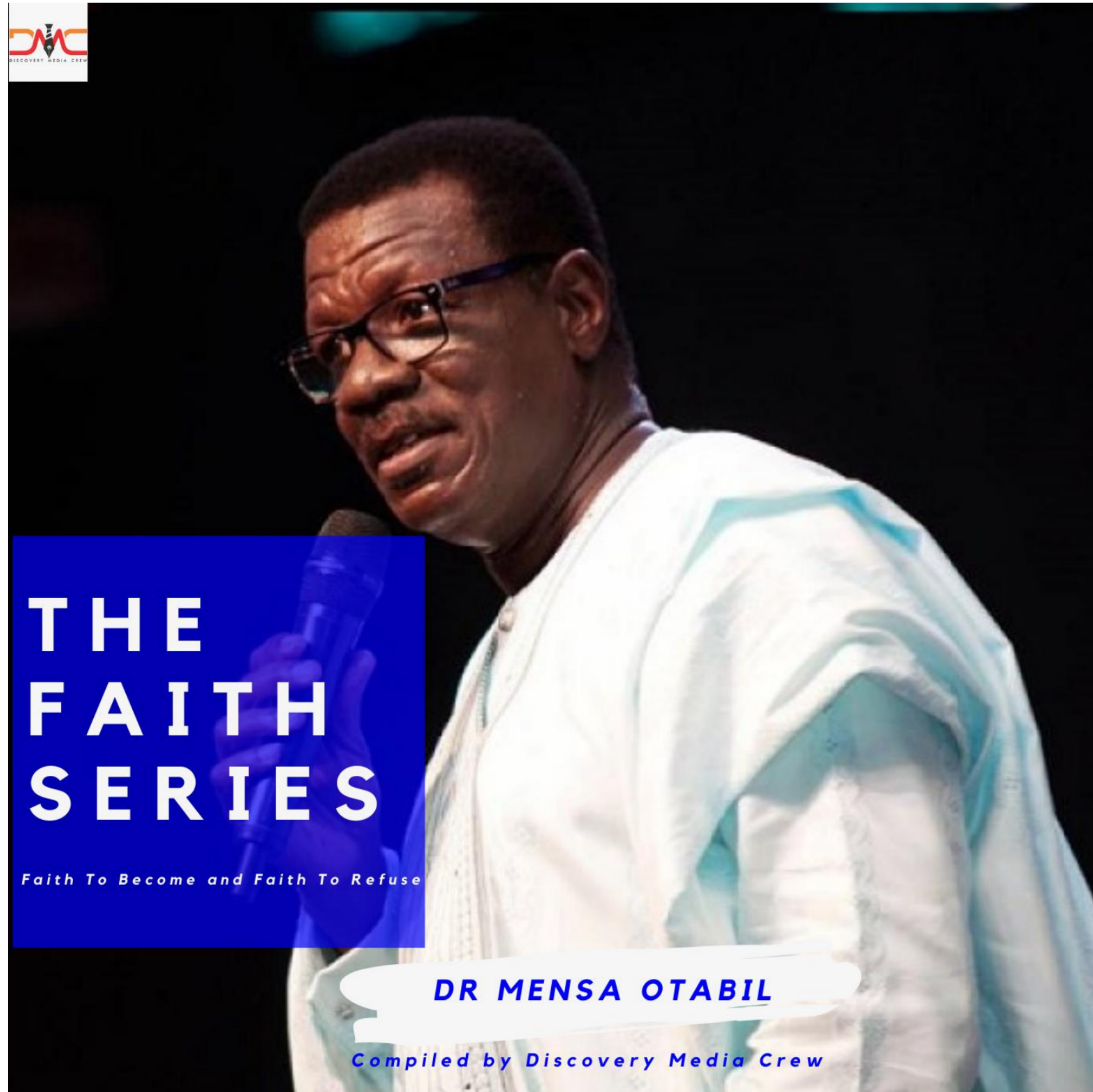


DR. MENSA OTABIL

THE FAITH SERIES

(FAITH TO BECOME & FAITH TO REFUSE)

(GENERAL OVERSEER INTERNATIONAL CENTRAL GOSPEL CHURCH (ICGC) ACCRA, GHANA)



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4TH OCTOBER, 2020 - TOPIC: FAITH TO BECOME - PART 1



TEXT: ROMANS 4:16-21

Well, let's keep standing, as we make our DECLARATIONS OF EXCELLENCE, in this Year of Excellence.

... Are you READY?

SAY WITH ME:

Out of Zion, the Perfection of Beauty, God shines forth. The Lord my God causes the righteous to shine forth as the Sun.

His Awesome Hand has formed me; His Creative Spirit inspires my mind. He skillfully guides my hands.

Therefore, I boldly declare: I am set apart for Excellence. The Ruler of the Universe has exalted my horn among the Nations. He sets my feet on high! In His Strength, I rise!

By Faith, I Press forward towards the Prize of my Highest Calling.

