much easier way and with minimum resources. That is why I endeavour in life never to lack common sense. That is to say, I always apply myself to remain relevant in any industry or enterprise I find myself.

Even Jesus, though he was the son of God, had to increase in wisdom through common sense. Thus, he was found with the seniors of his industry (the doctors of the law) listening to them and asking them questions. The Living Bible says that any enterprise prospers wonderfully by keeping abreast with the facts. To stay relevant thus, you must apply three things:

- Wise planning – with God.
- Common Sense – with your fathers or seniors in the enterprise.
- Being Abreast with Facts – mastering the art of the technicalities.

Chapter 6: THE COMMERCE OF WISDOM

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. (Proverbs 4:7)

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he Word of God clearly spells out the truth that wisdom is the principal thing. What comes into the mind, in the world of commerce, when the word “principal” is mentioned? In perceiving

wisdom as the principal thing, I see the commerce of wisdom. That is to say wisdom is a product that must be traded with. In dealing with trade, the fundamental driving force is profit. Thus, as we delve into the commerce of wisdom, we will be looking at the yield of wisdom, resident in a man. The Bible says in Job 28:12, 15-18 that,

But where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding?...It cannot be gotten for gold, neither shall silver be weighed for the price thereof. It cannot be valued with the gold of Ophir, with the precious onyx, or the sapphire. The gold and the crystal cannot equal it: and the exchange of it shall not be for jewels of fine gold. No mention shall be made of coral, or of pearls: for the price of wisdom is above rubies.

Wisdom is a product that must be traded with.

It is very interesting that though the word of God says that wisdom is the principal thing, there is no currency that can be used as the exchange product of wisdom. With gold and silver, you cannot purchase it, yet it is the principal thing. Proverbs 23:23 also asserts that:

Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

How can wisdom be purchased and how can one make value on it since it is the principal thing?

Wisdom is the Principal Thing

In the world of business, the principal can be found in the calculation of simple interest. The equation for the calculation of simple interest is simply the product of the **Principal**, the **Rate** and the **Time**. The principal is the initial capital for any venture or an investment.

In the context of wisdom, the Principal is the invested wisdom in the inward parts, by the divine fusion called Christ. The Rate has to do with your rate of stirring in the Christ growth of wisdom where you advance through the seven houses of wisdom to the fullness of Christ. The Time factor of wisdom has to do with the period of growth it takes you to advance in all wisdom. When the principal is invested in the inward parts as Christ, a believer comes into the fullness of wisdom per the rate of stirring and time factor, which has to do with the growth period in wisdom.

The Fullness of Wisdom = Principal Invested Wisdom as Christ × Rate of Stirring of Christ × Time Factor of the Christ-growth

This should simply let you know that outside of wisdom, which is the principal thing, your life is zero. Outside of wisdom, there is no venture. That is why the most unfortunate thing in life is to live without Christ in you, because Christ is

wisdom, and hence should be the principal thing in everyman's life.

You in Christ versus Christ in You

Without Christ in you, you have no assurance of glory. To be in Christ is to have an experience of the work of regeneration through resurrection. Thus, the Scripture says that,

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

However, for Christ to be in you is a different matter altogether, because in that, we are looking at the advancement towards the fullness of wisdom. Scripture says in Colossians 1:27;

*To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; **which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.***

The Amplified Bible puts it this way –

To whom God was pleased to make known how great for the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ within and among you, the Hope of [realizing the] glory. (AMP)

Many times, when believers hear the word hope, they perceive it as being futuristic. However, hope is a reserve and not futuristic. Hope of glory does not connote a futuristic glory per say, but a reserve of glory. When we speak of hope, we are dealing with a reserve of resources. Thus, you cannot speak of hope when you are not assured that whatever you are hoping for is already available. We only say we have hope when what we are hoping for is already available. So, we view it as a reserve and not something we wish would manifest. In accordance, when we speak of the hope of glory, we are looking at the reserve or assurance of glory that you can express by way of your growth in Christ. Christ in you is your assurance of actualizing this glory in your body.

When we speak of the hope of glory, we are looking at the reserve or assurance of glory that you can express by way of your growth in Christ.

You in Christ is a different matter distinct from Christ in you. With YOU IN CHRIST, we are only looking at your new birth; the Spirit of God fusing with

your spirit, and thus, the initial investment of wisdom which was given to you. However, CHRIST IN YOU takes you from the principal to the added profit. It is a generation of value by the working of wisdom in you in the span of time to generate the profit of a celestial body as an overcomer in Christ. This is the reason why Paul, the apostle, cried out,

My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you. (Galatians 4:19).

The formation of Christ in you is bigger than you being in Christ. It has to do with your growth and maturity in Christ into an overcomer.

The Yield of the Principal

Do you know that in the world of business, you do not need money to make value? What you need principally is wisdom because the scriptures emphatically assert that wisdom is a defence! Ecclesiastes 7:11-12 declares,

Wisdom is good with an inheritance: and by it there is profit to them that see the sun. For wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it.

According to the law of purchasing and selling, you cannot purchase an item until you have lost something. In order to possess an item, you have to lose either money or another possession of equal value for it. The possessor of wisdom however can walk into a shop and buy without money. Many people are living their lives buying with money, but you can buy without money, because wisdom is a defence. You do not need money to buy a house; you need wisdom. What we call money has become a limitation to many people, because they were raised to buy with notes and coins. Yet, to be constrained by money is to limit the grace of God on your life, because that way, there are things you cannot buy. However, if you would focus on the principal, there is no telling what you can do even without money in your bank account.

What we call money has become a limitation to many people, because they were raised to buy with notes and coins. The possessor of wisdom however can walk into a shop and buy

without money.

Besides, the scriptures have said that the price of wisdom exceeds gold and rubies. That means the value of wisdom in your spirit surpasses any treasure on

this earth. All you need to do is to buy into the riches buried within; you will become a wonder in your field of endeavor. There is nothing you can name in this world that is more costly than wisdom. When wisdom visits the market, it always comes back with a surplus. Money may or may not come back with change, but wisdom will always come back with a surplus. The greatest investment of life is wisdom

I do not know what you have desired in this life that has become too expensive for you, but I know one thing; if a man finds wisdom, everything will come bowing down cheaply to him. Wisdom can place in your hands, the power of rulership; it can place a whole nation under your care. This was the story of Daniel: from the shameful place of a slave, he was exalted and made the ruler of the whole province of Babylon because of wisdom.

Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon. (Daniel 2:48)

The commerce of wisdom is the greatest transaction you can ever enter into in all your life. Outside of it, God could not create. The earth you see is founded and sustained by wisdom and the heavens are garnished and sustained by it.

The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens. By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew. (Proverbs 3:19-20).

The value of wisdom in your spirit surpasses any treasure on this earth

Wisdom creates value by works or better said, wisdom is expressed in works – the greater the work, the greater the wisdom. Correspondingly, the greatest work attracts the greatest value, which is bought by the greatest money. Proverbs 24:3 says that,

Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established.

Like I said already, you do not need money to build a house, what you need is wisdom. To say that you do not have a house because you do not have money is an insult to wisdom that is resident within. Rather, say you have not stirred the wisdom for it. The wisdom to turn our lives around is not outside of man; it is in the hidden parts. You are limited not because of money but to the extent of

wisdom that you have discovered in the hidden parts. The reason why many people lack expression is that wisdom is so hidden they do not want to invest in the search for it. Yet, Solomon said,

I APPLIED MINE HEART TO KNOW, and TO SEARCH, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness (Ecclesiastes 7:25)

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the greatest value, which is bought by the greatest money.

Chapter 7: THE SEVEN HOUSES OF WISDOM

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he advancement of wisdom in Christ is specifically through the seven houses of wisdom. The apostle Paul prayed a very interesting prayer in Ephesians 1:17-18:

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND REVELATION in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.

The spirit of wisdom combined with revelation gives us the full knowledge of Christ. The spirit of wisdom is also wisdom that is pure and is from above distinct from sensual wisdom. To say one has revelation means that he is lighted. The Greek word translated as “enlightened” is “*photizo*” which means to flood with light or to be illuminated.

In the kingdom of God, there are those who are called the illuminated or lighted ones. These ones have the eyes of their understanding flooded with light. They are possessors of wisdom but not wisdom alone – they have the spirit of light or revelation in them, to search out wisdom. This spirit of light was described as the spirit of the holy gods in the days of Daniel. You may think this as eccentric until you read Daniel 5:11 –

There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of

the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers;

In the kingdom of God, there are those who are called the illuminated or lighted ones. These have the eyes of their understanding flooded with light.

There is a certain wisdom called the wisdom of the holy gods, because only gods can walk in that kind of wisdom. There is an inward eye in every man yet, some, alas, have that eye shut. Even as you read this book, you have this eye I am speaking of, which may be open or shut, depending on the knowledge or light you are exposed to. The opening of this inward eye is your opening into the secrets of wisdom. Certain sects in their bid to elucidate this eye called it the “third eye” yet, their label of it should not stop us as believers from understanding it – it is a portal into the infinite expanse of the spirit realm. This truth is littered in the scriptures. Revelation 4:6, 8 says that,

*And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and **round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind** ...And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; **AND THEY WERE FULL OF EYES WITHIN** : and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.*

The composite cherubic order, of which man is part, have eyes before, behind and within. The eyes before give them foresight and the eyes behind give them hindsight. However, the nub of my interest now is the eyes within because it is with the eyes within that you search the inward parts of the belly where wisdom dwells.

There is an inward eye in every man yet, some alas have that eye shut.

These eyes within are what give the cherubs insight. Ecclesiastes 2:14 and Proverbs 17:24 emphatically highlight this matter:

The wise man’s eyes are in his head; but the fool walketh in darkness: and I myself perceived also that one event happeneth to them all.

Wisdom is before him that hath understanding; but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth.

The preacher succinctly declares that the wise man’s eyes are in his head while

the fool's eyes are in the ends of the earth. Eyes in the head, does not speak of biological eyes in the orbits of the skull. If that were the case, then the fool's eyes should also be in his head. The fool's eyes are in the ends of the earth because he waits to die before he fathoms that he had eyes within. Thus, his eyes only become useful to him in the grave or at the ends of the earth. Jesus said in Luke 11:34, 36:

The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness...If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.

The interpretation of the scripture relates with the liberal soul, however, in principle, we understand that the light of the body is the eye. The operations of light in the physical dimension are the same operations in the spirit. You can have a room with dim light. That the room is dim does not mean there is no light there at all. The intensity of light in a room can always be improved.

Correspondingly, what determines the illumination of light in a room, is how concentrated the light is. The apostle, Paul, then, hit the nail right on the head when he prayed, ***“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened...”*** Beloved, the way into illumination is for the eyes of your understanding to be flooded with light. It is by this that your whole body will be full of light. By this mechanism, light, wisdom and understanding dwelt in Daniel: ***“...and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him...”*** Interestingly, in Genesis 41:38-39, Pharaoh said, concerning Joseph,

And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is? And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art.

Do you know that the same spirit of the holy gods that was said to dwell in Daniel is the same spirit that dwelt in Joseph? Instead of saying the spirit of God dwelt in Joseph, I could say, light dwelt in him, for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in you is the dwelling of light in you, because the seven lamps before the throne of God are the seven spirits of God. The great characteristic of wisdom is light. To be wise, you have to be imbued by light which is by the divine fusion.

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit in you is the dwelling of light in you, because the seven lamps before the throne of God are the seven spirits of God.

This light is the manifestation of the seven spirits of God before the throne of God as the seven burning torches which are the seven houses of wisdom.

The Seven Spirits of God as the Seven Houses of Wisdom

*And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: **and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.*** (Revelation 4:5)

For one to be esteemed as a lighted one, the seven lamps of God must be burning in him in full measure. That is to say, for him to be full of light, all seven spirits of God must be active in him. Two of the lamps burning will give light but that is not the fullness of light. The seven spirits of God are the fullness of light in a man, and thus make a man illuminated.

When a man gets born again and gets filled with the Holy Spirit, that man would be very mistaken if he thinks he has the fullness of the Holy Spirit because God only gave the earnest of the Spirit until the redemption of the purchased possession which is our celestial bodies.

*...in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with **that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession** , unto the praise of his glory .* (Ephesians 1:13-14)

*Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; **Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.*** (2 Corinthians 1:21-22)

For one to be esteemed as a lighted one, the seven lamps of God must be burning in him in full measure.

The EARNEST is a business term and speaks of a part payment made in advance. In the field of law, it is made to confirm an agreement. Thus, the measure of the Holy Spirit that we have in this age is only a part payment to confirm the contract we have with God which is the new covenant. The path to the fullness

of the Spirit is when the believer takes advantage of the earnest of the Spirit and journeys through the seven spirits of God which are the seven houses of wisdom. Thus, the seven spirits of God are the journeys or transmissions of the Holy Spirit through the path to his fullness, called the houses of light.

Scripture says in Isaiah 11:1-2 that,

*And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: **And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;***

The seven spirits of God (1. the spirit of the Lord, 2. the spirit of wisdom, 3. the spirit of understanding, 4. the spirit of counsel, 5. the spirit of might, 6. the spirit of knowledge, 7. the fear of the Lord) are the birthing or maturity of the Holy Spirit in a believer as he goes through the seven houses of wisdom which begins with THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM and culminates with THE FEAR OF THE LORD, which is also THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM. Thus, the journey is from wisdom to wisdom. That is why I refer to them as the seven houses of wisdom.

The measure of the Holy Spirit that we have in this age is only a part payment to confirm the contract we have with God which is the

new covenant. The path to the fullness of the Spirit is when the believer takes advantage of the earnest of the Spirit and journeys through

the seven spirits of God which are the seven houses of wisdom.

According to the Psalmist in Psalms 111:10,

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

Solomon, the king, also says that,

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. (Proverbs 9:10)

Thus, in the advancement of the Christ growth in the houses of wisdom, the ascent to the culmination, which is the fear of the Lord, is only a beginning on its own, because it is only after this place that one is ushered into the fullness of the

secrets of wisdom. Therefore Psalms 25:14 asserts that,

The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

A man is hence ushered into the hidden secrets of God in the ages to come known as the unsearchable riches of Christ when he now has proceeded from the place of the fear of the Lord, in the seven houses of wisdom.

The Seven Houses of Wisdom According to the Pattern of the Menorah

This arrangement of the seven houses of wisdom is according to the seven branched candlestick in the temple of God called the “*menorah*” in Hebrew. Moses was commanded by God to make this candlestick in Exodus 25:37;

And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it.

In the temple of God, the “*menorah*” stood in the holy place and lighted the entire place. The interesting thing about this “*menorah*” however is that, per Hebrew tradition, the middle branch which is called the **Western Light** is not lighted by man. Fire had to be sent from heaven by God to light the Western Light. When this is done, the priest takes the fire of the Western Light and lights the other six branches of the “*menorah*” . The fire of the Western Light was never to go out, just as the fire of the burnt offering was never to go out. However, it was the responsibility of the priests to keep the fire burning continually.

And thou shalt command the children of Israel, that they bring thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, TO CAUSE THE LAMP TO BURN ALWAYS. In the tabernacle of the congregation without the vail, which is before the testimony, Aaron and his sons shall order it from evening to morning before the LORD: it shall be a statute for ever unto their generations on the behalf of the children of Israel. (Exodus 27:20-21)

The fire shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out. (Leviticus 6:13)

Every fire in the temple of God; whether for the candlestick or the brazen altar were not to be started by man. God begins the fire, and then man maintains the

fire. A careful study of the scriptures reveals that each time a temple or tabernacle was built unto God, the fire to burn the sacrifices will fall from heaven, and then from then on, the priest will maintain the fire by feeding it with wood or oil depending on whether it was for the altar of burnt offering or the candlestick, and the fire was never to go out.

When Moses finished constructing the tabernacle in the wilderness, fire fell from heaven and consumed the sacrifice—

And there came a fire out from before the LORD, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces. (Leviticus 9:24)

This same thing happened in the days of Solomon when he had finished constructing the temple in the Promised Land—

When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the Lord above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the Lord, saying, “He is good; his love endures forever.” (2 Chronicles 7:1, 3, NIV)

Prophets like Elijah and David had their fair share of these heavenly experiences – 1 Chronicles 21:26; 1 Kings 18:38. As a matter of fact, any fire which was started by man in the temple was referred to as strange fire:

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. And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD. (Leviticus 10:1-2)

Instead of waiting for fire from heaven, Nadab and Abihu took it upon themselves to start a fire in the temple of God and this led to their untimely death. The same applies to the “*menorah*” ; it was dangerous for you to start the fire of the Western Light. Yet, when it had been started by God, the priest now had to feed it with oil and transfer it to the six other houses of light.

To start your own fire in the walk of wisdom is to walk in carnality and sensual wisdom instead of relying on the divine fusion to fill you with wisdom. Thus,

many are walking about thinking they are wise in themselves, but actually, to God, they are very foolish.

But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence. (1 Corinthians 1:27-29).

Indeed, no flesh can glory in the presence of God because to produce the wisdom of the flesh is to produce strange fire.

To start your own fire in the walk of wisdom is to walk in carnality and sensual wisdom instead of relying on the divine fusion to fill you with wisdom.

As a believer, when you have received the Spirit of the Lord, which is the Western Light of God, you have to take advantage of that light and transfer it to the six other houses of light within you to express the fullness of wisdom. This is the means by which your body becomes full of light as one in whom the spirit of the holy gods resides.

NB: Refer to the Image of the Menorah on next page

In the journey to the fullness of wisdom, the believer must first receive the Spirit of the Lord, which is the earnest of the Spirit, which fuses with his spirit in the amalgamation called Christ.

The purchased possession is a spiritual body encased in the seven houses of wisdom which is a body of virtue, and this body is a body of light. This light is sparked in the believer when he receives the earnest of the Spirit. Yet, he must grow this light until his whole body is full of light. Proverbs 4:18 says concerning the righteous:

But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

The perfect day speaks of perfection in the seventh house of wisdom, in the radiance of light, when a believer has explored all the seven houses of light. This kind of wisdom makes him to shine as a lighted one.

The purchased possession is a spiritual body encased in the seven houses of wisdom which is a body of virtue, and this body is a body of light.

The Seven Houses of Wisdom According to
the Pattern of the Menorah



There is a very strong connection between wisdom and light. Wisdom resident in a man creates an effulgent glory which is visible on his face. Ecclesiastes 8:1 harmoniously declares that,

*Who is as the wise man? and who knoweth the interpretation of a thing? A **MAN'S WISDOM MAKETH HIS FACE TO SHINE, and the boldness of his face shall be changed.***

It is this wisdom that manifested in the days of Stephen that caused his face to shine like that of an angel. The scripture emphatically asserts that they could not resist the wisdom with which he spoke, making us see that his radiance was because of his wisdom.

And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake... And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel. (Acts 6:10, 15)

Wisdom at peak potential alters the glory in the face. By now, you should have come to understand that wisdom and light go hand in hand. You should be able to discern when a man's face is shining as an angel because of his wisdom. When a man is wise, his face will shine. The shining face is an actual experience that shows up when one begins to manifest wisdom. Daniel 12:3 clearly states that,

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

To be wise here speaks of the realm of enlightenment. In the advanced teachings of Christ, the first school that one must attend in order to ascend to the apex of tasting of the powers of the ages to come is the school of enlightenment.

Wisdom at peak potential alters the glory in the face.

For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance... (Hebrews 6:4-6)

This enlightenment is the expression of a man's wisdom as light. It is in this

regard that Lucifer, that ancient being, was the harbinger of light. That is to say, he was the herald of light because of his wisdom. Scripture says concerning him;

How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! (Isaiah 14:12)

The Hebrew word for “Lucifer” is “heylel” which means the shining one or the morning star. Thus, anytime the coined word, “Luciferos” is used, it is a connotation of light. Yet, this light is the light that issues forth as a result of a man’s wisdom. This is how Lucifer came into that estate of radiance. Scripture asserts concerning him,

Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, THOU HAST CORRUPTED THY WISDOM BY REASON OF THY BRIGHTNESS: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. (Ezekiel 28:17).

Ever before Lucifer, the shining one, corrupted his wisdom, it is palpable that he was a bright being. Yet, in the day when he corrupted his wisdom, he produced corrupted light. Corrupted wisdom produces corrupted light. Thus, that Lucifer fell, does not mean that he lost his radiance; he only corrupted his radiance:

And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. (2 Corinthians 11:14).

What happens when the believer begins to stir up the wisdom within him in prayer? To answer that question we have to revisit the experience of Jesus on the mount of transfiguration. Scripture recounts that as he prayed, his countenance was altered:

And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening. And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias. (Luke 9:28-30)

As soon as Jesus began to pray, scripture recounts that the fashion of his countenance was changed to that of light. As soon as this happened we see Moses and Elijah in communication with him. This is very interesting because Jesus prayed a lot in scripture yet, this is the only account we have recorded that his countenance shone during prayer, and of note is the fact that he was engaging

divine counsel with the spirits that had ascended into glory.

As you pray in accordance with God's prearranged will and pleasure, you release the ambience of the light of wisdom that is buried

within you.

The Bible declares that they were engaged in a discussion of Jesus' death that he was to accomplish in Jerusalem.

Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem. (Luke 9:31)

Do not forget this was God's plan from the foundation of the world. When Jesus began to engage the divine thoughts of God his countenance could not but change. As you pray in accordance with God's prearranged will and pleasure, you release the ambience of the light of wisdom that is locked up within you.

Chapter 8: **THE SECRETS OF WISDOM**

D

o you know that the only difference between you and God is knowledge? You are not as powerful as God because you do not know as much and all that he knows. The scripture clearly

shows that knowledge is the catalyst that produces the god trait in men.

If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken (John 10:35)

The word of God comes ultimately to produce capacity (knowledge) for godhood in believers. In the day when you are privy to all the secrets of God, you will be as powerful as Him. However, God, in his infinite wisdom, has not placed all his secrets in the open for everyone to have access to them because those who discover them are exalted to have power with him in royal regalia. These are the royal and pure hearted. Proverbs 25:2 asserts,

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.

The glory of God is ascertained when he conceals things from men. It takes the heart of a king to master the courage to search out the depths of God and his secrets. When Paul, the apostle, came on the scene, he said,

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory. (1 Corinthians 2:7)

Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. (Romans 8:30)

The ultimate end of man is for him to be glorified. That is to say, God predestined man unto glorification. Yet, the heart is perturbed when we discover that the wisdom of God which is to carry man into that glory is concealed, and is spoken in a mystery. Understand that a mystery is not something that is hidden; never to be accessed. The Greek word translated as mystery is “*musterion*” which means a secret confided only to the initiated. It is a derivative of the word “*muo*” which means to shut the mouth about a known thing. Thus, the secret is revealed, but only to the initiated, and they have shut their mouths about it. This is how wisdom functions. Wisdom does not lie in the open; it is concealed in the inward parts. You must search the depths of your heart before you contact wisdom.

You are not as powerful as God because you do not know as much and all that he knows.

The secrets of God are retained in wisdom. To discover them therefore, you have to search the inward parts where wisdom dwells. Job 15:8 affirms,

Hast thou heard the secret of God? and dost thou restrain wisdom to thyself?

The ability to restrain wisdom to yourself is your introduction into the secrets of God. Correspondingly, you can only gain expression in wisdom when you have access to its secrets. Pathetically, though these secrets are revealed, only a few have discovered them and have garnished their lives with them.

The kind of wisdom at work in you is what determines the quality of expression you enjoy. This truth is explicitly revealed when we deliberate on the fashion in which events played out in the Garden of Eden when man was exposed to a certain secret of wisdom that God intended for him not to meddle with, nor contact at all.

Wisdom does not lie in the open; it is concealed in the inward parts. You must search the depths of your heart

before you contact wisdom.

The Secret Files of Wisdom in the Garden of Eden

God is a master craftsman! None of his works are without significance. Do you know that when he planted the Garden in the east of Eden, he buried the secrets of wisdom there? Thus, for every tree that man meddled with in the Garden, at each point of his development, he was communing with a dimension of the secrets of wisdom. There were different kinds of trees in the Garden of Eden:

I. Trees that were pleasant to the sight and good for food II. The tree of life
III. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil

And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. (Genesis 2:9)

The tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil were located in the same place in the Garden of Eden, i.e. in the midst of the Garden, and yet these trees were opposed to each other. The former produced life and the latter produced death. They could have equally been called the *Tree of Life* and the *Tree of Death*. Whichever tree man partook of was going to determine the kind of expressions he would produce, because both trees were of the stock of wisdom.

For every tree that man meddled with in the Garden, at each point of his development, he was communing with a dimension of the secrets of wisdom.

God emphatically commanded Adam,

...Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. (Genesis 2:16-17).

The reason for this command was that man's wisdom was linked to his feeding system and was going to affect him based on which of the trees he fed on because both trees were the expressions of different kinds of wisdom. Satan, knowing this, masqueraded as a serpent and through deception, perverted man's feeding system. Ever before man partook of the tree of the knowledge of good

and evil, his mind had already been corrupted by the devil through deception.

And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. (Genesis 3:4-5)

Thus, the first point of contact for the serpent to lead man into corruption was not the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil but the mind of man.

There are three main productive organs in man; the mind, the mouth and the reproductive organs. Each of these organic gates has a particular produce that it yields in the life of a man based on what it is fed with. In the Garden of Eden, the serpent messed up with all these three organic gates in man; he perverted man's mind by feeding it with deception, he corrupted man's mouth by feeding it with the wrong food, and he degraded man's reproductive system by guiding his passions in the wrong direction. Thus, right from the fall of man, his greatest challenge has been the ability to dominate these three aspects of his being. As a result of what these three organic gates were fed with, man became carnal and hostile to the law of God. Romans 8:6-7 emphatically asserts,

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

God's greatest enemy therefore, from the beginning of the creation, has been the carnal mind.

There are three main productive organs in man; the mind, the mouth and the reproductive organs. Each of these organic gates has a particular produce that it yields in the life of a man based on what it is fed with.

In the spectrum of the body of Christ, there are many opinions regarding the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. However, the knowledge common to all is that this tree fed Adam and Eve with the knowledge of good and evil. But the question that must be asked is this: "How could a man eat of the fruit of a tree and all of a sudden, his whole perception of reality is altered? What kind of tree could this be?"

As far as we can ascertain, this tree is no ordinary tree. More exactly, it was an archival system of the mystery of good and evil; a secret data which God, for

very good reasons, had concealed from Adam and his wife. In the course of time, God would have allowed man to partake of this fruit. Yet, man, out of due time, with the help of the malicious catalyst; the serpent, ate of this fruit and it ministered death to him. If Adam had completed the journey of life by reason of continuous participation in the tree of life, he would have been granted to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good. This tree would not have ministered death to him, because he would have known the place of good and evil from the perspective of life.

If Adam had completed the journey of life by reason of continuous participation in the tree of life, he would have eaten of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and it would not have ministered death to him

Do not be startled at this, because if God were to expose you to all his secrets, you could be destroyed because of immaturity. Thus, he takes you deeper into the mysteries of the kingdom at every level of your growth in Christ. Just as a child with a loaded gun is a danger to all around him, an amateur with deep secrets is a hazard to the universe. This is precisely what happened to man in the Garden – the premature participation in the tree caused an inability to digest its content, and it thus killed them.

The roots and essence of good and evil are the same.

On a practical side of all I have said above, I usually have very gracious truths I could choose to share without restraint day in and day out during my ministrations. Quite the contrary, I exercise a lot of discretion before sharing because seated in the congregation are men with various levels of growth. I could destroy someone by my utterances. If the flock God has given me would be hurt because of truth I was exposed to, which was a blessing to me, then I would rather not say it! There are certain intensities of light which when your body is exposed to, can kill you. However, another body will be exposed to the same concentration of light and live because that body has the capacity to absorb or reflect that intensity of light. Remember that the word of God is light. (Psalms 119:105; Proverbs 6:23). That is why God specifically ordered Adam not to partake of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. His subsequent death was not God's punishment but only an unfortunate consequence of his disobedience. The roots and essence of good and evil are the same. That is to say, good and evil are not opposites – they are of the same tree and bear the same fruit. The

eating and consequent participation in the tree of the knowledge of good and evil ushered in the quest to differentiate good from evil. God, in his wisdom, wanted man to live in the realm of life and to master it, before ever allowing him to have knowledge of what is right (good) and wrong (evil). There is the principle of life, and there is the principle of the knowledge of good and evil. By eating of the tree of life, Adam was to be sustained by its life and minister to the creation from the well spring of life. However, by reason of his premature participation in the tree of death, his perception of righteousness was distorted and he lived by a differentiation of right from wrong. As a believer, you must live in the realm of life and not be regulated by what is right or wrong. For an in-depth understanding of this, read my book, ***Decrypting Righteousness, God's Canon for Man.***

Take note of God's conclusion after man partook of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil:

...BEHOLD, THE MAN IS BECOME AS ONE OF US, TO KNOW GOOD AND EVIL: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever (Genesis 3:22).

God's statement was emphatic: ***"...the man is become as one of us..."*** The only accurate inference is that God and his angels already had the knowledge of good and evil. The principal trait of the wisdom of an angel is that it discerns good and bad. Thus, we read in 2 Samuel 14:17:

Then thine handmaid said, The word of my lord the king shall now be comfortable: for as an angel of God, so is my lord the king to discern good and bad: therefore the LORD thy God will be with thee.

Were the angels of God created with the knowledge of good and evil? If God having this knowledge is not a strange claim, then how did the angels come by it? The answer is simple – they had the privilege to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of God in heaven, because the Garden of Eden itself was an extension of the paradise of God in heaven. Else, there is no way they could have the knowledge of good and evil. Please understand from foundations that every tree in the Garden was an information bank with coded data that carried the secrets of wisdom. Whichever tree you partook of gave you access to a certain bank of information in the universe of God. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil being the food of angels, gave them knowledge into

the secrets of the earth. I have expounded this in Chapter Twelve under the wisdom of an angel. Knowledge is food, and is fed to one of the organic gates in man which is the mind.

Every tree in the Garden was an information bank with coded data that carried the secrets of wisdom.

Therefore, it is unarguable an assertion to make, that the tree of the knowledge of good and evil relates to a certain kind of expression of knowledge. Yet what is baffling is the ignorance of many believers that the tree of life also relates to wisdom. Scripture says in Proverbs 3:13, 18,

HAPPY IS THE MAN THAT FINDETH WISDOM, and the man that getteth understanding...SHE IS A TREE OF LIFE to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her.

The tree of life could also be defined as “*the Tree of Wisdom*”, which results in life. The reason is that the tree contained the hidden elixir of life which could make man live forever, with the God quality of life, and that is wisdom. Each tree produced a particular kind of knowledge in the participant and thus yielded certain fruits in his life. An elixir is a panacea that is believed to contain the ability to cure all illnesses and make man live forever. The word of God reveals that wisdom is the true elixir of life.

The tree of life could also be defined as “the Tree of Wisdom”

The tree of life in the Garden contained the secret files of wisdom, because wisdom itself, the scripture says, is a tree of life. The one who partakes of this tree is granted access to the secrets of wisdom. Such a one accesses the elixir of life and extends it to the creation. His utterances become a source of vitality for the creation because he has contacted the secrets of wisdom, and has become a tree of life himself; the embodied fulfillment of the creation.

For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. (Romans 8:19)

The Arithmetic of Wisdom

So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

(Psalms 90:12)

David, the king, enlightens us about the functional relation between wisdom and

days. He shows that wisdom is the force that regulates the days. As we peruse the scriptures, we see a very strong correlation between wisdom and numbers. As a matter of fact, you cannot talk about wisdom without conveying it in the vehicle of numbers. This is because the expressions of wisdom itself are numbered, and the intent and purpose of things are hidden in their numerals. That is why wisdom expresses itself by seven pillars. Wisdom is expressed in your ability to count numbers. In Revelation 13:18, scripture asserts that it takes wisdom to count the number of the beast.

Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

The expressions of wisdom itself are numbered, and the intent and purpose of things are hidden in their numerals.

For a moment, let us consider the creation. What did God use to create the universe? The simple answer is “His Word”. God SAID, “***let there be***”, and it showed up. However, what language was God speaking when he said, “***let there be***”? The scholarship worldwide has been grappling over this perturbing question yet the answer is simple
– God spoke in numbers. In Revelation 1:8, Jesus said,

I am ALPHA and OMEGA, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Fascinatingly, Jesus, the Word of God, who is the means through which all things were made, calls himself by the first and last Greek alphabets; Alpha and Omega. Additionally, we understand that the language Jesus spoke to his apostles was Hebrew and not Greek thus, we have to perceive his communication in the Hebrew language. For instance, when Jesus appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus, he spoke to Paul in the Hebrew tongue:

And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. (Acts 26:14-15)

God spoke in the Hebrew language during creation because the Word of God is the “Aleph” and “Tau” .

Paul understood a couple of languages, yet Jesus chose to speak to him in Hebrew. Correspondingly, if we perceive Jesus' speech in the Hebrew tongue, we come to know that Jesus said in Revelation 1:8 that, "I am the Aleph and Tau", the first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabets instead of "I am the Alpha and Omega". This being the case, it would not be farfetched to also make the assertion that God spoke in the Hebrew language during creation because the Word of God is the "Aleph" and "Tau" .

In the book of Genesis 1:1, which says that "***In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth***", the scripture attests to this when you read it in the Hebrew text:

The text above must be read from right to left, as is the way of reading Hebrew. Nevertheless, to put it in a simple way, it reads as follows:

Beresheit bara' 'elohim 'et hashamayim v'et ha' eretz.

This is simply translated as "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth." There is a secret encoded in the text above that you will never see if you only read the English translation of Genesis 1:1. There is a hidden word that is not translated into the English, and yet it bears the most important significance in Genesis 1:1 as related to the

creation. This word is , that is, ***Aleph Tau*** . It is written as "et" in the Hebrew text. The translation of the text with the "et" in view reveals that, actually, what God created before the heaven and the earth is the "et" which is written as "Aleph Tau" .

Beresheit – In the beginning

Bara' – created

'elohim – God

'et - ???

hashamayim v'et ha' eretz – the heaven and the earth.

Thus, the text, directly translated, reads as, “*In the beginning created God “et” the heaven and the earth*” – In the beginning created God, the “*Aleph Tau*” and the heavens and the earth. This was not translated in the English Bible. Nevertheless, this is the truth of Scripture, because without the “*Aleph Tau*”, nothing could have been created or made; it was made as a medium for the creation of God, since God had to speak to bring things to pass.

One very key thing to note about the Hebrew alphabets is that each one is a letter as well as a value. For instance, the value for “*aleph*” is one (1), and the value for “*tau*” is four hundred (400), which falls under the broad study of Gematria. Thus, every letter and every word in the Hebrew language has its value and its vibrational frequency. Hence, each letter and each word has its meaning based on those values and frequencies. So we have the right to say that the “*Aleph Tau*”, which are in themselves values, are the means by which the cosmos was fashioned because God made the “*Aleph Tau*” first as a means to speak the creation forth. Thus everything you see in the universe is a number. This simple principle of numerical communication does not only apply to the Hebrew language but applies to many other languages and mathematical procedures. Again, that God spoke before the creation came into being simply means that he operated on the vibrational frequency of sound. Yet, there is no sound which is without significance according to 1 Corinthians 14:10. That is to say, every sound vibrates at a certain frequency which is a number, measured in Hertz (Hz). I have delved into this in chapter sixteen under the seven thunders.

Every letter and every word in the Hebrew language has its value and its vibrational frequency. Hence, each letter and each word has its meaning based on those values and frequencies.

In accordance, every creation of God has its value and frequency, and it takes wisdom to decode this value because they were encrypted in wisdom. The scriptures assert that the whole universe was made by wisdom, and yet the expressions of wisdom are numbered.

The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens. (Proverbs 3:19)

God did not just jumble the creation together in chaos for them to coexist. In

wisdom, he arranged everything into an orderly fashion. The Greek word itself, “kosmos”, which describes the universe, means an orderly arrangement. Proper order is a manifestation of wisdom. Psalms 147:4-5 says that,

He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names. Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

Despite the vastness of the heavenly host, Scripture says that God has numbered them and calls them by their name. As a result, scripture declares that his understanding is infinite. It is important that I handle these foundations so that when I finally delve into the *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, it would be easily understood. To number is a mathematical language and this makes us know that God operated in arithmetic mode when he made the heavenly host and the entire creation. Yet, notice that he did not only tell the number of the stars but called them by their names. This is remarkable because to the Hebrew, the name of a thing does not just describe its appearance but more than that, describes its function and purpose. Thus, to call a star by its name is to decode its function and destiny. Again, each name has its numerical value. Thus, to number a thing is to tell the intent and purpose of that thing by wisdom. Job 38:37 tells us,

Who can number the clouds in wisdom? or who can stay the bottles of heaven.

It takes wisdom to number the clouds. As a matter of fact, any process of numbering in the kingdom of God must be according to wisdom. Revelation 13:18 says that,

Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

To the Hebrew, the name of a thing does not just describe its appearance but more than that, describes its function and purpose.

His number is six hundred and sixty-six (666) and finally the mind that has wisdom decodes the mystery of the woman that sits on the seven mountains. For all that we have understood, we can simply tell that this number is supposed to evaluate and expose the intent, function and purpose of the beast, and the scripture emphatically said that it is the number of a man. That is to say, that is his value. To be able to count this number is wisdom, because the perfect evaluation of the number, 666 is a triple fold of the number of man which is six

(6). Thus, the number elaborates man at his fullness without God. Moreover, man without God is deficient thus, the 666 is imperfection at its peak.

Many eschatological interpretations concerning this verse are flawed simply because the men who interpret it do not understand the arithmetic of wisdom. Wisdom is expressed in your ability to encrypt and to decrypt. That is why it is an expression of wisdom to count the number of the beast: John, the apostle, asserts that to be able to count the number of the beast is an expression of wisdom and understanding. Then again, to establish the matter, Revelation 17:9 asserts,

And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

We see again that, the mind that has wisdom is expressed in one's ability to count. First, we are told to number our days and apply our hearts to wisdom. Then, we see that wisdom is expressed in the ability to count the number of the beast and in the ability to count his heads. To be able to tell the arsenals and devices of the devil and scan him, is an expression of wisdom at work in you. The secrets of wisdom are therefore seen in the ability to decipher the archives of wisdom and the codes under which they have been encrypted in numbers. This encryption is found in the seven pillars of wisdom. This leads us to undo the seven files of the pillars of wisdom.

Chapter 9: **THE FEATS AND EXPLOITS OF WISDOM**

Wisdom is not vague; its demonstrations are clearly visible and tangible. The feats and exploits of wisdom are seen in three main exhibitions which are:

- a) The Building of Wisdom
- b) The Works of Wisdom
- c) The Profitability of Wisdom

Thus, we can tell if a man is wise or not based on these three displays of wisdom.

- a) The Building of Wisdom

Proverbs 9:1 asserts that ,

Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars.

It would have been very disappointing if Solomon, the wisest man on earth before Jesus, did not express his wisdom by building a house. This is because wisdom expresses itself by works of building. Consequently, the proper way of judging all that are wise hearted is to perceive their wisdom in the manifestation of a house. Please understand that the works of wisdom are founded on her house of seven pillars. To say one is wise thus, he must show us his house because houses are the expression of wisdom. Interestingly, Solomon did not disappoint our expectation; the word of God, in 1 Kings 10:4-5 recounts the glory and grandeur of Solomon's house, which caused the Queen of Sheba to be dumbfounded when she saw it.

Wisdom is not an abstract thing; its expressions are clearly seen, of which one of the most cardinal is a "House"

And when the queen of Sheba HAD SEEN ALL SOLOMON'S WISDOM, and THE HOUSE THAT HE HAD BUILT, And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the LORD; there was no more spirit in her.

Wisdom is not an abstract thing; its expressions are clearly seen, of which one of the most cardinal is a "House". Scripture recounts that the Queen of Sheba saw all Solomon's wisdom. How did she see his wisdom? They were his expressions. If you are wise, where are your expressions? Where is your house and where are your seven pillars? The kind of life you have now simply tells us the level of wisdom you are operating in. The Bible is emphatic in asserting that,

THROUGH WISDOM IS AN HOUSE BUILDED; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches. A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength. (Proverbs 24:3-5)

Now, observe something remarkable: a house, after it has been built by wisdom is established by understanding. That is to say, it takes light which functions by knowledge to search the house of wisdom. Scripture says that by knowledge, the chambers of the house are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

According to the pedagogy of the world, knowledge is first gained and then it is applied as wisdom. Nevertheless, the scripture destroys this teaching and reveals

that knowledge comes after the establishment of wisdom's house to fill its chambers with all precious and pleasant riches. To say wisdom is the application of knowledge thus, turns the whole fabric of the spiritual process upside down, because knowledge is a birthing of wisdom that decorates wisdom's House. We could actually say that knowledge is the application of wisdom, and not the vice versa.

Knowledge comes after the establishment of wisdom's house to fill its chambers with all precious and pleasant riches.

The interesting thing however is that in all the celebrated personality of Solomon, for his exceeding wisdom, he did not even explore the fullness of wisdom. It took Jesus to break the fullness of the portals of wisdom for us, and through works of righteousness to assimilate us into a celestial place to partake of its heavenly riches. No wonder Jesus said in Matthew 12:42 that ***"a greater than Solomon is here."***

*The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, **behold, a greater than Solomon is here.***

In accordance, it is not a shock to see Jesus speaking of building his house which is the Church in Matthew 16:18

*And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this **rock I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.***

A careful boast of Jesus in actuality is seen in the grandeur and vastness of the Church of the Living God. This is because Christ is the wisdom of God. Again, the wisdom of the Church is Christ, and Christ is a house. The Bible clearly says that we are the house of Christ.

But Christ as a son over his own house; WHOSE HOUSE ARE WE, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end (Hebrews 3:6).

While it is clear that houses are built through wisdom, we must also grasp that if we are the house of Christ, then it must be that Christ is wisdom. Any man who contributes to the building of this house is a wise man. In Paul's own words, he said,

*According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a **WISE MASTERBUILDER, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.*** (1 Corinthians 3:10)

The testimony of the Scripture is sure; wise men build! Solomon was a builder. Paul was a builder. Jesus is a builder. Seek to express the resident wisdom in you by proofs of building.

Wise men build!

However, appreciate that a house is not only a physical arrangement of architectural stones but an arrangement of rank and file that concerns itself with the transmissions that demand a sense of fulfillment of duty and governance. A typical house in this context is the house of parliament or a governing body of any corporate institution. Thus, the effective flow of governance is a display of a house built.

A house is not only a physical arrangement of architectural stones but an arrangement of rank and file that concerns itself with the transmissions that demand a sense of fulfillment of duty and governance.

Works of Wisdom

I have intimated in various places of the book that wisdom is the expression of works. This glaring truth was highlighted when the Jews identified wisdom in Jesus when he cast out devils and accomplished many mighty works. Scripture recounts in Mark 6:2 that,

*And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and **what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?***

Take note of the latter portion of the verse: “...**and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?**” Jesus was able to produce such mighty works because of the wisdom that was given unto him. Thus, the works of your hands are as a result of the kind of wisdom at work in you. Works are an expression of wisdom that is at work within. Jesus’

ability to cast out devils was an expression of wisdom.

Works are an expression of wisdom that is at work within.

Do you realize that even the meat on Solomon's table was an expression of his wisdom? The garments of his attendants were all expressions of his wisdom. What cloths do you wear? Your outlook and disposition will tell us which scale you are on in the pillars of wisdom.

And when the queen of Sheba HAD SEEN ALL SOLOMON'S WISDOM, and the house that he had built, And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the LORD; there was no more spirit in her.

In this verse, we see that all Solomon's works proceeded from the fount of his wisdom. This being the pattern from the beginning of the creation, we read in Psalms 104:24 that all the works of God were made in wisdom;

O LORD, how manifold are THY WORKS! IN WISDOM HAST THOU MADE THEM ALL: the earth is full of thy riches.

The Jews had a very keen understanding into this truth, and thus, each time Jesus displayed mighty works, they questioned his wisdom.

And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? (Matthew 13:54)

Remember I have already mentioned that we must not perceive wisdom according to the Greco-Roman thought. The conclusion of this matter could not have been said any better than in James 3:13, when the apostle gives us the perfect definition of who a wise man is;

Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? LET HIM SHEW OUT OF A GOOD CONVERSATION HIS WORKS WITH MEEKNESS OF WISDOM.

Beloved, please settle it in your heart; wisdom is evidenced in works. Who is a wise man endued with knowledge? There is only one way to find out. James, the

apostle said, let him show out of a good conversation his WORKS WITH MEEKNESS OF WISDOM. The wise man, coupled with a good conduct or character, ought to show works with the meekness of wisdom. This is the conclusion of the matter.

It is necessary for me to mention however that meekness here does not relate to calmness and courtesy. Refer to chapter four under the spectacle of the heart of man to understand the concept of meekness. It has to do with being mindful of your inheritance in Christ. The works of your hands in the ministry is that which secures that inheritance.