I believe in my heart, and confess with my mouth: that Jesus is Lord! He is the Vine, I am the Branch; in Him I abide, in Him I Blossom.

As it is written: God, who commanded Light out of darkness, has shone His Light in our hearts;

We have His Treasure in Earthen Vessels. That the Excellence of the Power may be of God, and not of us!

In this Year, I commit to EXCELLENCE, I commit to EXCEPTIONALISM, I commit to do the EXTRAORDINARY.

In Jesus' Name - Amen and Amen and Amen and AMEN!

And you may be seated in the Presence of God wherever you are joining us or reading on the Label of DMC.

Well, this morning, I am going to do a two (2) Part Message - I'll start this week, I will continue next week.

And I have Titled it: FAITH TO BECOME.

Many times we associate Faith with Praying to RECEIVE answers from God.

So, when we talk about Faith - we are always thinking of RECEIVING something from God.

And it is true; Faith can be used in PRAYER to RECEIVE something from God.

But, Faith can also be used in another way: Not to receive something from God, but to BECOME SOMETHING.

And that is what I am going to focus on between this week and next week.

And my Primary Text is from the Book of Romans 4:16-21

This Passage is making a reference to the life of Abraham. And it gives us some indications as to Abraham's Faith, and how it worked.

... And I want you to pay attention to the reading of God's Word.

Romans 4:16-21 (NKJV).

6 Therefore it is of Faith that it might be according to Grace, so that the Promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the Faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all

17 (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the Presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;

18 Who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he BECAME the father of many Nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be."

19 And not being weak in Faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb.

20 He did not waver at the Promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in Faith, giving Glory to God,

21 And being fully convinced that what He had Promised He was also able to Perform.

Abraham did not simply Pray to RECEIVE something from God; he Prayed to BECOME SOMETHING for God.

So, the verse 18 said: He BELIEVED, so that he BECAME.'

... He didn't just believe to RECEIVE; he BELIEVED to BECOME!

And that is a very interesting observation:

That we can have FAITH to RECEIVE something from God. But we can also have FAITH to BECOME SOMETHING for God.

The word 'BECOME' is from a root word that means "BE MADE." - To BE MADE or to turn INTO SOMETHING.

... To BE MADE or to turn INTO!

So, when we say that somebody has FAITH to BECOME; it means they have FAITH to be TURNED INTO something else.

Or FAITH to BE MADE into something else.

Abraham used His FAITH to be MADE into another Person - He was TURNED from one (1) state to the other.

And there is a BIG DIFFERENCE between using your Faith to RECEIVE something from; and using your Faith to BECOME SOMETHING.

There is a difference between using your Faith to receive Forgiveness of sins; and using your Faith to BECOME the Righteousness of God.

... Two (2) different things!

There is a difference between using your Faith to receive HEALING from sickness; and using your Faith to BECOME Healthy.

Many times when People are using their Faith, they are using their Faith for God to HEAL them from a sickness.

... That is RECEIVING something!

But we can also use the Faith to BECOME Healthy. That is, 'you DON'T get SICK.

... Two (2) different things!

There is a difference between using your Faith to PROSPER; and using your Faith to BECOME PROSPEROUS.

A Person who uses his Faith to Proper, will Prosper ON and OFF; but the Person who BECOMES Prosperous, doesn't prosper ON and OFF - He is CONSTANTLY in a state of Prosperity.

Faith is not just about RECEIVING; but Faith is also about BECOMING!

... Somebody say: I WILL BECOME!

So, when we use our Faith to receive, we receive something; but what I am talking about is, BECOMING SOMETHING.

So, when you look at ABRAHAM and his FAITH; your mind tells you - Abraham was believing God for a CHILD (Isaac).

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But the Passage says: Abraham was not believing God for a CHILD; he was believing God to BECOME a FATHER OF MANY NATIONS.

... They are two (2) different things!

If you are believing God for ISAAC; you only get Isaac! If you are believing God to BECOME A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS; you'll get more than Isaac!

And today I want you to know: God just doesn't want to GIVE YOU something; He wants you to BECOME somebody.

... Somebody say - I WILL BECOME!

So, Abraham's eyes were not only on RECEIVING a son; he wanted to BECOME a father!

No wonder, if you read the story of Abraham - after Sarah died (in Genesis 25); Abraham married again!

At this time he would be about one hundred and twenty five (125) years; and he had SIX (6) SONS extra!

Why? - Because his eyes were not on receiving one (1) son, his eyes were on BECOMING a father of many Nations.

In all, he believed God; and his FAITH MADE him BECOME!

... Somebody say: I WILL BECOME!

So, each one of us has a Prayer Point. And I don't know what your Prayer is.

Maybe you are Praying that God will Heal you, because you are sick!

Maybe you are believing that God would Prosper you, because you are Broke!

Maybe you are believing that God would give you a husband or a wife, because you are Single!

But for a moment I want you to think about this:

That the God who can GIVE you, can also make you BECOME!