The Profitability of Wisdom

The third exhibition of wisdom has to do with its profit. With this expression, one is able to overcome every challenge and go beyond the place of self-exertion. In the face of obstacles and challenges, the profit of wisdom is that, it fruits, within the believers, the way of out of any challenge or predicament. Wisdom scorns self-exertion and makes very difficult situations lose their complexity and the glory of being very insurmountable. In Ecclesiastes 10:10, the scriptures depict the funny situation of many people using self-exertion as a means to solving problems:

If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: BUT WISDOM IS PROFITABLE TO DIRECT.

Interestingly, the place of self-exertion defines the address of nonoperative wisdom. Show me a man who is exerting himself and I will tell you of a man who is not operating the secret buttons and codes of wisdom. To admit that the iron one is using is blunt is humility and the beginning of wisdom. The way to sharpen it speaks of the Direction of wisdom. When this direction of wisdom fails, then for a surety, self-exertion cannot be escaped. You have to admit to yourself that there are certain areas of your life you are engaging human might and the flesh. Truth be told, the flesh cannot avail much. However, wisdom, in any situation of a challenge, is profitable to direct. In Proverbs 8:12, wisdom says,

I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.

Wisdom scorns self-exertion and makes very difficult situations lose their complexity and the glory of being very insurmountable.

Knowing prudence as the peak potential of wisdom, it surely connotes the display of wisdom in witty inventions. In Proverbs 9:1-2, wisdom is celebrated as a killer of beasts.

Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars: SHE HATH KILLED HER BEASTS; she hath mingled her wine; she hath also furnished her table.

Beasts in this context refer to that which intends to destroy or frustrate. The wonder of wisdom is that every beast of a challenge is slaughtered by its overpowering hands. For an ordinary man, when challenges show up, they cower and give up, but for the man who operates the force of wisdom, every beast of a challenge is subdued by the superior power of wisdom. Necessity, they say, is the mother of invention. The assurance of wisdom is that there is always the invention of a means to overcome every challenge. This is the reason why it is seen as a killer of beasts.

Do not withdraw from the bestial challenges of life. Rather, face them squarely by the force of wisdom. With wisdom lies the ability to paralyze and vanquish your foes. This is your heritage and testimony. Wisdom as Christ is present with you to reward you with the joy of the death of that challenge. Job 28:9-12 reveals that the beasts of challenges come in various ways, yet, they are all subdued by the force of wisdom.

“I declare over your head, my dear reader, that whatever Beast is intending to destroy or frustrate you, in the Superior strength of wisdom, those beasts are good as dead in Jesus name.”

The wonder of wisdom is that every beast of a challenge is slaughtered by its overpowering hands.

He putteth forth his hand upon the rock; he overturneth the mountains by the roots. He cutteth out rivers among the rocks; and his eye seeth every precious thing. He bindeth the floods from overflowing; and the thing that is hid bringeth he forth to light. But where shall wisdom be found? and where is the place of understanding?

Thus, we see that the beast of challenges come in the form of rocks, mountains, floods, hidden treasures, unseen things and challenges. However, wisdom

- Subdues Rocks
- Uproots mountains
- Stops Floods
- Creates Rivers in Rocks
- Reveals the Unseen treasures
- Identifies Opportunities in Challenges

For this reason, when the early church was faced with the beast of Sectarianism and Tribalism, Peter arose and asked for men who were full of the Holy Ghost and Wisdom to be chosen to destroy that beast.

Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. (Acts 6:3)

The requirement of deacons who were going to run the business of the care ministry of the Early Church required wisdom. Jesus promised the disciples not to worry when they face bestial men who would challenge them. He spoke expressly of the promise of a mouth and wisdom that none of their enemies would be able to resist or gainsay.

For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist. (Luke 21:15)

The king of Israel, David, also attests to this when he spoke of how that through the scriptures, he was wiser than all his enemies.

Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me. (Psalms 119:98)

Wisdom plagues witchcraft, scorns enchantments, makes a dirge of sicknesses, and stops at nothing until it has returned with the spoils of war. The preacher in Ecclesiastes 9:14-15 celebrates the deliverance ministry of wisdom:

There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it: Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city...

A man of wisdom is simply an agent of deliverance. No wonder in the last verse of Ecclesiastes chapter nine, we see that,

Wisdom is better than weapons of war: but one sinner destroyeth much good. (Ecclesiastes 9:18)

This, I have spoken about extensively, in chapter ten in which I have expounded on the first pillar of wisdom. Isaiah 33:6 says that,

And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD is his treasure.

Wisdom plagues witchcraft, scorns enchantments, makes a dirge of sicknesses, and stops at nothing until it has returned with the spoils of war.

Beloved, wisdom is the strength of salvation. If there is any situation that is hindering you in life, all you need to do is to stir up wisdom because, Solomon says that a man of wisdom cannot be blocked or hindered. He scales all kinds of road blocks no matter how mighty the opposition is.

A wise man scaleth the city of the mighty, and casteth down the strength of the confidence thereof. (Proverbs 21:22).

The appearance of a man of wisdom melts down the strength of the confidence of challenges. For instance, Joshua, by wisdom, overthrew Jericho with the sound blast of the “Shofar”, the trumpet of the ram's horn. Jericho was confident in its walls of defence, however, Joshua knew that since Moses had laid hands on him, he was infused with the wisdom that disgraced the Pharaoh of Egypt and walked Israel out of slavery with mighty wealth and great deliverance.

The appearance of a man of wisdom melts down the strength of the confidence of challenges .

Understand that the walls of Jericho were no different from the limitation of the slavery of Egypt. These walls came tumbling down at the wisdom of God that was operating in Joshua. This force of wisdom was contacted through the laying on of hands.

As we proceed into the seven pillars of wisdom, keep in mind what we have discussed. Remember that wisdom is dispensed into three expositions which are

- The Building of Wisdom
- The Works of Wisdom
- The Profitability of Wisdom

The Seven Pillars of Wisdom are communicated in these three exhibitions. Thus, for each pillar we deliberate, see it in the light of what we have discussed. That is

to say, for every pillar, either wisdom is building, working or yielding profit. Then again, as you read, reminisce what has been presented in Chapter Six under the **Commerce of Wisdom**. Wisdom is the principal thing and thus yields profit when put to work.

Chapter 10: **THE FIRST PILLAR: POWER– THE EXHIBIT OF WISDOM**

That a man is articulate in his speech and is flawless in his delivery and homiletics does not mean he is wise.

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he greatest frustration in life is unexplored wisdom. Many people are frustrated because they have refused to or simply are oblivious of how to tap into the resources of wisdom. Sadly, many believers

have not even explored the first pillar of wisdom, which is “power”. Meanwhile, it is sad to say that in store for believers is an unending whirlpool of power that can be tapped into, to cause all manner of changes in both the spiritual dimension and the physical elemental dimension, as long as Christ is resident within. In 1 Corinthians 2:4, Paul, the Apostle, passionately cries his heart out:

And my speech and my preaching was not with ENTICING WORDS OF MAN’S WISDOM, but in DEMONSTRATION OF THE SPIRIT AND OF POWER.

Beloved, do not mistake poetic alacrity and words that rhyme for wisdom; that wisdom is mundane. That a man is articulate in his speech and is flawless in his delivery and homiletics does not mean he is wise. There is that which the Bible calls enticing words of man’s wisdom – this is the wisdom of man, and there is also that which the Bible calls the demonstration of the spirit and of power – this is the wisdom of God, and to be specific, the first pillar of wisdom. My heart laments when I see many believers lauding men of God as wise because they saw and heard these men giving supposed keys of wisdom, when upon scriptural investigation, all they gave were enticing words of man’s wisdom, with no proof of wisdom’s feats and exploits.

There can be no exhibition of power when a man’s faith is based on sensual or human wisdom but true and genuine faith must be with power.

As a matter of fact, speech without the transparent exhibition of power is the wisdom of man at work because it does not exhibit power. Anybody who is a deep thinker can pick a microphone and do that. However, that which is of the Spirit can only be produced by those who are of the Spirit and possess the Spirit of wisdom. In 1 Corinthians 2:5, Paul said,

That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Do you see it? Contrary to the wisdom of men is the power of God. There is that faith which stands in the wisdom of men and there is the faith which stands in the power of God. That which produces power is the faith that stands in the wisdom of God. There can be no exhibition of power when a man's faith is based on sensual or human wisdom but true and genuine faith must be with power. Scripture says in 2 Thessalonians 1:11 that,

Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and THE WORK OF FAITH WITH POWER.

Beloved, the work of faith must be with power. Any work in the Body of Christ which lacks power is not founded on the principles of wisdom. As I proceed, you'll realize that "*the good pleasure of his goodness*" relates with power, because the Bible says in Philippians 2:13 that,

For it is GOD WHICH WORKETH IN YOU both to will and to do of his GOOD PLEASURE.

The believer is the most expensive commodity that God displayed on the cosmic market to astound the universe.

Every good pleasure of God that a man will demonstrate on this earth is as a result of the workings of the Christ of God within him, through the amalgamation of his spirit and the Spirit of the Lord. If the Christ of God does not work in a man and that man of his own accord works, it is reckoned as a work of iniquity. The Greek rendition for "worketh" is "*energeo*" from which the English word, energy is gotten. It means to be effectual, mighty or vigorous.

The demonstration of the power of God in a man is as a result of the release of the energies of God in him. When a believer exhibits this wisdom, the Bible

exquisitely designates it as the good pleasure of his goodness which in other places is referred to as GOOD WORKS. In Ephesians 2:10, we read,

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

The assertion by the apostle that we are God's workmanship implies that we are the exhibits of God – the display items of God. Just like there are trade fairs for the exhibition of astonishing items, the pride of God in his exhibitions is the believer. The light of this truth greatly warms the heart because then, we come to realize that in the expressions of wisdom, the believer is the most expensive commodity that God displayed on the cosmic market to astound the universe. Moreover, when God displayed this wisdom, he declared that it was for the purpose of the manifestation of good works. The manifestation of good works is according to the operations of the Father. The Operations of the Father

“Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.”

(1 Corinthians 12:4-6, KJV).

The scriptural verses above reveal three categories of the workings of the Godhead. First we see the diversification of gifts which is according to the manifestation of the Spirit. Secondly, we see the differences of administration which is according to the Lord. Again, we see the diversification of operations which is according to the workings of the Father. These are all different and must not be confused with each other.

As the believer grows, his walk becomes more sensitive because he is now exposed to the operations of the Father, which has to do with a harmonization of his works with the works of the Father from the foundation of the world.

When one gets born again, the first experience he is brought into has to do with the manifestation of the Spirit. Thus, Paul, the apostle, said, ***“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.”*** (1 Corinthians 12:7). At this level, all believers must try to excel in the gifts of the Spirit without restraint. Next, the believer is brought into the perfections of the administrations where he stands as an ascension gift of Christ to build the saints

to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. However, as the believer grows, his walk becomes more sensitive because he is now exposed to the operations of the Father, which has to do with a harmonization of his works with the works of the Father from the foundation of the world. Thus Ephesians 2:10, asserts that,

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Psalms 28:5 also adds,

Because they regard not the works of the LORD, nor THE OPERATION OF HIS HANDS, he shall destroy them, and not build them up.

At this stage, one will not just manifest the Spirit because he is gifted, because by doing so, he may end up opposing the Father in heaven. A perfect example of this was Jesus at the pool of Bethesda. Scripture recounts that there were a multitude of impotent folk, blind and withered who lay there waiting for the moving of the water.

Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. (John 5:2-3).

Now, the question is, knowing that Jesus had enough healing virtue to heal all these people, why did he just walk to one man to heal him?

“And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years. When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?...Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.” (John 5:5-6, 8-9).

This was a great contradiction to the Law of Moses because it was the Sabbath day and it was unlawful for any man to take up a heavy object, but Jesus instructed the man he had healed to take up his bed and walk. When he was questioned by the Jews, he said,

“...My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.” (John 5:17).

When it comes to the operations of the Father, the mature has to see the Father make a move before he can also make a move.

Again, in Acts 3:1-2, the mind is caused to wonder about the man at the gate called Beautiful, who was said to be lame from his mother’s womb.

Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour. And a certain man lame from his mother’s womb was carried, WHOM THEY LAID DAILY AT THE GATE OF THE TEMPLE which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple.

Scripture recounts that this man was laid DAILY at the temple gate. That means there was no day he was not there to ask for alms. The wonder about this story is that Jesus always walked past this temple gate called Beautiful during his visits to the temple. Yet, there is no account in the history of the Word of God that Jesus ever tried to heal this lame man. It was a while after Jesus had ascended to heaven that the story of this lame man is brought up, when he received healing from the apostles, Peter and John.

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. (Acts 3:6)

This should tell you that Jesus does not work because he has the capacity to. Rather, he works because he sees the Father working.

When it comes to the operations of the Father, the mature has to see the Father make a move before he can also make a move. Else, all his works will not be accounted for in the spirit as rewards; they will be works of iniquity.

This is what differentiates a doer of the word from a doer of the work. The former performs actions because he sees it written but the latter checks with the Father to see what he is doing in the moment of time before he makes a move. James 1:22-25 asserts,

But be ye DOERS OF THE WORD, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh

into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, BUT A DOER OF THE WORK, THIS MAN SHALL BE BLESSED IN HIS DEED.

One may not readily see that there is a difference between a doer of the word and a doer of the work, but as the passage is scrutinized, we realize that the apostle was speaking of two categories of people. Before I proceed to explain, let us understand that believers are generally encouraged to act out the word as they see it written in the Bible. This is what it means to be a doer of the word. The doer of the word locates what God's word says and does it but a doer of the work aligns himself with the father before he makes a move. For instance, we are encouraged as believers to lay hands on the sick for them to be healed. Thus, in trying to excel in the gifts of the Spirit, we are generally encouraged to pray for every sick person we see. However, this is at the basic level of growth.

The doer of the word locates what God's word says and does it but a doer of the work aligns himself with the father before he makes a move

As you progress in growth, it becomes all the more necessary to harmonize yourself with the will of the Father before you make a move. This is what regulated the life of Jesus. Thus, he said,

Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise...I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. (John 5:19, 30)

As you walk through life, you must seek to grow to come to a place where you see the Father working before you work. This is what guarantees you a sure reward in the heavens.

The Garments of Warfare/Light

There is a very strong correlation between power and garments.

Jesus, in conversation with his disciples, said,

And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be ENDUED WITH POWER FROM ON HIGH. (Luke 24:49)

Power is a garment! The Greek word translated as “endued” is “*enduo*” which means to sink into a garment or to be invested with clothing. Jesus, the son of God, having understanding into all the mechanics of power, chose his words rightly. His instruction to his disciples was that they should wait in Jerusalem until they are given the investiture of power – until they are clothed with power. Remember that just as the apparels of Solomon’s attendants were an expression of his wisdom, your garments are also an expression of your wisdom. Expressly, the garments of power are an expression of the wisdom of God – the first pillar of wisdom.

There is a very strong correlation between power and garments. Actually, without a certain garment of power, you cannot gain a certain expression in that area. Permit me to delve into something which may give you the impression that I have drifted off the topic of wisdom but which is very much in line with what I am sharing with you.

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. (Revelation 19:11-14)

Never was it heard in the heavens that a man was called “True”. It is only in this passage that we see that one man bears the accolade, “True”, and that is Jesus. For every believer, the highest ranking one can attain in the heavens is the “Faithful”:

These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are CALLED, AND CHOSEN, AND FAITHFUL. (Revelation 17:14)

It can be realized that there is a heavenly army that follow Jesus in his parade of war. Yet, it is Revelation 17:14 that give us the identity of these followers as the “Called, Chosen and Faithful”. It does not matter how truthful you are on earth, you will never be called “True”. The best you can attain is the faithful. Emphatically, scripture says in Matthew 22:14,

For many are called, but few are chosen.

The chosen are a select few from the called ones, and of the chosen ones, only a few are additionally selected into the high office of the faithful. However, there is something I want to bring to your attention for which cause I brought this up. Anytime you see, these accolades being used in scripture to describe Jesus or believers, it was at the front of warfare, and there is a reason for that:

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. (Revelation 19:11).

Jesus as the head of heaven's army has the greatest Rank of "Faithful and True". Moreover, the other regiments are under three ranks of THE CALLED, THE CHOSEN AND THE FAITHFUL.

The world fights with physical ammunitions and human strategies but we fight with a far greater weapon, which is the exhibit of wisdom.

*And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. **THESE SHALL MAKE WAR WITH THE LAMB, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are CALLED, AND CHOSEN, AND FAITHFUL.*** (Revelation 17:12-14)

In Revelation 19:11-14, Jesus is called "Faithful and True" at the war front. Anytime you see the "Called, Chosen and Faithful", think of warfare. Nevertheless, when I say warfare in this context, I am not speaking of wars with nuclear weapons and guns—I speak of the war elaborated by the apostle, Paul, in Ephesians 6:12;

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Concerning this warfare, scripture has already told us what the appropriate tools to wage that war are; THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD.

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of

righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (Ephesians 6:13-17)

Our instruments of warfare are not like that of the world. The world fights with physical ammunitions and human strategies but we fight with a far greater weapon, which is the exhibit of wisdom. Ecclesiastes 9:18 asserts,

Wisdom is better than weapons of war...

There is a certain wisdom that works in a man that makes it impossible for any ammunition of warfare to triumph over him. Ecclesiastes 9:14-16 speaks of a poor wise man that delivered and won the war for his city by his wisdom -

There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it: Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he BY HIS WISDOM DELIVERED THE CITY; yet no man remembered that same poor man. Then said I, Wisdom is better than strength...

Wisdom is exponentially more powerful than having ammunitions. Nonetheless, when many believers read about the weapons in Ephesians 6:13-17, all they perceive is the garment of a Roman soldier. However, that is not the case at all. To see these armories as a Roman soldier's garment is to limit your expressions of power. Actually, the scripture is talking about an investiture of power in the spirit, soul and body of the believer according to the order of the priesthood. Just keep following me. We need this to understand the primary pillar of wisdom, which is POWER.

The Armour of God

In the scriptures, we understand from the Old Testament that the priests were the ones who led the nation into any WAR front and so were placed in charge of the instruments of war. Several verses of Scripture show the function of the priests when it comes to warfare—

When you are about to go into battle, the priest shall come forward and address the army. (Deuteronomy 20:2, NIV).

And Moses sent them to the war, a thousand of every tribe, them and Phinehas

the son of Eleazar the priest, to the war, with the holy instruments, and the trumpets to blow in his hand...And Eleazar the priest said unto the men of war which went to the battle, This is the ordinance of the law which the LORD commanded Moses (Numbers 31:6, 21).

The priesthood is a ministry of warfare

Scripture emphatically reveals that the priests were in charge of the holy instruments of warfare. The priesthood is a ministry of warfare. Even when the children of Israel encamped against the city of Jericho, the priests were seen spearheading the battle in full force.

And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. (Joshua 6:4)

The armories spoken of in Ephesians 6:13-17 elaborate the garments of the high priest and the ordinary priests in the Old Testament. By the investiture of these garments, the high priest was exalted to a place of power to stand as an advocate for the entire nation of Israel, and the priests were honoured to be of service in the temple of God. These garments are ceremonial robes called garments of glory and beauty, and they were products of wisdom.

And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty. And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, WHOM I HAVE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM, THAT THEY MAY MAKE AARON'S GARMENTS to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office. (Exodus 28:2-3)

In function and in characteristics, the armour that Paul described in the book of Ephesians was the garment of the priesthood and not a

Roman soldier's garment.

Of utmost importance is the recognition of the truth that the garments of the priests were made by men who had been filled with the spirit of wisdom; Bezaleel, Aholiab and sundry. In function and in characteristics, the armour that Paul described in the book of Ephesians was the garment of the priesthood and not a Roman soldier's garment.

First, the apostle spoke of the girdle of truth; **“...having your loins girt about with truth...”** Scripture says in Exodus 28:7-8 concerning the garment of the High Priest that it was to have

...two bands stitched to it at the top of the arms, joining it together. And the beautifully worked band, which goes on it, is to be of the same work and the same material, of gold and blue and purple and red and twisted linen-work.
(BBE)

This is the girdle of truth, an extension of the ephod, by which the High Priest was to steadfastly bind his waist to perform the service of the Lord, in all truth and faithfulness. In Isaiah 11:5 scripture asserts, concerning Jesus,

And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

Doesn't it appear obvious that the apostle, Paul, knew what he was talking about when he taught on these garments? They were truths already scattered in the Old Testament, which were founded on Hebrew culture, and not with the understanding of the Roman civilization. In addition to the girdle of truth is the breastplate of righteousness; **“...and having on the breastplate of righteousness...”** A perfect understanding of the ordinances of the sanctuary would make the seeker of truth see that this does not speak of a metallic shield on the chest but the breastplate on the ephod of the high priest's garment. Scripture says in Exodus 28:15,

And thou shalt make the breastplate of judgment with cunning work; after the work of the ephod thou shalt make it; of gold, of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine twined linen, shalt thou make it.

Just in accordance with Paul's, revelation, Moses called the breastplate the “breastplate of judgment”, which perfectly places it in the operations of righteousness, because judgment must be of righteousness. Recognizing the workings and function of this breastplate, Isaiah, the prophet, in Isaiah 59:17 says concerning God,

For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke.

The breastplate of righteousness, with its twelve stones, by means of the “Urim” and “Thummim” , was the divine ordinance of God by which cardinal decisions were made and secret matters of the kingdom searched out

Events take an interesting turn as we read this verse, because we realize that the Lord was adorned with the same garment that the apostle, Paul, admonished the Church to be appareled in. He had upon him, the breastplate of righteousness and the helmet of salvation. Upon the breastplate of righteousness in the high priest’s garment were twelve stones which were representative of the twelve tribes of Israel:

Then mount four rows of precious stones on it... There are to be twelve stones, one for each of the names of the sons of Israel, each engraved like a seal with the name of one of the twelve tribes. (Exodus 28:17, 21, NIV)

The breastplate of righteousness, with its twelve stones, by means of the “Urim” and “Thummim” , was the divine ordinance of God by which cardinal decisions were made and secret matters of the kingdom searched out, and Paul says we should have on the breastplate of righteousness.

And thou shalt put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim; and they shall be upon Aaron’s heart, when he goeth in before the LORD: and Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel upon his heart before the LORD continually (Exodus 28:30)

Things get interesting as we realize that even Jesus, in the book of his revelation, appeared as a high priest.

And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. (Revelation 1:13)

The phrase, “girt about the paps with a golden girdle” is a statement of priesthood. It relates to the breastplate of the high priest, because the paps is the chest.

Again, the feet of the high priest were shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace, which had to do with his proclamations of the atonement of sin on at “Yom Kippur” which is the Day of Atonement. This was the day when the high

priests performed all the required statutes in the holiest of all in the temple of God, in the nation of Israel. Accordingly, Isaiah 52:7 volubly proclaims,

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

Upon the head of the high priest was a mitre upon which was engraved, “HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD” which speaks of the helmet of salvation, which the believer is to be adorned with. (Exodus 28:36-38). The interesting thing about the priestly garments is that each aspect had a component of linen; from the mitre on the head, to the robe, to the ephod, to the girdle, to the coat to the ordinary garments of the priest. (Exodus 28:6, 8, 15, 42) Even the garments for Aaron’s sons were made of linen:

And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach (Exodus 28:42)

All of these inform us that Christ as our High Priest was leading his army of Royal Priesthood to the warfront, clothed in priestly garments of oracular power.

And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. (Revelation 19:14). The Righteous Acts of the Saints

The constant mention of LINEN in the priestly garments takes us back to where we began from, in Revelation 19:14 when scripture declared that,

And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

The righteousness of the saints becomes a garment with which they are decked

It is not a difficult matter identifying what the linen garment means because Revelation 19:7-8 says that

Let us rejoice and be exceeding glad, and let us give the glory unto him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And it was given unto her that she should array herself in fine linen, bright (and) pure: FOR THE FINE LINEN IS THE RIGHTEOUS ACTS OF THE SAINTS.
(ASV)

Apparently, the righteousness of the saints becomes a garment with which they are decked. That is to say the works of righteousness produced by the Called, the Chosen and the Faithful are priestly garments or heavenly armories of their bodies. This opens us up straight to the reason why we had to delve into all these in handling the first pillar of wisdom, which is POWER.

The entire warfare of the end-time is a war rehearsed in righteousness. In type, we see how it was rehearsed in Judges 5:11:

They that are delivered from the noise of archers in the places of drawing water, there shall they rehearse the righteous acts of the LORD, even the righteous acts toward the inhabitants of his villages in Israel: then shall the people of the LORD go down to the gates.

Your Members are Weapons of War

Please understand that the members of your body are instruments of righteousness with which you exhibit the power or the wisdom of God. The Word of God says,

Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. (Romans 6:13).

You can come to a place in the exhibitions of wisdom where your hands, eyes, mouth and sundry become weapons of power to wage warfare.

The Greek word translated as “instruments” is “*hoplon*” and it means armour, tool or weapon. Rejoice in the truth that your members are weapons or armories of God for warfare. They are not just physical objects to go about your daily activities like eating and walking. You can come to a place in the exhibitions of wisdom where your hands, eyes, mouth and sundry become weapons of power to wage warfare. Until you can do this, you cannot be counted as a part of the heavenly army that follows the Lamb wherever he goes: the “Called, Chosen and Faithful”. In seeing how our body parts are weapons, we see in the Word of God, where Solomon emphatically says that,

A king that sitteth in the throne of judgment scattereth away all evil with his EYES. (Proverbs 20:8)

Besides, the book of Revelation says concerning Jesus, “...***His eyes were as a flame of fire...***” Child of God, your eyes are not just to watch things; they are weapons of warfare to scatter any evil in your environment as a king.

Your hands are also weapons of warfare in the kingdom. No wonder Jesus said in Mark 16:18,

*They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; **they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover***

The operation of this grace was seen in the ministry of Paul, when he laid hands on the sick and healed them;

And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him. (Acts 28:8)

The secret to overcoming in warfare is to yield your members over as instruments of righteousness to wisdom. Remember the way to buy wisdom is to sell yourself over to it. Peter, the apostle, so yielded his members to the extent that his shadow became an instrument of power. In Acts 5:15, scripture asserts,

Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

A man who aligns himself with wisdom is God’s weapon

The emanation of power from Peter was so strong that even his shadow became an instrument of righteousness for warfare. When God wants to demonstrate his power, the means by which he does it is by your yielded members. In Jeremiah 51:20, he said,

Thou art my battle axe and weapons of war: for with thee will I break in pieces the nations, and with thee will I destroy kingdoms

The nuclear weapons of God and his machine guns are you! Listen, you are the treasuries of God’s armories. A man who aligns himself with wisdom is God’s weapon. The interesting thing is that scripture particularly took cognizance of the garments of the overcomers which is white linen. This is because, in that

place, the works of their members have become their garments. We are absorbed into this reality when we read Mark 9:2-3, in which Jesus transfigured before his disciples.

And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them. And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.

The truth of the weaponry of our bodies is further affirmed in the account of Jesus' transfiguration. The actual estate of his being is what he revealed to them on the mountain. He was decked with a garment of light, and the reality of the matter is that every believer is decked with this same garment of light, yet in various intensifications and radiance. This glow of light is the oozing of the power of God from the members of the bodies of believers. No wonder believers have the privilege of laying hands on the sick for them to be healed, because as they do this, there is the emanation of power from their hands into the body of the sick person. However, we would be mistaken if we view this light discharge as just a physical glow of light. Rather, it is an actual flow of the essence of God's power through the members of the body of believers into their environment, especially the sick.

There are multiple dimensions in which God has hidden his power even within himself.

And his brightness was as the light; he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power. (Habakkuk 3:4)

He was shining like the light; he had rays coming out from his hand: there his power was kept secret. (Habakkuk 3:4, BBE).

This reveals where God hides his power. God's power is hidden in the horns that come out of his hand. It is the same way he made our bodies to carry virtue. The other day, the woman with the issue of blood touched Jesus' garments, and this caused Jesus to exclaim that virtue had out of him.

And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me. (Luke 8:46)

A latent ability is hidden in the members of the bodies of believers. Many times,

when we think of power, we only relate it to the spirit, but that is not the case. As a matter of fact, there are six different dimensions in man that God hides his power, viz.

- The Skin / Flesh
- The Bones
- The Marrow
- Blood Flow
- The Life of the Soul
- The Mingling of the Spirit

Beyond the latent power of the spirit, God by wisdom has put value in the soul (which relates with the blood), the flesh and the bones. All these are store houses of power that a sizeable number of believers are oblivious of. As much as many believers are ignorant of these, they are truths littered in the scriptures which the patriarchs of old and the apostles knew. These are explicated into detail in my book, *“Elixir of life II”*, which is a continuation of this volume.

Meanwhile, the prophet, Elisha, who had not even experienced the riches of the new life in Christ, maximized this potential:

*And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the coming in of the year. **And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band of men; and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet.** (2 Kings 13:20-21)*

Beyond the latent power of the spirit, God by wisdom has put value in the soul, the flesh and the bones.

How could a man who had died for his body to rot, leaving the remains of his bones bring another man to life? In our day and age, raising the dead is something that is so celebrated that the people who are able to do it are seen as superhuman. However, here are the bones of Elisha, a potent tool of power in the hand of God even when he was long dead and gone. The reason why numerous believers have not been able to harness the power of God to such an extent is because they do not search out wisdom. They shun the wisdom of the scriptures and always relegate things they do not understand to the background of mystery. However, if you would hand yourself over to wisdom, it would teach you to

place value on all that you are, to the extent that even the hair on your head will become a wonder, stretching to your shadow as in the case of Peter.

In the field of science, the extent of power that can be tapped from a single nucleus is enormous. It is by this principle that we have the atomic bombs. The fission of a nucleus releases a massive amount of energy that can destroy whole cities. If you knew the amount of power that could be released from your hand alone, by the residence of wisdom in you, you will not underestimate yourself. Your explosion in power can engulf the whole earth. How much more your home or your work place? As you ascend in the knowledge of these realities, you will begin to see how believers have underestimated themselves in power, by the lack of expression of wisdom.

If you would hand yourself over to wisdom, it would teach you to place value on all that you are, to the extent that even the hair on your head will become a wonder, stretching to your

shadow.

shadow. 15:

For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is HE THAT WATCHETH, AND KEEPETH HIS GARMENTS, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

If you are a curious enquirer of truth like myself, you will wonder why the Bible speaks of spirits of devils working miracles and gathering the kings of the earth for battle, and then all of a sudden jump to talk about keeping your garments. Kindly read the scripture above again. As the spirit of revelation comes upon you, you realize that these two statements are very connected. Like I have already iterated, the battle of the great day is not a battle of nuclear weapons as many assert in their eschatological interpretations. Scripture emphatically says that "...they are the spirits of devils, working miracles." That is to say, it is going to be a battle of a power challenge, and those who can engage this battle are those who are decked in their garments of warfare, which is the exhibition of wisdom in their members by way of the power of God. If we have enemies preparing to fight against us and he admonishes us to watch our garments, then it must mean that those garments must really be things needed for the war.

The battle of the great day is not a battle of nuclear weapons as many assert in their eschatological interpretations. It is a battle of power challenge.

Strangely however, the garments with which the Lord Jesus was decked for this warfare was dipped in blood: “...**and he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God...**” – the reason being that his primal work was a work of sacrifice which is the shedding of his blood. Blood is so powerful to the extent that it drove the death angel out of the dwelling places of the people of Israel.

For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you. (Exodus 12:23)

Do you know that the blood denotes the blood of Christ to which we are part in the communion table? It is so powerful as an instrument of power.

Your garments are expressions of your works. This is why it is very important for you as a believer to work and not sit unperturbed by the work of the ministry. Your righteous acts are your garments in the spirit also referred to as spirit-wrought garments. It will wonder you to know that some people are actually walking naked in the spirit because they show no works of power. Some are barefooted because they have not worked their spiritual shoes. Such a person cannot be sent to places with thorns and thistles in the spirit to preach the gospel of peace. God would not expose you to certain difficulties if you are not decked with the cloak of power to handle that particular situation, else you will end up with casualties. That is why not every believer will have the privilege to fight in the army of the Lord.

Beloved, your spiritual dress is your current works of faith in power, and your current works of faith is your present glory, and your present glory is the outburst of miraculous power. Every present work you are doing is going to reflect in your heavenly or glorious body. Apparently, the works of Jesus were his glory:

This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him. (John 2:11)

Jesus showed forth one miraculous work and the Bible says he manifested forth

his glory. If you understand this, it should make you know the extent to which your radiance of light in the spirit has grown since the extent of your work depict and define your glory.

Your spiritual dress is your current works of faith in power, and your current works of faith is your present glory, and your present glory is the outburst of miraculous power.

You need to understand that the exhibition of miracle power has to do with the release of the energy of God. It takes energy to work a miracle and energy is work.

He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? (Galatians 3:5)

The phrase “worketh miracles” in the Greek is “*energeo dunamis*”, which simply means energized power. “Workers of miracles” simply means energizers of miracles. Miracles are a direct product of your spiritual energy. This energy is resident in your spirit by means of the wisdom resident there. Wisdom is the source of all power.

Thus, to walk in miraculous power, you need to know how to energize the energies of God. Hence, 1 Corinthians 12:29 mentions the workers of miracles, which describes those who energize miracles.

Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles?

As you walk about, you carry in you, a great potential of energy that can change the world. Awake beyond your present experience and reality, and step into the untapped resources of wisdom’s first pillar lying dormant within you.

As you walk about, you carry in you, a great potential of energy that can change the world.

Ask yourself if there is an original functionality for which cause you were brought to this world. What you need to do now is to make time and reach deep into the recesses of your inward parts where wisdom dwells. In the quietness of

your closet, ask that by the spirit of revelation, you should be taken deep into your spirit to contact wisdom. Then begin to see the power of God flowing through your members as the flow of current power in electricity. If you let this be your daily practice, it would not be long and you will be walking as a manifestation of God's evident power in the earth. Do not forget that for the disciples of Jesus to be endued with power, they had to tarry or separate themselves. Do not forget also that, in order to intermeddle with wisdom, you have to separate yourself – ***Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom.*** You cannot be taken into the depths of the power of God if you do not have a closet life. However, having a closet life is not as important as what you do there. I assume you have read a lot in the preceding chapters and know what to do.

Chapter 11: **THE SECOND PILLAR: MONEY– THE DEFENCE OF WISDOM**

A

All the expressions of wisdom are wonderful but when it comes to the second pillar, that is what runs the pace of this world, and as long as you are in this world, you have to dig into the

recesses of wisdom and establish yourself strong in the defence of wisdom which is money. The Preacher, in Ecclesiastes 7:12 said,

For wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it.

To say it blatantly, there are certain resistances you cannot knock down if you do not have money because money is a defence. You can have all power and yet, without money, you can never go beyond those limitations. While many believers demonstrate the power of God, they quite unfortunately lack the expression of wisdom in wealth, they are limited, and their scope of demonstration of power is not far reaching. For a great while this was the story of the Church of the medieval era all the way down to the middle of the reformatory era, when the light of wisdom started dawning on the Church. This was when the Church realized that as part of the graces of God, there is the package of financial prosperity to it.

Many believers are outstanding

demonstrations of the power of God and yet because they lack the expression of wisdom in wealth, they are limited, and their scope of demonstration of power is not far reaching.

During the period aforementioned, believers could so express the power of God that men wondered at them. Church history speaks of the likes of Smith Wigglesworth, the apostle of faith, who was noted for bringing dead bodies back to life. He had so much, by grace, matured the power of God in his life to the extent that when his wife died, he had the power to bring her back at will, to ask her why she did not bid him farewell before departing, and after the conversation, allowed her to die again at his will. Yet, when it came to the second pillar of wisdom, few if any had much to show for it.

They so explored the first pillar of wisdom and yet, they had nothing to show for wealth. Thus, in their age, their expressions were limited and they did not have the power to influence the earth at a certain level.

Pastors and ministers were made to swear oaths of penury as part of their personal devotion to God in the ministry. Nevertheless, in these last days, God is changing the narrative of the Church. It is evident in the scrolls of biblical prophecy that the Church will walk in great wealth and influence, as part of the revelation of Christ in us in these last days. Yet, if you do not realize that it is a pillar of wisdom that you have to search out, you will remain limited in your expressions. The Early Church was not a poor church, and the ministry of Jesus was not a poor one. Scripture recounts that Judas stole from the church coffers and yet, no one among the disciples could tell because there was always more than enough and also, the reserve was not little. (John 13:29). The ministry of Jesus was a benevolent ministry; they often gave to the poor.

For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor. (John 13:29)

The disciples assumed that Jesus had sent Judas to give something to the poor because it was something they did as a regular practice.

It is evident in the scrolls of biblical prophecy that the Church would walk in great wealth and influence, as part of the revelation of Christ in us in these last days.

Scripture reveals that there shall be a time when the wealth of the gentiles will be converted to the Church.

*Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and **THINE HEART SHALL FEAR, AND BE ENLARGED**; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.* (Isaiah 60:5)

Remember, I spoke about largeness of heart as an accompanying product of wisdom in chapter three. The Scripture says that thine heart shall fear and be enlarged. Do not forget that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and largeness of heart is also the product of wisdom.

And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore. (1 Kings 4:29)

It is only by these two that the forces of the gentiles shall come to you. What are the forces of the gentiles? The Hebrew word is “*chayil*”, and it means wealth, goods, might, power, riches, substance or train. The footnote of the King James Version explicitly says it means wealth. Thus, the communication of the prophecy depict that the abundance of wealth to be experienced in the Church will be by the means of the fear of the Lord and largeness of heart.

The Bible is one of the oldest books in existence that speaks about money predominantly.

To many people, money is the root of all evil, so they do not desire to be wealthy. Nonetheless, this misplaced mindset is as a result of misreading the scriptural verse in 1 Timothy 6:10 which says,

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

The Bible never said that money is the root of all evil. Rather, it said, the love of it (money) is the root of all evil. Scripture emphatically says in Ecclesiastes 10:19 that “**...money answereth all things.**” The spirit of the scripture’s perspective about money has never been negative. The Bible is one of the oldest books in existence that speaks about money predominantly. What the Father repudiates is the love of money and not money itself. It is regrettably woeful, when a man has money and does not know how to lay up treasures for himself in

heaven with his money. There is a way to use your wealth to purchase for yourself an eternal inheritance in heaven, but if you do not have money, you cannot do that. The right use of your wealth commands a certain attention in heaven. There are certain privileges in the kingdom you would not have if you do not have money.

The right use of your wealth commands a certain attention in heaven.

Be Rich towards God

Luke 7:1-6 recounts the story of a wealthy man who knew how to use his affluence to command heavenly attention:

*Now when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum. And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die. And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant. **And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this: FOR HE LOVETH OUR NATION, AND HE HATH BUILT US A SYNAGOGUE. Then Jesus went with them...***

Opulence has a voice, even more, opulence that is used to advance kingdom course. Jesus honoured their invitation to journey with them because in the man's archive of works was a synagogue – he had singlehandedly built the nation a synagogue. Your works are an expression of your wisdom. Jesus did not rebuke them for speaking of the man's works. Rather, he was moved and lauded that contribution and went with them. This Jewish man is a man of wisdom. Beloved, you can command the attention of God by the sacrifice of your money for the things of the kingdom. Scripture refers to that disposition as being rich towards God.

So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God. (Luke 12:21)

It is unfortunate if you have not been exposed to the need to walk in wealth as an expression of wisdom. Jesus said in Matthew 6:20,

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

When people read this scripture, they assume that Jesus was saying there is no need to have earthly riches so we should focus on heavenly riches. Yet, this same

Jesus said,

And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations. (Luke 16:9)

You can command the attention of God by the sacrifice of your money for the things of the kingdom.

How do you lay up treasures in heaven if you do not make to yourself friends of the mammon of unrighteousness? It will wonder you to know that, you can carry all the wealth you have here on earth into heaven. Many will be shocked to hear this, but I will explain. The way to lay up treasures for yourself in heaven is to use your earthly gain to lay up for yourself a good eternal foundation in the kingdom. Some think that the adage, “*we didn’t bring anything into this world and can’t take anything out*” is true. We can actually take two things: ***our wealth and our works*** . So when we connect our wealth to the kingdom, we lay up treasures in the heavenlies. Again, if we work in the kingdom, it follows us into the heavenlies. Paul, the apostle, said to Timothy,

CHARGE THEM THAT ARE RICH IN THIS WORLD, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; LAYING UP IN STORE FOR THEMSELVES A GOOD FOUNDATION against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life. (1Timothy 6:17-19)

Beloved, as you embark on the good works of Jesus, when you distribute and are willing to be of a blessing to the brethren, Scripture says that you are laying up treasures for yourself in heaven. My question is this: if you have no earthly gain, how will you lay up treasure for yourself in heaven? You will surely be limited. Wisdom brings wealth, but as you increase in wealth, you should learn to be rich towards God. (Luke 12:21)

Wealth Is a Manifestation of Wisdom

Have you ever wondered why the Bible took time off to document the opulent lifestyle of Solomon? Was there a need to record the expanse and influence of Solomon’s wealth? The Bible says concerning him,

And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen: and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, which he placed in the chariot cities, and with the king at Jerusalem. And the king made silver and gold at Jerusalem as plenteous as stones, and cedar trees made he as the sycamore trees that are in the vale for abundance. And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price. And they fetched up, and brought forth out of Egypt a chariot for six hundred shekels of silver, and an horse for an hundred and fifty... (2 Chronicles 1:14-17)

Notice that just before the scriptures said this about him, he had entered a bargain of wisdom with God, and God had given him wisdom:

Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great?... Wisdom and knowledge are given to you; and I will give you wealth and honour, such as no king has had before you or ever will have after you. (2 Chronicles 1:10, 12)

Wisdom and Knowledge go with Wealth and Honour!

Take note, that a semicolon separates the twelfth verse into two parts, thus the last part is explaining the first part. When God said, ***“wisdom and knowledge are given to you”***, what he was saying was that ***“I will give you wealth and honour”***. My dear reader, wisdom and knowledge go with wealth and honour! If you have wisdom resident in your inward parts and you are not walking in wealth and honour, you are wasting resources. You are engaging in what I call “COSMIC ABUSE”.

And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away. (1 Corinthians 7:31)

The Greek word for world is “kosmos” from which we have the English word cosmos. The abusers of the world are they who, having the resources to create wealth, do not invest in advancing the course of the kingdom of God. Please listen, wealth follows wisdom, and you must be wealthy!

The Poor Wise man in the book of Ecclesiastes was wise in power but not in Riches or Money. The scripture asserts that in the left-hand of wisdom are great riches:

Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.
(Proverbs 3:16)

Wisdom as the tree of life speaks of the fruit of longevity and immortality found in her right hand. However, another fruit of wisdom is riches and honour in her left hand.

There is a big difference between money and riches. Money is limited to a geographic space but riches are globally relevant. That is to say, money is only a legal tender. Thus, the word of God says money failed in EGYPT and CANAAN, not globally because money is geographically inclined.

And when money failed in the land of Egypt, and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came unto Joseph, and said, Give us bread: for why should we die in thy presence? for the money faileth . (Genesis 47:15)

There is a big difference between money and riches. Money is limited to a geographic space but riches are globally relevant.

When one has money, say a billion dollars, it can only be useful in the politically relevant geographic legislative of that legal tender.

Riches speak of the volume of possessions, whereas money speaks of the legal tender one has as a possession. Thus, money is a part of riches but riches are more than money. One could be rich in gold, cattle, crop plantations, buildings and in money as well. To be rich therefore means to have enough and overabundance of a particular possession. For instance, to have a car is a possession, but to have abundance of cars is riches. To have money is a possession but to have abundance of money is Riches. Additionally, it is worth the note that to be wealthy is to have multivariate abundance of riches. To be wealthy is bigger than to have riches. If your wealth is able to endure to your third and fourth generation, then you have enduring riches. Thus, we advance from possession to its abundance as riches. Then we progress through variegated riches to being wealthy.

If your wealth is able to endure to your third and fourth generation, then you have enduring riches.

The first pillar of wisdom alone is not enough. We may have a church with a strong demonstration of power, but where is the wisdom to get the people a place

to sit comfortably to listen to the word? Where is the wisdom to beautify the environment to produce a positive congenial atmosphere for the people to be comfortable? Do you know that just by entering certain environments, you seem to forget all your worries in life? You do not even feel like eating when you find yourself in such places, because the environment alone is enough satisfaction. It is wisdom at work, my friend.

I remember an experience I had, when I travelled to a city in Ghana with a group of people on a ministry assignment. When we got there and were taken to our place of temporal residence, I was dumbfounded – everything in that house was exquisite and radiant in beauty. It was as if the beams and the chambers of the house were engaged in some form of harmonious conversation. I could feel the great sense of reception, as I felt palpably, the house opening its arms and welcomed us. When I enquired who the house belonged to, I was told that it belonged to a certain man of God I was well acquainted with. I was not shocked at that discovery because everything in that house was regulated by wisdom. If you are wise, it will show in your works. I cannot overemphasize that.

The Four Streams of Wisdom

Beloved, the only means by which you can increase your riches is wisdom. Are you running a business or a ministry that you seek to expand? My answer to you is wisdom.

*Behold, thou art wiser than Daniel; there is no secret that they can hide from thee: **WITH THY WISDOM AND WITH THINE UNDERSTANDING THOU HAST GOTTEN THEE RICHES, and hast gotten gold and silver into thy treasures: BY THY GREAT WISDOM AND BY THY TRAFFICK HAST THOU INCREASED THY RICHES, and thine heart is lifted up because of thy riches** (Ezekiel 28:3-5)*

This is the lamentation of Ezekiel, the prophet, against the prince of Tyrus. Though his heart was lifted up in pride, ultimately, scripture asserts that the means by which he acquired his wealth was wisdom. **“With thy wisdom and with thine understanding thou hast gotten thee riches.”** If we will allow the streams of wisdom to flow, riches will be as easy as breathing in and breathing out.

This is a man who was described as wiser than Daniel. Remember that by

wisdom, Daniel became the ruler of the whole province of Babylon, and Joseph became the prime minister of Egypt. Wisdom is the substance that makes a ruler. It does not matter the field of expertise that you are engaged in, wisdom can make you stand out.

This is what you must do – Just go inside your spirit man and reach out to the Christ of God in you. Sit quietly in a lonely place. Let the focus of your desire be within and set your mind on that which is your business. You may struggle with wandering thoughts at first but keep your focus on the inward resident wisdom, which is the Christ of God.

As you do this, it will be as if streams of light will begin to flow out of your heart into your mind. Bolts of electricity will hit your heart and your mind. It will be as if something has been sparked within you concerning that which is your business. Ideas that men have not thought of will begin to emerge in your heart, because in that hidden place, wisdom, the creative force of the universe, is talking. When you come out of your closet, go and put into effect, that light that hit your heart and mind. There is a destiny of a wealthy place ordained for believers. Why have we left the second pillar of wisdom for unbelievers to explore? All the wild inventions of science must come about by believers, because more than any other person, we have access to the secrets of wisdom. In the eternal plan of God, believers are to lay up gold as dust. In these last days, the richest men in the world will be believers. Scripture asserts,

Then shalt thou lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks. (Job 22:24)

If you understand the principle of dust, then you will know that this is a serious statement, because there is no cavity in your house that you can prevent dust from entering. Clean your house as much as you can and shut all the windows. By the time you come back after one week, there will be dust everywhere. The Bible says that you will lay up gold as dust. That means everything about your life will just be producing value. Even your unconscious actions will be producing value. Only wisdom can bring you into such a place.

In the eternal plan of God, believers are to lay up gold as dust. In these last days, the richest men in the world will be believers.

Not only will you lay up gold as dust, but also the gold of *Ophir* as of the stones

of the brooks. In the original sense, *Ophir* means dust or ashes. It was a place in the Middle East where they traded in gold. However, that is not what is interesting. When the gold of *Ophir* was allowed to remain in its native valley, it was washed down by the mountain torrents and lodged among the stones and sand of the valley as nuggets. Thus, for value, the gold was regarded as stones because of its abundance. It is speaking in reference to nuggets. Everyone who deals in gold knows the value of gold nuggets. This is what scripture means when it says you will lay up gold as the stones of the brooks. This location and its description ring something fascinating in my heart because in the Garden of Eden, scripture describes the same thing:

And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads. The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone. (Genesis 2:10-12)

There was a river which proceeded out of Eden to water the Garden. Scripture recounts that from the Garden of Eden, it was parted into four heads. A man of wisdom understands that his source of income must not consist in only one stream. One of the cardinal characteristics of wisdom is to part into multiple streams. That is the reason why wisdom has seven pillars. If in your life, you have only one stream of income, you may want to read Genesis 2:10-13 very well. Interestingly, the path of the first river, which was called "*Pison*", was full of gold and precious stones, just like "*Ophir*". "*Pison*" is the Hebrew rendering for the word "increase". It is derived from the root word "*puwsh*" which means to spread, to spring about or to grow up. In exploring the second pillar of wisdom, you have to understand that it is a life of persistent additions where you increase and increase.

A man of wisdom understands that his source of income must not consist in only one stream.

One of the cardinal characteristics of wisdom is to part into multiple streams.

And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia. And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates. And the fourth river is Euphrates. 14)

The name of the second river is “*Gihon*”, a Hebrew word derived from the root word “*giyach*”, and it means to “burst forth”. It is likened to the breaking forth of the waters of the womb or the sea. This is the next phase after increase. At this level, we do not just increase; we break borders in all directions as we expand. We see this blessing in the life of our father, Abraham.

“And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt SPREAD abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.” (Genesis 28:14).

The Hebrew word translated as spread is the word “*parats*”, which means to break forth. The implication is that after Abraham has experienced increase by the multiplication of his seed, he will break forth in the land like the gushing forth of the waters of the sea. Every man who is of the house of blessed Abraham is entitled to this blessing. Hallelujah! If you are running a certain business, you should not lose sight of this reality. God begins by causing you to increase and then matures you to spring forth, and then he causes you to break forth.

“*Hiddekel*” is the name of the third river. It simply means “rapid”. This tells us that at this level, the breaking forth of a believer moves him into a realm of speed where everything is gotten in record time. At this stage, whatever God has sought to accomplish in his life comes to pass without delay and swiftly, gushing forth like torrents in a river.

The fourth stream is “Euphrates”. It is “*perath*” in the Hebrew rendition and it means fruitfulness. It is the largest amidst the four rivers of Eden and the highest manifestation of the rivers. It is also the peak of blessing and growth in the expressions of wealth. At this stage, you bear fruit and attain unto fullness in the intended plan of God for your life.

Conclusively, putting the four rivers and their meanings together, it tells a wonderful discourse of an increase which is bursting forth rapidly into fruitfulness.

Beloved, wisdom is a defence; it fills your barns with gold. Scripture emphatically says in Job 22:25 that,

Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver.

The word translated as “defence” is “*betser*” and it means gold. That is to say that God is your gold. To have God is to have gold.

The Wisdom Cure for Poverty

In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee. Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, that is so great? (2 Chronicles 1:7, 10)

When God told Solomon to ask whatever he wanted, he immediately answered that he wanted wisdom. You will realize that along with that wisdom came riches, honour and wealth.

Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like. (2 Chronicles 1:12)

We learn, as we read on the life of Solomon, that the wisdom that was given to him came cumulatively with money. The underlying wisdom behind the vast expression of his wealth which none of the Kings before him had experienced was penned down by him predominantly in the book of Proverbs. Sadly, the very things he warned against are what many people who desire to be wealthy are engaged in for which reason they remain in penury. On top of the list is **the error of the get rich quick mentality** . He said,

A faithful man shall abound with blessings: BUT HE THAT MAKETH HASTE TO BE RICH SHALL NOT BE INNOCENT. HE THAT HASTETH TO BE RICH HATH AN EVIL EYE, AND CONSIDERETH NOT THAT POVERTY SHALL COME UPON HIM. (Proverbs 28:20, 22)

So many believers are looking for the 24-hour turn-around miracle money that leaps them from penury to plenty. However, I have realized in the scriptures that every miracle-money was meant to clear a debt or to meet an awaiting demand. Consider the case of Elisha and the widow. The oil was multiplied unto the woman because she and her sons were in debt and were about to be sold into slavery. That which the prophet did for her was to salvage the dire situation she was in.

Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy

servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen. (2 Kings 4:1)

When Elisha, the prophet, performed the miracle, he specifically instructed her to go and sell it to pay off her debt first, and then live on the rest with her family:

And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, GO, SELL THE OIL, AND PAY THY DEBT, AND LIVE THOU AND THY CHILDREN OF THE REST. (2 Kings 4:6-7)

Every miracle-money was meant to clear a debt or to meet an awaiting demand.

Please understand that there is a big difference between fantasy and faith. Faith is alive and comes with accompanying works. Fantasy is a wish me well Cinderella feeling of a desire devoid of works. It is sad that many people are chasing after fantasies and have no accompanying works to call in the wealth they so desire. You will not receive miracle-money if you have no awaiting demand neither will you be rich because you wished for it. You will only be wealthy when you contact the wisdom that makes a man wealthy. Do you remember that the miracle of turning water into wine and the multiplication of bread performed by Jesus were all to meet pressing needs? In the case of the wedding at Cana of Galilee, there was no wine at such a prestigious wedding and this would have brought shame on the bride and the bridegroom. In such a desperate moment, miracle-money is to be expected. (John 2:1-11). Again, look at what happened before Jesus multiplied bread for thousands of people to eat.

In those days the multitude being very great, and having nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples unto him, and saith unto them, I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now been with me three days, and have nothing to eat: And if I send them away fasting to their own houses, they will faint by the way: for divers of them came from far. And his disciples answered him, From whence can a man satisfy these men with bread here in the wilderness? (Mark 8:1-4)

You have to understand the premise on which you will receive miracle money: you have to create a need for it. Imagine having gone three days without food just

listening to the Word of God. Jesus could not have sent the multitude away on an empty stomach. Thus, having fulfilled the first requirement of giving them the word that proceeds out of the mouth of God, the requirement for bread had to be met now. God could in no way disappoint such an expectation. I say again that to receive a miraculous multiplication of resources, you have to create the need for it. Therefore, to create an atmosphere for miracle-money, generate an idea and get to work. When you hit a place that demands the inflow of resources and yet, your strength is not enough to meet that demand, that then is the time to begin to call forth miracle money. You cannot sit down in your room drinking tea and say, “*I receive miracle money*” . Which project are you working on? What task are you engaged in? That is the condition under which God releases miracle money.

A short time-travel back to days of the plunder of Egypt by the Israelites underscores the truth that God will fill your barns with plenty when there is a great work he has put in your hands to accomplish. Scripture recounts that the Israelites left Egypt with great wealth, but the question to ask is, “*What for?*” You want to be a millionaire – “*What for?*” You want to own mansions and private jets, with fleets of cars – “*What for, my friend?*” Read what the Torah and the Psalmist says concerning the children of Israel:

And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians. (Exodus 12:36)

He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes. Egypt was glad when they departed: for the fear of them fell upon them. (Psalms 105:37-38).

What joy it would have been, having endured slavery for hundreds of years only to blink an eye, and you have been set free with plenty of silver and gold? Meanwhile, when God gave such abundance to the children of Israel, he was thinking about the tabernacle they were to construct in the wilderness. How do I know?

When God makes you exceeding wealthy, he expects you to use that wealth in advancing his kingdom.

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his

heart ye shall take my offering. And this is the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass, And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood, Oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense, Onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod, and in the breastplate. AND LET THEM MAKE ME A SANCTUARY; THAT I MAY DWELL AMONG THEM. (Exodus 25:1-8)

All the paraphernalia listed above, needed for the building of the tabernacle, were gotten from Egypt because at this time, they had exited from there into the wilderness not so long ago. God determined that the spoils of the war were to be used for the building of the temple; interestingly, God determined it way before the exodus of the Israelites.

Please understand that when God makes you exceeding wealthy, he expects you to use that wealth in advancing his kingdom. Your fun will not be stopped; enjoying your wealth will not be hindered, nevertheless, where is your contribution for the advancement of the Kingdom of God on earth? I know I will be very wealthy, yet in the exuberance of my wealth, the greatest thought on my mind is the kingdom. Remember I have told you that there is a huge difference between faith and fantasy. Fantasy says, I will have it all and then goes back to sleep, but faith says, I will have it all and then gets to work. Beloved, I want you to understand that it is God's desire for you to manifest great wealth, thus he is the one who gives you power to make wealth.

But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day. (Deuteronomy 8:18)

However, take note that he gives you the power to make wealth so that he will establish his covenant with you, not so that you will go on fancy vacations. I am not against vacations, beloved; I am only set on a course to set priorities right in your mind.

Many people do not understand what scripture means by saying one should enjoy riches. To enjoy riches is not to spend it on one's selfish pleasures but rather for Kingdom purposes. We as believers enjoy riches by channeling it into Kingdom advancement which includes doing good, abounding in good works, being benevolent especially to the brethren. There is such a joy that comes with

being a blessing. This is true enjoyment of riches. It is such a deep seated joy nothing can provide. No wonder Paul shows Timothy how to enjoy riches;

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who GIVETH US RICHLY ALL THINGS TO ENJOY; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life. (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

Take note of the semicolon that separates the verses. When a semicolon is used, it means the latter statement is a further explanation of the former. Thus, the passage above simply shows us how to enjoy our wealth. We read that ***“God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy (that is) That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; (that is) Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life”*** This simply makes us know that the way to enjoy wealth is to do good and be rich in good works.

From the scripture, we realize that we enjoy all things by doing good, being rich in good, works, ready to distribute and willing to communicate, and most importantly to trust in the Living God and not in uncertain riches. The Message translation says by doing this we guard the treasures of money we have been given.

Tell those rich in this world’s wealth to quit being so full of themselves and so obsessed with money, which is here today and gone tomorrow. Tell them to go after God, who piles on all the riches we could ever manage — to do good, to be rich in helping others, to be extravagantly generous. If they do that, they’ll build a treasury that will last, gaining life that is truly life. (1 Timothy 6:17-19, MSG)

This is a great impartation of wisdom concerning riches. If a man possesses the wisdom of wealth, it shows in mighty works of great benevolence. This causes a man’s wealth to take on miraculous tune.

Miracle-money will flow in abundance the moment you get desperate for God. Listen to the words of David;

I will not give sleep to mine eyes, or slumber to mine eyelids, Until I find out a

place for the LORD, an habitation for the mighty God of Jacob. (Psalms 132:4)

No wonder as a king, his life was full of miraculous provision. He was the one who made all the things for the construction of the temple ready, even before his death.

Now I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God the gold for things to be made of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and the brass for things of brass, the iron for things of iron, and wood for things of wood; onyx stones, and stones to be set, glistening stones, and of divers colours, and all manner of precious stones, and marble stones in abundance. Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, which I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house. (1 Chronicles 29:2-3)

Dear believer, this is the secret to untold wealth. The get rich quick mentality to acquire money to spend wantonly relates to fantasy. It brings no man wealth, it only brings him trouble. This is because its underlying factor is Greed. In the manifestation of wisdom, the moment you begin to manifest greed, you have already blotted your name out of the hall of fame of the wealthy. Thus, Solomon said,

He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him. (Proverbs 28:20, 22)

To have an evil eye is to be exceedingly stingy and greedy. This is what takes us into the second wisdom communicated by Solomon in the manifestation of wealth, which is the **holding back from being a blessing** . Proverbs 11:24 says that,

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

How strange? According to the pedagogy of the world, you are to withhold to become rich. Yet, the man who was made wealthier than all his contemporaries knocks us down with a feather by saying that in order to increase, you have to scatter. Releasing your wealth is the way to increase it. I have searched the scriptures and have realized the reason why it works this way: Money is a spirit.

It has wings and it flies to whoever it wills.

*Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? **for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.** Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats.*

(Proverbs 23:5-6)

The man who understands how to control the direction of the flow of money is the man that becomes wealthy, not the one who withholds more than is meet. Thus, there are many people chasing after riches instead of seeking the wisdom of riches and yet they are poor. While money is flying to some people freely, it is flying away from others speedily. You may have a lot of money now, however that does not mean you have enduring riches, because if you do not scatter by wisdom, it is only a matter of time; it will tend to poverty. Let us understand poverty: it is not the lack of the presence of money; rather, it is the lack of the direction of money. When the spiritual current of money does not flow to you, it does not matter how much you hold in your hands, it will rot in your hands and tend to poverty.

When the spiritual current of money does not flow to you, it does not matter how much you hold in your hands, it will rot in your hands and tend to poverty.

Actually, poverty is not the absence of money; it is the inability to fulfill life's demands with the resources you have at hand. Hence, it does not matter how much money one has; if he is not able to fulfill the demand of satisfying a course, then such a person is really poor. After all, what is the essence of money? Is it not to meet demands? Thus, if one does not have money and yet is able to meet demands with the available resources, then such a person is rich. Poverty is an inability to meet and satisfy prevailing demands. Thus, one is poor in whatever area he is not able to deliver to satisfaction.

Poverty is not the absence of money; it is the inability to fulfill life's demands with the resources you have at hand.

If you get this, then you should not be afraid to scatter in wisdom because money is a current which flows. The moment it becomes stagnant, it will die off. If you desire to be wealthy, seek for control over the wings of money, and do not have an evil eye. Jesus said,

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

There is a very interesting connection between the single eye and wealth, and the evil eye and poverty. Jesus Christ links the evil eye with darkness and links the single eye with light. I have read many commentaries on this passage of scripture but I have not found any commentator linking it to wisdom. If you read chapter seven carefully, then you remember that I have written on the illuminated or lighted ones of the kingdom, in whom the spirit of light dwells. Now, to have a single eye is a Hebraism that relates to promptness in generosity. It was used of a marriage contract when the man is to pay the dowry. If he does not do so promptly, he was to add interest to the dowry. Thus, to give it promptly was said to be of a single eye. A single eye then has to do with the promptness of giving.

The way to lay up treasures, for yourself in heaven is to have a single eye.

Jesus said that if a man's eye is single, (if he is generous or liberal) then his whole body is full of light. The meaning of this is not made clear however, until we read the verse before it, where he said, ***“But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”*** This takes us back to being rich towards God, which I have already spoken about at the beginning of this chapter. The way to lay up treasures, for yourself in heaven is to have a single eye. The single eyed man as well, is said to be full of light. This light is the wisdom of the righteous, who scatters abroad.

As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. (2 Corinthians 9:9)

On the contrary, to have an evil eye is to be stingy and greedy. Such a person has his whole body full of darkness. This darkness is not the kind of darkness that we know when there is the absence of light in a room. This darkness in itself is light because it relates to wisdom. Jesus specifically said, ***“If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!”*** It is a light, however, this light is darkness. It is the Wisdom of the stingy man. He withholds, not

knowing that the more he does that, he shuts himself in and becomes darkened, growing poorer and poorer. The wise man understands that the way to increase is to give, yet in giving, there is a very important aspect that must not be forgotten which is *patience in life* .

The Word of God teaches that a calm disposition in the assurance of God's care and provision is a value that makes riches endure. We have seen the reproof of Solomon that the character that brings poverty is haste. There is something more I want to point out in Proverbs 28:20:

A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

In this verse, we discover that the way to abound in blessings, is through faithfulness. The Hebrew word for "faithful" is "*emuwnah*" and it means stability. It speaks of the art of constancy in an enterprise. This also is wisdom. For whatever enterprise you are involved in, you will abound in blessings if you are faithful. Proverbs 20:21 says that

An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be blessed.

A calm disposition and assurance of God's care and provision is a value that makes riches endure.

If the wealth that a man acquires is by chance and not from the wells of wisdom within him, it simply will tell on him not long afterward since he does not possess the capacity of wisdom to maintain that level of wealth. This is very evident in the lives of many lottery winners. In a moment, they are shot up the ladder of the wealthy, but they lose that wealth momentarily just as they gained it. This unfortunate progression happens because until wisdom teaches you to make wealth, the money that comes into your hands will develop wings and fly away.

The Danger of Withholding Your Wealth Unduly

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. (Proverbs 11:24)

No man ever became exceeding wealthy by withholding his wealth unduly. Actually, many have been set on a declivitous path to poverty only because they

have not been taught this wisdom.

The believer ought to be very careful when dealing with money because Scripture reveals that money is a spirit. Money has a voice and cries out against its abusers. Do you know that there is a spiritual connection between the abuse of money and many cancerous diseases and wasting diseases, like HIV AIDS? James, the apostle, makes this evident:

Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. YOUR GOLD AND SILVER IS CANKERED; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, AND SHALL EAT YOUR FLESH AS IT WERE FIRE. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. James 5:1-3

This assertion is not to mean that every trace of cancer in someone's body is as a result of the abuse of money. Yet, one of the first things you should find out if such a disease shows up in your body is whether you have withheld what was rightly due someone.

Money has a voice and cries out against its abusers.

This reality makes me tread with a lot of care when dealing with money. I do my best never to take that which rightly belongs to someone. This is because I understand that doing that will make the money I amass a canker and it can show up in my flesh as cancer or a wasting disease. On the other hand, I am not perturbed at all when someone tries to cheat me. This is because I know how to make my cries ascend to heaven straight into the ears of the Lord to terrorize every swindler to release that which rightly belongs to me. Every hire or labour under the sun has a voice and will cry against the manager if not rightly compensated.

Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. (James 5:4)

Fraud is a thing to be watched with holy and extreme fear, especially when the person concerned is a child of God. This is because the Word of God asserts that their cries travel straight into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. The Lord of Sabaoth means the Lord of the armies of heaven or the Lord of hosts. In Exodus, 15:3, we see that he is "the man of war".

The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name. (Exodus 15:3)

The usage of this designation in dealing with business, communicates deep verities because there is actually a class of angelic beings dedicated to the work of accounting for all that the saints are to bring before the Lord of Sabaoth. When the saints bring an offering, he fights for them.

Are you in charge of paying salaries? Do not defer the payment of such a due; it is dangerous. It has health consequences against you. Have you contracted any man to carry out any kind of assignment for you? Do not take advantage of that person to exchange the wages or outsmart them. You are actually not being smart if you knew the consequences of what you are doing.

This is evident in the account of how Laban cheated Jacob. See how the God of Abraham and the fear of Isaac activated the Lord of Sabaoth;

And your father hath deceived me, and changed my wages ten times; but God suffered him not to hurt me. (Genesis 31:7)

Jacob recounts how Laban deceived him and changed his wages ten times.

Interestingly, look at what God did in Genesis 31:9;

Thus God hath taken away the cattle of your father, and given them to me.

God took what belonged to Laban and gave it to Jacob. When things got worse, the Lord of Sabaoth stepped in to harm Laban but first warmed him.

But the previous night God had appeared to Laban the Aramean in a dream and told him, "I'm warning you—leave Jacob alone!" (Genesis 31:24, NLT)

Thus, Laban himself recounts to Jacob in the verse twenty-nine of the same chapter,

It is in the power of my hand to do you hurt: but the God of your father spake unto me yesternight, saying, Take thou heed that thou speak not to Jacob either good or bad. (Genesis 31:29)

The Lord of Sabaoth is so interested in the wages of his children that he takes time off to fight anyone that wants to cheat them. Finally, consider the discourse of Laban's sons in the climax of things.

And he heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, Jacob hath taken away all

that was our father's; and of that which was our father's hath he gotten all this glory. (Genesis 31:1)

You may think you are being smart by holding the due of your hired workers. That rather turns the tides of wealth against you. Dear reader, this tends and breeds poverty. Interestingly, it was not Jacob who took Laban's wealth. It is God himself who took the riches of Laban and gave them to Jacob.

Tithes, first-fruits, freewill offerings, vows, etc. are all to be accounted for before the Lord of Sabaoth in heaven. Thus, when a man gives a vow and does not fulfill it, it is reckoned in the heavens as a breach and this comes with grave repercussions.

There is actually a class of angelic beings dedicated to the work of accounting for all that the saints are to bring before God. Tithes, offerings, first-fruits, vows, etc. are all to be accounted for before God in heaven.

When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay. SUFFER NOT THY MOUTH TO CAUSE THY FLESH TO SIN; NEITHER SAY THOU BEFORE THE ANGEL, THAT IT WAS AN ERROR: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands? (Ecclesiastes 5:4-6)

It is better for you not to have vowed at all than to vow and then forget to fulfill it or worse still, say that you were not serious about it. Scripture says, ***“suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error.”*** Before you enter a church and pledge that you will do this and that, make sure that you have considered what you are saying carefully because actually, there is an angel standing before you who is taking a record of your vow. In the book of the revelation of Jesus Christ, there is an interesting event that unveils the heavenly pattern of things to us, regarding the prayers and offerings of the saints:

And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. (Revelation 8:3-4)

We learn that our offerings, including prayers and are mixed with incense by the work of angelic ministration. Thus, whatever is offered before God, whether it is prayer, tithes or offerings, goes through the conduit of angelic ministry by the mixing up with incense to ascend before God in heaven. In view of this, we see that the morning and evening sacrifices of the children of Israel were full of angelic activity. For instance, the angel, Gabriel appeared to Zacharias, the priest, at the time of the evening sacrifice, when incense was burnt before God.

And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God in the order of his course, According to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense. And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. (Luke 1:8-11)

Again, the great miracle of calling fire down wrought by the prophet, Elijah, was at the time of the evening sacrifice.

And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. (1 Kings 18:36-38)

He did not have to struggle to produce this miracle because he knew that it was the time of heightened angelic ministration. There are special times in the gates of time that the portals of the spirit realm are opened for many spiritual transactions. The focus of this book will not permit me to delve into this matter intricately.

There are special times in the gates of time that the portals of the spirit realm are opened for many spiritual transactions.

However, you should understand that during such heightened spiritual moments, angels take account of what the saints have to offer. You should not just walk into a church and give any offering which is not according to the measure of

what the account in heaven has, in expectation of you, based on what God has blessed you with. For instance, it will be evident in the heavenly accounts if you refuse to give ten percent of your earnings as tithe. 1 Corinthians 16:2 says that ,

On the first [day] of each week, let each one of you [personally] put aside something and save it up as he has prospered [IN PROPORTION TO WHAT HE IS GIVEN], so that no collections will need to be taken after I come.
(AMP)

Additionally, Malachi is emphatic in questioning,

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. (Malachi 3:8-9)

What a believer offers is so important to God that during one Church service in the nation of Israel, Jesus stood right beside the offering basket and observed what everybody put inside. Scripture recounts,

And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all. (Luke 21:1-3)

The account of heaven reckoned the woman's offering as greater than what the rich men offered, because more than her ten percent, she emptied her account and gave all that she had. In today's Church, it is considered very strange for a man to sell his possessions and give them to the Church for the advancement of the Kingdom. However, this was a common practice in the early Church.

Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need. (Acts 4:34-35)

It was a common practice in the early Church and not the act of just one person or a few as we see in many Churches today. Acts 4:36-37 says that,

And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus,

Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

One brother called Joses, who the apostles called Barnabas was such an encouragement to the apostles because he sold his land and brought it to the apostles. It is in the demonstration of this benevolence that Ananias and Sapphira were found wanting because their offering did not tally with their vow. In secret, they had promised the Holy Spirit, not even to the hearing of any man.

In today's Church, it is considered very strange for a man to sell his possessions and give them to the Church for the advancement of the Kingdom. However, this was a common practice in the early Church.

But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet. (Acts 5:1-2)

Beloved, you are not under duress to vow. However, if you vow, make sure you fulfill your vow. Who knows how blessed Ananias and Sapphira would have been if they had fulfilled their vow to the full? They may have been one of the greatest names in the early Church, just like Priscilla and Aquila. Nonetheless, they caused a breach in the spirit because they made God angry and he destroyed the works of their hands and ended their lives as well. Notice what Peter said, after they attempted to rob God,

Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. (Acts 5:4)

“While it remained, was it not thine own?” Beloved, is that house not your house? Is that car not your car? Do not play games with God in your heart. If you want to give it, give it well and if you do not want to give it, withhold it to your hurt. Why must a believer struggle with God over a possession, when God has ministered to his or heart to sow it as a seed to the Church for the advancement of the Kingdom? Is God's hand too short to supply all our needs?

Many believers are withholding their riches unduly, and yet they do not know that they are withholding them to their hurt.

There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: RICHES WERE KEPT BY THEIR OWNER TO HIS HURT, and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand.

(Ecclesiastes 5:13-14, ESV)

Bad Luck

Here's a piece of bad luck I've seen happen: A man hoards far more wealth than is good for him, And then loses it all in a bad business deal. He fathered a child but hasn't a cent left to give him. (Ecclesiastes 5:13-14, MSG)

These are some of the things that believers do to arrange bad luck for themselves. Bad luck comes your way when you hoard far more wealth than is good for you. Beloved, when it comes to riches, you have to be a stream and not a pond. Ponds are stagnant and dirty. Streams flow and are alive with living waters. You have to allow currency to flow through you. Else, you are arranging bad luck for yourself.

Many have lost great amounts of riches in bad ventures not because those ventures were in themselves bad, but rather, the wind of the grace of riches was contrary to them because of their greed, manipulation and stinginess toward God. Others have died prematurely because they lack the wisdom in handling money. You should not allow money to be your God. Rather, have control of money and tell it what to do and direct where it should go. This is the true demonstration of riches.

Bad luck comes your way when you hoard far more wealth than is good for you.

I have heard stories of how people kept their possessions to their hurt when God had impressed on their heart to give it out. Sometimes, that breakthrough you are looking for is not in shouting and crying out in prayer. It is in giving.

I heard a very anointed and renowned man of God in Nigeria recount a story of a stubborn pain he had in his body. He did all he knew on how to get rid of this pain and yet, it persisted. He recounts a vision that he saw himself in a healing conference slated in Canada. This pain persisted before the conference. In the vision, he had arrived for the healing conference and upon arrival, he broke down and was rushed to the hospital. He relates how his sympathizers upon hearing of his breakdown said, *“oh see this man that came to heal people, and he rather has fallen ill.”*

One day, a Pastor friend visited him and he had an inward impression to sow his favorite sleek car as a seed into the life of this Pastor friend. Though the car in

question was his favorite car, he grudgingly, gave it to his friend.

He recounts that when his friend entered the car and drove it off his compound, he stood in his balcony and watched his precious and sweet car being driven away. Yet, something interesting happened. The further the car was driven away, the lesser the pain in his body became. When the car was completely out of sight, he realized that the stubborn pain in his body which had become a thorn in his flesh also vanished instantly. Today, a car is not something to write home about for this man of God. Yet, what if he had withheld his riches? He may have been very sick, or worst still, dead by now. He obeyed the directive to give the car and did not keep it to his hurt.

Some people have kept their riches to their hurt. Some refused to give their cars and they ended up in terrible accidents with those same cars. Some refused to give their money and ended up investing them in bad ventures. Hoarding wealth is not the way to lasting abundance, beloved.

Hoarding wealth is not the way to lasting abundance.

Remember Nabal! Scripture recounts that though he was rich, he refused to be benevolent and thus, God smote him.

And there was a man in Maon, whose possessions were in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel. Now the name of the man was Nabal... (1 Samuel 25:2-3)

That a man has abundance of possessions does not mean he is wise, until he is rich towards God. This is the true definition of the second pillar of wisdom. Nabal had abundance of possessions and yet, because he was foolish and lacked the wisdom of the second pillar, he lost everything;

And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal did shear his sheep. And David sent out ten young men, and David said unto the young men, Get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name: And thus shall ye say to him that liveth in prosperity, Peace be both to thee, and peace be to thine house, and peace be unto all that thou hast. And now I have heard that thou hast shearers: now thy shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there ought missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel. Ask thy young men, and they will shew thee. Wherefore let the young men find

favour in thine eyes: for we come in a good day: give, I pray thee, whatsoever cometh to thine hand unto thy servants, and to thy son David. (1 Samuel 25:4-8)

Nabal refused this request and spoke to the young men impudently. This was his reward for stinginess and greediness:

And it came to pass about ten days after, that the LORD smote Nabal, that he died. (1 Samuel 25:38)

By refusing to be benevolent, he organized bad luck for himself. It is sad that many people are oblivious to the fact that when you withhold unduly, you rather become poor. Remember the rich fool!

And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? (Luke 12:16-20)

With such abundance, instead of thinking of the advancement of the kingdom and the poor, he only thought about himself. This is a mindset of poverty. No wonder his wealth did not last. It was taken from him. I repeat again; the way to create enduring riches is to be rich towards God. Let this reality be in you as we proceed to talk about the wisdom of an angel, in which you will learn amazing things.

Chapter 12: **THE THIRD PILLAR: THE WISDOM OF AN ANGEL**

T

he third pillar of wisdom takes us into the realm of the angelic order; “*the Wisdom of an Angel*” . This wisdom gives you the knowledge into all the mysteries of the earth. The access of this

realm, gives you a certain exhibition that makes you a wonder to men. Known to the children of Israel, was the truth that the wisdom of an angel is displayed in the exhibition of secrets and body of knowledge of the earth, accompanied by the grace of discerning both good and evil. That is why the knowledge of things

in the earth and the discernment of good and evil was connected to the wisdom of an angel. 2 Samuel 14:20 says that,

*To fetch about this form of speech hath thy servant Joab done this thing: **and my lord is wise, according to the wisdom of an angel of God, to know all things that are in the earth.***

In 2 Samuel 14:17, the word of God emphatically says, Then thine handmaid said, The word of my lord the king shall now be comfortable: for as an angel of God, so is my lord the king to discern good and bad: therefore the LORD thy God will be with thee.

Again, in 2 Samuel 19:27, we read that,

*And he hath slandered thy servant unto my lord the king; **but my lord the king is as an angel of God: do therefore what is good in thine eyes.***

The wisdom of an angel is displayed in the exhibition of the secrets and the entire body of knowledge of the earth and grants one the grace of discerning both good and evil.

It is the grace of an angel to discern things in the earth, and more so to discern both good and bad. When a believer begins to explore this pillar of wisdom, he is expected to know, and to act rightly in all matters of this earth. Accordingly, Paul, the apostle, speaking on this matter said,

But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.
(Hebrews 5:14)

The spiritually mature exercise themselves constantly in this wisdom. The man that has his senses exercised discerns both good and evil. Take note that he does not discern BETWEEN good and evil but discerns BOTH good and evil. That is to say good and evil are of the same source. The New International Version puts 2 Samuel 14:17 this way,

*And now your servant says, ‘May the word of my lord the king bring me rest, **for my lord the king is like an angel of God in discerning good and evil...*** (NIV)

We must understand from the chapter one of Genesis that the trees in the Garden of Eden were not just physical trees but were also informative banks that kept the secrets of God. The tree had within itself, an intrinsic ability to make one wise according to the fruits of good and evil.

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat . (Genesis 3:6)

Good and evil are fruits of one tree, which is the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The wisdom of the angelic order is according to the function of this tree. Under this gracious wisdom, nothing is hidden of things that are in the earth. By the possession of this wisdom, the angelic order was given access into the secrets of the earth, together with the knowledge of good and evil. It is the reason why the serpent said, they will be gods knowing good and evil:

For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. (Genesis 3:5)

By the time we see the serpent in the beginning conversing with the woman, he already had the knowledge of good and evil. Concerning him, Scripture said that he was the most subtle of all the living creatures which God had made. He was operating a certain wisdom which pointed to the fact that, prior to this time he had had access to a certain bank of information of God which man did not have. Yet there was something that God sought to do with man that was beyond the wisdom of the angels. If the serpent had known this, he wouldn't have messed with man. Yet at that time, the highest manifestation of wisdom was the wisdom of the serpent, and up till now, Jesus Christ tells us in Matthew 10:16:

Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

The wisdom of the angelic order is according to the function of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil

The Wisdom of the Serpent

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made... (Genesis 3:1)

There is something about this universe that Satan is attracted to, and that is

wisdom. All his labours from the pre-adamite ages till now have been to repossess wisdom. Yet, because of the multitude of his iniquities, wisdom has been hidden from him, though in the beginning, he was given wisdom. In the prophecies of Ezekiel, the prophet, he said concerning Satan,

Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, THOU HAST CORRUPTED THY WISDOM by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. (Ezekiel 28:17)

Though this primordial being was made in beauty and wisdom, he corrupted this wisdom because of pride. Thus, the wisdom in which he now operated was corrupted wisdom, and correspondingly he produced corrupted works. One cardinal thing he lost in his fall was his wisdom. In order to try to recover his wisdom, he sought the places and the things in which God had placed wisdom. He scanned the whole universe to take advantage of that which possessed wisdom and guess what his target was? – The Serpent. There were many living creatures in the field which God made in the beginning. However, the scripture makes a very interesting assertion concerning the serpent:

“Now the serpent was more subtle and crafty than any living creature of the field which the Lord God had made.” (Genesis 3:1, AMP)

To call the creatures “living creature” is interesting because Ezekiel 1:5, 10 speaks about the living creatures in the cherubic order, and interestingly, when God cast man out of the Garden, he did not just shut the gates; he placed a cherubim there to guard the way to the tree of life:

So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life. (Genesis 3:24)

These Cherubim are the same as the living creatures which the prophet, Ezekiel, speaks of in Ezekiel 1:5, 10:

Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man...As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle.

It will wonder you to know that the creation account of the living creatures in the book of Genesis was according to the pattern of the living creatures that existed in the angelic order. Interestingly, man is part of the living creatures or the cherubim. When you look at the cherubs, you see the four living creatures, with the faces of a Lion, an Eagle, an Ox and a Man. Man himself, being a beast, is part of the composite cherubic order. Satan, in search of wisdom, scans the whole world, including man and yet, targets the serpent. That means the serpent was craftier than man.

The creation account of the living creatures in the book of Genesis was according to the pattern of the living creatures that existed in the angelic order.

The serpent possessed wisdom as an inherent ability, and when Satan needed to operate in a wise and crafty manner, he possessed the serpent. The serpent was the most gifted of God's creation. Please understand that Satan wants the best things in God's universe. When he launches out in search of targets, he goes for the best. In a family setting, Satan always preys on the people with the brightest destinies and future. Interestingly, those who are great in the world, if they were converted into the Church, will be as great as they are in the world. Equally, those who are great in the Church, if they are to backslide into the world, will also be as great as they are in the Church. That is the reason why Satan showed up in the serpent to deceive man, because he sought to exploit the wisdom of the serpent.

A typical illustration of this principle is Peter and Paul. Of Peter, we know Jesus spoke of him as having the keys of the kingdom, yet, Jesus revealed to him that he was the one that the devil sought to sift as wheat.

And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat. (Luke 22:31)

This principle could also be witnessed in the life of Paul; we see who he was in the faith of Judaism when he spelt out the confidence of his medallion in Philippians 3:4-7;

Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the

Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

However, after his conversion, he speaks of how amongst the apostles, he was the one that laboured most.

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

The zeal that he expressed for the course of Judaism was the same zeal that he displayed in the work of the ministry for the course of Christ.

Of the creatures in the cherubic order, there was the eagle, which was representative of the fowls of the air. There was also the ox, which was representative of the cattle of the field. There was the lion which was representative of the beasts of the field, and there was man which was representative of the human race. However, as we read the book of Genesis, in the reconstructive or remedial work of God, we notice that there were supposed to be six living creatures in all; man, lion, eagle, ox, fishes and creeping things. However, we see only four in the heavenly order because two were lost, and there is a reason.

In the book of Genesis, scripture says,

And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:21).

The scripture above furnishes us with two additional kinds of living creatures; the Fowls and the Fishes. The eagle was represented as the federal head of the fowls of the air, in the heavenly cherubic order but where is the federal head of the fishes? In verse 24 and 25, the scripture said,

And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Here, we see three orders represented – the cattle family, which was represented in the cherubic order as the Ox, the beast of the earth which has the Lion as their federal head, and the creeping things which no mention was made of in the cherubic order in the book of Ezekiel and the book of Revelation. Thus, again, we see that the federal head of the creeping things is missing in the heavenly living creatures which were a pattern for the earthly. The Hebrew word for “creeping thing” is “remes”, which means a reptile. It has to do with all that are of the reptilian order.

In the reconstructive or remedial work of God, we notice that there were supposed to be six living creatures in all; man, lion, eagle, ox, fishes and creeping things. However, we see only four in the heavenly order because two were lost.

Thus, in the original order of things, we were to have the fishes and the creeping things or the reptiles represented in the heavenly cherubic order, but they were missing. Why four and not six? As much as it speaks of things that are to happen in the ages to come, according to the plan of the ages, it also tells us things that occurred in the preadamite ages. The construction of the heavenly cherubic order tells of the plan of the ages.

From the heel to the head of the cherubs, we are furnished with the information of God’s dealings in the ages past and his plan for the future, because the cherubs grow. That is to say, the feet of the cherubs tell a story of the ages past. Their hands, wings and faces are all communicative of God’s plan for the ages. This may sound eccentric if you have not taken a critical look at the angelic order and the order of events in the heavenlies. For instance, in Revelation 21:1, in the visions of John, the apostle, he said,

*And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; **and there was no more sea.***

We should have been able to predict this even if we did not read this scripture, just by looking at the cherubic plan or the plan of the living creatures. If there was no more sea, then it simply meant that the habitation of the fishes had been taken away, so they were not needed in the cherubic company.

This witness is ascertained in the days of Noah, after the Lord swept the face of

the earth with a flood. Scripture emphatically says that God made a covenant with Noah and the living creatures, which again, was a pattern of things in the heavens. The Word of God says that

And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you; And with every LIVING CREATURE that is with you, of THE FOWL, of THE CATTLE, and of EVERY BEAST OF THE EARTH with YOU; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. (Genesis 9:9-10)

As we progress, we see again, the four living creatures enumerated here; the fowl, the cattle, the beast which is the Lion, and Noah, who represented man in the midst of the four living creatures. What is fascinating however is that the testimony of scripture is accentuated when again, the habitation of the fishes was taken away, after the establishment of the covenant that ties the living creatures into the throne.

And I will establish my covenant with you; NEITHER SHALL ALL FLESH BE CUT OFF ANY MORE BY THE WATERS OF A FLOOD; NEITHER SHALL THERE ANY MORE BE A FLOOD TO DESTROY THE EARTH. And God said, THIS IS THE TOKEN OF THE COVENANT which I make between ME and YOU and EVERY LIVING CREATURE THAT IS WITH YOU, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. (Genesis 9:11-13)

The waters were expunged from the earth just as there was no more sea in the book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ. The riddance of the waters of the flood was communicative of the pattern of things in the heavens and of the plan of the ages. Therefore, since there was no habitation for the fishes, they could not be represented in the cherubic order. Yet where does the serpent come in the account of Noah?

The riddance of the waters of the flood was communicative of the pattern of things in the heavens and of the plan of the ages

To answer that question, we have to revisit the purpose of the flood. The Word of God recounts that the main purpose of the flood was to wipe away giants that had infested the earth, who were of the seed of the serpent.

There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the

same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown. (Genesis 6:4)

We see that the giants that were in the earth in those days were of the seed of the sons of God who came down from heaven to have intercourse with the daughters of men to produce corrupted seed. The Hebrew word translated as “giants” is “*nephil*” which means “fallen”. Thus, these giants were of the brood of angels that accompanied with the serpent to corrupt the seed of man so that the Godly seed which God sought would be corrupted.

*And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. **And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth:** and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.* (Revelation 12:3-4)

Thus, the waters of the flood had to be employed to wipe away or expunge all these illicit citizens from the face of the earth. Yet, remember that these illegal beings were not all human; they were part human and part angelic. Thus, when they were purged by the waters, they now found a new habitation in the waters of the earth. Their bodies were destroyed, however, under the waters, they formed new bodies which could sustain them in that habitation. Thus, Job 26:5 clearly states that,

Dead things are formed from under the waters, and the inhabitants thereof.

The Hebrew rendition for dead things is made succinct in the Young’s Literal Translation:

The Rephaim are formed, Beneath the waters, also their inhabitants.

Who are the ***Rephaim*** ? They are the seed of fallen beings and giants who were cleared off by the waters of judgment in the days of the prophet, Noah. However, there is more to it than that, because if we are to understand it all, then we would have to talk about Leviathan, the flying serpent, and all that occurred in the pre-adamite ages for which cause he now has his habitation in the seas, the dwelling place of the fishes. All these are written in the scriptures. I have spoken about it extensively in my book on angels, ***“The Growth of Angels and Celestial Beings; According To Their Transforming Order and Activities”*** , and also briefly in my book, Conquering Marine Spirits.

It is the root of the covenant of the four-faced cherub in the account of the flood

of Noah where God entered into a covenant with his four living creatures.

The construction of the heavenly cherubic order tells of the plan of the ages

The higher a being is in the cherubic order, the greater his expressions in glory. Thus, there are cherubs that have two faces, and there are others that have four faces. Some even have just one face. The category we read of in Ezekiel chapter one had four faces. However, the kind spoken of in Ezekiel 41:18-19 has two faces.

And it was made with cherubims and palm trees, so that a palm tree was between a cherub and a cherub; AND EVERY CHERUB HAD TWO FACES; So that the face of a man was toward the palm tree on the one side, and the face of a young lion toward the palm tree on the other side...

In Ezekiel 1:5-6, they had four faces;

Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man. And every one had FOUR FACES, AND EVERY ONE HAD FOUR WINGS.

In Revelation 4:7, each had ONE FACE, and is referred to as living creature. These living creatures seem to combine attributes of the wings of the Seraphim in Isaiah and the face of the cherubs in Ezekiel.

And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle. AND THE FOUR BEASTS HAD EACH OF THEM SIX WINGS ABOUT HIM; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, SAYING, HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

Thus, if there ever existed a one faced cherub, a two faced cherub and a four faced cherub, no wonder there could also exist a six faced cherub, because celestial beings grow. The various faces of the cherubs speak of their discerning and perspectives in all direction.