- He doesn't just want to give you Health, He wants to make you HEALTHY.
- He doesn't just want to just give you Money, He wants you to be PROSPEROUS.
- He doesn't just want to give you a Breakthrough, He wants you to be MIGHTY.

... He wants you to BECOME!

Somebody say: I WILL BECOME!

So let's look at THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM (a bit close):



1. First (1st), look at who Abraham was at the time that God appeared to him and spoke to him.

This is who Abraham was, this is what life had made him. This is what his experiences had made him.

And each one (1) of us has something that life has made us because life can be very brutal, you know!

Life can be very, very, very Brutal and it can make you become something that you don't want to be!

In Abraham's case: Life had made him Old!

... That's the first (1st) thing - he was OLD.

Time was against him! It seemed as if the window of opportunity for life had been shut on him.

It's a scary thing, to wake up one (1) day and just realize that time is against you.

Just to realize that time has Passed you by, and you don't have time!

Especially when you think: Oh, I can do something. And you say, when I am forty (40) years! - By Forty (40) I would have done this.

And then you look back - you are seventy (70)!

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... Forty (40) has gone - thirty (30) years ago.

And what you wanted to do at Forty (40) you haven't done at Seventy (70)!

At that time, you say time is against you!

That was Abraham's case - he was OLD; Time was against him!

2. The Second (2nd) Thing the Passage says is that: Abraham's BODY was "DEAD".

... His body was "DEAD!"

That means although he was Physically alive; he was not Energetic.

He didn't have the same Strength, he didn't have the same Vigour, he didn't have the same Energy.

Not the same body he had when he was Younger and he had NO CHILD - He had not fathered a child!

... And so this is what life had made him.

And I don't know what life had also made you - If you are listening to me or reading now on the Label of DMC - Maybe you also feel your own time has run out for you.

Probably when you were twenty three (23) years old you were so very hopeful of life! And now you are looking at yourself and you are sixty seven (67) years!

And you are wondering: TIME has Passed me by and I didn't even noticed it.

I was talking to somebody who was eighty (80) years old and I said: How do you feel at eighty (80)?

He said: Pastor you know, one day you are Young, and then the next you are eighty (80)! - It is almost as if you didn't notice it, and Time catches up.

So, Abraham is in this situation where all of sudden he realizes - I AM OLD!

... Maybe you feel that way!

Maybe for some of you, life has made you BITTER - You are angry with yourself, you are angry with People you feel have maltreated you.

You feel WEAK like Abraham; you feel DEAD, you feel not ENERGETIC, UNINSPIRED. And nothing is coming out of you - Life is almost becoming a regret.

Or, you feel insecure - You are so scared about the future; Or you feel sick or sad; or a failure or poor.

Life has a way of DAMAGING all of us - It hits us, time goes against us, things don't work out well.

... This was where Abraham was!

In the midst of what life has made Abraham, God comes to Abraham, and God gives him a PROMISE!

And the Promise that God gave him was: I have made YOU a FATHER of many Nations.

God didn't say: ABRAHAM, I am going to give you a son.

... That is not what He said!

We think that is what He said. We think God said 'I WILL GIVE YOU A SON.'

God didn't say that!

God said: I have MADE YOU a Father of many Nations.

God said 'MADE'.

In the Original Language, the word 'MADE' means: To SET IN PLACE; or to ARRANGE for something to happen.

So, you are OLD, Time is AGAINST you, NOTHING is working for you; but I have SET THINGS in motion for you to BECOME a FATHER of many Nations.

I don't know about you: But I believed that God has MADE YOU; He has set things in MOTION; He has put PLANS IN PLACE for you to BECOME SOMEBODY.

Somebody say: I WILL BECOME!

So in essence, what God is saying to Abraham is: I have put in Place all that is REQUIRED for you to BECOME a FATHER of many Nations.

He didn't say, I will DO IT simply for you; but, I have MADE YOU! I have SET IT in Place; I have put EVERYTHING required in Place, for you.

So Abraham is going to PLAY A ROLE;

Now, if you read the original Promise that Romans Chapter 4 is quoting; read it in Genesis 17:4-6.

I want you to listen carefully to what God said in the three (3) verses.

And God said something DIFFERENT in each Verse;

4 "As for Me, behold, My Covenant is with you, and YOU SHALL BE a father of many Nations.

5 No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I HAVE MADE YOU a father of many Nations.

6 I will MAKE YOU exceedingly fruitful; and I will MAKE NATIONS of you, and Kings shall come from you.

I want you to note the sequence of the Message he (Abraham) is receiving:

Verse 4: 'YOU SHALL BE, - is Future Tense.

"YOU SHALL BE a father of many Nations."

... This is God's Plans!

He said: Abraham, this is what you will be - "YOU SHALL BE a Father of many Nations."

God wants you to BECOME!

God wanted Abraham to be SOMEBODY, to be SOMETHING.

Somebody say: I WILL BE!

Verse 5 says: I HAVE MADE YOU - Past Tense!

I HAVE MADE YOU - is Past!