There are principally seven cardinal points of God's universe, which are North, South, East, West, Up, Down and Inward. The seventh or inward cardinal of God's universe speaks of the unknown and untapped recesses of God's inmost

dwellings in light. This seventh cardinal is hidden in the depths of God and only the seven spirits of God can reach into that depth. This is because the seven spirits of God are able to reach forth into the parts within God. 1 Corinthians 2:11 declares,

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

There are principally seven cardinal points of God's universe, which are North, South, East, West, Up, Down and Inward. The seventh or inward cardinal of God's universe speaks of the unknown and untapped recesses of God's inmost dwellings in light.

Hence, the four-faced cherub is not the highest expression of the angelic growth. There are higher expressions in the sixth and seventh order. The class of angelic beings called the Seraphim belong to the sixth realm of God's abode, where they cover and dwell above the throne.

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. ABOVE IT STOOD THE SERAPHIMS: EACH ONE HAD SIX WINGS; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and SAID, HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, IS THE LORD OF HOSTS: the whole earth is full of his glory. (Isaiah 6:1-3)

The seraphs are higher expressions of the angelic order because of their position and function, as the ones who stand above the throne and administer God's Holiness. Cherubs grow and transform to become Seraphs. Scripture actually recounts that Lucifer, as an anointed cherub, sought to ascend to the heights of the North of the universe of God which was the abode of the seraphs.

Cherubs grow and transform to become Seraphs

Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. (Ezekiel 28:14)

For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north. (Isaiah 14:13)

He had not yet mastered the inward glory to ascend to the sides of the north to perform the work of a seraph in covering the throne of God and yet he sought in his heart to ascend out of due time. Let us observe something very important about the wings of the cherubs and the seraphs for which cause I make the assertion that cherubs mature into seraphs.

Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man. And every one had four faces, and EVERY ONE HAD FOUR WINGS. (Ezekiel 1:5-6)

In this account, each of the cherubs described had FOUR WINGS just as in Ezekiel 10:19-22;

And the cherubims lifted up their wings, and mounted up from the earth in my sight: when they went out, the wheels also were beside them, and every one stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD'S house; AND THE GLORY OF THE GOD OF ISRAEL WAS OVER THEM ABOVE. This is the living creature that I saw under the God of Israel by the river of Chebar; and I knew that they were the cherubims. Every one had four faces apiece, AND EVERY ONE FOUR WINGS; and the likeness of the hands of a man was under their wings. And the likeness of their faces was the same faces which I saw by the river of Chebar, their appearances and themselves: they went every one straight forward.

Yet, the wonderful configuration of the wings of the cherubs changes as we read Revelation 4:8:

AND THE FOUR BEASTS HAD EACH OF THEM SIX WINGS about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, SAYING, HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

Six wings? These living creatures were said to have four wings in the earlier scriptures we read. Yet, in the process of time, they had developed in growth to have SIX WINGS. Again, they were not only administering the glory of God as they were doing in Ezekiel Chapter ten, as cherubims of glory.

And over it the CHERUBIMS OF GLORY shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly. (Hebrews 9:5)

Now, they were crying out HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, just as the Seraphs in Isaiah

6:1-3. They are referenced to the glory of God in Hebrews 9:5 but now, they were concerned with the holiness of God. Holiness is the attribute of God's name and person while glory is the attribute of God's praise. Thus in Habakkuk 3:3, we see that the earth was full of God's praise when his glory covered the heavens.

*God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. **His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.***

With all these in view, it should not be strange an assertion to make that celestial beings grow. Colossians 2:19 actually reveals that even God grows:

*And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, **increaseth with the increase of God.***

*Let no one rob you of your prize by a voluntary humility and worshipping of the angels, dwelling in the things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, and not holding firmly to the Head, from whom all the body, **BEING SUPPLIED AND KNIT TOGETHER THROUGH THE JOINTS AND LIGAMENTS, GROWS WITH GOD'S GROWTH.** (Colossians 2:18-19, WEB)*

Growth does not only relate to time but primarily speaks of a positive advancement. Thus, churches do not grow because they have more ages or have been there for long; they grow because of the pulsating life at work in them. Again, one's wealth does not grow because there has been the passage of time but rather, it grows because the life of that wealth has been engaged to advance positively. No wonder God himself grows by avenue of his kingdom and his expanse of life, because growth is a characteristic of life. As a matter of fact, anything that has life pulsating through it must grow. A hindrance to growth is a sign of death. Thus godly angels grow and so do the cherubs, just as believers also grow.

Growth does not only relate to time but primarily speaks of a positive advancement... God himself grows by avenue of his kingdom

and his expanse of life, because growth is a characteristic of life.

We even see that Lucifer, the anointed Cherub, grows with a negative growth from a serpent to a dragon. We see this in Revelation 12:9;

And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

He was a serpent in the Garden that grew into a dragon which is a sign of negative growth or death. Growth, therefore, denotes becoming better at what you should know. Thus, the devil in becoming exceedingly wicked grows negatively. Man as well, in Genesis Chapter six grew negatively until God regretted that he had made him.

And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. (Genesis 6:5-6)

No wonder Paul speaks of the advancement in understanding as the angels, together with men and the world grow in their appreciation of the apostles of the Church.

For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men. (1 Corinthians 4:9)

Inasmuch as the manifold wisdom of God is made known to the angelic realm, that practically signifies growth.

[The purpose is] that through the church the complicated, many-sided wisdom of God in all its infinite variety and innumerable aspects might now be made known to the angelic rulers and authorities (principalities and powers) in the heavenly sphere. (Ephesians 3:10, AMP)

So that now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavens might be made clear through the church the wide-shining wisdom of God (BBE)

The Bible in Basic English clearly speaks of the wisdom of God being made clear to angels. Is that not growth?

Through Christians like yourselves gathered in churches, this extraordinary plan of God is becoming known and talked about even among the angels! (MSG)

In the Message Bible as well, we see the sighting of progressive growth, where the extra-ordinary plan of God is becoming known and discussed among the angels. If something is becoming known, then it means a development of acquisition of knowledge and understanding which aforesaid or previously was non-existent. That then is perfect growth in the angelic order.

Please understand that in the spirit realm, the apex of growth is the Spirit of God, and all spirits are proceeding towards this Spirit. The present give away of the Spirit is in earnest according to Ephesians 1:13-14; Romans 8:23; 2 Corinthians 1:22; 2 Corinthians 5:5. So that having received, walked and matured in the Spirit, we might be headed up into his fullness. That is the same way angels grow. They are not made as robots; they are spiritual, organic beings who eat spiritual food and grow. All creation is in the process of growth.

In the cherubic order, a perfect being must enter into his seventh realm, that is to say, he must possess seven different characteristics of the cherubic order, but of the six that we have known, two failed.

Satan himself was a covering cherub but had not matured to the fullness of the cherubic order. There was a certain functional wisdom operative in the living creatures, which attracted Satan. Remember that he had corrupted his wisdom because of his pride, when he fell from the regions of light, being the harbinger of light and an anointed cherub. Of all the six living creatures, the Bible declares that the serpent was the most subtle and crafty. Lucifer, in the process of becoming Satan, lacking expression in all the cherubic manifestations and seeking to ascend to the sides of the North, corrupted his wisdom.

For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. (Isaiah 14:13-14)

Since this was Satan's desire, there was no way he could achieve his ambition if he did not have wisdom. This is because wisdom made the claim that God possessed her in the beginning of his way.

The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. (Proverbs 8:22)

Thus, the devil knew that if he could lay a hold on that kind of wisdom, he could

also create a world rule parallel to the universe of God by creating one for himself. His heart was lifted in pride because he thought he could ascend and become like the Most High.

There was a certain functional wisdom operative in the living creatures, which attracted Satan

The Demand of the Ages

By trying to take advantage of the wisdom of the serpent, Satan was trying to take advantage of the greatest expression of wisdom in the universe in that age. It was by this machination that the fall of man was orchestrated. When he appeared as a serpent to man, he said,

...And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and A TREE TO BE DESIRED TO MAKE ONE WISE , she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

What the devil used to break the will of Eve was that by partaking of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, she was going to possess wisdom and become wise. Man's heart also desired after wisdom, because they thought that if they could have wisdom, they could gain expression as God. The Bible emphatically said that the woman took of the fruit when she saw that it was a tree to be desired to make one wise. Thus, because of their quest for wisdom, they succumbed to the temptation of the serpent. As we have already studied, when man partook of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, he contacted a certain wisdom he was not ordained to have in that time.

By trying to take advantage of the wisdom of the serpent, Satan was trying to take advantage of the greatest expression of wisdom in the universe in that age.

Do not forget that the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was angel's food. God, in his wisdom, did not desire for man to function as an angel; he had something bigger on his mind for him. The beings that we call angels function as they do, in nature and in characteristics, because of what they feed on. If the food of man is altered to become like that of an angel, he will begin to manifest certain characteristics of angels. For instance, scripture says in Psalms 78:23-25, concerning the children of Israel,

*Though he had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven, And **had rained down manna upon them to eat, AND HAD GIVEN THEM OF THE CORN OF HEAVEN. MAN DID EAT ANGELS' FOOD: he sent them meat to the full.***

Man, eating the food of angels, was catapulted into the realm of angels; their clothes and shoes did not wax old, though they did not have to change them for all their forty years in the wilderness. To wear the same shoe constantly for one year is barely possible let alone for forty years. Scripture asserts,

*Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, **and withheldest not thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst. Yea, forty years didst thou sustain them in the wilderness, so that they lacked nothing; their clothes waxed not old, and their feet swelled not*** (Nehemiah 9:20-21)

*And I have led you forty years in the wilderness: **your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not waxen old upon thy foot.*** (Deuteronomy 29:5)

*And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, **and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live. Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years.*** neither did thy foot swell, these forty years. 4)

By avenue of the corn of heaven, the nature of the clothing and the physiology of the bodies of the children of Israel were altered into the realm of the quality of angelic characteristics.

The beings that we call angels function as they do, in nature and in characteristics, because of what they feed on.

Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint (Deuteronomy 8:15)

Imagine the harshness of the wilderness condition, with dust, pests and wild animals, and yet the word of God says that there was not one person feeble among them, not even the children and the new born babies. The scriptures actually depict the wilderness as great and terrible, meaning that it was the severest of conditions one could be exposed to.

He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes. (Psalms 105:37)

These are the operations of the wisdom of an angel. It makes you wonder in the earth. The advantage of the children of Israel in the wilderness was that God was the giver of the food and thus it did not corrupt them but rather invigorated them. However, in the Garden of Eden, man of his own will and accord took what had not been offered to him and ate and it turned out as death to him. There is a certain sustaining power in the food of angels that the science of our earth has not yet discovered. If God would open us up to these secrets we could eat just once and be sustained for one whole month. This is how the angels are sustained because they intrinsically do not have inherent immortality, the food they eat is their sustenance. We see this with the prophet, Elijah, in 1 Kings 19:5-8;

And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, ARISE AND EAT. And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again. And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, ARISE AND EAT; BECAUSE THE JOURNEY IS TOO GREAT FOR THEE. And he arose, and did eat and drink, and WENT IN THE STRENGTH OF THAT MEAT FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS UNTO HOREB THE MOUNT OF GOD.

There is a certain sustaining power in the food of angels that the science of our earth has not yet discovered

How could just a day's meal, sustain a man on a journey of forty? Beloved, they are the wonders of the angelic realm. The food that sustained the prophet for

forty days and forty nights without rest is angelic food. If you are given the privilege to eat of this food, you will see its effect in your body. It will make a wonder out of you.

Scripture explicitly asserts that the food that they ate in the wilderness was manna. Yet, as we peruse the scriptures, we do not see just one kind of manna. We see three different kinds of manna and each comes with its own characteristics and inherent grace.

- The Daily Manna
- The Sabbatical Manna
- The Hidden Manna

The daily manna had the sustaining life of God for just a day, thus, the food was corrupted when it was kept for more than a day (Exodus 16:15-17, 19). The Sabbatical manna had the sustaining life of God for two days (Exodus 16:22-23). There was however a third kind of manna which could last for all generations. This manna was hidden in the golden pot in the Ark of the Covenant.

Only the overcomers in the kingdom of God have access to the hidden manna in the golden pot

And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations. As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept (Exodus 16: 33-34).

Angels had access to the daily manna and the Sabbatical manna, and these were the kinds that were given to the children of Israel on a daily basis for which cause they were sustained supernaturally. However, only the overcomers in the kingdom of God have access to the hidden manna in the golden pot.

*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; **To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna**, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it (Revelation 2:17).*

The Intricacies and the Limitations of the Wisdom of an Angel

As wonderful as the wisdom of an angel is, it is limited. There are things that the

angels cannot see into. It takes a higher wisdom to look into these things and I have spoken about them in the next pillar of wisdom. Peter the Apostle said,

*And it was made clear to those prophets that they were God's servants not for themselves but for you, to give you word of the things which have now come to your ears from the preachers of the good news through the Holy Spirit sent down from heaven; **things which even angels have a desire to see** (1 Peter 1:12).*

The Bible says that the wisdom of an angel knows all things that are in the earth and not the universe. According to Peter, there are things which even the angels have a desire to see, which reveals that angels are not omniscient the complicated, many-sided wisdom of God in all its infinite variety and innumerable aspects, the Church. It is the presence of the church to display that wisdom.

*Also to enlighten all men and make plain to them what is the plan [regarding the Gentiles and providing for the salvation of all men] of the mystery kept hidden through the ages and concealed until now in [the mind of] God Who created all things by Christ Jesus. **[The purpose is] that through the church the complicated, many-sided wisdom of God in all its infinite variety and innumerable aspects might now be made known to the angelic rulers and authorities (principalities and powers) in the heavenly sphere** (Ephesians 3:9-10, AMP).*

Angels are not all-knowing

There is a certain kind of wisdom that when we display as the Church, we put angels in shock. Paul the Apostle affirms this in 1 Corinthians 4:9;

*For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: **for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.***

The Greek word for spectacle is “*theatron*”, and it means a theatre or an audience room for a show. This is how the angels view the Church. Actually, the church of the living God is as a university for angels to learn the wisdom of God. We are like a movie that the angels are watching to decode the mysteries of God. That is the reason there are times the angels get shocked when believers display ignorance in certain spiritual things because they expect that we should know and teach them. Do not underestimate yourself as a believer. See how shocked an angel was when Zechariah the prophet, in visions displayed ignorance:

*Then I asked the angel, “What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?” Again I asked him, “What are these two olive branches beside the two gold pipes that pour out golden oil?” **He replied, “Do you not know what these are?” “No, my lord,” I said** (Zechariah 4:11-13, NIV).*

The church of the living God is as a university for angels to learn the wisdom of God.

The marvel of the angel was that the prophet did not know what the two olive trees were. Indeed, it is unacceptable for you to be in the Church and not know what the two olive trees are. It is like a man who does not know his name, especially with reference to the two olive trees. You will understand the reason when I treat the fifth pillar of wisdom. However, the point I’m trying to make is that the Church displays the manifold wisdom of God.

All that is in the earth and spatial plane is subdued by the wisdom of an angel, with the exception of the universe of God as a whole. Angels do not have all the wisdom of the universe and this is their limitation. The occult can go as far as the wisdom of an angel because of fallen angels, but that wisdom is corrupted because of Satan.

Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee (Ezekiel 28:17).

The knowledge of an angel is earth oriented. It concerns every known thing in the earth. The Intelligence Quotient (IQ) of an angel is way higher than that of an ordinary man. That is to say, there is no man with an IQ higher than that of an angel. The things that we study in our formal schools are all encapsulated as part of the wisdom of an angel. Angels have understanding into the field of all science and art; Geography, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Economics, Mathematics, etc. All that we learn in our formal education in trying to build a civilization is actually the exploration of the wisdom of angels. The discoveries of science towards human advancement and the betterment of humanity at large are a part of the study in angelic wisdom.

Actually, the process by which researchers come up with laws, ensures the building or institution of civilization. This building of a civilization begins with an axiom or a hypothesis and then experiments are run which confirm the hypothesis as a theory. When the theory is proven globally, it becomes a law.

Theories are not universal, but laws are universal. Laws are what progress toward the building of a civilization. When a civilization is built, its advancement also leads to life.

The things that we study in our formal schools are all encapsulated as part of the wisdom of an angel.

Hypothesis/Axiom Theories Laws Civilization Life

There are three areas that determine every kind of civilization; Earth, Spatial plane and the Universal plane. To arrive at a civilization, we must understand its determinants and its driving forces. The determinants of a civilization are the factors that classify it. The driving force of civilization is hinged on three vehicles:

- a) The Advancement of Science
- b) The Advancement of Philosophy
- c) The Advancement of Technology

These three vehicles are the processes of advancement that drive man to higher civilizations. It may wonder you to know that after 6,000 years of man's existence from Adam, man has not even crossed the first civilization which has to do with overcoming the limitations of the earth; overcoming the limitation of distance, gravity, time and the like. When man masters the first civilization, things like distance and time will no more be a limitation. Men can time-travel and teleport themselves. The wisdom of an angel gives you the power over these laws, to cross the first civilization. However, the wisdom of an angel is not all encompassing; an angel does not know all the things in the universe of God. Angels know all the secrets that are in the earth and some of the things in the spatial plane but not all the things in the universe of God.

After 6,000 years of man's existence from Adam, man has not even crossed the first civilization which has to do with overcoming the limitations of the earth

When man is able to master the wisdom of this earth, then he will cross the first civilization into the second civilization which has to do with the exploration of all "known matter". Known matter has to do with the known universe, which is estimated to be only ten percent of the entire universe. These are the things that an angel is privy to and yet, they are not perfect. Job 4:18 says that God charges

them his angels with folly:

Behold, he put no trust in his servants; and his angels he charged with folly

Upon all the wisdom that angels display, God sees imperfection in them. That wisdom and exhibition is imperfect in the sight of God. Many times, believers perceive angels as perfect beings but even Paul acknowledged their propensity to err:

But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed (Galatians 1:8)

When he was laying the charge in the Church, he did not exclude angels. That means he knew it was possible for an angel to come from heaven and preach a false gospel. The wisdom of an angel is wonderful but there is a more glorious reality, which is the wisdom of the Church.

The Five Institutions of Learning According to the Wisdom of an Angel

The beauty of the wisdom of an angel, as related to scholastic works, can be seen in the angelic interference and bewilderment of overwhelming our five institutions of learning. The operation of this wisdom, even at its rudimentary level, will produce a genius that will beat and excel beyond the information handed over in our five institutions of learning in the earth. This is because all we do in our schools of learning cover courses that expose a minute aspect of the expanse and dimensions of angelic wisdom. This is the reason why worldly wisdom does not come anywhere close to godly wisdom. The wisdom of the occult, which is corrupted wisdom of the fallen angels, though higher than the secular wisdom of our earth's institutions, can in no way compare to the wisdom of a godly angel.

The five institutions of learning include:

- a. Government / Leadership / Politics / Governance
- b. Education (Science and Technology, Arts and Sports)
- c. Family / Culture and Health
- d. Economy / Business
- e. Religion

In an applicative sense, these five systems or institutions relate to the image that King Nebuchadnezzar saw in Daniel 2:32-33:

This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, his legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

a. The Head of Gold speaks of the Political System
b. The Breast and Arm of Silver speak of Educational

System

c. The Thighs of Brass speak of the Family and Cultural System

d. The Legs of Iron speak of the Business and Economic System

e. The feet of Iron and Clay speaks of Religious System

All these systems, as much as they are human institutions, are the rudiments of the wisdom of an angel. Therefore, by administering the earth with them, man is actually meddling somewhat in the wisdom of angels. This is the reason why the man who plunges deep into angelic wisdom becomes outstanding or simply a genius or a prodigy in all or any of the five institutions of learning and is pathetically referred to as a wizard in the world. For instance, a computer wizard, Daniel, who was found to be ten times better than the products of the schools of Babylon, operated within the spheres of angelic wisdom. No wonder among his contemporaries he was considered a genius.

And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm. (Daniel 1:20)

This notwithstanding, Lucifer was said to be wiser than Daniel in Ezekiel 28:3; ***Behold, thou art wiser than Daniel; there is no secret that they can hide from thee.***

This is because though he was ten times better than the products of the schools of Babylon, he had not been schooled in all the complete wisdom of angels, which pertains to the secrets of the earth. The verse emphatically said concerning Lucifer that there is no secret that could be hidden from him because the wisdom of an angel opens one up to all the secrets of the earth. Thus, these secrets could be gazed into faintly as we ponder on the five institutions of learning. Yet no matter how far we go, it is still a peripheral of the entire scope of the wisdom of an angel.

Interestingly however, the five institutions of learning also apply in the church of the living God. However, it is viewed in a higher light when it comes to the Church. I have discussed this in the next chapter under the fourth pillar of wisdom. We proceed to understand and appreciate each of these five institutions of learning.

The Political System

This is the power house of the earth that concerns thoughts, planning and decision making. Politics actually relates to the mind system that runs a city, thus is accorded the head, in the image that Nebuchadnezzar saw. A city is known in Greek as “Polis” from which we get the word politics.

The advancement of the mind system called Government is what grades the politics of a city. (The quality of governance of a city therefore is what determines the kind of city it is, whether a Metropolis or a Cosmopolis).

The sophistications and advancement of the governance of a city to become relevant for educational, religious, economic and cultural activities moves it from just a town to a metropolitan city which is a principal city of a country or a region. However, it does not become a cosmopolitan city until it has several inhabitants from different parts of the world, with different backgrounds, who come together to be governed under one mind system and identity.

Government comes from two words which are “govern” and “ment”. To govern means to rule, to run or to direct. “Ment” relates to the mind or to the word “mental”. Government therefore is simply the ruling, running or directing of the mind. Interestingly, politics relates to the advancement of this mind system. Hence, it concerns government, governance and leadership. Just as the head of a body directs all its affairs, the politics of a city is what gives the city direction. When this direction is corrupted, the entire metropolis or cosmopolis becomes corrupted as well.

The reason we had to understand this is that, the ultimate system to handle when trying to change the direction and management of a city according to the angelic interference and imploring, is its political system, which can be broken down into three branches, which are the Legislative Branch (which makes the laws), Executive Branch (which carries out the laws) and the Judicial Branch (which applies the laws to specific court cases). Thus, as can be seen, this aspect of the five systems predominantly has to do with laws. Laws are that which are given

to shape the mentality of a people. Hence, for every city, there are specific administrative laws that govern the residents.

The ultimate system to handle, when trying to change the direction and management of a city according to the angelic interference and imploring, is its political system

Education

This is the power house of the earth by which things are trained

to work. The breast and arm of silver speak of Education because education is the heart beat of every social community. If it caves in, the entire community shuts down. If it is efficient, it makes the lives of the people better. Education here is focused on all the areas of Science and Arts which concern Technology, Social Science, Arts and Sports. The educational system is the means by which the government shapes the minds of its people to become relevant for all the other systems. To gain influence and control in a city or region, you must have an eye on its educational system. It is one of the easiest ways of invading the world and places in which the gospel of Christ is restricted. It is rather sad that when it comes to education or the areas of arts, science and technology, believers are perceived to be out of the scientific fraternity, because of their theistic views. In today's scientific fraternity, the very possibility of a Creator is prohibited by majority vote and the one who still wishes to be part must forfeit his belief in a Creator and consent to the views of uniformitarian evolution. Yet, history holds a candid record of exceptional scientists who were believers and explored the dimensions of the wisdom of an angel in making splendid contributions to the field of knowledge and academia, as well as in inventive technology.

To gain influence and control in a city or region, you must have an eye on its educational system.

These scientists believed that the exploration of science was God's thoughts in allowing them to learn about and control the laws and processes of nature for his glory and the good of man. Somehow, these scientists did not conflict the scientific method by holding a creationist view. Rather, they brought about laws and theories which advanced the field of science and built strong foundations on which many of today's scientists base their calculations and assertions. As a matter of fact, Sir Francis Bacon, who was a devout Anglican, is ascribed the

honour of formulating and establishing the scientific method! He wrote that the goals for his science were to discover truth and serve his country and the Church. These men brought about these inventions by exploiting the realm of the wisdom of angels.

Men such as Newton, Pasteur, Faraday, Pascal, Maxwell, Kepler, etc. who were all believing Christians, performed research and analyses which forged the very laws and concepts of science of the modern age. The mechanical scientists of the present are dwarfed in contrast to these intellectual giants of the past who were believers. The real revolutions, novel inventions, and the most valuable innovations of science were not retarded but were rather hastened by these men who had Bible believing motivations.

- **Sir Francis Bacon**

Bacon wrote that the goals for his science were to discover truth and serve his country and the church. Known for establishing and popularizing the scientific method, he was the first scientist to be knighted. He viewed science as a way to learn deeper truths about God, arguing that “a little philosophy inclines man’s mind to atheism, but depth in philosophy brings men’s minds about to religion.” (Tyler Huckabee, Relevant Group Media, 2014)

- **Lise Meitner**

As a part of the team that discovered nuclear fission (for which her partner, Otto Hahn, won a Nobel Prize), Meitner was born into a Jewish family in Vienna, but later converted to Christianity. She was only the second woman to achieve a doctorate in physics at the University of Vienna and the first woman professor of physics in Germany before she was forced to flee the country during World War II. This woman was so astounding in her work that the chemical element Meitnerium is named after her. (Tyler Huckabee, Relevant Group Media, 2014)

- **Galileo Galilei**

The life and work of Galileo Galilei were marked by an ironic conflict: despite being a devout Christian believer, he was persecuted by the Church for his revolutionary work as a scientist. Arguably, one of the most important and influential physicists, astronomers, inventors and scientists to ever live, Galileo took a non-literal approach to scriptures that the catholic church of the 1600s interpreted to mean that the earth was the center of the universe. Galileo’s revolutionary research into the earth’s rotation was deemed heretical, and after years of debates and trouble with religious authorities, he was forced to recant

them by the inquisition. (Tyler Huckabee, Relevant Group Media, 2014)

In the spring of 1609 he heard that in the Netherlands an instrument had been invented that showed distant things as though they were nearby. By trial and error, he quickly figured out the secret of the invention and made his own three-powered spyglass from lenses for sale in spectacle makers' shops. What set Galileo apart is that, he quickly figured out how to make the instrument better; in the fall of 1609 Galileo began observing the heavens with instruments that magnified up to 20 times. How was he able to do that if not by the inward searching of the wisdom of angels? Galileo spent his remaining years under house arrest. Today however, his writings and ideas provide the foundation for important understandings about the natural world. (Encyclopaedia Britannica).

The list is endless, beloved. Though just listing their names and their works will seem a little impersonal, the few below are representative of the hundreds of scientists who drew their inspiration from the God within them and his word.

Joseph Lister (1827-1912) - Antiseptic Surgery; Louis Pasteur (1822-1895) – Bacteriology; Isaac Newton (1642-1727) – Calculus; Johann Kepler (1571-1630) - Celestial Mechanics; Robert Boyle (1627-1691) – Chemistry and Gas Dynamics; Georges Cuvier (1627-1691) – Chemistry and Gas Dynamics; Georges Cuvier 1871) - Computer Science; James Clerk Maxwell (1831-1879) – Electrodynamics; Michael Faraday (1791-1867) - Electro-Magnetics; Electro-Magnetics; Michael Faraday (1791-1867) - Electro-Magnetics; 1778) - Systematic Biology. Etc. Among the notable inventions done by Christian scientists, we have Vaccination and Immunization by Louis Pasteur (1822-1895); Absolute Temperature Scale by Lord Kelvin (1824-1907); Double Stars by William Herschel (1738-1822); Electric Generator By Michael Faraday (1791-1867) etc. (Morris, H. M. 1982. Bible-Believing Scientists of the Past).

The point I seek to make here is that the inventions and discoveries of science are the fringes of the wisdom of angels. Scientists should not think that science is opposed to religion because actually, the foundation of education from days of yore is based on religion.

Family / Culture and Health

This is the power house of the earth that concerns productivity and perpetuity. It is concerned with family and culture which are the thighs of brass. This is the seed storehouse of a nation and if well harnessed, affects generations. Charity

surely begins at home and culture controls acceptable and non-acceptable behaviors of humankind. All of these are a part of the wisdom of an angel in its intricate aspects, not just the norm, and they are earthly things. The interesting thing is that even concerning being born again, Jesus said it is an earthly thing:

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God...If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? (John 3:3, 12).

If this is the case, then the heavenly things must be much more glorious. Business and Economy

This is the power house that control and make things move in the earth. Business and Economy as a dimension of the wisdom of an angel, is concerned with the running and allocation of earthly resources and their control, thus are the legs of iron. It is the wisdom of an angel that makes the problems of this area of earthly matters surmountable.

It worht noting that, there is angelic interference in the flow of traffic and currency in the earth. The truth is many of the ideas that have created multi-billionaires were accessed from the angelic realm. The rise and fall of currencies and the multiplicity of commerce and trade are all the basics of angelic wisdom. Scripture speaks of how Lucifer was engaged in traffic in the earth.

By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God:and I will destroy thee,O covering cherub... Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick... (Ezekiel 28:16)

Many of the ideas that have created multibillionaires were accessed from the angelic realm

“Merchandise” and “Traffick” as used in the verse above refer to trade or commerce. That is to say, Lucifer, who fell to become Satan, was involved in some kind of trade. Many people in the dark world, knowing about this meddle with fallen angels to have the advantage in business. Yet, it is rather unfortunate that many believers sit unperturbed and allow the world to rule in the world of business and economy. We are to take advantage of the blessedness of angelic

ministry to rule in the world of business.

Religion

Religion is actually connected with the transmissions of God as a witness in the conscience of humanity. It is the foundation and bedrock of human civilization, thus is the feet in the image. Any people who throw away religion have actually thrown away the baby with the bath water and will have nothing to show for in the future. Scripture asserts that if the foundations be destroyed, what shall the righteous do?

If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do? (Psalms 11:3).

Having seen the earthly aspects of the wisdom of an angel, it is a serious disappointment for a child of God to be at his wits end and be struggling with his academics in school. It may be that such a one is not well aligned with the potentials of his natural abilities. The mind of Christ is way advanced compared to the wisdom of an Angel. This mind of Christ leads us into the next pillar of wisdom.

Any people who throw away religion have actually thrown away the baby with the bath water and will have nothing to show for in the future

Chapter 13: **THE FOURTH PILLAR: THE WISDOM OF THE CHURCH—THE HIDDEN WISDOM**

H

itherto, we have searched out the first to the third pillars of wisdom, which are power, money and the wisdom of an angel. These three expressions of wisdom were explored in the preadamite ages and in the era of the Old Testament. However, when God created man, he had something bigger on his mind. There existed a realm of wisdom, hidden in the house of wisdom, which the angels had not yet seen. They had seen manifestations of power so much that Michael and his angels fought against the Dragon and his angels.

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels (Revelation 12:7).

They had seen the extremes of riches, money and power which caused some of the angels to be puffed up in pride. Satan himself, having dealt in merchandise in

the ages past, had corrupted his sanctuaries as a priest of God in the angelic order.

By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire...Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. (Ezekiel 28:16, 18)

Yet, there was a hidden wisdom, veiled from the foundation of the world, which the angels had no idea of. This wisdom is the wisdom of the Church. Even Solomon in all his wisdom would have been exasperated if he tried to explore this wisdom. No man spoke extensively of this wisdom than Paul the Apostle – he cried out,

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory (1 Corinthians 2:7).

This wisdom was hidden. The fathers of old knew that there was a certain glory ahead so they waited for it; they searched for it, and yet they could not possess this promise.

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth (Hebrews 11:13).

The manifold wisdom of God in the Church began when God himself was manifest in the flesh.

The Bible says that they saw the promises afar off and were persuaded of them, to the extent that they embraced them and confessed that they were strangers in this earth and yet, they did not receive these promises. You will come to understand that the wisdom of God expressed in the Church in this dispensation was ordained from the foundation of the world. It was, however, kept as a mystery for the Church to enjoy. In 1 Timothy 3:16, Paul the Apostle, in just one verse, elaborates on this mystery; he said,

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.

There are many mysteries on this earth but certain mysteries are referred to as great; the Mystery of Godliness is a great mystery. The manifold wisdom of God in the Church began when God himself was manifest in the flesh. From the supernal regions of glory and light, the divine essence of God took on flesh and was made manifest as a man, through the womb of Mary.

Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men (Philippians 2:6-7).

He walked among men and lived amongst men and felt what we felt yet, he was without sin. The angels looked upon him – they were beholding the unfolding of a certain wisdom which they had so longed to see, and there it was; God manifest in flesh. The magnificent and glorious God they beheld in heaven, who they could never decrypt, was here on earth in humbled flesh, defying all odds. For once, they had gotten the opportunity to look into God through the man Jesus Christ, and having this rare opportunity, they were not going to waste it. That is the reason the life of Jesus was full of angelic presence. Yet, interestingly, the purpose for which God manifested in the flesh was not to walk the earth for about thirty-three years and perform miracles. There was something that had been ordained from the foundation of the world; something that was intended by God ever before the angels were created. It was the slain Lamb of God.

The wisdom of God expressed in the Church in this dispensation was ordained from the foundation of the world

*And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world*** (Revelation 13:8).

The plan of God aforetime was to show in this age, his slain Lamb, as a sacrifice for the creation. Many people think that the death of Jesus Christ as a remedial plan of God was an afterthought. No, it was rather a remedial work which was part of the original plan of God. This was wisdom that the angels could not understand because it was too wonderful. Even the apostles, who dwelt with

Jesus, when these things were unfolding, could not understand. The serpent thought that if he could execute him, he would win against God. However, he had forgotten the prophecy that was released that there shall be war between the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent. A war in which the serpent would end up with his head bruised, whereas the seed of the woman will also have his heel bruised.

*And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: **And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel** (Genesis 3:13-15).*

What the serpent stole from Adam in the beginning, he sought to steal from the seed of the woman too and the way by which he was going to do this was to deceive and kill Jesus, just like he deceived the woman and killed Adam in the beginning. Nevertheless, the serpent did not know that this one was operating the wisdom higher than the wisdom of an angel; the fourth pillar of wisdom. He had come with that which was higher than angelic food; he was the true bread from heaven.

The death of Jesus was not God's remedial plan; it was his original plan. This was wisdom that the angels could not understand because it was too wonderful.

Jesus knew that the manna that the children of Israel ate in the wilderness was perishable manna. He, had access to the hidden manna. In his own words, he said,

***Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die** (John 6:49-50).*

Again, John 6:27 says that

Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath

God the Father sealed.

Satan, knowing this, came to present the perishable meat to Jesus in the wilderness just like in the Garden of Eden. Jesus was not ready to eat bread in the wilderness to operate in the lower wisdom of an angel. Having failed in all his efforts to lower the standards of Jesus, the serpent decided to bruise his heel. Prophecy was unfolding. Through the orchestrations of the Chief Priests and the Roman Empire, they finally hanged him on a cross. "That is it!" they said. The serpent thought he had finished him, yet that was the greatest mistake of his entire life. Though he was the wisest manifestation of wisdom in that age, that was about to change. If he had known, he would not have crucified the Lord of Glory. Scripture declares,

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even THE HIDDEN WISDOM, WHICH GOD ORDAINED BEFORE THE WORLD UNTO OUR GLORY: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory (1 Corinthians 2:7-8).

If the hidden wisdom was unveiled in the archives of heaven, the serpent would have read it and would not have crucified the Lord of glory. By the time he realized, Jesus Christ had appeared in the infernal regions of the grave. He met face to face with the serpent and took the keys of death and hell from him. That is why he said to John,

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death (Revelation 1:18).

He made a public spectacle of principalities and powers in his death (Colossians 2:15). He went about all hell preaching to the spirits in prison that he had the keys of death and hell (1 Peter 3:19).

However, it was not in this that the greatest wisdom of the Church was expressed. When Jesus the Christ was put in the grave, they thought they were done, only to realize that many Christs had come from the grave. What they did not know was that by planting Jesus in the heart of the earth, they were planting a seed that would sprout and bear many fruits. In Jesus' own words, he said:

Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit (John 12:24).

When Jesus the Christ was put in the grave, they thought they were done,

only to realize that many Christs had come from the grave.

It is impossible to collapse the Christ life of the Church however hard one may try. The more you try, the greater the Church would become. When this wisdom gains expression in you, you will know that death is not an end, because whether in death or in life, the divine life will still be expressed. This is wisdom that mere mortal man cannot explain. When the world thinks they are done with you, that is when you shock them! In this, you understand that your greatest joy is to be pressed in all directions; because the more you are pressed, the more the glory within you would show. It is with this wisdom that we glory in tribulations. Though many believers are hoping to escape tribulations, wisdom tells you that tribulation is the means to glory and fruitfulness. Paul the Apostle, in Romans 5:3 and 2 Corinthians 4:17 said:

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory

When this wisdom gains expression in you, you will know that death is not an end, because whether in death or in life, the divine life is expressed.

If you start operating in the wisdom of the Church, you will know that there is what tribulation is working out, and this is patience and an eternal weight of glory. With this understanding, you will not be hoping to escape a certain tribulation like many people are hoping to do, in the fallacy of their escape theology of the secret Rapture.

You could be bound in prison without any hope in sight and yet, the wisdom of the Church will spring forth in mighty deliverance.

Listen beloved, if you are caught up in a certain situation in your life right now and cannot turn in any direction, begin to stir and operate in the wisdom of the Church. This is wisdom that money cannot buy. I pray that the wisdom of the Church springs forth out of you right now, in the Springing name of Jesus! This wisdom defies all odds. You could be bound in prison without any hope in sight and yet, the wisdom of the Church will spring forth in mighty deliverance.

Such wisdom is displayed by Paul in the presence of King Agrippa. The king

could not help but admit to himself that Paul was not ordinary, whereas most noble Festus thought he was going insane.

And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad...Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian. (Acts 26: 24-28)

Whereas most Noble Fetus claimed Paul was mad, he remarked that his wisdom was not ordinary. He was on the contrary, far from the impression of madness as proclaimed by Most Noble Festus. He was shocked to the core and could not help but to think that Paul had so much learning. Paul also shocked the mind and understanding of King Agrippa and nearly got him to be persuaded to Christianity. The philosophers and masters of the age like King Agrippa could not fathom the depths of Paul's wisdom. This is because Paul gave attention to the five systems of the institutions of learning as it relates to the Church. I have discussed this at the end of this chapter.

Even if you have a sentence of life imprisonment by any judge, as you are reading this book, know that your time of deliverance has come, in the Delivering name of Jesus! There is nothing on this earth too big for the wisdom of the Church. You may be caught up in a certain bad financial situation right now but the solution to that problem is a snap of a finger away, only if you will stir up this wisdom within. Take a moment - begin to pray that the wisdom of the Church should be stirred and function in you. That situation that seems impossible - set your gaze on that issue, and sternly declare that by the wisdom of the Church, that situation should be disgraced. Make this confession:

My time of freedom is now! Any trouble which has become a mountain in my life, your end has come – disappear by fire! Any oppressor against my glorious manifestation, be confused by the wisdom of the Church. Any prison in which my soul has been held bound, I command your bars to scatter! Any plan of the enemy to bring me to shame and disgrace, you are turned for my good, and every mistake receive correction by the hidden wisdom, in the Correcting name of Jesus!

In Acts 12:5-7, Peter was bound in prison ready to be executed. It took the functional wisdom of the Church to deliver him.

Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the

church unto God for him. And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

By the wisdom of the Church, I command any chain holding you bound to fall off now! By the prayers offered to God by the Church for Peter, an angel of God was released, this time, not functioning by the wisdom of an angel but by the wisdom of the Church through prayer, to deliver Peter. Before they knew it, Peter was missing from the prison.

Now as soon as it was day, there was no small stir among the soldiers, what was become of Peter. And when Herod had sought for him, and found him not, he examined the keepers, and commanded that they should be put to death... (Acts 12:18-19).

I declare that you will disappear from any camp of the enemy in which you have been held bound. Anyone who operates by the wisdom of the Church cannot be bound. When you start operating in this wisdom, you are beginning to explore the knocking dimension of wisdom.

Interestingly, this dimension is just the beginning of the wisdom of the Church. According to the mystery of godliness, Jesus was also justified in the spirit, preached to the Gentiles, believed on in the world and received up into glory. This is what is remarkable – there is nothing listed in this mystery of godliness that does not relate with the Church.

By the work of Jesus in death and resurrection, many sons were brought into glory with the same essence of the true vine which is Christ.

From his crucifixion to his being received up into glory, the Church was right there with him. It beats understanding that by the operations of just one man, many people were to be integrated into the Godhead to be seated in heavenly places in Christ. Hebrews 2:10-12 declares,

For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. FOR BOTH HE THAT SANCTIFIETH AND THEY

WHO ARE SANCTIFIED ARE ALL OF ONE: FOR WHICH CAUSE HE IS NOT ASHAMED TO CALL THEM BRETHREN, Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

By the work of Jesus in death and resurrection, many sons were brought into glory with the same essence of the true vine which is Christ. Christ became one body with many members, yet each member possessed the same essence as the fountain head who is Jesus the Christ. The Bible calls this constitution of Christ, wisdom.

But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God
(1 Corinthians 1:24).

The scripture shows that Christ is the wisdom of God. Again, the wisdom of the Church is Christ, and Christ is a house. The Bible emphatically says that we are the house of Christ.

But Christ as a son over his own house; WHOSE HOUSE ARE WE, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end (Hebrews 3:6).

Remember that the mark of wisdom is that it builds houses.

Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established
(Proverbs 24:3).

The proof of wisdom is the evidence of a house. Thus if we are the Christ house, then it must be that Christ is wisdom. Any man who contributes to the building of this house is a wise man. In Paul's own words, he said,

[The purpose is] that through the church the complicated, manysided wisdom of God in all its infinite variety and innumerable aspects might now be made known to the angelic rulers and authorities (principalities and powers) in the heavenly sphere (Ephesians 3:10, AMP).

The Good news to the Church is that, seated within the believers is the complicated, many-sided wisdom of God. It is an age to manifest and display the "manifold" wisdom of God. The undeniable proofs are pouring forth through the hands of all those who are conscious of this and will endeavour to stir it unto manifestation. Under the influence of the spirit of wisdom and revelation,

outstanding feats are going to be poured forth encasing great institutions ever to be established in history, breath-taking industries, buoyant business conglomerates and most importantly, a mighty Army of harvest of souls established in truth. This pillar of wisdom cannot be found anywhere else in the universe except in the Church. If even angels are that amazed and bamboozled, then how much more mere men? No institution of learning can beat this wisdom. This is the wisdom from above not only subduing earthly challenges but the providing of answers to the challenges and problems of the universe. This wisdom is of cosmic proportions in Dominion and Power. It is creative and also dynamic in solving problems. The scripture says in the book of Romans:

For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now (Romans 8:19-22).

The entirety of the creation is awaiting a manifestation. This manifestation is the manifestation of the SONS OF GOD. They are the ones the creation, not just our globe, but the creation, encompassing the universe is waiting for. It is an army of solution providers. They are a panacea to universal sicknesses and diseases.

Under the influence of the spirit of wisdom and revelation, outstanding feats are going to be poured forth encasing great institutions ever to be established in history, breath-taking industries, buoyant business conglomerates and most importantly, a mighty Army of harvest of souls established in truth

The same remark that was made about Jesus in Mark 6:2 concerning his MIGHTY WORKS will be made about this breed of people.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover (Mark 16:17-18).

This is not an era of motivational speaking with nothing to show for it. It is an era of PROOFS. The Church shall be that stone released without hands that

crushes and mocks all the five institutional systems of the third pillar.

This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth (Daniel 2:32-35).

All of the institutional systems of learning are coming to their wits end and will lose their relevance. The SONS are the quenching thirst of the creation. It is not a thing to happen in the future; it is manifesting even NOW! See the clouds gathering and the rains pouring. It is a special day of wisdom in a strange dimension of manifestations.

This is not an era of motivational speaking with nothing to show for it. It is an era of PROOFS.

This wisdom is not in words, mere concepts or ideologies. This wisdom is personified in a people. The book of Joel 2:2, 26 describes what holds for us as we proceed into the next pillar of wisdom.

A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations...And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed (Joel 2:2, 26).

All of the institutional systems of learning are coming to their wits end and will lose their relevance. The SONS are the quenching thirst of the creation.

The Wisdom of the Church in relation to the Five Institutions of Learning

Though the wisdom of the Church surpasses angelic wisdom of the third pillar, there is an interesting correlation between the five institutions of learning and the administration of ministry offices and ministry helps in the Church as it pertains

to the mandate of discipleship. This is to realize the goal of the great commission given by the Lord Jesus to the Church.

a. The Political System speaks of the Office of

Governance or the Five-fold

b. The Educational System speaks of the ministry of the Five-fold in raising the saints

c. The Family and Cultural System speak of the social unit of a godly home and Church Fellowship.

d. The Business and Economic System speak of the pillars of the kingdom i.e. Jacinth and Boaz

e. The Religious System speaks of the worship Experience

The Political System / The Office of Governance or the Five-fold Having already established under the wisdom of an angel that the

political system has to do with the mind system of governance, the office of the five-fold ministry in the Church is the means by which the Church of the living God is tutored by avenue of the Holy Spirit to the place of perfection in the cosmopolitan city of the New Jerusalem. Thus, in the administration of the Church, we see the apostles teamed up with the Holy Ghost to instruct the Church as to what to do.