In other words: You WILL BE because I have MADE YOU.

Your Destiny is in the Future, but my Assignment has already occurred in the PAST.

I HAVE MADE YOU the Father of many Nations; and you SHALL BE in the future.

Verse 6: 'I WILL MAKE YOU' - It's a Continuous Tense.

So, the three (3) Tenses that Abraham is believing him:

First (1st) - God said: I have MADE YOU - Past. So you WILL BE in your future.

And from now till your future, I WILL MAKE YOU.

- So, there is a PROCESS God is going to take you through:

- There is something He has ESTABLISHED in the PAST;

- And there is something you are going to BE in the FUTURE.

There is a FUTURE for you; it is SETTLED in the PAST; and God is taking you in the PROCESS.

... YOU SHALL BE!

Somebody say: I SHALL BE!

I don't know whether that is good English or not; but that is GOOD FAITH.

Say: I SHALL BE; because I HAVE BEEN MADE.

That is what God says; "I have MADE YOU, so you SHALL BE, and I will MAKE you EXCEEDINGLY FRUITFUL.

How are you you going to be a Father of many Nations?

I will make you Exceedingly Fruitful.

So there is a PROCESS of Exceedingly Fruitful that is going to end up in Abraham BECOMING the Father of many Nations but it is all based on the fact that 'GOD HAD ALREADY MADE HIM.'

... I have MADE YOU the Father of many Nations!

God doesn't just want to give you trickles of Blessing; He wants to MAKE YOU a BLESSING.

He doesn't just want you to receive a Blessing; He wants to MAKE YOU BLESSED.

He doesn't just want to Promote you; He wants to MAKE YOU the HEAD.

He doesn't just want to give you Healing; He wants to MAKE YOU HEALTHY.

I have MADE YOU! And because of that, YOU SHALL BE - Amen!

Now, Abraham has two (2) things he has to deal with:

SCENARIO NO. 1: What LIFE has MADE HIM - he is OLD.

TIME is against him, his body is 'DEAD'; He has no NO CHILD.

... That is scenario No. 1.

SCENARIO NO. 2: I have MADE YOU, and you SHALL BE. And I will continuously MAKE YOU Fruitful.

Abraham had two (2) Options:

Either to say: Hmmm! I like what you are saying oooo; but look at me - I still have no child, I am already OLD, I am going nowhere!

... But that is not what he did!

Between the two (2) options, he chose one (1).

So let us look at whom Abraham believed - Either he believed himself or he believed God.

At every point, you have to choose whom to believe - You either believe what Life has MADE YOU, or what GOD has MADE you.

And the Passage says: And Abraham BELIEVED God! He fixed his Faith on God: As the One Who REVIVES the Dead (He gives life to the dead);

And He calls the things which do not exist as though they exist; He brings nonexistent things into Existence.

... He (Abraham) BELIEVED GOD.

There is something God has MADE in you, that you must BECOME.

May be your mind is fixed - Oh God give me this, Oh God give me that!

And you are looking at the items; When God is looking at PERSON HOOD - your Personality. He wants to MAKE YOU something!

When God MAKES YOU the HEAD, nobody can bring you down.

When God MAKES YOU the PROSPEROUS, Poverty will be afraid of you.

When God MAKES YOU the HEALTHY, sickness runs away from you!

But if all you are doing is believing God for one (1) ITEM at a time; one (1) Child at a time; it is going to take you a long time in your journey.

But when you believe God to be a FATHER; then you having children becomes normal.

That is what God is saying to Abraham: 'I don't want you to just believe for one (1) ITEM at time; I want you to Believe to BECOME SOMETHING.

So that out of what you have BECOME, you will Produce EVERYTHING that is needed at every Phase.

So Abraham believed God!

Let us look at what Abraham did?

The Bible says that "Contrary to Hope".

"Contrary to Hope" simply means, when there was no hope, he had HOPE.

When it was hopeless, he had HOPE. When it was hopeless, she had HOPE.

Can you say: 'When it was hopeless I has hope?'

In other words, when the case was Bad, Bad, Bad! Abraham decided - I still trust God! I will be a Father of many Nations.

I will BE! I don't have a child now, I WILL HAVE!

So, by some Method, he had the first (1st) one - Ishmael. Then he said: well, maybe I am the father of many nations now.

God said, No! That's not it - Sarah is going to Produce one (1).

He (Abraham) said: I taught Hagar is Young. It's an easy Miracle to believe.

God said: No, Sarah the Old Lady!

When you are Old, a Miracle includes an Old Person.

... Contrary to hope, you must have HOPE.

So, Sarah has a child - But God didn't say 'I will give you two (2) children; He said: I will MAKE YOU a Father of MANY NATIONS.

Two (2) children are not going to make NATIONS!

So Sarah dies; then Abraham said, well, I am still a Father of many Nations. He went to marry again (Keturah).

... I am sure she was a Younger Person.

Six (6) sons! Abraham what happened? You couldn't even believe for one (1); now you are Producing six (6)!