For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things. (Acts 15:28)

We have realized that there are three branches of the political system which are the Legislative Branch, Executive Branch and Judicial Branch. In the scriptures, the political system of ancient Israel comprises of the evolution of leadership through Priests like Aaron, then advancing to Judges, like prophetess Deborah and then culminating in Kings, like David. You realize that Israel, in gaining a city called Jerusalem, had to have these offices operate, because it takes these three branches of government to successfully run a city. The Priests consist of the Legislative Branch, the Kings, consist of the Executive Branch and the Prophets or Judges consist of the Judicial Branch.

The political system of ancient Israel comprises of the evolving of leadership through Priests like Aaron, then advancing to Judges, like prophetess Deborah and then culminating in Kings, like David.

In the culmination of the Church, in the New Jerusalem, Jesus is portrayed as as a Prophet, Priest and King and his Royal Priesthood of believers emerge to judge even angels.

And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. (Revelation 19:13-16)

In this passage, we realize all the three branches of government at work in the ministry and manifestation of Christ Jesus are seen. First, we see his vesture dipped in blood, as a work of the priesthood. This answers to the Legislative Branch. Then also, we recognize that out of his mouth goes a sharp sword with which he smites the nations in prophetic and judicial force. Do not forget that he also rules the nations with a rod of iron, which also speaks of Pastoral work. This is the work of judgment and answers to the Judicial Branch of rulership. Boldly inscribed on the thighs of Jesus were the words, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.” This speaks of kingship and judicature respectively and answers to the Executive Branch and Judicial Branch. He as a King answers to the Kingly ministry and he as Lord answers to the Judicial ministry. All these satisfy the three branches of God’s governance established in wisdom.

What we must realize however is that not every person in every city is part of the decision making process of the city. Only the men who have power in the political council participate in the decision making process of the city. These are the administrators or rulers of the city. In the same way, it takes growing into the fullness of Christ to participate in the divine Sanhedrin of God that takes decisions for the kingdom.

Not every person in every city is part of the decision making process of the city. Only the men who have power in the political council participate in the decision making process of

the city.

Democracy, Autocracy or Theocracy?

In the church of the Living God, the wisdom pillar stands that the masses must not be allowed to take decisions that direct the Church. Across the history of the children of Israel, anytime the masses were left to take decisions, it always ended up in chaos. Over the centuries, there has been an evolution of governance in this world towards a more sustainable and equitable form of rule. In comparison to dictatorships, monarchies, oligarchies and aristocracies, democracy has often been tagged as the most challenging but most appropriate form of government. Democracy is centered on the input of the people, having as its bedrock, a respect for the people's right. The purest form of the definition of democracy comes from the Greek language. In the Greek language, Democracy comes from two words: "*Demos*" and "*kratos*". "*Demos*" refers to a people who are bound together in a certain place for a certain purpose. "*Kratos*" on the other hand, refers to might, rule, power or dominion. Thus, democracy essentially means "rule by the people." As much as the superpowers of our age, in terms of governance, have hailed democracy, there is a need to find out which system of government God agrees with to run his kingdom.

In the Church of the living God, the masses must not be allowed to take decisions.

It is imperative to know that it was never in the original plan of God for man to rule his fellow man.

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. (Genesis 1:26).

God originally purposed for man to rule the creation. He was to submit to the rule of God in the heavenlies and establish that rule over the creation of the earth. God never intended for man to have rule or dominion over his fellow man or to rule by his own wisdom. It was after the fall of man that it was first written in Genesis 3:16,

Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

God never intended for man to have rule or dominion over his fellow man or to rule by his own wisdom.

The consequent effect of the fall was that man gained authority to rule over the woman as well. The great problem of all ages in terms of governance has always originated from the fact that man lost consciousness of God's original purpose. Consequently, the whole governing system of man after the fall has been a deviation from the original intent of God.

The depravity of man's ruling system after the fall is made evident in the Church of Laodicea. Laodicea comes from two Greek words: "*Laos*" and "*dikea*". "*Laos*" is a word that refers generally to a people. "*Dikea*" is translated variously as right, rule or power. In effect, Laodicea refers to the "right of the people" or the "rule of the people". The Church of Laodicea in the book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ thus refers to a democratic church. Jesus warned this church saying,

So then because thou art lukewarm, and nether cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth (Revelation 3:16).

The whole governing system of man after the fall has been a deviation from the original intent of God.

They were lukewarm because they run the church on human sentiments and enticing words of man's wisdom which affected their spiritual temperature. Jesus said to the church of Laodicea that ,

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. (Revelation 3:21)

The democratic system in the church is a system that the believer must overcome, on his way to sit in the throne of God, where he is allowed to sit in the counsel of God, and offer his contribution to the theocratic rule of God. That is to say, the rule of God according to the scriptures has never been democratic. The men who mature to become priests and kings are the ones who make contributions in the theocratic rule of God.

This truth is made even more poignant when Korah approached Moses, saying that he and his brother Aaron take too much on themselves as recounted in Numbers 16:1-3

Now Korah, the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On, the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men: And they rose up before Moses, with certain of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty princes of the assembly, famous in the congregation, men of renown: And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, YE TAKE TOO MUCH UPON YOU, SEEING ALL THE CONGREGATION ARE HOLY, EVERY ONE OF THEM, AND THE LORD IS AMONG THEM: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD?

The men who mature to become priests and kings are the ones who make contributions is the theocratic rule of God.

Korah's assertion was not one that was to be taken lightly because it was the beginning of mutiny against the established rule of God. Even though he confronted Moses directly, we realize in verse eleven that he had actually rebelled against God:

It is against the Lord that you and all your followers have banded together. Who is Aaron that you should grumble against him? (NIV)

To advocate democracy in the Church is to stand against the eternal counsel of God. This is a serious statement to make because in many of today's churches spread across the world, Church members vote to institute their Pastors and to decide how the Church is run and administered. I know of a church that actually sacked their Pastor because he was not shepherding them according to their desires. He was going contrary to all that they wanted because he wanted to obey the scriptures. They ended up voting him out of power. This is sacrilege! The political system of the Church of the Living God does not operate like the political system of the world. The wisdom of the Church does not run on a democracy but rather on the authority of the power of attorney rooted in the heaven of God's theocratic rule.

The political system of the Church of the Living God does not operate like the political system of the world. The rule of the Church is

neither democratic nor autocratic but rather, it is theocratic.

The rule of the Church is neither democratic nor autocratic but rather, it is THEOCRATIC. When God institutes a man into power, no man has the right to

vote that man out of power. The Church of the Living God is not run by the majority vote; it is run by the direct instructions from the high throne of God, coupled with the thrones of judgment of the apostolic, prophetic, evangelistic, pastoral and teaching offices of the three branches of government.

When God institutes a man into power, no man has the right to vote that man out of power.

No wonder the mutiny of Korah and his company was met with such displeasure. Scripture asserts,

And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works; for I have not done them of mine own mind. If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; then the LORD hath not sent me. But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD. And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation” (Numbers 16:28-33).

Was this not the same thing that occurred when Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses?

...Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. And they said, Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it...And the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth. And he said, Hear now my words...wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses? And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them; and he departed. And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous. And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have

sinned. (Numbers 12:1-11)

It is foolishness and a grave sin to speak against the authority that has been appointed by God to lead his people, and to think to oneself that the masses could better run the Church or God's heritage. Such an action always kindles God's wrath.

Aaron and Miriam apart from impudently expressing their displeasure at Moses for marrying an Ethiopian woman, they additionally questioned his prophetic acumen. They said, "***Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us?***" Perhaps, they felt they had legal ground to share in the governance of Israel alongside Moses, because the Lord spoke to them as well. After all, Aaron was older than Moses and doubled as the High Priest of the nation and Miriam was his elder sister as well. Nevertheless when it comes to the anointing or the choice of God, age does not matter. The men that stand in the five-fold ministry are dangerous and thus, must be feared. This is because they stand with God in theocratic rule to release laws and ordinances for the churches.

God runs his kingdom and all his enterprises by his own wisdom to fulfill his eternal vision. With every dispensation, he imprints an aspect of this vision on the heart of a man of his own choice. Such a man in turn carries the responsibility to transmit that vision to others who together with him, will fulfill it. Thus, God chose Moses to lead Israel and showed to him alone, the pattern of the tabernacle in the heavenlies. Clearly, a democratic system, where the people are consulted before any decision is made; where anybody and everybody can suggest what should be the state of affairs, is contrary to the pattern and wisdom of God for running his church, and for that matter, his kingdom. God's anger is kindled whenever he sees democracy in the church. This is because with democracy, everyone has a say, but with God's endorsed system of rule, everybody does not have a say. The determining factor is His own vision which he transmits to one man, and the rest are to commit themselves and follow, to ensure its fulfillment.

The men that stand in the five-fold ministry are dangerous and thus, must be feared. This is because they stand with God in theocratic rule to release laws and ordinances for the churches.

If democracy is not the rule of God, then what of autocracy? Autocracy is seen in the manipulation of believers regarding their fellowship with one another by one

that has preeminence with the intent of fulfilling a personal ambition through the use of malicious words.

I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not. Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church. Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God. (3 John 1:9-11)

Autocracy has to do with manipulating the church to fulfill one's personal ambition. This as well, is not according to the rule of God. Such was the case of Diotrephes. There are many Diotrepheuses in the Church who are domineering the people of God with ominous demands. Scripture asserts that such people have not seen God; ***“but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.”***

Thus, in conclusion, the political system of the five-fold ministry of the Church of the living God rules through theocratic rule and not autocratic or democratic rule.

The Educational System / Five-fold ministry in Raising the Saints

Education is the heart beat of every social community. If it caves in, the entire community shuts down. If it is efficient, it makes the lives of the people better. This truth applies to the Church of the Lord Jesus as well. The educational system of the Church has to do with applying the five-fold ministry to raise the saints in Christ to perfection. In the breakdown of the five-fold ministry, into Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers, each office is to play a cardinal role in perfecting the saints to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

The educational system of the Church has to do with applying the five-fold ministry to raise the saints in Christ to perfection.

Thus, Paul, the apostle, asserts,

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; FOR THE PERFECTING OF THE SAINTS, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

(Ephesians 4:11-13)

To have a church without these offices operating in fullness is to have a church without balanced diet. Thus, the members of that Church will suffer from malnutrition. Perfecting saints to the fullness of Christ is on the heart of God than any other thing in this dispensation. The writer of Hebrews admonishes the Church to move on into perfection.

THEREFORE LET us go on and get past the elementary stage in the teachings and doctrine of Christ (the Messiah), advancing steadily toward the completeness and perfection that belong to spiritual maturity. Let us not again be laying the foundation of repentance and abandonment of dead works (dead formalism) and of the faith [by which you turned] to God, (Hebrews 6:1, AMP)

Perfection is an outlined system in three blocks in our faith. It covers:

1. The teachings of the life of Jesus
2. The elementary principles of the doctrine of Christ
3. The advanced principles of the doctrine of Christ

Each believer is supposed to advance in discipleship through the educational strata and curriculum set up in place for the Church. Matthew 28:19-20 says that

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (NIV)

The mandate to make disciples in the Greek, “*matheteuo*” means “to enroll to be a scholar”. It is pathetic that many churches have reduced discipleship to church attendance and exhortation of Bible stories that many already have knowledge about. They are clueless to the deep things of God and sadly enough the curricular and syllable of Christ have been relegated to the background. Most of the Church is running programs that cover mundane emphasis that tower towards carnality and backwardness in spiritual understanding and growth. Appreciate that to be a believer is to receive an enrolment that leads to making you a scholar of the word, i.e. making you an enlightened one. The secret to discipleship is found in Isaiah 8:16 where he speaks of sealing the Torah which is the teaching among disciples.

Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples. (Isaiah 8:16)

It is only through biblical discipleship that we get the teachings sealed. Discipleship is the educational system of the Church and it stands in apposition and also corresponds to the chest or heart of silver in the image in Nebuchadnezzar's dream. The saints of God cannot be perfected if they are not given the right knowledge and truth of the Word of God.

Perfecting saints to the fullness of Christ is on the heart of God than any other thing in this dispensation

Paul, the apostle, emphatically said,

Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. (1 Timothy 4:13)

These are the three pillars of the educational system of the Church;

- Reading
- Exhortation
- Doctrine

Believers who do not read relevant materials will run out of grace soon. This is because the grace of God itself is multiplied to a man through the Knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord.

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord. (2 Peter 1:2).

Paul was so given to reading that he specifically instructed Timothy, his son, to bring him his books and especially his note referred to as the parchments that he left in a city called Troas.

Believers who do not read relevant materials will run out of grace soon.

The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments. (2 Timothy 4:13)

That means Paul was very abreast with current matters of his industry coupled with the revelations he received from God. That is why he had both books and parchments. He read the books and wrote on the parchments. The moment you stop reading, you will start dying.

The import of this cannot be overemphasized because Daniel, who was said to

be exceeding wise because the spirit of the holy gods dwelt in him, had a lifestyle which made his ministry very relevant in the time in which he lived. He said in Daniel 9:2,

In the first year of his reign I DANIEL UNDERSTOOD BY BOOKS the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

It is a truth, established in the Word of God, that Daniel was a man of much visions. Yet, what we were not directly told was that he was an ardent reader of the Word. He said, ***“I DANIEL UNDERSTOOD BY BOOKS”***. Beloved, if you do not addict yourself to reading, you will not fully understand the communication of God that you receive from your spirit. Every great leader is a great reader. Remember that one of the ways of the impartation of wisdom is meditating in the scriptures.

The moment you stop reading, you will start dying.

It is rather unfortunate that in many Christian circles, progress is not stimulated as is done in many educational reviews and appraisals. We hold on to things that have been said in the past which are anachronistic in our day. Meanwhile, one of the greatest truths established in the scriptures is that revelation is progressive. Thus, Peter admonished the Church to be established in the present truth:

Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. (2 Peter 1:12)

This present truth is also known as the up to date truth.

Because the stakes are so high, even though you're up-to-date on all this truth and practice it inside and out, I'm not going to let up for a minute in calling you to attention before it. (MSG)

Are you up to date on the revelation of Jesus Christ, or you are holding on to opinions of men that are not rooted in the truth of Scripture? The five-fold ministry must take the education of the Church to a whole new level. Listen to what God thought of when he gave the ascension gifts to men especially the

office of a Pastor:

And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding. (Jeremiah 3:15)

The Church ought to be fed with knowledge. This is what brings us to the second and third pillar of the educational system of the Church which are Exhortation and Doctrine. The negligence of the early Church to lay proper structures of doctrine led the Church into the period of the dark ages when the light of the knowledge of Christ was lost for a thousand years. If the five-fold ministry offices do not take the education of the Church in raising people serious, the light of knowledge can be lost again. Thus, Paul, the apostle, warned,

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the 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. And now, brethren, I COMMEND YOU TO GOD, AND TO THE WORD OF HIS GRACE, WHICH IS ABLE TO BUILD YOU UP, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. (Acts 20:28-30)

The negligence of the early Church to lay proper structures of doctrine led the Church into the period of the dark ages when the light of the knowledge of Christ was lost for a thousand years.

The apostle was very emphatic on that which is the syllabus for the education of the Church and that is the word of his grace. There are various dimensions of the word:

1. Milk of the Word
2. Word of Righteousness
3. Word of Life
4. Word of his Grace
5. Good Word of God

1. Milk of the Word

The milk of the word is the dimension of the word that establishes one in his new-found faith. These are foundational principles that cover elementary principles of the doctrine of Christ, and build the babe in Christ unto perfection.

As newborn babes, DESIRE THE SINCERE MILK OF THE WORD, that ye may grow thereby. (1 Peter 2:2)

The writer of Hebrews gives us a comprehensive list of the elementary principles of the doctrine of Christ. These include: repentance from dead works, faith towards God, doctrine of baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.

Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, } 2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. 3 And this will we do, if God permit. (Hebrews 6:1)

Pathetically, many preachers struggle and are still grappling with these elementary teachings of Christ. Many a people have no sound teachings covering these areas of biblical truth and much more to come to think of the advanced teachings of Christ.

2. Word of Righteousness

The word of righteousness is that word of God that progresses the believer in the experience of discerning both good and evil.

For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. (Hebrews 5:13-14)

It encompasses the total counsel of the word of God. Thus, the matured man is said to have mastery of the word of righteousness if he has decrypted and learned to discern both good and evil.

3. Word of Life

The Word of life is the personalized word, which is the testimony sealed up within us. It speaks of the experience we have had in the word of God.

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life. (1 John 1:1)

It is the word which keeps us going on, like the fathers of our faith, until we finish our race, because it is the keeping and sustaining word. Philippians 2:16 asserts that,

Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

The quality of spiritual life we live is packaged to us in words as the word of life. Our exposure and hearty response to engraft that word with a burning heart is what digests the bread of the word served us into the fabric of our being to be life to our spirits. Thus, it is the word which becomes our life.

Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. (James 1:21)

The engrafted word of God denotes the word which is grafted within a believer's spirit. The Greek rendition of the word engrafted is "*emphuto*" which means to implant. When this word is implanted into the spirit of the believer, it is absorbed into his complete being and shows forth in manifestation as the saving of his soul.

4. Word of his Grace

The word of his grace is the dimension of the word that builds believers up and places our inheritance in our hands. Thus, knowing the potency of this dimension of the word of God, Paul, the apostle, commended it to the Church

I COMMEND YOU TO GOD, AND TO THE WORD OF HIS GRACE, WHICH IS ABLE TO BUILD YOU UP, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

5. Good Word of God

The good word of God is the advanced dimension of the Word that grants one the privilege to taste of the sweetness of the powers of the ages to come and the

royal dainties of Christ. A church can never grow into the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ until it is fed with the Good Word of God. The partaker in the good word of God is an enlightened one because this relates to the dimension of honey of the word of God.

For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, (Hebrews 6:4-5)

Remember that in Psalms 119:103, the Psalmist said,
How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Coupled with the sweetness of honey is the ability to enlighten the eyes. Hence scripture recounts how the eyes of Jonathan became enlightened because he tasted of a little honey.

Then said Jonathan, My father hath troubled the land: see, I pray you, how mine eyes have been enlightened, because I tasted a little of this honey. (1 Samuel 14:29)

The sweetness of honey in the word of God is found in the good word of God. These are the foundational blocks with which the educational structure of the Church is constructed. Any church without all these dimension of the word of God would be found wanting and thus, its members will not express the fullness of growth.

Family and Cultural System / The Social Unit of a Godly Home In the journey of the perfections of the Church, the family or cultural

system forms one of the most important foundations that stir wisdom in believers, right from a young age. This system relates strongly to the educational system of the Church even though it is the reproductive organ of the Church. The first few years of a believer's walk is just as sensitive as the first few years of a child's life. What you are fed with just after you get born again stays with you for a long time, whether it be true or false. Thus, Peter was careful to tell the newborns in the faith of Christ to desire the sincere milk of the word that they may grow.

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: (1 Peter 2:2)

The Church of the Living God must make room for new borns to be fed with the milk of the word. This cardinal institution is responsible for the spiritual grooming and raising of babes in Christ to mature to eat of the meat of the word. The future of the Church depends on this educational institution. Timothy was said to have known the Holy Scriptures from his childhood, which made him wise. This must have meant that time was taken off to instruct him in the rudiments of the word.

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 3:15)

As we read 2 Timothy 1:5, we see that it was the mother of Timothy, Eunice, who took time off to instruct him in the way of the scriptures.

When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

Yet what is interesting is that this faith that run through the family of Timothy was a trans-generational blessing because it first dwelt in his grandmother Lois. This is the dream of God for the Church. There ought to be an arrangement right from the homes of believers for the children to be imbued with the wisdom of the scriptures. Remember that Proverbs 22:6 has already said,

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Whatever depths of the word of God you discover in your age, it eventually becomes a heritage in your family line since you can pass on the nuggets you have been abreast with to the subsequent generations as the course outline that produced growth in you. Today's abundance and acquisition of revelation is a legacy for our children's children. It is the greatest inheritance we can pass on to the next generation.

Business and Economic System / Pillars of the Kingdom; Jacinth and Boaz

In Chapter Eleven, under the Second Pillar of Wisdom, the subject matter of money as a pillar of wisdom had been deliberated. Yet, in perceiving business as one of the five institutions of learning, we would be considering it as an

institution and not just a currency that flows.

The effective flow and management of the Church cannot run on the work of the ministry in the temple alone. God, in his wisdom, arranged the nation of Israel, such that there was to be a parallel flow of the resource of the anointing or grace of God from the ministry of the priesthood and the supply of money from the business men of the nation. Thus, while the priests were to matter themselves with the work of God in the temple solely, the nation was to bring a tenth of all that they received as harvest and various other offerings as well. Thus, in this reciprocal union, the blessing of God flowed from the ministry of the priesthood and caused the work of the nationals to be blessed and the blessing of harvest of the nationals were brought into the temple in overabounding measure.

This reciprocity is seen in the value the worshippers placed on the role the priests played in their lives in terms of their experience of financial outburst in life. In Ezekiel 44:30-31, we see this reciprocity where the priests in being carriers of blessings directed which house the spiritual weight of the blessings should be transmitted and where it should not.

And the first of all the firstfruits of all things, and every oblation of all, of every sort of your oblations, shall be the priest's: ye shall also give unto the priest the first of your dough, that he may cause the blessing to rest in thine house. The priests shall not eat of any thing that is dead of itself, or torn, whether it be fowl or beast. (Ezekiel 44:30-31)

The priest, in verse 31 was not to eat the profane or the mundane. He was to eat the best and having been satisfied, CAUSED the blessing to REST on one's house. The cause of blessing is not God. God is only the source of blessing but he did not direct which house the blessings should go and where it should not. God passed the blessings into the hands and dictatorship of the priest in terms of its direction and current flow. When the priest had enjoyed the fatness of the giving of the people, he also reciprocated by extending blessings and scripture says he caused the blessings to rest on their house. Dear reader, are you lacking the manifestation of blessing, then support the ministry of one of God's chosen vessel and he would reciprocate by causing the blessing to rest on your house.

Leviticus 21:1, 12 reveals that the priests were never to go out of the temple of God:

...”*Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: ‘None shall defile*

himself for the dead among his people... 'NOR SHALL HE GO OUT OF THE SANCTUARY, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the LORD.

Due to the consecration of the holy anointing oil upon the priests, it was unacceptable for them to involve themselves with any servile work outside of the temple service. Doing this was going to make them defiled and hence they were going to profane the sanctuary of their God. With this at the back of your mind, 1 Kings 7:21 comes alive;

And he set up the pillars in the porch of the temple: and he set up the right pillar, and called the name thereof JACHIN: and he set up the left pillar, and called the name thereof BOAZ.

During the construction of the temple in the days of Solomon, Scripture recounts something very remarkable about two pillars that Solomon erected at the front porch of the temple. He called the right one Jacinth and he called the left one Boaz. Before we delve into the intricacies of what these two pillars mean in relation to Business or Economy as a part of the five institutions of learning in the Church, let us first read Revelation 3:12;

Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

Clearly revealed in this verse is the truth that the pillar in the temple of God is not just a structure made of brass, it was actually communicative of a man who was a priest in the temple of God and was never to go out of the temple i.e. to meddle in things that have nothing to do with temple service. It is with this premise that we come to understand what the two pillars called Jacinth and Boaz mean.

First of all, let us study the roots of the names Jacinth and Boaz. Jacinth is actually the Hebrew word “*Jachin*” or “*Yakiyn*” . It comes from the root word, “*kuwn*” which means to stand erect or upright or to establish. This speaks of the priest who is established or stands before God in service in the temple. Jachin was of the lineage of the priesthood and had the twenty-first lot among the twenty-four courses of ministry in the holiest, as priests in the way it was

established by David the King in the temple;

THE ONE AND TWENTIETH TO JACHIN, the two and twentieth to Gamul.
(1 Chronicles 24:17)

Thus the name Jachin always gyrates around the ministry of the priesthood.

And of the priests; Jedaiah, and Jehoiarib, and Jachin. (1 Chronicles 9:10)

The next to consider is the name Boaz. Interestingly, Boaz is also a Hebrew name that means strength or swiftness. It pertains to the ability to operate in swiftness in the business world to make much value. Who was Boaz in the Bible? Ruth 2:1, 3 recounts,

And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, A MIGHTY MAN OF WEALTH, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz...And she went, and came, and gleaned in the field after the reapers: and her hap was to light on a part of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the kindred of Elimelech.

Boaz was known in the scriptures as a mighty man of wealth who owned a great field of reapers. What then was the communication of Solomon when he named the two pillars Jacinth and Boaz? The communication is clear enough. It was a divine partnership of the priesthood viz a viz wealth as in entrepreneurship, merchandise or industrialization. Since Jacinth the priest could not meddle in all these things, Boaz, the business tycoon had to form a divine partnership with him or a divinely mutual benefit. The blessing of God in the ministry of Jachin, the priest, was to come on Boaz, the business man and the yields of Boaz too were to be offered in the temple for the benefit of the priest. This is the wisdom of the business or economic system of the Church. It is the principle of reciprocity which Paul questioned the church about in 1 Corinthians 9:11-12:

If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ. (1 Corinthians 9:11-12)

To take note of the verse twelve, Paul actually said, it is a power that the preachers of spiritual things had and exercised it over the givers of carnal things. He went on to question their conscience and made it plain that this is an ORDINANCE of the Lord Jesus in 1 Corinthians 9:14;

Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel. (1 Corinthians 9:14)

Outside of this arrangement, of the reciprocity in our kingdom, the people come to a standstill and everything ends up crumbling down. As if this could never happen, in the book of Malachi, there was the release of a bitter complaint against the children of Israel because they had refused to fulfill that which was required of them, in bringing back the tithe to the temple, and for those who did, they brought polluted bread or an unworthy offering before God.

Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the LORD is contemptible. And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the LORD of hosts. (Malachi 1:7-8)

Sadly, the nation was plunged into chaos because while Jachin was faithfully ministering his office in the temple, Boaz was demonstrating the character of a broken footed man; he was unfaithful with his portion of reciprocity in the area of tithes and offerings. The consequence of this was grave because now, the priest had to go out of the temple which caused the sanctuary of God to be defiled and His altar to be polluted.

Who is there even among you that would shut the doors for nought? neither do ye kindle fire on mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you, saith the LORD of hosts, neither will I accept an offering at your hand. (Malachi 1:10)

Instead of the priest remaining a pillar in the temple and shutting the door on himself, he walked out of the temple. Is this not what we see in many churches today? It is discouraging to come across believers who think they can drive the best of cars and live in the best of houses and yet expect men of God to live in penury. Do you know that as Boaz, the extent to which you offer unpolluted bread upon the altar of God is what determines how quick the altar responds to your needs? To what extent do you go to ensure that your man of God's needs are attended to? Listen beloved, the altar of God responds to you according to the honour you give to it.

When you do not receive your expected miracle after you put an offering on the altar, the first question you should ask should not be about the potency of the

altar. First check your heart and the quality of your offering for it is not the altar that pollutes the offering; it is the offering that pollutes the altar.

Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the LORD is contemptible. (Malachi 1:7)

There must be a harmonious alignment between Jacinth and Boaz in order for the sanctuary of the Lord not to be polluted. In Jeremiah this harmonious relationship is depicted by a fillet that went around the two pillars, which had thickness of four fingers:

And concerning the pillars, the height of one pillar was eighteen cubits; and a fillet of twelve cubits did compass it; and the thickness thereof was four fingers: it was hollow. And a chapter of brass was upon it; and the height of one chapter was five cubits, with network and pomegranates upon the chapters round about, all of brass. The second pillar also and the pomegranates were like unto these. (Jeremiah 52:21-22)

Thus, even though the pillars stood separately, there was a thread that tied them together thus, they could not be separated. The interesting thing about this thread was that it had a thickness of four fingers, which is the length of the handbreadth and spoke of the life of a man.

Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah. (Psalms 39:5)

This cord is known as the cord of life. Its presence coordinated the pillars such that each kept the other in balance. What does this mean? In matters of life, when the business man in the Church is going astray into the ways of the world, it is the responsibility of the priest to lay hands on him and separate him for God. The priest teaches him how to make money the godly way and not to go the way of iniquity, since it is the priest that causes the blessing to rest on the house of the business man.

And the first of all the firstfruits of all things, and every oblation of all, of every sort of your oblations, shall be the priest's: ye shall also give unto the priest the first of your dough, that HE MAY CAUSE THE BLESSING TO REST IN THINE HOUSE. (Ezekiel 44:30)

On the other hand, when the priest is tempted to go out of the temple, it is the responsibility of Boaz to shut the door upon him and load him with the tithes, first fruits and offerings. The declaration of Boaz to the priest should be; *“I as Boaz will so shut you in with offerings and ensure you are condemned to this work of the ministry forever, as long as I live”* , and Jacinth will equally say, *“I as Jacinth will ever cause the blessing to be directed and offloaded to your house constantly”* , because the wisdom of God concerning the matter is settled – the more the priest is engaged in the work, the more he will cause the blessing to rest on the house of the business man. By this wisdom principle of the Church, both the first and second pillar of wisdom will be experienced in the Church in cosmic proportions. Power and Money will be profuse. Jacinth will produce life and power whereas Boaz will produce money, exactly according to the pattern of the birthing of Wisdom enumerated in Proverbs 3:13, 16;

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding...LENGTH OF DAYS IS IN HER RIGHT HAND; AND IN HER LEFT HAND RICHES AND HONOUR.

In the right hand of wisdom, we find length of days and in her left hand, we find riches and honour. The blessing of the left hand which corresponds to Boaz must be combined with the blessing of the right hand which corresponds to Jacinth. There are certain things in life that just one hand cannot do; both hands must be combined to make it happen.

This Boaz who was described as a very wealthy man was said to have a very interesting relationship with a Moabitess called Ruth, who left the land of her nativity and tied herself to Noami, the kinsman of Boaz. Ruth happened to find herself on the field of corn which belonged to Boaz to glean for herself and her family. The wonderful thing that ensued which I want you to take note of is how Boaz freely gave of his harvest to Ruth, who in this context, was a priest.

If you understand the principle of gleanings in the scriptures, you will appreciate that Boaz did something very remarkable which was not done anywhere in that time. The gleanings were the little crumbs that were left in the field for the poor after the sheaves had been gathered.

And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not make clean riddance of the corners of thy field when thou reapest, neither shalt thou gather any gleaning of thy harvest: thou shalt leave them unto the poor, and to

the stranger: I am the LORD your God. (Leviticus 23:22)

Consequently, Ruth, who was a poor stranger in the land, had come into the field of Boaz to glean. When Boaz took note of her, not only did he allow her to glean from morning till evening; he told her to abide in the field and also gave her water to drink.

Then said Boaz unto Ruth, Hearest thou not, my daughter? Go not to glean in another field, neither go from hence, BUT ABIDE HERE FAST by my maidens: Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them: have I not charged the young men that they shall not touch thee? and when thou art athirst, go unto the vessels, and drink of that which the young men have drawn. (Ruth 2:8-9)

As if this wonderful kindness was not enough, Boaz called her to meat and allowed her to glean from the sheaves of the harvest.

And Boaz said unto her, At mealtime come thou hither, and eat of the bread, and dip thy morsel in the vinegar. And she sat beside the reapers: and he reached her parched corn, and she did eat, and was sufficed, and left. And when she was risen up to glean, Boaz commanded his young men, saying, Let her glean even among the sheaves, and reproach her not. (Ruth 2:14-15)

Ruth, who had left her mother and her father and the land of her nativity, was a priest in this context, because the priests were to leave all matters of life and concern themselves with the ministry. Boaz, who was a business man, and had understanding of the harmony that should exist between the two pillars, gave Ruth of all that she needed and beyond that married her. You must not allow your man of God to eat of the crumbs of your field. They must glean from your very sheaves. It is unfortunate that some people walk into a church on a Sunday morning and pick of the worst in their pocket for an offering. This does not cause the blessing to rest on your house. You must own the church as your own and the priest as your possession. This is exactly what Boaz did.

Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place: ye are witnesses this day. (Ruth 4:9)

There must be a divine marital union between the priest and the nation. One is

not complete without the other. The men who understand and function in this wisdom principle are called sons of encouragement or consolation. This was the life of Barnabas in the days of the early apostles. He so demonstrated this wisdom that the apostles surnamed him son of encouragement.

And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus. (Acts 4:36)

He was so called because in the early church Barnabas took upon himself to sell his land and brought the money and laid it at the apostle's feet. This was the norm in the early church that many sold their houses as well in Acts 4:34:

Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need. And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus, Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet. (Acts 4:34-37)

Today's generation think it is foolishness to give that much to a ministry and that God does not deserve much, so the tie between money and ministry is like the gulf that exist between Africa and the Americas in the Atlantic Ocean, but it is a new day of revelation and understanding. This arrangement of these pillars must be set forth in the Church if we are to speedily take the message of Christ across the world and make impart in a global proportion.

Religious System / Worship

We have already seen under the wisdom of an angel that religion concerns the transmissions of God as a witness in the conscience of humanity. Religion seeks to provide shelter and care for the underprivileged. Pure religion is rooted in an outward show of love and not piety. The faith of Jesus is rooted in love and this love marks all true disciples.

In James 1:27, the apostle defines that pure religion and undefiled religion is to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction.

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the

fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. (James 1:27)

This teaches us that religion is not what we do by attending a church service but rather converting all that we receive in our training in Christ and extending it as benevolence to those who are in affliction especially those of the household of faith and even beyond. Love in terms of benevolence characterizes religion and Jesus actually admonished that in the book of John.

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. (John 13:35)

Remember religion marks the feet of the image of Nebuchadnezzar and thus speaks of the foundation upon which that system stood. The word of God must break into that evil system as a stone cast without hand by avenue of love and redefine the narrative of Christianity as a pure and undefiled religion standing unique from all others. Our witness in love is more meaningful than our formalism of congregations together as a false witness of the piety of religion. Love is the true foundation in our faith. It is the foundation stone and the cap stone.

Love is the foundation of all stabilities. Scripture clearly states that there are three things that abide;

And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity. (1 Corinthians 13:13)

Yet, of these three, love is the greatest, and it is in this that the religion of the Church is rooted. It is this pure love that drives us into where genuine love could be found.

Under this institution of learning, we are looking at a believer's worship which includes all that he does in the service of the ministry such as prayer, singing, meditation and the service of the priesthood. Yet, all must be grounded on love.

Chapter 14: **THE FIFTH PILLAR: THE WISDOM OF THE OVERCOMERS**

Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah...As well the singers as the players on instruments shall be there: all my springs are in thee (Psalms 87:3, 7).

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he Church is only a wonder in this age but not all in the Church are necessarily a wonder in the ages to come. If all you know and express is the wisdom of the Church, you will be very limited

in your exhibitions in the ages to come. There are places and things in the kingdom of God that you cannot access by just being born again and expressing the wisdom of God by the Church. It takes the next higher wisdom which is the wisdom of the overcomers to be a wonder in this age and also the ages to come. It is vividly revealed that wisdom is a creative force that carries the creation from the old earth to the new earth and from the old heaven to the new heaven. Thus, all that you see unfolding in this age and in the ages to come is by the active force of wisdom. That is to say, wisdom is the driving force of the procession of the ages. That which shall be revealed in the Church is by, through and for wisdom. The glory revealed by the Church in this age and in the ages to come is wrought by wisdom.

There are places and things in the kingdom of God that you cannot access by just being born again and expressing the wisdom of God by the Church.

Remember we studied in chapter three that there is the *seeing of the kingdom* and there is the *entering of the kingdom*. The one who is just born again and wants to remain there can in no way inherit the kingdom. They that inherit the kingdom are the overcomers who do not only see the kingdom at new birth but go further to enter the kingdom by growth to culminate in inheriting the kingdom as overcomers. Thus, imagine the harm that preachers are causing, when they ceaselessly emphasize that we preach the “salvation message” to the Church. Why must we keep preaching this message to believers when there is a kingdom to inherit? This is not wisdom! The believer must explore all the pillars of wisdom. The “salvation message” is for the world and not for the Church. The believer must fixate his passions on the throne of God, and interestingly, this is the greatest desire of God – that his children should ascend to sit in his throne. This is the highest ascent of the overcomer. I have heard many preachers say that soul winning or evangelism is the heartbeat of God, but that is far from the truth. Interestingly, it is rather the *perfecting of the saints* which is the heartbeat of God. As much as soul wining is important and converts the world into the Church, that is not the greatest focus and desire of the Father. The greatest pleasure of God is for his children to inherit the kingdom and not just to see the

kingdom by being born again. Jesus said in Luke 12:32,

Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Thus, God is not pleased when his children do not explore all the regions of the kingdom or the houses of wisdom. Scripture declares that we are seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:6).

The “salvation message” is for the world and not for the Church.

What many believers do not realize about this scripture is that there are various dimensions or places in the heavenlies. Thus, you could be in heaven and be very far away from the throne in terms of rank. That you are seated in heavenly places does not mean you have the glory to sit in God's throne. The celestial realm is not a disordered place of unplanned dwellings; it is a realm of order and ranks, with each level having its own peculiar authority and expressions in glory, based on one's gracious works. Wisdom is the driving force of these works, and your ultimate works in Christ give you a certain rank in the kingdom.

You could be in heaven and be very far away from the throne in terms of rank. That you are seated in heavenly places does not mean you have the glory to sit in God's throne.

The Palatial System of David

It was after this order that the nation of Israel was patterned, in the time of David the King because everything he did was according to the pattern of the temple in heaven. According to the Davidic system of governance, the nation of Israel was divided into three levels. There was the nation itself, there was also Jerusalem, and finally, there was the city of David where the palace of David was located. Within the palace were the set thrones of judgment:

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together: Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the LORD. For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David of judgment, the thrones of the house of David 5).

As can be seen in Psalms 122:3-5, though David was the king of the nation, there were associated thrones to his throne from which he dispensed judgment to the people. That a man was therefore an Israelite did not mean that he was living in the palace and seated on a throne. That place was reserved for the elders and for the mighty men of David.

According to the Davidic system of governance, the nation of Israel was divided into three levels. There was the nation itself, there was Jerusalem, and there was the city of David where the palace of David was located.

Just like the nation of Israel was chosen of God to be his peculiar people, the Church has also been called to be a holy nation and a peculiar people.

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light (1 Peter 2:9).

Thus, as long as you have been called out of darkness and are born again, you are of the seed of Abraham and the Israel of God.

That a man was an Israelite did not mean that he was living in the palace and seated on a throne.

And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God (Galatians 6:16).

However, it is not every Israelite that is a Jew. The Jews are those who are of the house of David. Scripture reveals that after the nation of Israel was divided into two kingdoms, there were those who broke covenant with David and was known as the Northern Kingdom, with their capital in Samaria, popularly referred to as the Samaritans. There were also those that affiliated with the house of David, and these were the house of Judah, the Levites and the Benjamites, known as Jews of the Southern Kingdom.

...the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? and we have none inheritance in the son of Jesse: every man to your tents, O Israel: and now, David, see to thine own house. So all Israel went to their tents (2 Chronicles 10:16).

...there was none that followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only

(1 Kings 12:20).

And in every several city he put shields and spears, and made them exceeding strong, having Judah and Benjamin on his side. And the priests and the Levites that were in all Israel resorted to him out of all their coasts. For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem... (2 Chronicles 11:12).

Thus, we realize that three tribes dwelt in the Southern part of the kingdom, which were Judah, Levi and Benjamin – these are the Jews. The kingship was of Judah and the priesthood was of Levi. Thus, to be a royal priesthood is to be of the house of David. No wonder the Bible says that Jesus Christ sits on the throne of his father David (Luke 1:32). Interestingly, Paul appears on the scene and says that,

For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God (Romans 2:28-29).

So now, to be called one who is a Jew inwardly, you have to be circumcised in your heart, but that is not all – right in Jerusalem was the Palatial system of David on Mount Zion. This was the place where David and his mighty men dwelt, and it was also called the city of David.

And it was told king David, saying, The LORD hath blessed the house of Obededom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of God. So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obededom into the city of David with gladness (2 Samuel 6:12).

Nevertheless David took the strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David (2 Samuel 5:7).

According to the patterns of the temple that Solomon built, by the instruction of his father David, there were ascents to the house of God and this is the wisdom of the overcomers. There were also courses that were established by David for the priests to minister in the temple.

And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built...AND HIS ASCENT BY WHICH HE WENT UP UNTO

THE HOUSE OF THE LORD... (1 Kings 10:4-5).

And he appointed, according to the order of David his father, the courses of the priests to their service, and the Levites to their charges, to praise and minister before the priests, as the duty of every day required: the porters also by their courses at every gate: for so had David the man of God commanded (2 Chronicles 8:14).

According to the patterns of the temple that Solomon built, by the instruction of his father David, there were ascents to the house of God

and this is the wisdom of the overcomers.

These courses determined which priest ministered in the temple at whichever point in time. Without a priestly course, you did not have a place to minister to God in the temple. That is the same way the overcomers must be in their courses of the company of 144,000 to minister to God. Before we come to that, let us first understand that, the fact that Paul said 'ye are come unto Mount Zion' does not mean every believer is in the palace of Zion, neither are we marching to Zion as is usually sang in many churches; we have become Zion, as we go through various heights of perfection from the new birth experience till we sit on the throne of Zion which is the New Jerusalem. As we have already understood, there was Israel and there was Mount Zion. The fact that a man was an Israelite or Jew did not mean that he dwelt in the city of David. They are two different things. David patterned the entire Israel after the order of the tabernacle. In this pattern, the entire Israel was the outer court of the tabernacle, Jerusalem was the holy place and Zion was the most holy place.

The fact that Paul said 'ye are come unto Mount Zion' does not mean every believer is in the palace of Zion, neither are we marching to Zion as is usually sang in many churches; we have become Zion, as we go through various heights of perfection from the new birth experience.

The Ascents of Zion to the Throne The scripture said,

But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God

the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel (Hebrews 12:22-24).

The scripture above speaks of the various places that a believer must access in the heavenlies in order to rule from the throne of Mount Zion. If you look at the verses carefully, you will realize that Paul the Apostle, was speaking of heights in the kingdom, but he listed them in descending order. Thus, all these strata are available to the believer in Christ but it does not mean he has actualized them all. This is a schooling system in the Church, to understand these courses and their applications to the life we have received in Christ. They are outlined as:

1. Mount Zion; those who are the members of the

throne room

2. City of the Living God; the Heavenly Jerusalem; those who maintain the watch in the walls that protect the city. These are the harbingers and elders of light.

3. Innumerable Company of Angels; the General assembly who are the angels of the seven churches, who stand in apostolic dimension of their various roles and callings in the gates as STARS.

4. Church of the First Born, to begin to fully administer the life of the Church in ministry

5. God the Judge of All, to understand the sentence of Justification from the Judge.

6. Spirits Of Just Men Made Perfect, to understand the sentence of and how to deal in the courts of heaven by divine protocols

7. a. Jesus the mediator of the New Covenant, who is the door and advocate of the New Life of the Church. b. The Blood of Sprinkling which washes, forgives and handles our sins as believers.

The classification of these ascents is according to the usage of the conjunction, “AND” in Hebrews 12:22-24:

“But ye are come unto mount Sion (1), **AND** unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem (2), **AND** to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly (3) **AND** church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven

(4), **AND** to God the Judge of all (5), **AND** to the spirits of just men made perfect (6), **AND** to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant (7), **AND** to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel (8). We see eight different strata in all, however, they are seven in all, as we will come to know, because Jesus, the mediator of the New Covenant, and the blood of sprinkling constitute the first level of ascent in Zion in reference to death and resurrection.

1. Jesus the mediator of the New Covenant and the Blood of Sprinkling The first among the ascents is the blood of sprinkling which mutes the voices of condemnation and speaks life to whoever participates therein. Thus, the word of God says, it speaks better things than the blood of Abel. The blood of Abel cries out for vengeance which is the penalty of sin which was satisfied by the death of Jesus. However, the blood of sprinkling speaks justification on the lives of believers which was satisfied in the resurrection of Jesus. The blood of Jesus was shed for the remission of sins according to Matthew 26:28. What happened in the Old Testament was that the High Priest carried out a work of mediation in the tabernacle, where he sprinkled the blood of the sacrifice on the mercy seat.

And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times. (Leviticus 16:14)

The interesting thing about this ordinance is that when Moses, slew the oxen to initiate this ordinance, he divided the blood into two. He took the first part into the tabernacle and poured it on the altar and sprinkled the other half on the children of Israel.

That which the blood of Abel cries out for is vengeance but the blood of sprinkling speaks justification on the lives of believers.