WHY? Because he has BECOME!

When you BECOME, what you couldn't receive as an Individual, you are able to Produce in SEQUENCE.

May God cause you to BECOME - Not just to receive Prosperity, not just to receive Abundance, not just to receive Healing but to BECOME Healthy.

And Abraham BECAME the Father of many Nations; according to the Word of the Lord.

I don't know about you; I just feel to encourage somebody that God wants you to BECOME.

You must BECOME GREAT, you must BECOME MIGHTY, you must BECOME STRONG, you must BECOME BLESSED - Amen!

You should BECOME Ala Blessed Person so that BLESSING could follow you.

You must be the HEAD, you must be HIGHLY FAVOURED. You must be ABUNDANT; so that you can receive ABUNDANCE.

There is Faith, to receive one (1) thing from God and there is also Faith, to BECOME something for God.

And if you Trust God to make you BECOME, then it is very easy for you to RECEIVE.

So today I ask you: "WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BECOME?"

... NOT what you want God to do for you, but what you want to BECOME.

1. Do you want to be a BLESSING to your Generation?

2. Do you want to be Influential?

For Abraham, he BECAME the FATHER of many Nations - A Nation that came out of his children and his Children's children.

Ishmael's Descendants - Many Nations!

Isaac's Descendants - We know them (ISRAEL)!

And the Six (6) other Boys - they also became Nations - And for your information, most of them became African Nations!

For all know - You are one (1) of them because Keturah was a Black Woman and she produced those children - six (6) of them!

So for Abraham, you have a Nation from Ishmael, from Isaac and from Keturah. And in their children and their children's children.

If you look at the sequence truly, he BECAME the FATHER of MANY NATIONS.

And not only Physical Nations, but Spiritual Nations as well.

Because the Bible says: "Those who are of Faith in Christ, they are the children of Abraham."

So, if you look at it; in every Nation of this world, there is a CHILD of Abraham in that Nation - In every Continent, on every Island, in every Place; there is a Descendant of Abraham.

... Either a Physical Descendant or a Spiritual Descendant.

And all because he moved from believing God for a THING; to believing God to BECOME.

And when he BECAME, then things started FLOWING out of him - Blessing flowed out of him, Abundance flowed out of him, Children flowed out of him. It touches children, it touches children's children, it touches generations after him because he has BECOME.

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When you BECOME, nobody can change your status any longer. You BECOME that for the Glory of God!

So, I don't know what you want to BECOME. Maybe you want to BECOME:

- A Mother of many Nations;

- A Father of many Nations.

... Think about it as we go on.

ALTAR CALL

But as we are getting ready to Pray, there is something else you must BECOME.

A man came to Jesus Christ at Night (he is called Nicodemus). He started talking to Jesus. And said Jesus: You are a Great Man, you are a Great Teacher; Nobody can do the things that you do.

And Jesus said: Except a man BECOMES Born Again!

... Not just have your sins forgiven - It is Possible to have your sins forgiven, and NOT become Born Again.

"Except a man BECOMES Born Again; he cannot see the Kingdom of God.

So, this morning, some of you need to BECOME children of God. You need to BECOME Born Again!

Not just have your sins forgiven; not just go to Church; not just love God; not just for God to love you but you must BE in actuality - A CHILD OF GOD.

So whilst we are Praying and talking to God, if you want to give your life to God and be Born Again; just talk to God and say: I want to BE Your Child. Not just forgiving my sins - I want to BE Your CHILD.

And we trust God that this morning, you will BECOME Born Again!

And if you are believing God for anything else, may the Lord cause you to BECOME, in Jesus' Name - Amen!

Let's say this PRAYER TOGETHER wherever you are you - Watching me, listening to me or reading now on the Label of DMC. Just say with me:

HEAVENLY FATHER, I THANK YOU THAT JESUS DIED FOR ME. HE IS THE SON OF GOD. AND I BELIEVE IN HIM, AS MY SAVIOUR, AS MY REDEEMER; TO BECOME A CHILD OF GOD.

AND I BELIEVE IN CHRIST FOR SALVATION - TOTAL SALVATION. I BELIEVE IN CHRIST FOR HEALING AND FOR HEALTH. LET ME BE HEALTHY! LET ME PROSPER; LET ME BE PROSPEROUS! LET ME GO AHEAD AND LET ME BE THE HEAD!

I DECLARE TODAY: I AM BLESSED OF GOD. I AM FAVOURED OF GOD. I AM THE HEAD AND NOT THE TAIL. I AM THE APPLE OF GOD'S EYE.

AND I RECEIVE TODAY - TO BE WHOM GOD SAYS I AM! C R E W

IN JESUS' NAME -AMEN!!!

If you truly believe that, why don't you give God some PRAISE wherever you are (reading on the Label of DMC).

And THANK God that you are Who He says you ARE. You haven't just received Salvation - YOU HAVE BECOME.

I am BLESSED, and Nobody can change it!

I am FAVOURED, and nobody can change it.