And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basins; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar...And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words. (Exodus 24:6, 8)

It is by the work of mediation that you encounter the blood of sprinkling. The mediation of Jesus is carried out by avenue of the blood, thus the apostle complements that, you have come to Jesus, the mediator of the New Covenant

which is the experience in the new birth. He is the door of heaven, without whom you cannot even begin your ascent in Zion. The reception of the blood of sprinkling is the declaration that one is justified.

Additionally, this blood is ever sprinkling and washing believers in their Christian walk from dead works and making the believer stand righteous before God.

2. Spirits Of Just Men Made Perfect

The apostle also mentions that there is the place of the spirits of just men made perfect. The believer now understands his sanctification and the host of people amongst whom he stands in fellowship in the Church both dead and alive. The believer in this place understands his place in the heavenly courts and the protocols that govern that place. You should understand that there are protocols that govern the courts of heaven. Not all who access heaven can access every room in the courts of God. Each room speaks of a rank and the man that possesses that rank is the man that can access that room and express its authority. 1 Kings 6:5-6 reveals that apart from the holy of holies and the holy place, there were several chambers in the temple of God that some men had access to.

And against the wall of the house he built chambers round about, against the walls of the house round about, both of the temple and of the oracle: and he made chambers round about: The nethermost chamber was five cubits broad, and the middle was six cubits broad, and the third was seven cubits broad: for without in the wall of the house he made narrowed rests round about, that the beams should not be fastened in the walls of the house.

Not all who access heaven can access every room in the courts of God. Each room speaks of a rank and the man that possesses that rank is the man that can access that room and express its authority.

Jeremiah 35:4 also says that,

*And I brought them into the house of the LORD, into **the chamber of the sons of Hanan** , the son of Igdaliah, a man of God, which was by **the chamber of the princes** , which was above **the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, the keeper of the door:***

There are protocols that govern the courts of heaven. Not all who access heaven can access every room in the courts of God. It is quite clear that the various

chambers in the temple corresponded to the ranks of the persons which dwelt in them. There were the chamber of the princes, the chamber of the man of God, and the chamber of the keeper of the door, among many others. Thus, to have access to the rooms in the courts, one has to understand the protocols that govern that place, and this is the place of the spirits of just men made perfect. This is what Jesus meant by his going to prepare a place for us.

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. (John 14:2-3)

In addition, perfection does not have to do with coming to a place of ultimate perfection where you have no flaw or cannot commit any error. Perfection has to do with ranks. Thus, the one who is in grade one in school is not perfect compared to the one in grade two, but when that one masters grade one and moves to grade two, we can say he has come to a place of perfection in relation to grade one. Thus, even though he is perfect, there are greater heights of perfection to climb to. Perfection thus has to do with mastering one level and moving to the next level. In this we come to know that there is no end in the walk of perfection in Christ, till we assume the apex of our growth in Christ.

3. God, the Judge of All

To hit this rank is to come to understand the sentence of justification from the Judge. Over here, one must understand matters of judgment. Jesus said in John 5:22 that,

For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son.

The truth of the word is that God judges no man but rather has committed all judgment to his Son. Thus, in order to ascend to the place of perfection or maturity, having received the sentence of justification, one ought to follow the patterns of the Son of God, in ascending through the heights of heaven to fill all things. Additionally, one must exercise himself in judging the lower matters of this realm as a rehearsal of the judgment that is to come of the Church judging angels. The spiritual man judges all things but is judged by no man but only God. Paul, the apostle, said,

But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.
(1 Corinthians 2:15)

4. Church of the Firstborn

In the Church of the Firstborn, one must step into fulfillment of the work assigned him in the ministry and operate that wisdom. At this place, the believer must fully administer the life of the Church in ministry.

5. Innumerable Company of Angels; the General assembly The innumerable company of angels here speaks of the angels of the seven churches that stand in apostolic dimension of their various roles and callings in the gates as STARS. The principal meaning of the word “*aggelos*” as used in the Greek for angel is messenger. Thus, the innumerable company of angels refers to an innumerable company of messengers. These are actually men who have lived on earth. This should not sound strange to you because there are men living on earth who are actually angels. Jesus said in Revelation 1:20,

The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

These angels of the seven churches are men who are positioned by God in the fivefold ministry and are in sync with the Holy Spirit to oversee the Churches. Again, there is an intersection of the Church that is part of the innumerable company of angels. These are referred to as the General Assembly, which is rendered in the Greek as “*Paneguris*” . It has to do with a festal gathering in the heavenlies. Thus, there is the Church of the firstborn, out of which we have the “*Paneguris*” . In Psalms 111:1, the Psalmist said,

Praise ye the LORD. I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation.

The innumerable company of angels refers to an innumerable company of messengers.

He reveals that there is the Assembly and there is the Congregation. The congregation is the Church and the Assembly is the “*Paneguris*” . In Revelation 7:9, we read something very interesting:

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

The fascinating thing about this multitude is that they were not in the midst of the throne like the twenty-four elders and the four beasts. They were before the throne serving God day and night. Additionally, all they had done was to wash their robes in the blood of the Lamb, in order to serve God.

...These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, AND SERVE HIM DAY AND NIGHT in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. (Revelation 7:14-15)

However, in the beloved city, scripture emphatically declares that there is no night there.

AND THERE SHALL BE NO NIGHT THERE; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever. (Revelation 22:5)

These are they who reign with Christ. The Bible says that those who stand before the throne serve DAY AND NIGHT. However, in the city of the living God, THERE IS NO NIGHT THERE, and the residents of the city do not serve but rather they reign. Their service to God is to reign by administering the kingdom. Thus, we realize that though we may all be in heaven, not everybody is at the same place in heaven. In one place in heaven, there is night and in another, there is no night. On Mount Zion, the city of the Living God, there is no night there. The Lamb of God is the light of that place and the residents of that city have thrones by which they reign. These are the twenty-four elders seated on twenty-four thrones and the four beasts in the midst of the throne. They are also the 144,000 company listed in Revelation 7 and 14. Again, they are the two witness company spoken of in Revelation 11. Additionally, they are the two olive trees in the book of Zechariah 4. All these are referred to as the overcomers. At each level of overcoming, there are rewards given to the overcomer. Therefore, we realize that even though all the overcomers have access to the beloved city, not all of them in the city have thrones. There is the general 144,000 company or the two witness company, out of which we have the 24 elders. Yet, the twenty-four elders are seated in thrones around the throne of God and the four beasts are in the midst of the throne. All these speak of various ranks amidst the overcomers, and yet many people pathetically are standing aloof in the body of Christ thinking “*heaven at last*” .

Though we may all be in heaven, not everybody is at the same place in heaven. In one place in heaven, there is night and in another, there is no night.

6. City of the Living God; the Heavenly Jerusalem

The dwellers in the city are those who maintain the watch in the walls that protect the city. These are the harbingers and elders of light. Being born again does not automatically register you as a part of the city of the Living God. Many believers are just hoping to make it to heaven. However, they do not know that they can be in heaven and yet be cast out of the beloved city, because in heaven, there is the Camp of the Saints and there is the Beloved City: these two locations in heaven are not the same.

*And they went up on the breadth of the earth, **and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city:** and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. (Revelation 20:9)*

That you are born again, and have become a saint, simply means that you are in the camp of the saints. However, it takes maturing into the Glorious Church and getting rid of spots, wrinkles and blemishes to be counted as a part of the beloved city, Heavenly Jerusalem. The New Jerusalem is the city of the living God.

Many believers are just hoping to make it to heaven. However, they do not know that they can be in heaven and yet be cast out of the beloved city, because in heaven, there is the Camp of the Saints and there is the Beloved City: these two locations in heaven are not the same.

7. Mount Zion

Mount Zion is a subset of the New Jerusalem. It is actually the peak of the city. The one that ascends to Zion is a dweller in the throne room of God. To be in the city of the Living God still does not give a man the right to sit in his throne. These and many more make it all the more urgent for believers to seek the kingdom; there are heights to attain in the kingdom. We cannot keep meddling in the elementary principles of the kingdom. We have to grow.

We see all these levels and yet, funny enough, what many believers are looking forward to is to enter heaven and that is it. For such believers, all they crave for is “heaven at last”. Yet, that a man is born again and is displaying the wisdom of

the Church does not mean that is all there is to attain in the house of wisdom in his Christian walk. Yet, many preachers have inadvertently fixated the desire of many believers to escaping hell and entering heaven. Notwithstanding, one of the greatest disappointments of the universe is to enter heaven and not receive rewards. Heaven is a big place, and each person's rank in the faith determines where in heaven he will be.

The Seven Ascents

*Then the king made a great throne inlaid with ivory and overlaid with fine gold. **The throne had six steps, and its back had a rounded top. On both sides of the seat were armrests, with a lion standing beside each of them. Twelve lions stood on the six steps, one at either end of each step. Nothing like it had ever been made for any other kingdom.*** (1Kings 10:18-20, NIV)

Solomon, having received instructions from his father, David, built the nation according to the configuration of the heavenly things David saw. Interestingly, as we read the verse above, we come to understand that the throne of the kingdom was on an elevated plane. One had to go through six steps before sitting on the throne; the throne itself being the final step, making it seven steps. That is to say, after one has gone through the six steps, the final step is to ascend to sit on the ultimate throne, and that is the seventh. On both sides of the throne were armrests and a lion stood beside each of them. Yet, that is not all: at either ends of the six steps stood a lion. This depiction stirs up my curiosity because in the revelation of Jesus Christ, John said,

*And one of the elders says to me, **Do not weep. Behold, the lion which [is] of the tribe of Juda, the root of David, has overcome [so as] to open the book, and its seven seals.*** (Revelation 5:5, DBY)

Thus, the lion speaks of the overcoming one. This being the case, it simply suggests that each of the six steps of the throne of David, on which Solomon sat, was an ascent of overcoming. At the highest place of the overcomer, he, as the lion of the tribe of Judah, can claim the triumph and sit on the throne where he will have two lions beside him. Nevertheless, with this being evident in the scriptures, it was not until the apocalypse of John, the apostle, that we are furnished with further details and insight into the lives of the overcomers and the various ascents they have to go through before sitting on the throne with Jesus at the highest ascent.

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. (Revelation 3:21)

The throne of the kingdom was on an elevated plane. One had to go through six steps before sitting on the throne; the throne itself being the final step, making it seven steps.

The seven Churches in the revelation of Jesus Christ correspond to the seven ascents of the overcomer:

John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; (Revelation 1:4)

Many eschatological interpretations denote the seven churches as the seven church ages. Though we may not dismiss this as entirely false but as a historical interpretation, we have to understand that revelation is progressive. That something was said sometime back and we held on to it does not mean we should stay there and not move on in revelation, because as we look through the scriptures carefully, we realize that the seven churches are actually seven spiritual heights that every believer will have to climb, before gaining a throne to reign with the Lamb in the Millennial Age. This level of overcoming has to do with works and not just being born again by faith, because there is the status of an overcomer that is accorded you simply because you believed in Jesus.

Being born of God is the foundation of overcoming the world. However, the seven ascents to the throne are by the expression of the works of wisdom

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? (1 John 5:4-5)

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)

Just as Jesus overcame the world, our expression of faith in him accords us the same victory. Being born of God is the foundation of overcoming the world. However, the seven ascents to the throne are by the expression of the works of wisdom, till you come to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Accordingly, each ascent is a revelation of Christ in you, just like in Galatians 1:15-16:

*But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, **To reveal his Son in me...***

The more Christ is revealed in you, the more you approach the fullness of Christ. Thus, unlike many misconstrued thoughts concerning the book of Revelation, it is not a book that reveals doom and gloom in the last days. Rather, it is THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: (Revelation 1:1)

Thus, when you read the book, you should see Jesus Christ being revealed. Remember that Christ is the wisdom of God and not the news or reportage of wars and nuclear weapons gone on rampage. That is to say Christ is the goggles with which we are to look at the seven Churches, and the book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ at large, else all our elucidations will be flawed. We are not to look at the revelation predominantly in the light of history and unfolding events in the Middle East but in the light of the revealing of Christ within the believers. The seven ascents are things that the believer must overcome here on earth. There are overcomers in each of these seven churches. They are the seven spiritual heights that every believer will have to go through to ultimately become the overcomer of this age. The walk of the overcomer is also regarded as the progressive Christ walk.

The more Christ is revealed in you, the more you approach the fullness of Christ.

Interestingly, as you read about the seven churches, you realize that for each church, Jesus introduced himself with a certain characteristic. Then he gave specific commendations to the individual Church and chided her for her faults. Next, he gave her promises to be attained if she overcame.

1. Ephesus

Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven

golden candlesticks (Revelation 2:1)

The word Ephesus means to be permitted. Permitted to what? As we read on, we realize that no one can eat of the fruit of the tree of life unless he attains the status of an overcomer. Since Adam, only the overcomers have access to the fruits of the tree of life. For the church of Ephesus, Jesus holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks in the midst of the seven golden candles sticks, which are the seven churches.

To the overcomer in Ephesus, Jesus said,

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God. (Revelation 2:7, NIV)

The overcomer in the Church of Ephesus is given the right to eat of the tree of life in the Paradise of God. This was the same tree that Adam, in the Garden of Eden was prohibited from partaking.

And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden... (Genesis 3:22-23)

He was miserably dismissed from the Garden just because God did not want him to eat of this tree. This was not a wicked act at all, because God knew that if he were to partake of the tree of life, he will understand the secrets of life and live forever. The tree of life, as we have known, from Chapter Eight was an information bank of the wisdom of God. Yet, with the interference of the knowledge of good and evil, God could not allow this to happen. Else, man will be operating a confused mix of a lower wisdom with a higher wisdom at the same time, and that will yield corrupted wisdom.

In the book of Psalms, the Psalmist describes the righteous as the tree of life:

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly... And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.
(Psalms 1:1, 3)

Even though no mention of the tree of life was made in this verse, we know that

is the tree David is talking about because if you know about the tree of life, it is planted by the rivers of water, it brings its fruits in its season and its leaves do not wither at all. This is affirmed by Revelation 22:2 and Ezekiel 47:12 which says that,

In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.

The righteous is actually a tree of life that must bear twelve manners of fruits.

What an interesting tree? Have you ever seen a tree that bears twelve different kinds of fruits before? Yet, this tree has a composition that yields twelve different kinds of fruits. The same description that the psalmist gives concerning the righteous is the same description John and Ezekiel give about the tree of life: they both are planted by the rivers of water, their leaves do not wither, and they bring forth their fruits in their season. Thus, you should understand that the righteous is actually a tree of life that must bear twelve manners of fruits which is called the fruits of the spirit. If you eat of just one kind of fruit of the tree of life, it does not make you incorruptible. Each of the fruits of the tree of life imparts a certain level of incorruptibility. Just two of the fruits will not make you incorruptible; it will produce a certain kind of immunity but will not give you the fullness of life. Yet, the purpose for which Jesus Christ was manifest was to give us fullness of incorruptible life.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10, NIV)

If you eat of just one kind of fruit of the tree of life, it does not make you incorruptible. Each of the fruits of the tree of life imparts a certain level of incorruptibility.

It is the fullness of fruits that makes the overcomer incorruptible and immortal. To understand the composition of the tree of life, you must understand what the crown of life is. It takes one who has mastered life to attain the fullness of life. This is gotten by the overcomer in the Church of Smyrna. Let us now consider the requirements of the overcomer in the Church of Smyrna.

2. Smyrna

And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive (Revelation 2:8)

To the Church of Smyrna, Jesus introduced himself as the first and last, the one who was dead and is alive. This means that for the believer, death is not an end. Jesus Christ takes us through death and brings us to life.

The word “Smyrna” is from the word “myrrh” and means bitterness. It is the gum used for embalming the dead. These are they who have known the bitterness of death. They have gone through tribulation and poverty, though they are rich. They have fought with those who say they are believers but are of the synagogue of Satan. (Revelation 2:9)

To the overcomer in Smyrna, no wonder Jesus said,

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death. (Revelation 2:10-11)

To ascend to the second level in your walk of faith as an overcomer in Smyrna, you have to know what it means to go through tribulation and deaths. Without this, forget about entering the kingdom, talk less of inheriting the kingdom because it is with much tribulation that we enter the kingdom. You are only permitted to see the kingdom at the place of your new birth.

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.
(Acts 14:22)

At this level of faith, you are given a crown of life, and immunity to the second

death. Yet, to attain the crown of life, you have to go through Smyrna which is the bitterness of deaths, to attain it. You have to be ready for imprisonment and deaths. At the first level, you are given access to the first level of life but at the second level, you have to know the process of death to test this life. Many believers dread tribulation but interestingly, it is destined for every believer to go through tribulation at all cost, whether now or later. If you do not go through it now, you will go through it later else, you will be hurt by the second death. When you have partaken of the tree of life, wisdom will tell you to churn for yourself, works of gold, and precious stones, else your work will be lost in the fire. The second death actually, is the journey through the lake of fire. You may be shocked to hear this but every man in existence, including believers will go through the lake of fire. It takes the wisdom of the overcomer at the second level of life to overcome this Lake of fire, and not be hurt by it. Just as the three Hebrew boys, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego overcame.

Many believers dread tribulation but interestingly, it is destined for every believer to go through tribulation at all cost, whether now

or later.

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. THIS IS THE SECOND DEATH. (Revelation 20:14)

Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. (Revelation 20:6)

To overcome in the Church of Smyrna, you have to be tried by fire. The only way by which we can know that you are immune to the second death is when you are passed through its fire. Three categories of people are yielded when the creation is tried by fire:

- Those who cannot escape but are burned by the fire

of the second death

- Those who will be hurt by the fire of the second death
- Those who will not be hurt by the fire of the second death because it has no power over them

Those who will not escape are unbelievers. They shall have their part in the second death.

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. (Revelation 21:8)

These are they who have the spirit of disobedience at work in them. Then there are those who will escape but will come out as hurt. This category comes out of the fire with nakedness because their works could not stand the test of fire. Revelation 2:11 speaks of this category:

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

There are those who will not be hurt at all, but shall have their part in the first and best resurrection because they had the crown of life. Only the crown of life will give you immunity the lake of fire. That is why Jesus said that ***“He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.”*** That simply means if you do not overcome, you will be hurt, and indeed, many will be hurt because they do not understand the purpose of tribulation in the Church.

In 1 Corinthians 3:13-15, Paul, the apostle, said,

Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is. If any man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Only the crown of life will give you immunity the lake of fire.

The apostle says, ***“...the fire shall try every man’s work...”*** of what sort, not of how much. What fire was he talking about? This is the lake of fire. Every man will be tried by the lake of fire. Only the masters of life will overcome the vehemence of the fire, because to be crowned with life means to master life. Yet, to be a master of life, you must conquer death; you have to go through this second death – FIRE, to conquer it. That is why when Jesus addressed the church of Smyrna, he said, “I am he who was dead and is alive.” To have the victory over death, Jesus had to go through it. Thus, as you can see, Jesus has gone through all the levels of the overcomers before he sat on the throne. He did not just jump from the cross to the throne. He had to go through all the heights as

well. Scripture asserts in Ephesians 4:10,

He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.

To be a master of life, you must conquer death; you have to go through this second death – FIRE, to conquer it.

This truth is further clarified in Hebrews 4:14 which also says,

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess (NETB)

Thus, as an overcomer, you must go through all these ascents, through the heavens, to sit with Jesus on the throne, and this second level demands that you master LIFE. Every believer has been given life as a seed, yet not all have matured this life in them to be able to overcome the second death. The apostles, Peter and John, assert,

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. (1 Peter 1:23)

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. (1 John 3:9)

This seed within the believer is the seed of life. This life must grow until it manifests visibly in your body – when mortal will be swallowed up by immortality. Beloved, this is the wisdom of the overcomer and these are the things you must seek. These are the things that the searching of your spirit brings you. To attain glory, honour, immortality and eternal life, decide to search your spirit, because these virtues are all buried within your spirit as a child of God.

Who will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life (Romans 2:6-7)

The fear of the Lord in your spirit is the progression in wisdom. The place to seek for GLORY, HONOUR and IMMORTALITY is in your spirit. As you grow the life within, and become immune to the second death, you will be given access to the hidden manna, in the holy sanctum of God.

3. Pergamos

And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges (Revelation 2:12)

Pergamos means to be married on the heights or elevation. It is gotten from two words which are “*pergos*” and “*gamos*” . “*Pergos*” means elevation and “*gamos*” means to be married or wedded. Thus Pergamos means elevated marriage. To the church of Pergamos, Jesus is depicted as having a sharp two-edged sword.

Those in Pergamos don’t play the harlot of idolatry by eating the food of the world. Their relations with Christ take center stage. They begin to raise the standard of relationship with Christ by their flow of divine life. (Revelation 2:13-16). To the overcomer in Pergamos, Jesus said,

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. (Revelation 2:17)

You have to understand that the overcomer’s walk is a journey through life. First, he’s given the tree of LIFE, then secondly, the crown of LIFE, and then thirdly, he is given the Bread of LIFE, which is the hidden manna. Jesus said,

I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. (John 6:48-50)

What was Jesus’ inspiration for promising the overcomer at the third ascent that he will eat of the hidden manna? The hidden manna was a meal well known in Israel, just that no man had the right to eat of it. We have already seen in Chapter Twelve that there were three kinds of manna, the last of which was the hidden manna. This manna could last for generations unlike the first two kinds; the daily manna and the sabbatical manna. The hidden manna was kept in the golden pot in the Ark of the Covenant. That is why it is called the hidden manna.

The overcomer’s walk is a journey through life. First, he’s given the tree of LIFE, then secondly, the crown of LIFE, and then thirdly, he is given the Bread of LIFE, which is the hidden manna

And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations. As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept. (Exodus 16: 33-34)

Jesus, in the book of his revelation, says that if you overcome in the third ascent of Pergamos, “*I will give you the hidden manna to eat*” , and yet, he says that “*I am the bread of life*” – “*if you eat me, you will not die*” . However, if you eat the hidden manna too, you are granted access into a higher dimension of life, where now, you have not just mastered life, but you have become life essence. This is the participation in the life of the living bread.

The children of Israel ate manna in the wilderness and died because that manna was of the angelic kind. It indemnified them with a certain level of immunity, yet it could not impart life eternal. Yet, the hidden manna is the living bread from heaven. It consists of all the twelve fruits of the tree of life. It is the fullness of life in Christ.

At the first level, you are made to eat the fruits of the tree of life, which opens you up to the secrets of life to make your journey in life. Yet, you have to understand that there are twelve fruits you must master before you come to the next level of life. You must master life and possess the crown of life to overcome the second death, and reign in life. Then you must eat of the hidden manna, which is the bread of life, prepared from all the twelve fruits of the tree of life, to give you a right of participation in that bread. At this stage, you can say like Jesus,

For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself (John 5:26)

Because you are a part of that one bread spoken of in 1 Corinthians 10:17:

For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread. (1 Corinthians 10:17)

Over here, you have not just received life; you have possessed life and have it inherently, so you can pass it on. However, you must first master the use of the sharp two-edged sword. You must conquer every Balaam in your environment that comes to sup the life in you through doctrines that make you eat things sacrificed to idols and cause you to commit fornication by infidelity to Jesus. To commit fornication in this context is not to have sex in an unmarried setting but

rather it has to do with devaluing or despising your inheritance in Christ, just like Esau. Scripture says concerning him;

Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. (Hebrews 12:16)

All who despise their eternal inheritance in Christ are fornicators according to the truth of Scripture.

Esau did not have any sexual intercourse with any married or unmarried person yet, the Bible says he is a fornicator, simply because he despised his birthright. All who despise their eternal inheritance in Christ are fornicators according to the truth of Scripture. Doctrines that do not give you a sense of urgency concerning your rewards, crowns and eternal inheritance in the kingdom are Balaamic doctrines; they teach you to commit fornication. These doctrines make you value the present life beyond your glorious inheritance in Christ by making you drink and be intoxicated with the wine of Babylon; the wine of idols.

Doctrines that do not give you a sense of urgency concerning your rewards, crowns and eternal inheritance in the kingdom are Balaamic doctrines; they teach you to commit fornication.

In the angelic realm, there are actually twelve angelic constellations. Each angelic constellation must bring their fruits for the preparation of the hidden manna. The fruits of the harvest are placed in the crushers and then baked, after which it is served to the overcomers in Pergamos as hidden manna. The hidden manna thus has all twelve properties of the fruit of life from the tree of life.

The Stone of Participation

Among the promises to the overcomer in the Church of Pergamos (elevated marriage) is a white stone with a new name written in it. This name is unknown to anyone apart from the one who receives it.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. (Revelation 2:17).

It will wonder you to know that this was a practice that existed in the days of the

early apostles, during the public games.

What happened was that those who emerged as conquerors in the public games were conducted with great splendor to the city to which they belonged, and were given a white stone, with their names inscribed in it. This white stone gave them the right to be taken care of at the public expense. It also gave them admittance to public feasts and banquets. When there was a feast and anybody produced a white stone, he was allowed in and fed by the organizer of the feast. It was his stone of participation. The Greek word translated as stone is “*psephos*” . It means a stone used as a ticket, or to cast a vote, or to give a verdict that counts. Thus, to be given a white stone is to have a right of citizenship and a say of administration in heaven. You cannot just walk into heaven and have a say in every matter. You will be questioned about the whereabouts of your white stone. This white stone gives you the right to cast a vote on matters in the heavens, because it is the stone of your registration in the Lamb’s book of life. Without the white stone, you are disenfranchised. You cannot vote even if you are of age and of a sound mind.

This white stone gives you the right to cast a vote on matters in the heavens, because it is the stone of your registration in the Lamb’s book of life.

Your hidden name is the name you are given based on your new functional reality of destiny in God. Right from Abraham, the father of faith, we realize how God changed the names of several people to conform to their destinies. Abraham was initially called Abram but had his name changed to Abraham. His wife’s name was also changed from Sarai to Sarah. These two gave birth to a son called Isaac whom God himself named and God did not touch that one’s name. A generation later, Isaac gives birth to a son and named him Jacob, but God comes on the scene and changes his name to Israel. Why then did God change the names of Abram, Sarai and Jacob? The reason is that those names were sourced from the earth but for Isaac, was named by God himself.

And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. (Genesis 17:19)

Your hidden name is the name you are given based on your new functional

reality of destiny in God.

The point that God was making, in changing the names of some of the Patriarchs, is that if your name does not conform to your divine destiny and assignment, then it has to be changed. You have to understand that in your name is your mandate. Name is the English rendering for the Hebrew word “*Shem*” . “*Shem*” relates to memorial or mark of individuality. It also means fame or renown; by implication, character. Beloved of God, your name is your identity. Your name can determine what you become in life; it defines your assignment in “one word”.

That is why when Jesus Christ, gathered a band of twelve men, he looked at the first one and said, “*you are no more Simon; you are now Peter, in accordance with your new identity*” . Anytime Peter was on course in destiny, Jesus referred to him as Peter, but when he referred to him as Simon, he was referring to his earthly nature, because he was not measuring up to divine standard. The same applies to Saul who became Paul. When he was misbehaving towards the Church and Jesus appeared to him, his name was Saul but when he discovered his assignment and calling from his mother’s womb, he was now Paul. If you are a believer and you bear an inconsistent name, please change it – it can affect your behavior and fulfillment of destiny and assignment.

Nabal had foolishness in his heart because that was what his name defined him to be. His name meant dolt, stupid, foolish man, vile. Thus, the Bible says in 1 Samuel 25:25,

*Let not my lord, I pray thee, regard this man of Belial, **even Nabal: for as his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him:** but I thine handmaid saw not the young men of my lord, whom thou didst send*

As your name is, so are you. Nabal’s character corresponded perfectly with his name. The name you respond to is very critical. The Bible says concerning Jesus,

...and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. (Matthew 1:21).

Jesus had a mandate to fulfill as the saviour of the world and so had to be named after his mandate. Accordingly, when the angel of the Lord appeared to Jacob, he enquired of his name:

And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. And he said,

Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. (Genesis 32:27-28)

Jacob means a supplanter, and as the scriptures testify, before his name was changed, all that he did was according to the character of this name. First, he took Esau's birthright and stole his blessing. Then he outwitted his uncle Laban and turned his wealth to himself. These are the works of a swindler. However, at the discovery point of destiny, Jacob had to wrestle with God to secure the twelve houses of light in the heavens – which was his heritage, and he prevailed. Thus, as a principality, he now had power with God and with men, and had secured, typologically, the twelve gates of the heavenly city for his heritage. With such an accomplishment, there is no way he could still bear the name Jacob; he now had to be called Israel, which means one who rules with God; an overcomer.

Thus, for the overcomer to be given a new name, it means that he is about to begin a whole new journey. That you have overcome on earth, to the third ascent does not mean you are done with your journey. You are actually now about to begin the assignment of your hidden name. I plead your understanding, that to be at the third ascent is not the ultimate victory; it is a struggle for destiny. To be on that universal pilgrimage of life, you need a reconstruction in your eternal destiny in God. The higher you go, the deeper you plunge, the more you realize that you have not even began your journey. This takes all complacency away from the heart.

For the overcomer to be given a new name, it means that he is about to begin a whole new journey.

Moreover, there is a very interesting connection between the white stone and the hidden manna. We are told in Numbers 11:7 that

And the manna was as coriander seed, and the colour thereof as the colour of bdellium.

The colour of manna that rained in the exodus is as the colour of bdellium, which is white. The scripture says that it was as the coriander seed which is also white.

And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna: and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.
(Exodus 16:31)

We can see that bdellium is a white stone, and manna is after its colour. Jesus Christ promises the overcomer a white stone. The white stone speaks of the bread of life with the governmental authority of life. It was among the precious stones that were in the Garden of Eden. Genesis 2:11-12 says that,

*The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; **And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.***

In that land, there is bdellium and the onyx stone. Bdellium is the stone of life after the order of the hidden manna. Onyx is another stone of life. In the ephod of the high priest, onyx was Joseph's stone: the reason being that the precious stones were arranged in rows of four, in the breastplate of the high priest, according to the birth placement of the tribes. Joseph was the eleventh son of Israel.

The white stone speaks of the bread of life with the governmental authority of life.

And thou shalt set in it settings of stones, even four rows of stones: the first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this shall be the first row. And the second row shall be an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond. And the third row a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst. And the fourth row a beryl, and an onyx, and a jasper: they shall be set in gold in their inclosings. And the stones shall be with the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names, like the engravings of a signet; every one with his name shall they be according to the twelve tribes. (Exodus 28:17-21)

According to the arrangements of the tribes, Joseph marks the eleventh stone and this stone is the onyx stone. Remember that Israel has twelve sons, of which one was Joseph. Joseph gave birth to two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. In the division of the inheritance, Levi was taken out because the priesthood belonged to him, which made the tribes to inherit the land in lots of eleven. However, Joseph was divided into two and added to the rest of the tribes making twelve in all. In Genesis 45:7, Joseph made a very interesting statement;

And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

So we understand that Joseph's assignment was to preserve life and

to be a saviour. Thus, the onyx stone spoke of the preservation of life. In the Garden, the onyx stone and bdellium were together with gold. Now we understand that when we speak of bdellium our minds should be brought to the attention of the hidden manna or the bread of life, because manna is as bdellium. The possessor of the onyx stone does not just have life but can extend that life to others. When we look at Joseph, we are looking at a master strategist. By his wisdom, he came up with a strategy to salvage the entire world of famine. He did not only have life, but much more, he had the abundance of life to save his generation and world. Interestingly, on both shoulders of the high priest were two onyx stones.

And thou shalt take two onyx stones, and grave on them the names of the children of Israel...And thou shalt put the two stones upon the shoulders of the ephod for stones of memorial unto the children of Israel: and Aaron shall bear their names before the LORD upon his two shoulders for a memorial.
(Exodus 28:9, 12)

The possessor of the onyx stone does not just have life but can extend that life to others.

Thus, the total number of onyx stones in the ephod of the high priest were three; one in the chest or settings of gold and two on the shoulders. Concerning the Messiah that was to come, the Scripture declares that,

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder... (Isaiah 9:6)

Therefore, for the government to be placed on somebody's shoulders meant, that person has the governmental authority. For Joseph's stone to be placed on the shoulders of the high priest, with the names of the twelve tribes engraved on them, simply meant that he had the governmental authority, and not the natural first born which was Reuben, because Reuben lost the right of the first born to Joseph.

For Judah prevailed above his brethren, and of him came the chief ruler; but the birthright was Joseph's (1Chronicles 5:2)

Thus, Joseph had the right of the first born and the governmental authority. Over here, we understand that there is the free gift of life and there is the reward of

life. They are not the same. The free gift of life was according to his birth as the eleventh son in the chest and the reward of life was about his governmental authority on the shoulders. The white stone speaks of the bread of life that grants the governmental authority of life. It allows you to have a say and a vote of decision-making in the governmental council of God.

What level of wisdom are you operating in? The level of your wisdom determines your level of expression in the procession of the creation. I pray to God that he would give you largeness of heart to see the inheritance that he has in you as a saint. Next, we look at Thyatira.

4. Thyatira

*And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith **the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass** (Revelation 2:18)*

The name Thyatira means “the odour of affliction”. To the Church of Thyatira, Jesus has his eyes as a flame of fire and his feet as fine brass. Brass in the scriptures speaks of the freedom in judgment.

The distinction between silver and brass is that Silver speaks of the process of judgment to pay a debt whereas Brass speaks of the verdict of judgment to declare freedom. Remember that when God released the serpents in the wilderness against the children of Israel, it took Moses in carving a brazen serpent to set them free (Numbers 21:9). Later when Jesus came on the scene, he said,

***And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:** (John 3:14)*

Do not forget that the judgment of God was released on Jesus on the cross as the brazen serpent, so that they who believe in him will not be condemned but be made free. That the Bible said Jesus had his feet as brass means that he had gone through the fire of the freedom in judgment and had overcome and thus was standing in the place of a judge to declare freedom. His eyes were also as a flame of fire which also speaks of a king trying and judging all evil with his eyes.

A king that sitteth in the throne of judgment scattereth away all evil with his

eyes. (Proverbs 20:8)

Thus, to have these qualities is to have the power of rulership. No wonder Jesus said to the overcomer in the Church of Thyatira,

*And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will **I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. And I will give him the morning star. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*** (Revelation 2:26-29)

The Morning Star

To be given a morning star is to have principal rulership. It is common in the scriptures to compare a prince or a great leader to the stars. Every morning star is a head or prince of a certain host in the heavens. The Bible describes Jesus as the bright and morning star:

*I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. **I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.*** (Revelation 22:16)

The morning star is that beautiful star that ushers in the sun. It appears so beautifully in the east. The interesting thing about the morning star is that it appears at the dawn time when the darkness is passing away. The morning star is the same as the day star spoken of in 2 Peter 1:19:

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.

In him was life; and the life was the light of men... That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. (John 1:4, 9)

To be given a morning star is to have principal rulership.

There are many lights but there is only one true light, and that is Jesus. This light is generated from life and lights every man in this world because it is the light of men. That is to say, it is in the absorbing of this light that men can have life. That is why it is called the light of life. So, as you can see, even at the fourth level, the overcomer is still journeying through the walk of the life of the Lamb, which is

the light of life.

The Rod of Iron

The scripture says that the overcomer will rule the nations with a rod of iron - ***“I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron”*** This speaks of the shepherding of the nations, and not the ruling of the nations with a tight fist. Rather, it was the rod of iron that was used to protect the sheep in the face of an adversary. The Greek word used for “rule” in the verse is *“poimaino”*, and it means to tend as a shepherd. The word used for “rod” is *“rhabdos”* and it means a staff. This staff is not just any staff but a shepherd’s staff, that is, the staff that the shepherds used to take care of their sheep.

The children of Israel were predominantly nomadic people and understood the role of the rod and the staff in their shepherding duties. In taking care of sheep, there was not just one stick that was used; there was the rod, and there was the staff. The rod was used to keep away predators and the staff was used to comfort or guide the sheep. The staff was kept in the left-hand and the rod was kept in the right-hand. The only time the shepherd used the rod on the sheep was when they were misbehaving, and even with that, the lash was not intense because the rod had thorns. However, the main purpose of that rod was to protect the sheep in the face of adversary. The Psalmist said in Psalms 23:4;

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; THY ROD AND THY STAFF they comfort me.

There was the Rod and there was the Staff – they were not the same, and their function was not the same. In Isaiah 10:24 and Isaiah 9:4, the word of God brings out the function of these two sticks;

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, O my people that dwellest in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrian: HE SHALL SMITE THEE WITH A ROD, AND SHALL LIFT UP HIS STAFF AGAINST THEE, after the manner of Egypt.

For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and THE STAFF OF HIS SHOULDER, THE ROD OF HIS OPPRESSOR, as in the day of Midian.

The rod was always used to smite the oppressor. Thus, for the overcomer to rule the nations with the rod of iron, it means that he is doing a pastoral work of keeping his flock and using his rod to protect them. Then also remember that the

rod is used to break the sheep when they are being stubborn. Thus, to rule the nations with a rod of iron is to cause them to submit to the guiding rule of the shepherd. At this stage, the overcomer has come to the place where he can break the nations to submit to the rule of God with his rod. If you cannot do pastoral work of caring for the flock of God, forget about ascending to this level as an overcomer. It is a place for the shepherds of the ages to come.

If you cannot do pastoral work of caring for the flock of God, forget about ascending to this level as an overcomer

Something very interesting happened in Revelation chapter twelve: a woman clothed with the sun brought forth a man-child, and this is what the scripture said about this man-child:

And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. (Revelation 12:5)

He was to rule the nations with a rod of iron, just like the overcomer in the church of Thyatira. Many interpret this man-child as the man Jesus Christ but he is more than that. This man-child is actually the company of the overcomers. Take note that he was caught up to God and to his throne. This is the place for overcomers. The interesting thing however is that in Revelation 19:15, Jesus is also seen ruling the nations with a rod of iron:

And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

The reason being that, in his appearing, he is the Chief Shepherd. The overcomers only imitate what he does. Scripture emphatically says concerning him;

And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. (1 Peter 5:4)

He is the Chief Shepherd who comes with his rod and staff to shepherd the nations with the overcomers. That is to say, the overcomer who reaches this ascent will rule with Jesus over the nation as Jesus' under-shepherd. We look at the next stage in the ascents of the overcomer which is Sardis.

5. 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. (Revelation 3:1)*

The name Sardis means the “red ones” or “bloody ones”. In Leviticus 17:11, Scripture says that,

***For the life of the flesh is in the blood:** and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.*

The blood therefore indicates life. As we read on, we realize that the overcomer in Sardis was clothed with white raiment. Remember that garments are made white in the blood of the Lamb.

***...These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.** (Revelation 7:14).*

This is what makes them the bloody ones, and they enroll in the heavenly army. To the Church of Sardis, Jesus has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. Jesus said to the overcomer in Sardis,

***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.** (Revelation 3:5)*

The promise to the overcomer in the fifth ascent is beautiful. Apart from being clothed in white raiment which speaks of righteous works, his name is not blotted out of the book of life and he is given a cosmic introduction before the Father and his angels. Right from salvation, we go through various dimensions of life. This life is the Lamb’s book of life. All that we have spoken about from the tree of life to the light of life is a journey through the book of life. Jesus said he will not blot the overcomer’s name from the book of life.

Right from salvation, we go through various dimensions of life.

The Book of Life

The book of life is a volume in which all that pertains to a man’s destiny is written therein. It contains your part or inheritance, and your works while you

were alive on earth. To many people, they have the wrong notion that, their names are written in the book of life when they get born again, but that is not the case at all. Every man that has ever been in existence on this earth has his name written in the book of life. It is actually called “the book of all living”.

Funny enough, you will hear many preachers leading people to be born again by asking them to appeal to God to write their names in the book of life. Nevertheless, there is no need for any man to beg God to write his name in the book of life, because it is already there.

Every man that has ever been in existence on this earth has his name written in the book of life.

Scripture makes mention of several books. In the book of Revelation alone, we are given the hint of the existence of several books in the archives of heaven.

*And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and **the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.*** (Revelation 20:12).

There we see the book of life and the book of works. Additionally, the scripture says that several books were opened. As we peruse the Old Testament and the New Testament, we come across several books. We see the book of kings, book of wars, book of works, book of remembrance, book of ordinances, the destiny scrolls, the book of chronicles, the book of the ages, the book of life and the Lamb’s book of life and sundry. (Genesis 5:1; Exodus 24:7; Exodus 32:32-33; Ezra 4:5; Psalms 40:7; Psalms 139:16; Malachi 3:16; Revelation 5:1; Revelation 22:19) The book that contains the unchangeable will of God is called the volume of the book. That is the book that Jesus was regulated by and read the demand of God for his life from. He said,

...Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. (Hebrews 10:7)

Among these books, the most common made mention of in the Body of Christ is the book of life. Much has been said concerning the book of life in several quarters. As I already mentioned, the position widely circulated and accepted concerning the book of life, especially amongst believers, is that when a person becomes born again, then his name is written in the book of life. This belief

concerning the book of life is gravely at variance with the truth of the word of God. In Psalms 69:27-28, David prayed to God concerning the wickedness of his enemies. He implored,

Add iniquity unto their iniquity; and let them not come into thy righteousness. Let them be blotted out of the book of life, and not be written with the righteous (ASV).

If a man's name can only be written in the book of life when he gets born again, then how did the names of David's enemies appear in it, when Jesus had not yet died and even resurrected? You cannot blot a thing out of a book unless it has already been written in it. Being a prophet who understood heavenly patterns, David would have been very mistaken to assume that his enemies' names were written in the book of life, if indeed they were not written there. This revelation defeats the commonly held notion that it is only those who are born again who have their names written in the book of life. The question then is, "*What is the book of life?*"

The book of life is actually the book of all living. Psalms 69:28, in the King James Version, brings this out very clearly:

Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.

This simply means that the book of life contains the details of the life of every man that has ever or will ever live on this earth. As long as you were born of a woman, your name is in the book of life. There is therefore no need to beseech God to write your name in the book of life when you get born again. However, that your name is written in the book of life does not confer anything unless you are written, or well put, registered with the righteous because your name can be blotted out. Assuredly, the promise of Jesus to the overcomer is that his name will not be blotted out.

As long as you were born of a woman, your name is in the book of life. There is therefore no need to beseech God to write your name in the book of life when you get born again.

In the exodus of the Israelites, Moses prayed to God to blot his name out of his book, in imploring him to forgive the sins of the Israelites. *And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have*

made them gods of gold. Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I

blot out of my book. (Exodus 32:31).

God emphatically said that he blots out the names of those who have sinned against him. These are they who are not of the faith of Abraham so had their names blotted out. Therefore, when it comes to the book of life, you can either have your sin blotted out or your name blotted out. This book has the record of every man's name and sin according to the Adamic nature. That is to say, as long as you are born by a woman, you have sin in your nature, and this sin is recorded in the book. When you believe in the saving work of Christ, he blots out your sin from the book. Accordingly, in Acts 3:19, Peter, the apostle said,

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

When it comes to the book of life, you can either have your sin blotted out or your name blotted out.

If your sin is not blotted out by the blood of Jesus, your name will be blotted out eventually. Hebrews 12:23 asserts,

To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect.

The New King James Version emphatically says,

to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, (Hebrews 12:23)

The Greek word translated as written is “*apographo*” and it means “to be registered or to be enrolled”. Thus, to say your name is written with the righteous in the book of life simply means it is registered or secured, not that God is now about to write it as an entry. Whoever's name is not found written in the book of life will be cast into the lake of fire. When your name is not found written in the book of life, it does not matter how many gracious works you have done; they will all be considered as nil, because it is in the registration of your name that you have your assurance of citizenship.

The registration of one's name is what gives you the right of salvation. When you are not registered in the book of life, you are surely lost and have no eternal life. To be born again actually means to be born from above, which is the Greek word, "anōthen" .

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (John 3:3)

When your name is not found written in the book of life, it does not matter how many gracious works you have done; they will all be considered as nil

The Lamb's Book of Life

It is important to note however that the book of life is different from the Lamb's book of life. The Lamb's book of life is the autobiography of the Lamb's life.

And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life. (Revelation 21:27)

There is the book of life and there is the Lamb's book of life. They are not the same. When we speak of the Lamb's book of life, we are dealing with the registered names in the book of life who have a part in the holy city. The book of life contains the registered name of saints who have a part in the holy city. To have a part in the holy city, you must be registered in the Lamb's book of life else, you can only be in the camp of the saints. Simply put, you could be registered in the book of life and since you don't have a part in the holy city, your name is not registered as part of the Lamb's book of life.

When we speak of the Lamb's book of life, we are dealing with the registered names in the book of life who have a part in the holy city.