... They may hate you, they may fight you, they may criticize you; but when you are BLESSED, it is Irrevocable, it is Immutable, because it is your NATURE for BLESSING to flow out of you.

And you are one (1) of those People - You are BLESSED, and you can't help it but BLESSING will flow out of you!

In Jesus' Name -AMEN and AMEN and AMEN!!!!



11TH OCTOBER, 2020 - TOPIC: FAITH TO BECOME - PART 2



TEXT: PHILIPPIANS 3:12

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Amen! - Let us rise together wherever you are (or reading on the Label of DMC) as we make our DECLARATIONS OF EXCELLENCE, in this Year of Excellence.

... Are you READY?

SAY WITH ME:

Out of Zion, the Perfection of Beauty, God shines forth. The Lord my God causes the righteous to shine forth as the Sun.

His Awesome Hands has formed me; His Creative Spirit inspires my mind. He skillfully guides my hands.

Therefore, I boldly declare: I am set apart for Excellence. The Ruler of the Universe has exalted my horn among the Nations. He sets my feet on high! In His Strength, I rise!

By Faith, I Press forward towards the Prize of my Highest Calling.

I believe in my heart, and confess with my mouth: that Jesus is Lord! He is the Vine, I am the Branch; in Him I abide, in Him I Blossom.

As it is written: God, who commanded Light out of darkness, has shone His Light in our hearts;

We have His Treasure in Earthen Vessels. That the Excellence of the Power may be of God, and not of us!

In this Year, I commit to EXCELLENCE, I commit to EXCEPTIONALISM, I commit to do the EXTRAORDINARY.

In Jesus' Name - Amen and Amen and Amen and Amen!

And you may be seated in God's Presence wherever you are joining us or reading on the Label of DMC.

I am doing Part Two (2) of my Message which I began last week: "FAITH TO BECOME (PART 2)".

... The Concluding Part of my Two (2) Parts Message.

Last week, we looked at Abraham. We looked at his journey of Faith and we established that:

Abraham exercised Faith - NOT just to receive a son, but to BECOME a Father of many Nations.

That God is not just interested in giving us things, He wants us to BECOME something!

And I trust that each one (1) of us would become:

1. what God says WE ARE.

2. And we would become WHOM He says WE ARE.

3. And we would RISE to the place that He has APPOINTED for us!

DMC NOTES: You can get to read the Full Text of the Part 1 of the Series on this Link:

<https://discoverymediacrew.com/Faith-To-Become-Part-1-Dr-Mensah-Otabil>

Today, we would look at a verse we have looked at a few times - Especially this year under our Theme of Excellence;

And it's in a Chapter of the New Testament - that sets out what I considered to be: 'The Mindset of the Apostle Paul.

Philippians 3:12 (NKJV). And this is what it says:

"Not that I have already attained, or am already Perfected; but I PRESS ON, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also LAID HOLD of me".

That one (1) verse captures very clearly, the Mindset of the Apostle Paul - It tells us how he views life, in relation to his Purpose here on Earth.

And we can sum up the statement of Paul or his Mindset, in two (2) Statements:

1. The first (1st) Statement is: "Christ has made me WHOM I should be.

And how do we come to that conclusion?

Because he said; ... That for which Christ Jesus has also LAID HOLD of me.

What Paul is saying is that there is something - "Christ has MADE ME (something!)"

And the Picture here, that I want you to have in your mind, is that: Christ has TAKEN HOLD of you

Then He says - This is what I have MADE YOU.

And that is what Paul is saying; Christ has LAID HOLD of me.

That Phrase ' LAID HOLD ' could also be interpreted as 'ARRESTED me'. He has 'CAUGHT me and MADE ME something.

... Christ has LAID HOLD of me!

So, what Paul is saying is: Christ has made me WHOM I should be!

2. The second (2nd) Statement is that: "I must BECOME whom Christ has MADE ME."

... Christ has MADE ME something, I MUST BECOME that!

So, Paul said: I Press on, that I may LAY HOLD of it! He has LAID HOLD of me, and I must LAY HOLD of what He has laid hold of!

So, his determination in life, his push in life was not to GET something, but to BECOME the Person that God says, he is!

... And that should be our endeavour - We must know what we have been MADE; and we must BECOME what we have been made!

God is not just interested in GIVING us things;

... Yes, He GIVES us things!

But He wants us to BECOME something!

For Abraham, he had to BECOME the father of many Nations.

And for Paul, he says: I must BECOME what Christ has LAID HOLD of me.

So we see that Paul's Faith was like that of Abraham - BOTH of them, wanted to BECOME!

... THE FAITH TO BECOME.

When we have the Faith to BECOME, we can say that:

1. If Christ has LAID HOLD, I must become held

2. If Christ has made me Triumphant, I must become Triumphant.

3. If Christ has made me a Sweet Aroma, I must become A Sweet Aroma.

4. If Christ has made me More Than a Conqueror, I must become More Than a Conqueror.

That is what Paul is saying - Whatever He has LAID HOLD of me, is what I WANT TO BE.

... It is the FAITH to BECOME!

And in God's Mind, there is something He has made YOU; and you MUST become that!

You must PUSH, you must PRESS ON, you must FOCUS, you must WORK HARD to BECOME whom you have been MADE to become!

Because what we BECOME, determines what we do.

- What I BECOME, determines what I DO;

- WHOM I am, determines how I ACT;

- Who I AM, determines what I HAVE.

Now with that in mind - Having established that foundation; I want to take us to a Statement in the Psalms that Jesus Christ referred to, and the Apostle referred to a couple of times - And it is Psalms 118 (It is Part of what is know as the HALEY PSALMS).

The Haley Psalms were Psalms of Praise, and it starts from Psalms 113 to 118 - And Psalms 118 is the end of the Haley Psalms.

And when you read the Psalms, normally, you will get to know whom God used to write - whether it is David or somebody else.

But this Psalms 118 does not declare who wrote it - Some believed that it was written by David;

And i tend to believed that it was written by David; because the language is very 'Davidic.'

And some believed David wrote this Psalms when he was ascending the throne as King!

And others think this Psalms was written when Judah had returned from exile.

But whether it was David, or it was written later; the truth is: The Holy Spirit INSPIRED it and it has relevance to us!

And the whole of Psalms 118 is important. But I am just going to focus on Verses 21 to 23;

But before I read these verses (21 to 23); I am just going to pick selected Verses of Psalms 118 to give us a Picture, so that Verses 21-23 can make sense to us.

So I will be reading randomly, certain Verses of Psalms 118 - Just listen to it.

Psalms 118;

5 I called on the Lord in distress; The Lord answered me and set me in a broad place.

8 It is better to trust in the Lord Than to put confidence in man.

10 All Nations surrounded me,

But in the Name of the Lord I will destroy them.

13 You pushed me violently, that I might fall, But the Lord helped me.

14 The Lord is my Strength and song, And He has become my salvation.

Now with that in mind, I read to you where I am focusing - Psalms 118: 21-23

21. I will Praise You, for You have answered me, and have become my Salvation.

22. The stone which the builders rejected Has BECOME the Chief cornerstone.

23. This was the Lord's doing; it is Marvelous in our eyes.

... I will read the verse 22 again:

"The STONE which the BUILDERS REJECTED Has BECOME the CHIEF Cornerstone."

Now, if you read Psalms 118 a bit closely (from verse 10-12) he speaks about being surrounded on every side.

And then in verse 13, he says: "You PUSHED me violently."

So, I want you to get the impression very clearly - the Psalmist say; "I have been surrounded on every side."

And then the next verse he says "You PUSHED me violently."

So it is obvious, the People who had surrounded him, are the ones who PUSHED him violently;

... That he might fall.

And then in verse 22 he says: "The STONE which the BUILDERS REJECTED Has BECOME the CHIEF Cornerstone."

So, when he talks about the REJECTION (in the context of this Psalms) is not the CASUAL rejection; it is a rejection based on verse 13, - "You PUSHED me violently."

So the rejection is a VIOLENT rejection. It gives the impression of someone who has been VIOLENTLY rejected.

Now, What is a VIOLENT REJECTION?

A VIOLENT REJECTION is like when somebody puts something very nasty, slimy in your hand.

You know what to do? You just THROW it away

... That is the impression that he wants us to have!

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The Stone which the Builders rejected, was not just put aside quietly; it was PUSHED aside VIOLENTLY.

So the Psalmist is saying that; I have been REJECTED; and I have been rejected VIOLENTLY.

I don't know about you: There are People who have been rejected; they have been rejected VIOLENTLY - But you are about to BECOME something!

And if we look closely at the Psalms, in the Verse 22 (Psalms 118:21).

I want you to take note of two (2) things:

1. The STONE.

... Somebody say - 'The Stone!'

The Stone represents an individual seeking to find his Place.

Because a stone cannot be a building; it must be JOINED to others to BECOME a Building.

But the Psalmist says: 'I am a Stone.' I am looking for my Place; I need to play a role, I need to become significant.

And there are many of us who feel like a Stone: We need to connect to something, we need to achieve something, we need to become something.

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But then, the STONE is dealing with the BUILDERS.

The BUILDERS there refer to those who determine which STONE is SUITABLE - The BUILDERS are the ones who selects the STONE.

They have the idea of what is right for a Purpose, and what is not right for a Purpose.

Their Opinion will either give you VALUE or DEVALUE you.

And the BUILDER determines where to Place a STONE.

I want you to get this: The Psalmist sees himself as the STONE.

And he says: 'That which I am is subject to a BUILDER.

And the BUILDER determines whether I have value or NOT; whether I FIT, or not!

The BUILDER can represent anything.

The BUILDER could be the Family System, could be the School System, could be the Workplace, could be a Political System.

The STONE is looking for RELEVANCE;

... But the Builder REJECTED him!