Your possession of a white stone is your participation in the Lamb's book of life. It simply means that you mastered the life of the Lamb of God - you journeyed through the tree of life, where you were given the right to eat of the twelve different fruits, then you secondly overcame the second death which is the lake of fire, then you thirdly were given a white stone and a right to eat of the hidden manna, then you fourthly were made a morning star and given right over the nations. Now, fifthly, you can have the assurance of your name being written or registered in the Lamb's book of life to have a part in the holy city, in the fifth

ascent of the church of the bloody ones – Sardis, who are in the stage of the overwhelming life of the Lamb of God.

That is not all. The overcomer in the fifth ascent is cosmically introduced. The scripture said, **“I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.”** What a privilege to be given a man? This is what I call the cosmic introduction. Jesus holds your hands and introduces you to the Father himself and to the angels, because you mastered the bloody overwhelming life of the Christ. As you can see, the book of Revelation is truly a revelation of Jesus Christ.

Philadelphia is the sixth ascent of the overcomer's walk.

6. Philadelphia

*And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith **he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth** (Revelation 3:7)*

The name Philadelphia means “the love of the brethren”. Love is the ground of all things. It doesn't matter how much you ascend in God, if you lack love, you are nothing. For all your works that you accomplish in Christ, you have to be grounded in love. It is when you have this love that you can shut and no man can open and you can open and no man can shut because Jesus gives you the key of David to possess.

Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. (Revelation 3:12)

For all your works that you accomplish in Christ, you have to be grounded in love.

Something very interesting is said to the overcomer in the sixth ascent. To begin with, he is made a pillar in the temple of God, and then the name of God is inscribed on him, the name of the city and Jesus' new name is also written on him. The question to ask is this: wasn't the overcomer at the third ascent given a white stone and new name? Why then is he given another name here? I say again, the more you plunge into God, the more you discover you have not gotten

anywhere. The more you know God, the more you begin to wonder in yourself the real identity you carry because in yourself, you know you came from him so you begin to discover yourself in him. Remarkably, this new name that the overcomer is given is Jesus' new name. Yet, in Philippians 2:9-11, the scripture said concerning Jesus,

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The scripture emphatically said that Jesus was given a name which is above every other name. However, as we read on, Jesus says that I have a new name, and this new name is not Jesus. Church folks know him as Jesus but his present name is not Jesus. The name "Jesus" was what Angel Gabriel declared to Mary, as speaking of him to carry out a saving work. That work is finished. Now, he has a new assignment which befits a new name. Graciously, this new name is written on the overcomer, and not just that but God's name as well. Please, let me ask you a question: if there is a certain name written on me and you want to call me, what will you call me by? The obvious answer is that you will call me by that name. That is to say, the overcomer at the sixth ascent will be called by the name of God; when you mention God's name, the overcomer will answer you and ask, "What can I do for you?" When you scream Jesus' new name, the overcomer, will answer you. At this point, he is approaching what I call the son of his name, where he has become a matured son who can perform the duties of the Father.

The overcomer at the sixth ascent will be called by the name of God

The Name of God

The name which precisely expresses the self-revelation of God in the Bible is comprised of the Hebrew letters "Yod Hey Vav Hey" as it is written out in English as "YHVH". This designation should not be misconstrued as a word; inasmuch as it rightly represents a tetragrammaton.

This revelation of God concerning his name was made plain to Moses at the back side of the desert on Mount Horeb when God appeared to him in a burning bush. It was at this point that God revealed his name by which he was in

covenant with man, which is Yahweh or Yehowah, which is a derivative of the *Yod Hey Vav Hey*. This tetragrammaton condenses in one, the three Hebrew forms of the verb “to be”, suggesting the timeless source of all being. We see this clearly in Moses’s discourse with God on Mount Horeb:

Then Moses said to God, “Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, ‘What is His name?’ what shall I say to them?” And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” Moreover God said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. THIS IS MY NAME FOREVER, AND THIS IS MY MEMORIAL TO ALL GENERATIONS.’” (Exodus 3:13-15)

Subsequently, God said to Moses,

And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the LORD: And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them. (Exodus 6:2-3)

God emphatically made it clear to Moses that he was not known by the Patriarchs by his name Jehovah, or well put, though he was the I AM or Jehovah inherently, he was not in relationship with them as Jehovah. In the creation account, God was predominantly named under the designation, “Elohim”. However, for the new work he was about to accomplish, he could not do it under the designation “Elohim” or “El Shaddai” but as YHVH, the reason being that all things bear the signature of the tetragrammaton.

This tetragrammaton was so sacred in the eyes of the children of Israel that when the scribes were scripting the Torah, each time they get to a place where they have to write the name YHVH, they had to pause their writing and perform a ritual ablution for each of the letters of the tetragrammaton to be written. That is to say, to write YHVH, they had to perform ablution four times, and for each time the name appeared in the Torah, this ritual was followed. Thus, in order to make things simple for themselves, instead of pronouncing the name YHVH or writing it, they chose to say “*Ha Shem*” which simply means “The Name”, because they understood the import of the name YHVH.

Believers of today think this sacredness attached to the Yod Hey Vav Hey is no more necessary because of the New Covenant. To think that way however is to make a very big mistake because there are certain places in the kingdom you cannot access unless by the name YHVH or YEHOVAH or YAWEH or YAH. There are certain wonders God will not perform unless you engage his name YHVH.

The Psalmist said concerning this name,

Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him. (Psalms 68:4)

There are certain places in the kingdom you cannot access unless by the name YHVH or YEHOVAH or YAWEH or YAH.

God rides upon the heavens by no other name but by the name JAH. That is to say, God's transport system in heaven is by the name JAH. Thus, it is expedient for the cherubs, who are the divine transportation medium of the heavenlies to respond to you when you engage the name JAH. To command cherubic attention, you have to have a proper understanding of the name YHVH. I have spoken on this at length in my second volume of this book on meditation.

Even the name of Jesus inherently is derived from the tetragrammaton, *Yod Hey Vav Hey*. The name Jesus in the Hebrew language is “*Yehoshua*”, and it is only an additional “*Shin*” to the “*Yod Hey Vav Hey*” – that is “*Yod Hey Shin Vav Hey*.” Don't forget that this is the name that God said will be a memorial to all generations, “**...this is my name forever, and this is my memorial to all generation**” Thus, even the name Jesus had to be dependent on “The Name”.

Now, the Bible says that the name of God shall be written on the overcomer; “**... I will write upon him the name of my God...**” What is this name that shall be written on the overcomer? It is God's name which is his memorial to all generations, “*Yod Hey Vav Hey*”. Imagine the privilege you have as a believer to be marked by the name “*Yod Hey Vav Hey*”. Concerning the 144,000 company in Revelation 14, the word of God says,

And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, HAVING HIS FATHER'S NAME WRITTEN IN THEIR FOREHEADS. (Revelation 14:1)

Interestingly, this 144,000 company had the Father's name written in their forehead. That is the seal with which the overcomer's company in Revelation chapter seven was sealed in order not to be hurt by the woes of the earth –

*Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, **till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads** . And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and **there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.** (Revelation 7:3-4)*

So, the overcomer at Philadelphia, who is grounded in love, has the Father's name inscribed on his forehead, then he has the new name of Jesus also inscribed in him. By this, he becomes a pillar in the temple of God which has to do with the priesthood, because he is grounded in love.
The Pillar in the Temple of God

Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. (Revelation 3:12)

To be a pillar in the temple of God is to be a priest in the temple and never go out. God emphatically commanded Moses,

*...”Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: ‘None shall defile himself for the dead among his people...’ **NOR SHALL HE GO OUT OF THE SANCTUARY, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the LORD.*** (Leviticus 21:1, 12)

To be a pillar in the temple of God is to be a priest in the temple and never go out

Jesus said to the overcomer in Philadelphia, “ ***Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and HE SHALL GO NO MORE OUT...***”

According to the commandment of God to Moses, the priests were not to go out of the sanctuary because the consecration of the anointing oil was upon them. Thus, for the overcomer to be made a pillar, it is simply a conferment of priesthood. You cannot ascend to the sixth level of the ascents of the overcomer if you do not concern yourself with the matters of the priesthood. The work of the priesthood cannot be carried out without love, because it has to do with service to God and to the people. Just like a pillar that makes a house to stand,

love is the force that creates harmony in the creation; it puts the creation in balance. The overcomer in Philadelphia understands that the principle of balance is to be grounded in love.

7. Laodicea

*And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; **These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God.*** (Revelation 3:14)

Laodicea means the “right of the people”. It comes from two Greek words; “Laos” and “Dikea” . “Laos” means people and “dikea” means right. It is in this that we see the greatest challenge of the Church in allowing the people to direct the Church and not the Spirit of God. At this ascent, the believer must have come to a place where all that he does is directed by the Spirit of God. This is the place of the adoption of sons.

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. (Romans 8:14)

To the overcomer at the seventh ascent, Jesus said,

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. (Revelation 3:21)

This is the highest ascent of the overcomer and the promise is simple – “*you will sit in my throne*” . This is the greatest honour that a man can be given in the universe of God. Being given the right to eat of the tree of life is wonderful. Being given immunity of the second death is awesome. Eating of that precious hidden manna is sacred. Being made a morning star is all the more glorious. Being made a pillar in the temple of God is refreshing. Receiving the privilege of a cosmic introduction is invigorating, and yet, nothing surpasses the power to sit in the throne of God because he gives you right over his people.

He that sits on the throne becomes a Pantocrator of a universe of God. He becomes the icon of that universe; the source of that creation, the potentate of that realm, a king of the King of kings and a lord of the Lord of lords, though he himself would have derived his source from God, yet in this state one does not just possess derived power but inherent power, just as God. This may sound blasphemous in somebody’s ears but Revelation 21:7 says that,

He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

All things! How many things are there? - Seven heights! At the point when the believer has inherited all things, that is when he becomes the consummate overcomer. The Greek word translated as son in the verse above is “*huios*” and denotes a matured son, or an adopted son. The adoption of sons rendered in the Greek as “*huiothesia*” is what I am speaking of here. The vastness and complexity of this subject matter will not permit me to delve into it comprehensively here - I have done that in my book on ***Fatherhood and Sonship***. However, to scratch it, Paul, the apostle says that,

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. (Romans 8:14)

The kind of son that Paul is speaking of here is the “*huios*” of God. This son has matured to inherit all that the father has and is. He becomes exactly as the father in nature and function. He is led by the spirit through the seven ascents to the throne. Galatians 4:1-2 says that,

Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. (Galatians 4:1-2)

As long as the son is not matured, he cannot have the possession of the father, though it rightly belongs to him. That is the same way the believer must allow the Holy Spirit (the tutor) to take him through the seven ascents to inherit all things which means inheriting God. Inheriting God may sound farfetched to some ears but the apostle, Paul, says that,

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. (Romans 8:16-17)

The Spirit Himself [thus] testifies together with our own spirit, [assuring us] that we are children of God. And if we are [His] children, then we are [His] heirs also: heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ [sharing His inheritance with Him]; only we must share His suffering if we are to share His glory. (Romans 8:16-17, AMP).

The overcomer at the seventh ascent inherits God and rules with God by a joint-sitting from the throne of the Lamb.

He that sits on the throne becomes a Pantocrator of a universe of God. He becomes the icon of that universe; the source of that creation, the potentate of that realm, a king of the King of kings and a lord of the Lord of lords, though he himself would have derived his source from God, yet in this state one does not just possess derived power but inherent power, just as God
The Seven Ascents

CHURCH	JESUS' DESCRIPTION	THE WALK OF THE OVERCOMER
Ephesus: <i>To be Permitted</i>	He holds the seven stars. He walks in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks.	You must eat the twelve variety of fruits of the tree of Life, to attain the fullness of Life.
Smyrna: <i>Bitterness</i>	The First and the Last. He was dead and is alive.	You must go through the bitterness of death in tribulation: You must go through the trial of fire, to prove your divine life: You receive a crown of Life as proof of the mastery of Life.
Pergamos: <i>To be married or the heights of elevation</i>	He has a sharp two-edged sword	You master Life by eating the Bread of Life, which is the hidden manna: You receive a white stone, which is your enfranchisement in the courts of heaven
Thyatira: <i>Odour of Affliction</i>	He is the Son of God with his eyes as flames of fire and his feet like fine brass	You must do Pastoral work to be given the Rod of Iron: You receive principal rulership as a Morning Star
Sardis: <i>Red ones or the Bloody ones</i>	He has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.	You enroll in heaven's army by the vesture of a white raiment: Your name is registered in the Lamb's book of life by righteous works: You receive a cosmic introduction before the father and his angels.
Philadelphia: <i>The Love of the Brethren</i>	He is holy and true. He has the key of David. He opens and no man shuts, and he shuts and no man opens.	You abide as a pillar in the temple of God, in priestly ministration: You loose your identity to take on the name of God and the new name of Jesus: You become the New Jerusalem in its fullness.
Laodicea: <i>The people's Right</i>	The Amen, the Faithful and True witness. The Beginning of the creation of God.	You are completely led by the Spirit of God: You come to the maturity of the adoption of sons to sit in the throne.

This is what Christ as wisdom can accomplish in a man when he sells himself over to it. The man who sells himself over to wisdom becomes the icon of the universe and the envy of the ages. At this point, you do not need me to mention

again that wisdom is not the application of knowledge. Wisdom is the force that carries us through these heights to finally sit in the throne of God with Jesus. It would simply be impossible for you to ascend these heights if you do not do a searching of your inward parts where the kingdom dwells to know that which God has written concerning you in the volume of the book. For your information, this book is written within and in your heart. It is not an external book, it is internal. For you to read this book, you have to look within.

The man who sells himself over to wisdom becomes the icon of the universe, the envy of the ages.

Chapter 15: **THE SIXTH PILLAR; THE WISDOM OF THE GLORIOUS CHURCH—THE CULMINATIVE WISDOM OF THE OVERCOMERS**

That he might present it to himself a Glorious Church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.
(Ephesians 5:27)

C

Contrary to the belief of many people, the Church is not the same as the Glorious Church. That you are in the Church and you are displaying the wisdom of the Church does not mean you

are automatically a part of the Glorious Church. Every new creation in Christ is a part of the Church, however not every new creation is a part of the Glorious Church. It takes growth and perfection to be counted as a part of the Glorious Church. According to Ephesians 5:27, as long as you have a spot, blemish or wrinkle, you cannot be counted as part of the Glorious Church, and yet, there is a certain wisdom that only the Glorious Church can display.

That you are in the Church and you are displaying the wisdom of the Church does not mean you are automatically a part of the Glorious Church

A spot speaks of a typical disease, a blemish speaks of the loss of a body part and wrinkle speaks of the loss of the vitality of life.
In Ephesians 4:11-13, we read that,

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and

some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ

The purpose for which Jesus gave the fivefold ministry to the Church was to perfect or to mature the saints until we become a “perfect man” unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. The fullness of Christ is that which every believer should seek. The place of the Glorious Church is the place of absolute radiance and chastity. Imagine a being in the universe without error. That is the Glorious Church. You will realize that at almost all the seven levels of overcoming, Jesus still had issues with the Church. Only the Church of Smyrna and Philadelphia received commendations without chastisement. These are the two witnesses. They are the two olive trees spoken of in Zechariah 4:2-3

And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof: And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof.

The place of the Glorious Church is the place of absolute radiance and chastity

And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves? And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth. (Zechariah 4:12-14)

The Hebrew rendering for the term anointed ones is “sons of oil”. Thus the two anointed ones are the two sons of oil. These are without spot, blemish or wrinkle. They have oil for light.

In your walk of faith as an overcomer, certain seasons of your life will run smoothly; without any chiding from Jesus. At this point, Jesus comes to you to commend you and not to chide you. Yet as you proceed, he shows up and points the flaws in your life that you have to handle. You can get to Smyrna and want to stay there forever because it is a spot of no chiding. However, there are higher heights you must ascend. The same applies to Philadelphia. Nonetheless, you

must learn to forget both the victories and the failures and strive for higher heights. Many believers, when they experience a certain victory in life, forget themselves and plateau. However, God has never intended for any man to plateau. Even at the highest height, there are things God still wants you to work on. Ultimately when you have sat on the throne, you are now about to begin your administrative work as a ruler and this comes with many universal challenges.

*And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof ... **And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth** , neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life. (Revelation 21:23, 27)*

Remember that to be of the Glorious Church, you must have your name written in the Lamb's book of life and you must not have any spot, blemish or wrinkle that defiles.

Many believers, when they experience a certain victory in life, forget themselves and plateau.

However, God has never intended for any man to plateau.

Spots, Wrinkles and Blemishes

What then are spots, wrinkles and blemishes? Predominantly, whenever the Bible speaks about spots, wrinkles and blemishes, majority of believers think they refer to sin or tainted garments. Yet, a critical and holistic study of the Bible proves otherwise.

These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots. (Jude 1:12)

Though generically, the term spots and wrinkles are used in reference to garments, a good study of the word shows that they are actually men. However, since a term that relates to garments was used to refer to men, it communicates a lot. The scripture we just read affirms that spots are men: **“these are spots in your feasts of charity...”** So since spots are men, what kind of men in the body of Christ are referred to as spots? – What will a man do to be categorized as a spot and be excluded from the Glorious Church?

Spots

Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

THESE ARE SPOTS IN YOUR FEASTS OF CHARITY... (Jude 1:11-12)

Thus, evidently, spots are those who have

- Gone in the Way of Cain
- Run Greedily After the Error of Balaam
- Perished in the Gainsaying of Korah.

You have to understand what these things are so that when you have ridded yourself of them, you will display the wisdom of the Glorious Church. Certain expressions and dealings that many believers are involved in are not from the fount of wisdom within. Many live their lives without the understanding that what they do in the Church today has eternal consequences in terms of their ranks in the kingdom. Explicitly, we have seen ***that the righteous acts of the saints become their garments in the heavenly body.***

In Genesis chapter four, Cain chose to offer to God that which was not ordained. Even though God was his object of worship, the manner in which he went about his worship was not the ordinance of God. Scripture recounts,

*And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. **And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect.** And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? (Genesis 4:3-6).*

That which God sought was a blood sacrifice and yet, Cain had brought an offering of fruits. God said to him,

If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. (Genesis 4:7)

Unfortunately, many believers in the Church are doing many things that are not ordained of God. Certain celebrations and feasts that many believers involve themselves in are in stark contrast to the ordinances of God. These men are spots in our feast of love. Actually, what Cain did is what the Bible refers to as will

worship, and sadly, the worship of most believers is will worship. Colossians 2:23 says;

Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.

Even though will worship looks reasonable and has a show of wisdom, so far as God did not ask for it, it is worthless and will amount to nothing, no matter how justifiable the cause may be. Many believers under the guise of religiosity have blindly followed practices of their churches without questioning the roots of such practices. They follow these practices because they came to meet them without checking with the scriptures whether these things are so. This was the issue that Jesus had with the Church of Thyatira,

Notwithstanding 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. (Revelation 2:20)

This Church allowed a woman who calls herself a prophetess to corrupt their way of worship. That she called herself a prophetess simply means that we are dealing with a religious personality. These are they who in the name of titles and positions infiltrate the Church with false doctrines and teach the saints idolatrous things in the name of worship. A perfect example of this is the celebration of Christmas. This is a spot in the Church and does not proceed from the fount of wisdom. In the name of celebrating the birth of Jesus, believers end up in will worship; doing things which are not ordained or even requested for by God, and end up eating things sacrificed to idols. This is the way of Cain. Any believer who goes after this path is not ready to be counted among the Glorious Church. I have written on the subject of Christmas, in several editions of my monthly newsletter; *The Shofar*.

Even though will worship looks reasonable and has a show of wisdom, so far as God did not ask for it, it is worthless and will amount

to nothing, no matter how justifiable the cause may be.

Moreover, the one who runs greedily after the error of Balaam is the one who uses God's name as a means to make money for himself. Such people have only one focus for which they do the work of the ministry; money. Despite the fact

that money is a defence and is needful, when that becomes the sole objective of your life and ministry, you have run into the error of Balaam. Peter, the apostle says,

Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness (2 Peter 2:15).

It is so sad that many a people begin so well in standing only for the truth, but with time, throw in the towel and embrace all kinds of lies because of the wages of unrighteousness. Such people are said to run greedily after the error of Balaam and are thus spots in the Church.

Then there are those who go after the gainsaying of Korah. These are men who do not recognize God's ordained authority over them. The Bible says that,

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. (Romans 13:1)

These spots are not subject to the higher powers. They defy the anointing of God on the life of the vessel chosen to lead God's people, just like Korah and his company defied Moses's authority (Numbers 16:1-3). The consequence of Korah's disobedience was that the earth opened up and swallowed him, and his entire household. There are many believers walking about who say just anything against any man of God. They have no fear in their hearts for people who bear the scepter of God. Please understand that it is a very dangerous, thing to attribute the works of a true man of God to the flesh or to an evil spirit. It is counted as blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. This is seen in Matthew 12:24-25, 31 when the Pharisees attributed the works of Jesus to an evil spirit –

But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils. And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand... Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.

It is a very dangerous, thing to attribute the works of a true man of God to the flesh or to an evil spirit.

Wrinkles

The other class of men who do not display the wisdom of the Glorious Church are wrinkles. The presence of wrinkles in a believer's life produces leanness in his life. Job 16:8 says,

And thou hast filled me with wrinkles, which is a witness against me: and my leanness rising up in me beareth witness to my face.

The Psalmist, speaking on this matter, said,

*And he saved them from the hand of him that hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy. And the waters covered their enemies: there was not one of them left. Then believed they his words; they sang his praise. They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel: But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert. **And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.*** (Psalm 106:10-15)

Whenever the people in a church compel a man of God to give them their request rather than what God has instructed him to do, such a church is full of leanness resulting from the presence of wrinkles. Those who have the heart of the Father and are given to his instructions are the ones who have ridded themselves of wrinkles.

Whenever the people in a church compel a man of God to give them their request rather than what God has instructed him to do, such a church is full of leanness resulting from the

presence of wrinkles.

Blemishes

The word of God elaborates what blemishes are extensively in Leviticus 21:17-20:

*Speak unto Aaron, saying, Whosoever he be of thy seed in their generations that hath any blemish, let him not approach to offer the bread of his God. For whatsoever man he be that hath a blemish, he shall not approach: **a blind man, or a lame, or he that hath a flat nose, or any thing superfluous, Or a man that is broken footed, or broken handed, Or crookback, or a dwarf, or that hath a blemish in his eye, or be scurvy, or scabbed, or hath his stones broken***

All these defects constitute blemishes in the Church. To be blind is to lack insight into the word of God. Peter, the apostle, admonishes the Church to add

virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and charity to their faith. It is the lack of these things that makes a man blind in the Church;

But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. (2 Peter 1:9)

The lame man is one who has an imbalance in his ways and not forthright in his thoughts. Such people say one thing but do another. The lame is one who is only interested in saying words of adulation and devotion to God and the people of God. His heart however is very far away from the words he has uttered. People of such a caliber are blemishes in the Church.

This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. (Matthew 15:8).

A flat-nosed person on the other hand is one who though very religious, has no spiritual discernment. To be superfluous is to have excessive parts. Thus, to be superfluous in any part of the body is to have a part of that body developing beyond what is deemed normal.

And there was war again with the Philistines; and Elhanan the son of Jair slew Lahmi the brother of Goliath the Gittite, whose spear staff was like a weaver's beam. And yet again there was war at Gath, where was a man of great stature, whose fingers and toes were four and twenty, six on each hand, and six on each foot: and he also was the son of the giant. (1 Chronicles 20:5).

Just like the son of the giant, there are some people in the church who have also developed superfluous body parts which need to be trimmed to usher the Church into glory.

Furthermore, the one with a broken foot is one that cannot be depended upon or relied upon in times of trouble. This was Solomon's understanding when he declared in Proverbs 25:19:

Putting confidence in an unreliable man is like chewing with a sore tooth, or trying to run on a broken foot. (TLB).

The hands speak of the effect you produce in the things of God by reason of the Word. To have a broken hand therefore means to be the one that handles the

word of God deceitfully. Concerning such people, the Apostle Paul, said,

*But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, **not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.** (2 Corinthians 4:2).*

Additionally, to have a crooked back is to have a weight that serves as a hindrance in your walk with God. Anything that does not allow you to realize your full potential in God or self-actualize in the spirit is a weight, and this is also a blemish. The believer is thus admonished,

*Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us** (Hebrews 12:1).*

A dwarf is one who is perfect in form, but falls below the standard height. Thus, believers who are dwarves are those who seem to be growing but never reach the standard. Such a trait is also a blemish and must be dealt with in the Church. The one with the blemish of scurvy is one who does not feed on a balanced meal of the word of God. Moreover, the one who is scabbed is the one who has lost or is losing his hair. In the scriptures, hair speaks of a covering, so the one who is scabbed is the one who has lost his covering. He has no mother or father in the Lord who shields him in the spirit.

But God will wound the head of His enemies, The hairy scalp of the one who still goes on in His trespasses. (Psalms 68:21, NKJV)

The worst part of it all is to have broken stones, which means damaged testicles. Anyone who has been castrated is one who lacks the ability to reproduce. Thus, he does not bear fruits in Christ. Yet, the wisdom of the Glorious Church is to bear fruits and receive corresponding rewards for them.

The Measure of the Stature of the Fullness of Christ

We are to mature in Christ and come to that place of fullness to the order of the perfect man. This is what I mean: in the Old Testament, the priestly garment of Aaron was sown such that it was to fit him perfectly. Even though the grounds on which Aaron stood were holy grounds, the garment was not to rub the floor else, it would be defiled. Additionally, the garments were not supposed to reveal

his nakedness; that one would also defile him. Accordingly, the height of Aaron was used as the standard measurement for the garments.

And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach: And they shall be upon Aaron, and upon his sons, when they come in unto the tabernacle of the congregation, or when they come near unto the altar to minister in the holy place; that they bear not iniquity, and die: it shall be a statute for ever unto him and his seed after him. (Exodus 28:42-43)

As a matter of fact, the things of the holy place were so sacred that the priest was not even supposed to sweat there.

They shall have linen bonnets upon their heads, and shall have linen breeches upon their loins; they shall not gird themselves with any thing that causeth sweat. (Ezekiel 44:18)

When Aaron died and his son Eleazer was to step into his shoes, he was not supposed to be taller, shorter or fatter than Aaron else, the garments would be defiled. If he were taller, his nakedness would be exposed and if he were shorter, the garment would rub the floor, if he were fatter, he will not fit in. He had to be in the perfect stature. In this same manner, Christ is the standard of measurement in the faith. The scripture declares that till we come to ***the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ***. Christ is the garment that every believer must be attired with, and you must fit perfectly in the measure of that garment. Knowing this, Paul says,

*That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, **May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.*** (Ephesians 3:17-19)

When Aaron died and his son Eleazer was to step into his shoes, he was not supposed to be taller, shorter or fatter than Aaron else, the garments would be defiled.

In the searching of Christ, there is the breadth, depth, height and length. A believer must know the love of Christ in all these dimensions in order to be filled with all the fullness of God, and that is Christ. Accordingly, Paul, the apostle,

said in Romans 13:14 and Galatians 3:27,

But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Beloved, you are to put on Christ as a garment. For many, only a small portion of this garment has been sown; they are walking about in the spiritual realm half naked. Imagine how strange it is for one to wear only a shirt without a trouser and walk through town. Yet, this is the estate of many believers in the spirit realm. That is why Jesus admonished the Church in Laodicea in Revelation 3:17-18,

*Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, **and NAKED**: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; **and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear**; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.*

Take note that Jesus was not talking to unbelievers here; he was referring to the Church. Yet, right in the midst of the Church, some were blind and naked. That you are in the Church and you are unclothed is a lack of wisdom.

The Bible recounts the parable of five wise virgins and the five foolish virgins. The story is told of how the five foolish virgins forgot to carry extra oil for their lamps during a wedding ceremony. Thus, when the Bridegroom arrived, they were shut behind the door because they had gone in search of extra oil (Matthew 25:1-13). These are believers who do not know how to knock. They have not made their calling and election sure by sowing for themselves bridal garments. Thus, they cannot be a part of the wedding supper of the Lamb, just like the man in Matthew 22:11-14:

*And when the king came in to see the guests, **he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment**: And he saith unto him, **Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment?** And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, **Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.***

To be void of wedding garments is a blemish. It will land you in outer darkness, which corresponds to the camp of the saints. Be wise! Take for yourself, extra oil.

Chapter 16: **THE SEVENTH PILLAR; THE WISDOM OF THE AGES/ UNSEARCHABLE WISDOM**

U

nder the seventh pillar of wisdom, we are only allowed to taste of the realm of those riches. We may not be able to articulate or put into writing, the fullness of the measure of that wisdom.

That wisdom is the power of the ages to come, spoken of by Paul, the apostle, in Hebrews 6:4-6;

*For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, **and the powers of the world to come**, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.*

In looking through the five advanced teachings of Christ, the apex of the course outline is the “powers of the ages to come”. The courses that leads to the apex include:

- Enlightenment
- Tasting the Heavenly Gift
- Partaking of the Holy Ghost
- Tasting of the Good Word of God
- Tasting of the Powers of the age to come

It is this power of the ages to come, whereof we are permitted to taste in our advanced experience of the doctrine of Christ that Paul says is the Unsearchable Riches of Grace. Remember that Christ is our wisdom. In that wisdom school called Christ, the advanced course is the “powers of the ages to come”.

Under the seventh pillar of wisdom, we are only allowed to taste of the realm of those riches.

These “unsearchable riches of grace” are also called the “unsearchable riches of both wisdom and of the knowledge of God”. This realm of wisdom is untouchable by the flesh. It is outrightly packaged in the spirit for those who seek it. The experience here is extremely esoteric, and not tainted with mundane flesh.

In this place, John was told not to pen down the revelation but rather to seal it. The unfathomable expanse of the revealed word of wisdom lies in the thunderous realm of God’s majesty and dominion. This is the realm of the seven thunders.

The Seven Thunders

AND CRIED WITH A LOUD VOICE, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, SEVEN THUNDERS UTTERED THEIR VOICES. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not. (Revelation 10:3-4)

The seven thunders uttered their voices, in the realm of the seventh pillar of wisdom. Herein exists the wisdom which is the intertwining of the seven-folded mystery of the golden cord that ties all things to the unseen realm of God’s unspoken dwellings. This wisdom in the seven thunders is known but words on earth cannot fully express it. Its very sound and exhibit are in acts of power which cannot be explained by science yet the experience is so real and undeniable. The only limitation is that no empirical evidence or explanation could be given or assigned to the glaring outcome or influence that realm has on the earthly plane.

The seven thunders uttered their voices, in the realm of the seventh pillar of wisdom. Herein exists the wisdom which is the intertwining of the seven-folded mystery of the golden cord that ties all things to the unseen realm of God’s unspoken dwellings.

The revelation of the seven thunders is scratched on the surface by David when he wrote Psalms 29:3-10, where we see God thundering upon the waters of humanity:

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the

LORD is upon many waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon. He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn. The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire. The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory. The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever. (Psalms 29:3-10)

In the verse three, David writes on the exposition of what it means when the God of glory thunders.

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters. (Psalms 29:3)

Take a keen note of the usage of the colons in the verse. Anytime a colon is used, it simply means the latter statement could directly replace the former statement and it would still make the same meaning. Thus, in carefully dissecting the verse above, we have:

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: (which also means) the God of glory thundereth: (which also means) the LORD is upon many waters.

Thus, the revelation of the seven thunders is the means by which God sits as King on the flood of humanity, with a thundering voice, because “many waters” in Scripture signifies people of all tribes, tongues and ethnicity according to Revelation 17:15:

And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

The thundering voice of God simply shows that God rules over all peoples, tongues and tribes. The thundering of God in the Bible is understood as the release and the sounding of the voice of God. Psalms 18:13 says that'

THE LORD ALSO THUNDERED IN THE HEAVENS, AND THE HIGHEST GAVE HIS VOICE; hail stones and coals of fire.

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Thus, thunder represents the voice of God as it resounds. When God’s voice is reechoed to the creation, it is heard in thunderous proportion. The New International Version of Psalms 18:13 emphatically says that,

The Lord thundered from heaven; the voice of the Most High resounded.

It is no wonder then that when God spoke in John 12:28-30, some claimed that it thundered;

Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him. Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes.

The voice of God from heaven was heard as thunder. Even though Jesus heard the clarity and detail of the voice, the people around him heard it as thunder. This lets us know that the thundering of God from heaven is the resounding of his voice, however, the thunder must be decrypted to be able to tell its details. Sometimes when God speaks, it is echoed to the creation in thunderous decibels. Thus his voice is heard twice even though he speaks once. In Psalms 62:11, Scripture asserts,

God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God.

God spoke once but the Psalmist heard it twice. This is the voice of the Most High that resounds and is heard as thunder. Hence, in Revelation 10:3, when God cried out, it was heard as seven thunders.

And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

The single voice released by God was resounded as seven thunders. The seven thunders thus is a reechoing of God’s voice.

The thundering of God from heaven is the resounding of his voice

As we study Psalms 29:3-10 meticulously, we see vividly that there are seven

distinctive expressions of the voice of the Lord which thunders upon the waters. The dissection and deliberation of the details of each thundering voice is what ushers us into the mystery of the voice of God which is uttered in the seventh pillar and house of wisdom. Yet, you must appreciate that whatever is revealed concerning the seven thunders is only a tip of the iceberg since no human words can actually express its wonders. It is for this reason that John, the apostle, was instructed not to pen down the details of the seven thunders.

And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not. (Revelation 10:4)

Nevertheless, to help you catch a glimpse of it, I, under spiritual awe and reverential fear, intend to reveal my insight into the seven thunders slightly, as can be seen in Psalm 29. They are revealed as:

1. THE VOICE OF THE LORD UPON THE WATERS ***The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters.*** (Psalms 29:3)

2. THE VOICE OF POWER
The voice of the LORD is powerful... (Psalms 29:4)

3. THE VOICE OF MAJESTY
...the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. (Psalms 29:4)

4. THE VOICE OF BREAKINGS
The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon... (Psalms 29:5)

5. THE VOICE OF FIRE
The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire. (Psalms 29:7)

6. THE VOICE OF SHAKINGS
The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh. (Psalms 29:8)

7. THE VOICE OF GESTATION AND DISCOVERY ***The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory.*** (Psalms 29:9)

Now watch something: right after the Psalmist had enumerated all these, he went straight forward to assert;

The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever. (Psalms 29:10)

He straightaway, returned to where he began from, which is the sitting Lord upon the flood, which accentuates him as the King forever over all peoples and over all creation. What does this mean? The thundering voice of the God of Glory is an amalgamation and a culmination of all the secrets of the seven thunders. Consequently, any time one comes across the thundering voice of God in Scripture, one's mind should quickly incline itself to these seven major things: (the voice of the God of Glory; the voice of Power; the voice of Majesty; the voice of Breakings; the voice of the Parting flames; the voice of Shakings; the voice of Gestation and Discovery.) The working of these seven distinct yarns and yet intertwined voices results in Strength, Blessings and Peace.

The LORD will give STRENGTH unto his people; the LORD will BLESS his people with PEACE.
(Psalms 29:11).

That is to say, the working of the seven thunders makes the people of God strong and gives them rulership in the earth. It also gives unto them, blessings and peace.

Decrypting the Seven Thunders

As we focus our attention on the seven thunders, I sense deeply, a need to delve into the very intricacies of the nature of the emanation of the thundering of God.

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and A RAINBOW WAS UPON HIS HEAD, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: AND WHEN HE HAD CRIED, SEVEN THUNDERS UTTERED THEIR VOICES. (Revelation 10:1-3).

By reading the entire passage above, we perceive that prior to the utterance of the voices of the seven thunders, a very striking personality was described, whose face shone as the sun, in addition to many other qualities. However, what

is most fascinating about this being is that he was clothed with a cloud and had a rainbow upon his head. Knowing the means by which rainbows are formed according to science, it behooves us to understand that the rainbow upon the head of the glorious being (who I believe is Jesus) is an emanation from his body through the prism of the cloud he was clothed with. This is because there is never a rainbow unless there is the presence of a light emitting body emitting light through a prism of water droplets or a cloud.

To understand the seven thunders intricately, there is the need to appreciate its underlying work that produces the seven coloured spectrum of the rainbow. It is on this premise that we come to terms with the very foundations of creation since that which was first released during the creation of the universe was sound. I have already mentioned in chapter eight that when God set out to create the universe, he first released a sound, according to Genesis 1:3:

AND GOD SAID, *Let there be light: and there was light.*

Thus, sound is a very cardinal thing when it comes to the emanations of God. The vibration of sound had such cardinal role in the ancient mind that its nature was associated to that of the universe itself. As a matter of fact, we have a testimony of this in the development of the human foetus: the first sensory experience of perception during the development of the human foetus has to do with sound.

The Mystic Creative Ability of the Sound of the Shofar The revelation of the creative ability of sound is made plain in the Jewish celebration of the feast of Rosh ha Shanah, which marks the head of the year. An in-depth understanding of the mystery behind this great feast gives the believer the advantage to partake in the creative work of the Godhead and the added advantage again, to reconstruct and to make pleadings in the courts of heaven.

Rosh ha Shanah is a Hebrew feast which literally means the “head of the year”. “*Rosh*” means “head”, “*ha*” means “the” and “*Shanah*” means “year”. This feast is celebrated on the first day of the seventh month; Tishrei, and it was marked by the blowing of trumpets:

*And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, **Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, A MEMORIAL OF BLOWING OF TRUMPETS, an holy***

convocation. *Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD.* (Leviticus 23:23-25)

Tishrei is the seventh month on the Jewish religious or ecclesiastical calendar, however, it is the first month on the Jewish civil calendar. Nissan is the first month on the Jewish religious calendar. On the fourteenth of Nissan, Scripture commands the children of Israel to slaughter a ram for the Passover sacrifice:

In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD'S passover.
(Leviticus 23:5)

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. (Exodus 12:5)

Thus, we see two beginnings here: the beginning of the Religious Calendar, which denotes Passover and the beginning of the Civil Calendar which denotes Rosh ha Shanah. While it is clear that the Mishnah discusses four new years of the Jews, it is not necessary for consideration in my discourse right now. That said, there is a very interesting connection between the beginning of the year at Passover and the head of the year at Rosh ha Shanah, which transcends us into the realm of the seven thunders. This connection is unlocked in the ram's horn, known as the *Shofar* in Hebrew.

As you read on, you will discover that there is a mystic secret encoded in the Shofar that makes it one of God's greatest tools for creation, because it is the tool with which God released the sound of creation from the realm of his eternal unspoken dwellings.

There is a very interesting connection between the beginning of the year at Passover and the head of the year at Rosh ha Shanah, which transcends us into the realm of the seven thunders. This connection is unlocked in the ram's horn, known as the Shofar in Hebrew.

At Passover, the emphasis was on the slain lamb. However, the mystery is unveiled when in the seventh month after the lamb had been slain, God's requirement was on the release of the sound by the ram's horn; the *Shofar* .

Take note that the very day of the declaration of the head of the year was also

known as “ *Yom Teruah* ” ; the Feast of Trumpets.

And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: IT IS A DAY OF BLOWING THE TRUMPETS UNTO YOU. (Numbers 29:1)

The trumpets that were to be blown at *Rosh Ha Shanah* , were made of the ram’s horn. This is what is interesting: every part of the lamb that was slain was consumed in the fire apart from its horns. The meat was eaten by the priests and the entrails were sacrificed to God,however,its horns were indestructible and were kept for higher spiritual purposes. Leviticus 3:3-5 declares,

From the fellowship offering he is to bring a sacrifice made to the Lord by fire: all the fat that covers the inner parts or is connected to them, both kidneys with the fat on them near the loins, and the covering of the liver, which he will remove with the kidneys. Then Aaron’s sons are to burn it on the altar on top of the burnt offering that is on the burning wood, as an offering made by fire, an aroma pleasing to the Lord. (NIV)

The priest shall burn the fat on the altar, but the breast belongs to Aaron and his sons. You are to give the right thigh of your fellowship offerings to the priest as a contribution. (Leviticus 7:31-32, NIV)

When we look to Jewish tradition, we will discover that the sages believe that the blower of the *Shofar* had to engage three elements or parameters to release the sound of the *Shofar* or to create the effect of the *Shofar* . First, they considered the consciousness with which the blower blew the *Shofar* . Secondly, they looked at the passage of wind in the trachea of the blower. Lastly, they were concerned also with the passage of wind through the *Shofar* itself. Accordingly, the effect that is created when the *Shofar* is blown is always different because of the differences in these three elements.

In the book of Genesis 1, this triad principle is brought into bear when we consider the Decalogue of God during the creation, in which he released ten utterances that brought the creation into being. A careful scrutiny of the creation account in Genesis chapter one shows that the phrase, “GOD SAID”, was used ten different times.

AND GOD SAID , Let there be light: and there was light... AND GOD SAID , Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters

*from the waters... **AND GOD SAID** , Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so... **AND GOD SAID** , Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind... **AND GOD SAID** , Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night... **AND GOD SAID** , Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven... **AND GOD SAID** , Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind... **AND GOD SAID**, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness... **AND GOD SAID** unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it... **AND GOD SAID** , Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. (Genesis 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26, 28, 29)*

On that premise, when it was *Rosh ha Shanah* , the children of Israel would release the sound of the Shofar a hundred times. Hundred speaks of the completeness of the first creation and the new creation. God spoke in the first creation ten times but he ceased from that creation on the seventh day and rested, and he began a new work which was the new creation.

Encapsulated in Adam is the entirety of the old creation. Nonetheless, before Adam became a living soul, God breathed into his nostrils, the breath of life;

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, AND BREATHED INTO HIS NOSTRILS THE BREATH OF LIFE; and man became a living soul. (Genesis 2:7)

Palpably, this breath went through God's trachea through Adam's trachea also known as the wind pipe and kicked his entire anthropological constitution into life. With this in view, let me mention that the shape of the wind pipe is just the same as that of the Shofar. Thus, the effect that can be produced with the Shofar can also be produced with your voice, in the creative dimension of breath. Without, the trachea, no man can speak, and it takes the release of voices or sound to create. Hence, in the ushering in of the new creation, Jesus appeared to his disciples after his resurrection and released the breath of life upon them; just the same way God did with Adam in the beginning.

And when he had said this, HE BREATHED ON THEM, and saith unto them,

Receive ye the Holy Ghost. (John 20:22)

The vitality of the new creation is according to the effective working of this breath of life released from the *Shofar* of God, and received through the *Shofar* of the new creation. Let us revisit the subject of the slain lamb, as I still try to make my point, and recognize that the indestructible horn of the lamb is a pair. The biblical evidence suggests that the entrails belong to God and the meat belongs to the priest. However, who do the horns belong to? While we are at it, let me suggest that the horns are a shared property of both God and the priests. Ultimately, we discover in the Word of God that God has a *Shofar* which he blows.

The shape of the wind pipe is just the same as that of the Shofar. Thus, the effect that can be produced with the Shofar can also be produced with your voice, in the creative dimension of breath.

*Mount Sinai was all smoke because God had come down on it as fire. Smoke poured from it like smoke from a furnace. The whole mountain shuddered in huge spasms. **The trumpet blasts grew louder and louder. Moses spoke and God answered in thunder.*** (Exodus 19:18-19, MSG)

The Hebrew rendition of the trumpet is Shofar, which is the ram's horn. As if this evidence were not enough to suggest that God employs the Shofar, Zechariah 9:14 declares that,

And the LORD shall be seen over them, and HIS ARROW SHALL GO FORTH AS THE LIGHTNING: AND THE LORD GOD SHALL BLOW THE TRUMPET, and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.

Can you see the Lord God himself seen over his people blowing his shofar? Accompanying this Shofar blast of God is visible light going forth as arrows. The visible appearance of light is always premised on an underlying vibration of sound at a high frequency. This conclusion is perfectly justifiable because in the verse above, it is revealed by the usage of the colon that the release of the trumpet sound of God is directly connected to the going forth of his arrows as lightning. Thus, at the beginning of the creation,

...GOD SAID, Let there be light: and there was light. (Genesis 1:3)

The release of the creative SOUND is what showed up as the visible manifestation of LIGHT.

What a wonderful discovery in the word as seen in 1 Thessalonians 4:16 that God has his Shofar called the TRUMP OF GOD which is the *Shofar* of God:

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, AND WITH THE TRUMP OF GOD: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. (1 Thessalonians 4:6)

While it is clear that light is glaring and flamboyant, it is nevertheless not the source of creation; sound is.

Permit me to be a little graphical in pointing out that the tip of the Shofar from which sound is released is shaped as a female vulva. This simply tells us that the Shofar itself is the womb of the creation; it is supposed to create and bring forth in cosmic proportions. Thus, the release of breath in consciousness to produce sound is the engagement of the womb of creation. That which will be birthed depends on the consciousness of the blower.

The release of breath in consciousness to produce sound is the engagement of the womb of creation.

The truth that the sound of the Shofar is related to creation cannot be denied because the testimony of the Word of God makes it more evident in the days when the children of Israel were in bondage in the land of Egypt. Scripture recounts that Pharaoh instructed the midwives to kill the male children (who carry seeds) when they were born:

And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was SHIPHRAH, and the name of the other Puah: And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.
(Exodus 1:15-16)

The fascinating thing about these midwives is that one of them was called “*Shiphrah*” . *Shiphrah* is Hebrew name which comes from the word “*shaphar*” from which we have the word “*Shofar*” . Scripture recounts that they had the fear of God in them and did not obey the King’s command thus preserved the seed. What is the work of a midwife? It is to aid the emergence of a new

creation. If the midwife is wicked, she will leave the baby in the birth canal to die. Thus, *Shiphrah* who was the *Shofar* stood at the birth canal and ensured that the creation was brought forth from the womb.

Thus, whenever it was time for the feast of Rosh ha Shanah or the feast of trumpets, the Rabbis in the nation of Israel who understood the mystery of the creative sound of the Shofar blew it one hundred and one times. In their consciousness the release of this sound is the same sound that was released on the day of the creation of the universe before there ever was light. This Shofar sound marks the memorial feast day of the creation of the world known as Rosh ha Shanah – The Feast of Trumpets.

The Mystery of Light and Sound

To delve a little into science, in the year 1905, Albert Einstein proved that we can break matter down into smaller components and that, when we do, we move beyond the material realm into a realm in which everything is energy. This is the Law of Vibration; a law of nature that states that “nothing rests; everything moves; everything vibrates;” the lower the frequency, the slower the vibration; the higher the frequency, the faster the vibration. Thus, the difference between the manifestations of the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual worlds results simply from different levels of vibrating energy, or frequencies. So, while the feelings of fear, grief and despair vibrate at a very low frequency, the feelings of love, joy and gratitude vibrate much quicker. (Frequencies, Law of Vibration; 2010).

Now, why did I have to delve into this? First of all, understand that the utterance of the voices of the seven thunders releases a certain vibrational frequency or energy that causes all things to emanate from the realm of God’s eternal unspoken dwellings into the material world. Thus, any man that can vibrate the same frequency that God vibrated during creation can cause the same effect that God caused. Thus, having a basic understanding of this, scientists and doctors employ the technology of vibration to cure all manner of sicknesses and diseases because to meddle with sound vibrations is to meddle with the force of creation itself.

Any man that can vibrate the same frequency that God vibrated during creation can cause the same effect that God caused

Yet, this is not what is most interesting. Although most frequencies exist outside of our normal range of perception, all frequencies however can be perceived as both colours and sounds. There are seven colours in a rainbow and seven notes in the musical scale. So the color blue, for instance, is also heard as the musical key of D, which vibrates at 587 Hz. Now, what is most interesting is that, if a sound frequency is vibrating fast enough, it is emitted as a color of Light. (The Great Shift: Co-Creating a New World for 2012 and Beyond, Weiser Books, 2009)

It has also been proven under experimental procedures that to convert sound to light, we would simply have to raise the frequency of that sound to or above forty octaves. This results in a wave vibration in the trillions of cycles per second. So, if a pianist could press a key forty octaves above keys that exist on our piano, that key would produce Light. He could thus create a chord of Light in the same way he creates a chord of sound, and it would be seen as colours of Light because it would be moving at the speed of Light though its source is sound. The philosophical and scientific basis for this Law of Vibration can be found in quantum physics and in Einstein's Theory of Relativity. Energy is related to Matter and the speed of Light according to Einstein's famous $E = mc^2$ equation. (Frequencies, Law of Vibration, 2010).

The reason I had to delve into this is that I want to prove that each colour of the rainbow you see is a vibration of a specific sound at a very high frequency. The release of the voices of the seven thunders at such a high frequency causes the dispersion of light into the seven colours of the rainbow on the head of the lighted and shining being in Revelation 10.

*And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: **and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun,...and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.*** (Revelation 10:1, 3).

We discover in Matthew 17:1-2 that Jesus beamed with the radiance of the sun;

*And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, **And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.***

Again, in Revelation 10:1, the being was described as having the countenance of the sun. Jesus the Word of God (which is sound) and the true light (which is the

greatest sound frequency ever heard in creation) is surely the one being unveiled in the account of the seven thunders and the rainbow tiara on his head.

We understand that rainbows are formed when there is a dispersion of light through a prism, which are droplets of water in the clouds. Simply put, when white light is passed through a prism, there is a dispersion of light into a spectrum of seven different colours. However, these colours themselves vibrate with different frequencies. These colours are ubiquitously known as Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo and Violet, commonly put in the acronym, ROYGBIV.

Interestingly, in Revelation 4, we see a similar manifestation of the rainbow when Scripture spoke of the emanations from the throne.

*And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne. And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: **and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.*** (Revelation 4:2-3)

Anytime you see the rainbow, you should know that there is the fundamental working of sound at high frequency somewhere. Thus, it is not a shock when right after the mention of the rainbow, the following verse asserts,

And out of the throne proceeded LIGHTNINGS and THUNDERINGS AND VOICES: and THERE WERE SEVEN LAMPS OF FIRE BURNING BEFORE THE THRONE, which are the seven Spirits of God. (Revelation 4:5)

There is never a description of the throne of God in Scripture without emanations. That is to say, anytime the throne of God is described, we see things proceeding from it, such as lightnings, thunderings and voices. In the next volume of this book, Elixir of Life, II, I have taken time off to write extensively on the emanations or the “*sephiroth*” that proceed from the throne of God.

Now, one thing worth noting is that there is the use of a colon just before the mention of the seven lamps that burn before the throne – “***And out of the throne proceeded LIGHTNINGS AND THUNDERINGS AND VOICES: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.***” (Revelation 4:5) As I have already explained, the usage of the colon simply means the latter statement could replace the former and still make the same meaning. Thus, a careful scrutiny of the verse reveals that the procession

of lightnings, thunderings and voices from the throne is directly related to the seven lamps that burn before the throne.

If you read the verse carefully, you will see that the emissions are from lightnings to thunderings to voices. From all we have learned, when God's voice resounds, we hear it as thunder and when the vibration of this thunder exceeds forty octaves, it results in light. Thus, the impression given in the scriptures is a breakdown of the sound energies at high frequencies that was seen as light to its basic form or unit as a voice. Hence, we could say that the voice of God resounded as thunder which was raised at a vibration above forty octaves to show as lightning. They therefore were manifesting as seven lamps of fire.

The procession of lightnings, thunderings and voices from the throne is directly related to the seven lamps that burn before the throne

In relating the seven lamps as the seven spirits of God or the seven proceeding of God's sent ones, as that which moves to and fro in the whole earth, it is understood that the voices of the seven thunders and the rainbow are related.

And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.
(Revelation 5:6)

We should acknowledge that the seven lamps that burn before the throne do not possess one colour but are of a characteristic resemblance to the dispersion of the seven colours of the rainbow in the pattern illustrated below.

The Seven Lamps according to the
Seven Colours of the Rainbow

R O Y G B I V





The ultimate significance of the rainbow is that it represents a covenant. When God made a covenant with Noah and the entirety of creation, the sign of that covenant was the rainbow.

I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. (Genesis 9:13)

Thus, anytime you see the appearance of the rainbow anywhere in Scripture, it should simply tell you that matters of covenant are at hand. The rainbow, by interpreting its colours, depicts that which binds God to his creation in an eternal unbroken union, which causes the creation to proceed from sacrifice to the ultimate place of royalty which is the very heights of the throne of God. It is no wonder then that the first colour of the rainbow is red and the last colour is purple. Red speaks of blood and the initiation of every covenant is by blood.

...For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth. WHEREUPON NEITHER THE FIRST TESTAMENT WAS DEDICATED WITHOUT BLOOD.

(Hebrews 9:16-18)

The culmination and fruition of the covenant is purple or violet which speaks of royalty thus delivering the inheritance of the covenant into the hand of the participators. The rainbow thus, is the communication of God's plan and his procession from times past into the ages to come when his children shall be delivered into royalty to reign.

The rainbow, by interpreting its colours, depicts that which binds God to his creation in an eternal unbroken union, which causes the creation to proceed from sacrifice to the

ultimate place of royalty which is the very heights of the throne of God. The Rainbow according to the Oaths of the Tribes

Each colour of the rainbow is communicative of a particular nature and work of God. In Habakkuk 3:9, there is a revelation of the link between God's bow and the twelve tribes of Israel:

Thy bow was made quite naked, according to the oaths of the tribes, even thy word. Selah. Thou didst cleave the earth with rivers.

Moreover in Genesis 9:13, God called the rainbow his bow.

I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. (Genesis 9:13)

Thus, it should be understood that when Scripture says, “thy bow”, it bespeaks the bow of God that was set in the clouds for a token of a covenant between God and the earth.

Practically however, the purpose of a bow is to release arrows. The colours of the rainbow are actually a manifestation of the light emitted by the arrows of God as they flash forth. No doubt the NIV clearly states,

YOU UNCOVERED YOUR BOW, YOU CALLED FOR MANY ARROWS. Selah You split the earth with rivers; (Habakkuk 3:9, NIV)

Zechariah 9:14, as well, clearly depicts the arrows of God as light:

And the LORD shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning: and the Lord GOD shall blow the trumpet, and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.

With this made clear, the revelation of God will be incomplete without realizing that the Psalmist in Psalms 127:4-5 makes a pronouncement that arrows are actually the proceeding of children from the bow of a mighty man.

As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

The arrows as revealed in the scriptures are the children of a mighty man, which flash forth as lightning from the bow of God. Consequently, the bow of God ought to be perceived as the means by which the arrows of God are released, which in actuality is his word.

You unfurled your bow and let loose a volley of arrows. You split Earth with rivers. (Habakkuk 3:9, MSG)

“Thy bow was made quite naked, according to the oaths of the tribes, EVEN THY WORD. Selah. Thou didst cleave the earth with rivers. ” (Habakkuk 3:9)

Scripture asserts that Jesus is the Word of God.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1)

Yet, as we read on in that chapter we discover that this word became light.

In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. (John 1:4-5)

Do not forget that in numerology, the number forty signifies the apex of the result of judgment. Seeing that the word became light, it was possible because he had exceeded the demand of being raised or exalted as the word beyond forty octaves of judgment to flash forth as the arrow of God in divine sonship as the proof of God's word.

Thus, when all the judgment meant to condemn you has been exceeded by the Christ, he brings you to the place where you become an arrow of light in the hands of God, as a son of a mighty one. No wonder Jesus said to us,

Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
(Matthew 5:14)

This simply means that we also have within us, the capacity to transform sound into light. In the maturity of this ability we operate in the dimension of light speed as revealed in 1 Corinthians 15:52,

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

The Greek word translated as "in a moment" is "atomos" which denotes atomic time or the smallest unit of time. This speaks of the light-speed dimension in which believers would operate when they are changed by the release of the sound of the eternal Shofar of God and the voice of the arch angel at a high frequency within them.

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

(1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

As a believer gives himself over to the word, he is constantly being changed into greater dimensions of light by the vibration of higher frequencies of the word in him. The scriptures plainly refer to the believers as children of light:

For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (Ephesians 5:8)

While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them. (John 12:36)

Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

(1 Thessalonians 5:5)

In the constant replay of this, the believer shall be ultimately metamorphosed or changed into light completely in the twinkling of an eye.

Having understood this, let us not forget that children are as arrows in the quiver of a mighty man. The Amplified Bible unearths something very interesting concerning the arrows of God released from his bow:

Your bow was made quite bare; sworn to the tribes [of Israel] by Your sure word were the rods of chastisement, scourges, and calamities... (Habakkuk 3:9, AMP)

The release of light from the bow of God, is according to the oaths of the tribes of Israel. Thus, each light or arrow speaks of a certain tribe of the children of Israel.

Knowing that the rainbow is a spectrum of seven colours, it becomes a garment placed on God's favourite son as a coat of many colours as in the case of Joseph, upon whose shoulders the authority is placed as the two onyx stones, typifying the overcomer. Refer to page 287 understand this.

The son of God who manifests the seven pillars of wisdom is actually one who is clothed with the seven colours of the rainbow, and it is no wonder that it becomes a tiara on his head according to Revelation 10:1.

Such a one has the seven thunders as the controlling voice over his head and

mind. This is the quest of transformation by reason of the renewing of the mind. Every voice of God is spoken but reechoed by the overcomer to the creation as thunder. Thus, the overcomers are actually BOANERGES – Sons of Thunder, as in the case of James and John.

And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder. (Mark 3:17)

That is why James and John, being the greatest of the twelve disciples, in depths of understanding the word of God, called their mother to request the greatest seat for them in the kingdom.

Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom. (Matthew 20:20-21)

With this in view, it is expedient to understand that the seven utterances of the voice of thunder and the seven colours of the rainbow are one and the same thing as we scrutinize the twelve to thirteen tribes of Israel. Each colour corresponds to one of the seven voices as well as to the tribes of Israel.

• **Red: The Thundering Voice of Power**

The colour red connotes “**Blood and Sacrifices**” and is the beginnings of the operations of the Father. It is accorded to the tribes of Simeon and Levi, because they are the “**bloody tribes**” among all their brethren. Again, red corresponds to the Voice of Power amidst the seven voices because it is a very passionate and energetic colour.

The voice of the LORD is powerful... (Psalms 29:4)

It is apparent that Levi was entrusted with the priesthood to offer sacrifices.

For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer. (Hebrews 8:3)

When it comes to blood, these two tribes cannot be messed with because even their father testified against their fierce **anger** and **wrath** .

Simeon and Levi are brethren; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations.

*O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united: for in their anger they slew a man, and in their selfwill they digged down a wall. **Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.***
(Genesis 49:5-7)

This reaction from Israel was because Simeon and his brother Levi destroyed the entire village of Shechem in retribution for the rape of their sister, Dinah, in Genesis 34. God noticed that it was an inherent potential in Levi to carry the instruments of cruelty, and thus placed his descendants in charge of all blood sacrifices in the service of the temple.

But the Levites shall do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they shall bear their iniquity: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they have no inheritance
(Numbers 18:23).

The man of God, Moses, a Levite, also demonstrated many traits characteristic of a bloody man, was a Levite.

*And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, **Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother?** I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.* (Exodus 4:14)

Again, right in the exodus of the children of Israel in the wilderness, the execution of the judgment of God was carried out by the Levites, during which they slew three thousand men of their own brethren.

*Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. **And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour. And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.*** (Exodus 32:26-28)

The priesthood of Levi in relation to blood could be seen in the fact that he, because of his inherent nature, was specially chosen to carry out the sacrificial

work of the temple in making atonement for the sins of the nation. Yet, we discover, through Paul, the apostle, in the book of Hebrews, that these sacrifices did not satiate God until there was the ultimate sacrifice of the Lamb that had been slain from the foundation of the world, who was after the order of Melchizedek,

*And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*** (Revelation 13:8)

Melchizedek, the priest of the Most High God, as he was called in Scripture was the seal of the sacrifice of blood. He is the eternal personification and establishment of the work of redemption carried out in the blood of Christ. This is the reason why in his first appearance in Scripture, he came bearing Bread and Wine, as the seal of the participation in divinity.

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth BREAD AND WINE: and he was the priest of the most high God. (Genesis 14:18)

The colour red in the emanation of the rainbow above the throne speaks of the work of the priesthood. It is the beginning of the work of God, which had pre-existed even from the foundation of the world.

Scripture says in Isaiah 1:18 that,

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

We understand that it was by the work of our High Priest, Jesus Christ that our sins were cleansed from the redness of crimson to the whiteness of wool. This denotes conclusively the yarn of wisdom which is the power of the blood sacrifice in our ministry and walk in Christ.

• **Orange: The Thundering Voice of Fire**

The next colour in the seven dispersions is Orange and is symbolic of **Fire** , thus it parallels the **Voice of Fire** among the seven thunders.

The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire. (Psalms 29:7)

It is conferred on the tribes of **Gad** and **Naphtali** . Fire is that which tries, purifies and consumes. There is a very strong bond between red and orange because orange is actually a combination of red and yellow. Thus, orange, though milder than red, is also a very vibrant and enthusiastic colour, almost related to the work of blood.

The Hebrew meaning of the name Naphtali is “wrestling”. It comes from the root word “*pathal*” , which means to struggle or fight and this is very characteristic of fire. It should be noted also that the Gadites were a warrior tribe that had the faces of Lions. Deuteronomy 33:20 said concerning Gad,

And of Gad he said, Blessed be he that enlargeth Gad: he dwelleth as a lion, and teareth the arm with the crown of the head.

And of the Gadites there separated themselves unto David into the hold to the wilderness men of might, and men of war fit for the battle, that could handle shield and buckler, whose faces were like the faces of lions, and were as swift as the roes upon the mountains. (1 Chronicles 12:8)

Gad is of the lion kind which speaks of the ways of a warrior. Scripture says concerning this tribe that they were men of might who were fit for battle. The reason is that they understood the ways of fire. Where there is fire, there is always contention and struggle. However, the beauty of fire is that it consumes whatever stands in its way, and that which is not consumed is purified. The Greek word for fire is “*pur*” , from which the English word “purification” is gotten.

I have already written on the trial of fire in the fifteenth chapter of this book, when I handled the topic of the seven ascents, where we discovered that to have immunity to the second death by the crown of life, you will have to go through the Lake of Fire that burns with fire and brimstone. Brimstone is a purifying agent. Thus, the place of orange in the emanations of the seven colours is the trial of works by fire. Every man’s service in the ministry must be purified by fire. To understand the trial of fire, read on the church of Smyrna in Chapter Fifteen.

However, this fire is not without blood. Remember that orange has components of red in it. Thus, it is with fire and blood that every man’s work would be acceptable before God.

But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap. (Malachi 3:2)

To be refined is to have gone through fire. Every vestige of fleshy works, dead works or works of iniquity cannot be purged from a man until he has known the test of fire. Genesis 49:19 said concerning Gad,

Gad, a troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last.

To transcend the place of Fire, it is a prerequisite to be an overcomer. If you have not gone through death to emerge victoriously over it and come out as an overcomer, your works cannot abide the test of fire, and thus will not be golden. Job said,

But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. (Job 23:10)

Please understand that you can only move into yellow; the place of gold and riches in the kingdom when you have been tried through “orange” which is fire.

Conclusively, this denotes the yarn of the wisdom which is the purgings in the ministry and walk in Christ.

• **Yellow: Thundering Voice of Breakings**

Yellow is one of the most gracious colours in the kingdom of God. It is the voice of breakings in the seven thunders.

The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon... (Psalms 29:5)

Why does scripture say that the voice of the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon? There is a depth and wealth of meaning in this verse that can make you rich if you so desire.

The interesting thing about the cedars of Lebanon is that they grow upon the Syrian range of mountains. Thus, to access the cedars of Lebanon, you had to climb the mountain range. Again, these cedars were prized as costly for its high quality and durable timber which could not be eaten by moth because of its insect repelling properties. These cedars can reach from 97 to 130 feet in height and about 8 feet in diameter. As a result, they are excellent building materials. No wonder in the construction of the temple in the days of Solomon, Scripture

says that he contracted King Hiram of Tyre to supply cedar logs from the forests of Lebanon.

And Hiram sent to Solomon, saying, I have considered the things which thou sentest to me for: and I will do all thy desire concerning timber of cedar, and concerning timber of fir...So Hiram gave Solomon cedar trees and fir trees according to all his desire. (1 Kings 5:8, 10)

So in the construction of the temple in Jerusalem, cedar was one key component that was used. Remember that when Israel dwelt in tents, God also dwelt in the tent of the tabernacle. It was this wisdom that David, the King, had for which reason he questioned why the ark of God dwelt in tents whilst he was dwelling in a house of cedar.

That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains. (2 Samuel 7:2)

This idea, upon hitting his spirit, provoked the thought of building God a temple of cedar. Thus in 1 Kings 6:2, 9, King Solomon spelt out the material he used in the building of the temple:

And the house which king Solomon built for the LORD, the length thereof was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof twenty cubits, and the height thereof thirty cubits... So he built the house, and finished it; and covered the house with beams and boards of cedar. (1 Kings 6:2, 9)

This wisdom is so cardinal for the believer's growth such that you should never question the value of something you think is worthy for you but not worthy for God. I have vowed that in life, whatever is good for me is firstly good for the Kingdom.

Some people live in mansions and porsche houses whereas the churches fellowship under trees and sheds. It is an insult to the experience of redemption to have something and be of the opinion that it is too expensive and beyond your church to also own and enjoy. Some people own lands and estates whilst their churches rent lands and place of worship. Have a change of mind and procure transgenerational blessings.

Hence, when people question the right of the Church and men of God to be blessed with certain rights, I just know it is a lack of revelation. Nothing is too

good for any man which is too much for God. God actually deserves more. This is the secret to gaining trans-generational blessings and mercies of God. We read in 2 Samuel 7:13-19 that God overwhelmed David with blessings because of his thoughts of him.

He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever. According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David. Then went king David in, and sat before the LORD, and he said, Who am I, O Lord GOD? and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto? And this was yet a small thing in thy sight, O Lord GOD; but thou hast spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come. And is this the manner of man, O Lord GOD? (2 Samuel 7:13-19)

To add more weight to the value of cedars, Psalms 92:12 says that,

The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

Cedar speaks of flourishing and incorruptibility. By virtue of their position in the mountains means that they provide shelter and protection to the inhabitants of the mountains. The cedar is so stout that it is not moved by the storms in the mountain. The Scripture of truth clearly compares the flourishing of the righteous to the speedy and high towering growth of the cedar plant. Yet, Psalms 29:5 says that,

The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon...

To break the cedars of Lebanon is a great feat because the bark of the tree was so tough to the extent that sometimes even bullets shot at it could not penetrate it. To operate in this dimension of the seven thunders is to have the ability to break the cedars of Lebanon. That means you, as an overcomer, having sharpness and a cutting edge, must go through trial to emerge as incorruptible.

Consequently, yellow is associated with gold refined as a product of fire. 1 Peter

1:7 says that,

That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

The trial of a believer's faith through the fire of "orange" produces a treasure which in yellow is more precious than gold in the spirits of the believers. The closest that this treasure can be compared to is refined gold.

But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. (Job 23:10)

Gold speaks of that which is divine. Thus, in the foundation of the New Jerusalem, we see one of the foundation stones in the city as chrysolite. Seven speaks of perfection. Thus Chrysolite is the stone of perfection.

And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, CHRYSOLITE; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.
(Revelation 21:19-20)

Chrysolite is a golden or yellow gem stone. Scripture always relates things to gold when matters of divinity are at hand. When the wise men visited Jesus, Scripture asserts that they brought him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.
(Matthew 2:11)

While gold itself speaks of divinity, frankincense as well, has a yellow colour. These are gifts that the wise men presented to Jesus to avow and accentuate his eminence as the king of the Jews. Seeing the purity of the colour yellow, the Word of God associates it to the feathers of the dove which is a pure and beautiful bird that speaks of the Holy Ghost in flight or motion as seen in the baptism of Jesus.

Though ye have lien among the pots, yet shall ye be as the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold. (Psalms 68:13)

The emission of the colour yellow in the colours of the rainbow reveals the estate of a man who has broken forth into wealth and abundance. Thus, the tribes of Asher and Manasseh are the yellow tribes among their brethren. Scripture said concerning Manasseh,

And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: For God, said he, hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house. (Genesis 41:51)

Yellow is the fruit you enjoy after your toil and trials in your walk as an overcomer. You are brought to a place where you are ushered into untold blessings and you are acknowledged by men. Thus, the Word of God says concerning Asher,

And of Asher he said, Let Asher be blessed with children; let him be acceptable to his brethren, and let him dip his foot in oil. (Deuteronomy 33:24).

Oil is also of a gold colour and relates to the setting apart of things for divine service. To dip the foot in oil does not only speak of riches but much more of a walk that is consecrated to the order of divine things. The consecrated walk of the believer in anointing and power.

Yellow is the place of abundance and riches. This expression in the colour of the rainbow affords you the privilege to eat of the royal dainties of God:

Out of Asher his bread shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties. (Genesis 49:20)

This conclusively speaks of the yarn of wisdom that produces perfection as a result of our experience of the refineries in our walk with Christ.

• **Green: The Thundering Voice of Gestation and Discovery** There is a very sweet mystery about Green in the colours of the rainbow – even though all the seven colours are distinct on their own, if a man stood before the throne of God, and watched the rainbow, he would not see all the seven colours; only the green would be seen, and there is a reason for this. When John, the apostle described the rain bow in Revelation 4:3, he said,

And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, IN SIGHT LIKE UNTO AN EMERALD.

(Revelation 4:3)

Scripture recounts that the rainbow was in sight like unto an emerald. Emerald is a green gem stone. The middle colour, which is green, overshadows all the others because that is the **Western Light** of the “Menorah”. Refer to Chapter Seven to understand the “Menorah”. Remember we discussed that the Western Light is the source of light for all the other branches. Its glory overshadowed all the six branches of light, and thus one could not differentiate between them. Thus John, the apostle, expressly declares that the entire rainbow was like an Emerald, because the glory of the green light overshadowed the others. Thus, we could say that the entire rainbow was green in colour. That is the tribe of **Judah**. Exodus 28:17-18 shows emerald as Judah’s stone on the breastplate of the high priest.

And thou shalt set in it settings of stones, even four rows of stones: the first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this shall be the first row. And the second row shall be an EMERALD, a sapphire, and a diamond.

Judah, being the fourth son among the twelve sons of Israel, corresponds to the first stone in the second row. Genesis 49:10 says concerning him,

The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

Judah is the Western Light because he earned the preeminence among his brethren, by possessing the scepter of righteousness. In the Jeremiah 11:13, 16, Judah was called a green olive tree.

For according to the number of thy cities were thy gods, O Judah; and according to the number of the streets of Jerusalem have ye set up altars to that shameful thing, even altars to burn incense unto Baal. ...The LORD called thy name, A green olive tree, fair, and of goodly fruit: with the noise of a great tumult he hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken.

The colour green was the inherent nature of the tribe of Judah. It speaks of the abundance of life and thus is the voice of gestation among the seven thunders. The Hebrew usually translated as green is “yaraq”. It means to be fresh or full of the sap of life. Accordingly, when Jacob wanted to stir up life in his sheep he used a plant called green poplar.

And Jacob took him rods of green poplar, and of the hazel and chesnut tree; and pilled white strakes in them, and made the white appear which was in the rods.
(Genesis 30:37)

In the Greek, the word for green is “*chloros*” from which we get the English word chlorophyll.

“*Chloros*” also speaks of life. The chlorophyll in the leaf of a tree is what is used to produce its food through the process of photosynthesis.

The tribe of Judah is the life source of the children of Israel. The historic prophecy that was spoken in Isaiah concerning the Branch out of the roots of Jesse was of the tribe of Judah.

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. (Isaiah 11:1)

Judah was the assurance of God’s posterity for Israel. 2 Kings 8:19 emphatically says,

Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah for David his servant’s sake, as he promised him to give him alway a light, and to his children.

The light of Judah, according to this verse shall be perpetual. Do not forget that the western light was supposed to burn continually before the Lord. God chose the tribe of Judah to produce the King who shall reign over the kingdom forever; Jesus Christ. In Revelation 5:5 we read,

And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

To come to the place of Judah, is to have prevailed, after the order of the lion of the tribe of Judah, and to express the fullness of life. In the days of the Judges, Judah was the tribe that took the pre-eminence to lead the nation of Israel to war, and they did this through praise.

Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass, that the children of Israel asked the LORD, saying, Who shall go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them? And the LORD said, Judah shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand. (Judges 1:1-2)

It is the reason why praise brought wonderful victories to Israel than ever before even in the days of Jehoshaphat;

And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever. And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten...And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped. (2 Chronicles 20:21-22, 24)

This conclusively speaks of the yarn of the wisdom of the generative life of praise in our walk with Christ.

• **Blue: Voice upon the Waters**

The colour Blue speaks of the **Waters** and is accorded to the tribes of **Reuben** and **Zebulun** . Blue is the color of the sky and the sea. At the beginning of the creation, the Bible recounts that the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the deep:

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. (Genesis 1:1-2)

This makes us understand that at the beginning of the creation, there was nothing but water. All things were made out of water. Scripture declares that the earth, fishes and fowls of the air were all spawned out of water.

And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. (Genesis 1:9)

And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. (Genesis 1:20)

To understand the creative ability of the element of water, refer to my book, ***“Conquering Marine Spirits, with 120 Fiery Prayer Bullets”*** , in which I have taken time off to expound on water spirits and the element of water as well as formation of bodies under water. Blue relates to the glory of God and so does

water. As it was in the beginning, so shall it be in the end. The Word of God speaks of the abundance of the knowledge of the glory of God in the earth as the waters cover the sea.

For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. (Habakkuk 2:14)

The knowledge of the glory of God is by avenue of his Word. The Word of God itself is a cleansing agent as water that cleanses the Church.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. (Ephesians 5:25-26)

The interesting thing is that right in the heavenlies before the throne of God, we see a sea of glass and a double river that issues forth from the throne.

And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. (Revelation 4:6)

And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. (Revelation 22:1)

These speak of the glory of God in the heavens which is evident in the cloud of glory which is seen in the glorious Church. Remember that clouds themselves are made up of water. Thus, the appearance of waters, clouds or the sea in heaven speaks of many people who have been gathered from many tribes and tongues, and have walked this earth in conquering power to emerge as overcomers. Hebrews 12:1 declares,

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

The cloud of witnesses are the saints in Christ who have been absorbed into the eternal company of partaking in the glory of God.

The colour blue in Hebrew is “tekeleth” . In Esther 1:6, we read concerning King Ahasuerus’ garden courts:

Where were white, green, and blue, hangings, fastened with cords of fine linen and purple to silver rings and pillars of marble: the beds were of gold and silver, upon a pavement of red, and blue, and white, and black, marble.

In the expression of his glorious estate, we see many colours displayed, one of which is blue. Each colour has a specific communication but blue spoke of the expanse of his glory. As cardinal as these are, the greatest expression of blue is revealed in its usage in the temple of God and its relationship to the word of God in the very garments of the children of Israel.

And when the camp setteth forward, Aaron shall come, and his sons, and they shall take down the covering vail, and cover the ark of testimony with it: **And shall put thereon the covering of badgers' skins, and shall spread over it a cloth wholly of blue, and shall put in the staves thereof.** (Numbers 4:5-6)

The covering cloth of the ark of covenant was blue in colour. The reason is that above the ark of covenant which is the mercy seat was the place where the glory of God resided. Thus, the cherubs that covered the Ark were referred to as cherubs of glory because they covered the glory of God. We must not also forget that the Ark carried the rod of Aaron which was the word of God or the scepter by which the children of Israel were ruled. Accordingly, to create a lasting effect of his word in the hearts and minds of the children of Israel, God instructed them to make fringes at the borders of their garment which were supposed to be blue in colour.

Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the **LORD**, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring. (Numbers 15:38-39)

Thus, anytime they children of Israel saw the blue fringes, they were reminded of the commandments of God, and thus walked in his ways. The fringe of the garments in Hebrew is the word “*tsiytsith*” . It is the same as the hem of the garment. There is a mystery, known to the children of Israel, about the hem of the garment, in its curative abilities. It is for this cause that the children of Israel sought to touch the hem of Jesus’ garment to be healed of all their diseases.

*And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased; **And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.*** (Matthew 14:35-36)

We know that the hem of Jesus' garment was blue, because it was an ordinance from the days of Moses that the children of Israel had kept for many generations. Even till today the children of Israel have prayer shawls called the Tallit in Hebrew which have blue fringes. Proverbs 20:30 relates blue to the healing of a wound;

The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly.

When you see blue, think of healing, glory and the Word of God which is forever sure. It is the voice of God that thunders upon the waters. In Genesis 49:13, Scripture said concerning Zebulun,

Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he shall be for an haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon.

The Zidonians had mastery of the waters. Zidon was a coastal town located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea and one of the wealthy cities of Phoenicia. It was about twenty miles away from its notable neighbour, Tyre. Its Hebrew name "Tsidon" signifies fishing or fishery. Being a city on the coast, its inhabitants were well noted for their fishery business. The city also hosted a port where merchant ships docked for trading purposes thus, it was a great place of social, economic and spiritual interaction. In fact, the word of God refers to this city as the great Zidon in Joshua 11:8, revealing the magnificence of that city.

And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel, who smote them, and chased them unto great Zidon, and unto Misrephothmaim, and unto the valley of Mizpeh eastward; and they smote them, until they left them none remaining.

The greatness of this city was founded on the waters. By way of principle on earth, the man that has rulership over the waters will have rulership over the land. Thus, many lands, especially around coastal regions are controlled by the forces of the waters. Water among the four elements of the earth, (Water, Wind, Earth, and Fire) is the most foundational element.

The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. (Psalms 24:1-2)

Its force is unbeatable. Thus, when God wanted to wipe everything of the earth, in the pre-adamite age and in the days of Noah, his first resort was the element of water.

And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly. (2 Peter 2:5)

For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: (2 Peter 3:5)

Though water looks very unassuming, when its force is unleashed, nothing can stand in its way. It takes the Voice of God that thunders upon the waters to subdue the waters. Thus, Jeremiah 5:22 declares that it took the perpetual decree of God to bind the waters.

Fear ye not me? saith the LORD: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?

Water thus is a strong element that connects us to the creative force of God. This conclusively speaks of the yarn of wisdom exhibited in glory in our walk with Christ.

• **Indigo: Thundering Voice of Shakings**

Indigo is the colour of mystery and is accorded to the tribes of **Dan** and **Issachar**. Whereas blue is calming, indigo is sedating. It bridges the colours of finite and infinite. Concerning the children of Issachar, the Bible says,

And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment.
(1 Chronicles 12:32)

Scripture says they had a special understanding into time, and knew what the children of Israel had to do in every season. For this cause, they had a special command over their brethren. The descendants of Issachar are men of learning according to Jewish tradition. According to colour experts, the colour indigo is a colour of intuition and perception. Indigo reflects great devotion and wisdom. Thus, it is not a shock that Dan means the Judge and consequently was appointed as the judge of the people of Israel.

Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel. Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward. (Genesis 49:16-17).

Dan, as can be seen in the verse above is also described as a serpent by the way that bites the heel of horses. Let us not forget Jesus' admonishing to the disciples to be as wise as a serpent;

Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. (Matthew 10:16)

Judgment is not just the passing of a verdict based on appearances. In light of this, no wonder Jesus told his disciples to judge righteous judgments.

Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment. (John 7:24)

Judgment as a concept is that opportunity granted us to see into all the ways of God. This judgment is beautifully expanded in Scripture as all the ways of God. We see this in Deuteronomy 32:4 which says,

He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

Romans 11:33 also asserts that there is a link between God's judgment and his ways.

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

What a man does at this place in the expressions of God cannot be explained by science because he functions in the mystery of the seventh pillar of wisdom. This

conclusively also depicts the yarn of the wisdom of judgment in our walk with Christ.

- **Violet: The Thundering Voice of Majesty**

Violet or Purple is the colour of Royalty, because any time it appears in Scripture, it is used in relation to Royalty. In John 19:2, before the crucifixion of Jesus, when the soldiers were mocking him, Scripture says that they put on him a purple robe, because they mocked him as the king of the Jews.

*And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, **and they put on him a purple robe.***

Why purple? It was a colour for royals. This is the reason why it is the colour of Benjamin and Ephraim. Benjamin simply means the son of my right hand.

*And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: **but his father called him Benjamin.** {Benoni: that is, The son of my sorrow} **{Benjamin: that is, The son of the right hand}** (Genesis 35:18).*

The right hand is the place of dominion and authority. Thus, the Word of God declares that Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

*Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, **when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.** (Hebrews 1:3).*

Ephraim was also given the right of the firstborn in Genesis 48:14, when Israel laid his right hand on him.

***And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh's head, guiding his hands wittingly; for Manasseh was the firstborn.** (Genesis 48:14)*

Thus, the final colour of the rainbow speaks of the place of kingship and majesty, where one has a throne to himself. It symbolizes power and nobility. Yet, in this place of kingship, one must still not have forgotten his service of priesthood, because purple, even though it is the colour of royalty is a mixture of red and blue, and thus is also the colour of priesthood. Accordingly, the ephod of the high priest had components of purple:

And they shall make the ephod of gold, of blue, and of PURPLE, of scarlet, and fine twined linen, with cunning work. (Exodus 28:6)

It is at this place that one can boldly say he is a King and a Priest at the same time.

And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. (Revelation 1:6)

The colour purple speaks of the ultimate place of maturity when one stands as a King and a Priest and is ready to search into the unsearchable riches of wisdom. This conclusively depicts the yarn of wisdom displayed in reigning as a kingly priest.

Illustration of the twelve to thirteen tribes in the pattern of the seven colours of the rainbow according to the Menorah.

Simeon Gad Asher Judah Levi Naphtali Manasseh

Reuben Dan Ephraim Zebulun Issachar Benjamin



Simplified Table of the Spectrum of the Rainbow with its corresponding Thundering Voice and the Oaths of the tribes.

Colour	Wisdom Yarn	Corresponding Voice	Corresponding Tribe
Red	Sacrifice	Voice of Power	Simeon and Levi
Orange	Purity	Voice of Fire	Gad and Naphtali
Yellow	Perfection	Voice of Breakings	Asher and Manasseh
Green	Generative life of Praise	Voice of Gestation/ Discovery	Judah
Blue	Glory	Voice upon the Waters	Reuben and Zebulon
Indigo	Judgment	Voice of Shakings	Dan and Issachar
Violet	Royalty	Voice of Majesty	Ephraim and Benjamin

According to the spectrum of the rainbow, the voices of the seven thunders are seen in a person who in himself possesses the seven folded-mystery of the golden cord; the tying together of the seven yarns of wisdom, which are: sacrifice, purity, perfection, generative life of praise, glory of God, the exercise of judgment and the display of kingdom authority. The seventh pillar of wisdom is a multi-variated intertwined folding of the seven yarn virtues of wisdom, all displayed in a man. This is the apex of wisdom.

Summary of the Seven Thunders

- The thundering of God in Scripture speaks of the resounding of his Voice. (Psalms 18:13)
- The Voice of God is broken down into seven distinctive thunders. (Revelation 10:3)
- Psalms 29 reveals the seven distinctive thunders as we see God thundering upon the flood of humanity.

- Sound is the foundation and source of light thus,
- The release of the trumpet sound of God is directly connected to the going forth of his arrows as lightning. (Zechariah 9:14)
- The voice of God is the source of the seven coloured spectrum of the rainbow on the head of the lighted and shining being in Revelation 10.
- The rainbow bespeaks the bow of God that was set in the clouds for a token of a covenant between God and the earth thus
- It is set in the sky according to the oaths of the tribes of Israel.
- It is displayed as a seven-folded golden cord of the yarn of virtues of wisdom in the believer bound together as one, manifesting in a person.
- When these virtues are embedded in the believer, it leads him to display the proof of wisdom in the realm of unsearchable riches.

The Unsearchable Riches of Wisdom

The wisdom of God is said to be so deep and so rich. To say deep and rich means we are dealing with undefined limits and indescribable wealth. In this domain, we consider the exclamation of the apostle, Paul, in the light of what Daniel saw in Daniel 2:21-22:

And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. (Daniel 2:21-22).

Daniel shows the profit of being given wisdom and understanding from God, which is the revelation of Deep and Hidden things that lie in darkness. The depths are hidden dimensions of God's wisdom which are out of sight. When we speak of the depths of wisdom, the matter at hand is the roots or foundations of wisdom. However, the roots of wisdom are unsearchable; to be able to understand wisdom, you have to be able to understand God and vice versa because the depths of wisdom are founded in God. That is to say, God is the greatest cause and definition of wisdom.

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and vice versa because the depths of wisdom are founded in God. That is to say, God is the greatest cause and definition of wisdom.

It is in knowing this that we can now look into the riches of wisdom since the riches of wisdom itself are the riches of God. The Word of God unveils four different kinds of riches according to the revelation of God which was given to the apostle, Paul.

1. Riches of his Grace

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace. (Ephesians 1:7)

2. Riches of his Goodness

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? (Romans 2:4)

3. Riches of his Glory

And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory. (Romans 9:23)

4. The unsearchable Riches of his Wisdom Knowledge ***O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!*** (Romans 11:33)

These riches collectively are referred to as the Unsearchable Riches of Christ in Ephesians 3:8 –

Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

They are not just riches that God gives but the Riches that Christ is. When one is included in the Christ, it surely must make him a wonder in his world. However, we must come to the apex of the Christ-growth in the seven thunders to exhibit this unsearchable dimension of Riches which comes by wisdom. This is said to be a mystery in Colossians 1:27 where the apostle defined the riches of the glory of this mystery as ***“Christ in you, the hope of glory”***. Christ as wisdom is the present guarantee or earnest of the realization of God’s glory.

In this realm we enter into the depths of the treasures of wisdom. The scripture says that wisdom’s treasures are hidden in Christ.

That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; IN WHOM ARE HID ALL THE TREASURES OF WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE. (Colossians 2:2-3)

Finally, the word unsearchable does not mean “unable to examine” but rather it means unable to finish the courses outlined, in the sense of completing or exhausting God. It speaks of his vastness, not his experience. The Greek word is “*anexichniastos*” which means unable to track or map. It therefore depicts the horizon or a realm which is infinitely out of sight, speaking of its end. This infinite end is referred to in theology as Doxology - Romans 11:33-36,

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. (Romans 11:33-36).

A doxology in theology is an ascribing of praise and adulation to God for an immense indescribable experience of the vastness of his work and power. The display of the seventh pillar of wisdom is simply a grand experience of overwhelming wisdom which bursts forth in praise in the entirety of the creation in cosmic proportions.

What in our human wisdom and in our wildest imagination, we see as impossible, the seventh pillar of wisdom scorns it and makes a mockery of it, trampling it underfoot and showing the possibility of that impossibility in works of wonder, way beyond miracles. In this realm, records of miracles are broken leaving the creation in cosmic wonder. When this cosmic wonder is repeated over and over, where it is accustomed to our experience, it is no longer a wonder but now seen as a miracle – at least, what was branded an impossibility has been broken leaving all men to admit the possibility of that once-defined impossibility. The beauty and glory of this seventh pillar is that it comes back to beat its own set record of miracles making another wonder which allows a repetition of that wonder to become a miracle and the seventh pillar shows up as a mighty wonder again by taking it to a far greater level than before.

The display of the seventh pillar of wisdom is simply a grand experience of

overwhelming wisdom which bursts forth in praise in the entirety of the creation in cosmic proportions.

We see this in the case of Jesus when one was born blind from birth and Jesus gave sight to such a one.

And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth...he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. (John 9:1, 6-8)

According to the verse 32, this kind of miracle had never been experienced in history:

Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. (John 9:32)

In this day and age, opening the eyes of one who was born blind is a feat which has been accomplished by many men of God. Yet, in the days of Jesus, it was never heard of. In this, we stand in the vehicle and shores of history and see the amazing feats accomplished by wisdom. That which was once impossible now becomes possible and historic. Wisdom then advances by turning around to breaks its own record by performing another impossibility again. This new feat then again will be overcome by wisdom, and the process goes on and on. No wonder the account of the creation of God is attributed to wisdom by David in Psalms 104:24;

O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

What in our human wisdom and in our wildest imagination, we see as impossible, the seventh pillar of wisdom scorns it and makes a mockery of it, trampling it underfoot and showing the possibility of that impossibility in works of

wonder, way beyond miracles.

That is why the apostle said the unsearchable riches of the seventh pillar of wisdom is past finding out and referenced it to the judgment of God as well, which are his ways:

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! (Romans 11:33)

This beautiful piece of Scripture is a direct reference from Job 9:10, which says that God's works are wonders without number,
Which doeth great things past finding out; yea, and wonders without number.

The works of God are wonders without end. The greatest work of God today, will become obsolete tomorrow, because God turns around and beats his own records in constant works of creation. When a man understands this and begins to walk in this dimension, his life becomes a wonder because when you think you understand him, he shows you another side of him you have not seen before. This is God's dream for you as a believer. You cannot be exhausted; there is always a new realm to explore. Conclusively, the ever expansive realm of creative wonders is the true and exhaustive definition of wisdom which is Christ. Walk in this reality and I believe we will endeavor to manifest this apex of wisdom as the manifestation of our sonship to the creation. Hope to see you there before you exit the sands of time. Do not end here; get Elixir II to unfold the greater dimensions in Christ that await you.

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CONCLUSION

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here are great heights to attain in God. Our present estate is not our destiny in Christ. He has stored unimaginable things for us to enjoy only if we will ascend to the place where they are hidden.

Your new birth is not enough; it is just the beginning of your walk as an overcomer. I implore all of us as believers to hand ourselves over to the Christ of God within us as wisdom to carry us into all that God has laid in store for us to accomplish in wisdom and her seven houses. Do not throw in the towel. Do not rest your oars. Ride on in the heavens and ascend to the perfected heights of the seven houses of wisdom standing on the Seventh Pillar of the Wisdom of the Ages. Remain blessed till we all come in the unity of the faith unto a perfect man

in Christ. Shalom!

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