The STONE wants to be Part of a building; but the BUILDER rejected him!

*In other words:

1. The Person who has Power to determine your usefulness, threw you away!
2. The Person who has Power to determine whether you FIT or not; looked at you and said you don't fit.

... And violently throws you away.

Now, there are all kinds of Builders in life.

They are what I call

- The EXTERNAL Builders, and
- The INTERNAL Builders.

The EXTERNAL are those who are threatened by your Gifts.

Those who measure you wrongly, and those who are already determining that their Favourites should win.

And so they reject you because, they already FIX the Winner!

But sometimes, it is not just the External who is rejecting us; but we OURSELVES (The INTERNAL) can do things to reject ourselves.

- We don't give out BEST;
- We don't VALUE why we have;
- And some times we are NOT READY yet.

So if you look at the Passage, there are two kinds of Stones:

1. The first (1ST) one is what I am talking about - The REJECTED STONE.

... And that REJECTION comes from the BUILDER.

The STONE is REJECTED in a Building Process;

Not considered FIT to be used!

You know, life has a way of discarding People.

Some times you go to School, and the School System DISCARD you - You have no value.

... The School System Spews you out.

In your Family, you can be DISCARDED - You have no view; among your friends, you can be DISCARDED - VIOLENTLY thrown away!

It is the STONE that has been REJECTED!

And many of you are STONES that have been REJECTED.

... But that is not the only stone here;

There is also the ELEVATED STONE.

The ELEVATED STONE is the DOING of the Lord

Now, when you look at the Psalms; something very interesting is there. It says: "The stone which the Builders rejected

Has become the Chief CORNERSTONE."

The BUILDER who rejected the STONE cannot be the same Builder who makes the STONE a CORNERSTONE.

... Because the Rejector is not the Acceptor!

So the Rejector tells the STONE: You are not FIT and throws it away! - 'You cannot be Part of what I am building.'

Then you look back, and you see that this same STONE (that has been REJECTED) is now the CHIEF CORNERSTONE in the same BUILDING, where he was REJECTED.

So, somebody took what was rejected, brought it back; and without the Builder's Permission;

Position the Stone in a Place of advantage.

The STONE rejected by men, is now set as a CORNERSTONE.

The word 'CORNERSTONE' is in Hebrew. It can be interpreted in two (2) ways:

1. First (1st) it can be interpreted as a Foundation Stone (A Cornerstone).

... But that is not the only interpretation;

2. Sometimes it is translated as the 'CAPSTONE'.

That means after all the Building has been put together;

It is the stone to be Put on the Building to showcase the Building.

So when you look at the Building, the first (1st) thing you see is the CAPSTONE.

... And I believed that is what the Text has in mind!

It is not a Foundation (that is hidden); but a CAPSTONE - that is OBVIOUS.

One moment, VIOLENTLY thrown away! The next moment PLACED in a Place of PROMINENCE.

And then the Psalmist says: "This is the DOING of the Lord, and it is MARVELLOUS in our sight."

Somebody who was rejected is about to BECOME.

You will BECOME the Capstone, the Advertisement, the Sign Board, the Measure of Success; because God TOOK you and PLACED you - Amen!

The STONE that the Builders REJECTED, will BECOME!

... Somebody say: I WILL BECOME!

When God takes you - Where man had REJECTED you, or man THREW you away; God will PLACE you - Amen!

*When you BECOME whom God says you ARE; He will PLACE you where He says you will be - Amen!

It is the FAITH to BECOME a CORNERSTONE.

And today, I just brought you a very simple word:

That God has APPOINTED you to be a CORNERSTONE.

... Somebody say: 'I WILL BECOME A CORNERSTONE!'

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A CORNERSTONE is a stone that is set in PROMINENCE - On TOP of the Building.

For you to become that, we have to be like ABRAHAM: Considered not the words and the actions against you:

1. You will hear words of Rejection; People will dismiss you; but don't dismiss yourself.
2. Your School may dismiss you, you may Fail your examinations. You may find other People who get all the right Passes and you get all the right Failures;

But you must not consider that; because Abraham did not consider his dead body, or the deadness of Sarah's womb; he considered the Faithfulness of God.

Faith to BECOME - starts when you don't allow what People REJECT of you to get inside you.

Because there are People from Rejected Families; there are People from Rejected Backgrounds.

There are people whom everybody takes a look at, and say: 'You are Good for Nothing!'

If anybody ever told you that: 'You are Good for Nothing'; I am here to announce to you; you will BECOME the CORNERSTONE.

If somebody said you were a Failure; you will BECOME a CORNERSTONE.

If life rejected you; Yyou are about to BECOME a CORNERSTONE.

*The STONE which the Builder Rejected; the STONE That the School Rejected; the tlTeacher Rejected, the Parents Rejected, the Brothers Rejected, the Friends Rejected;

Everybody looked at you and said: You are not it!

But you are about to BECOME - God's Signboard, God's Advertisement, God's Display!

And when People will look at you, they would say: 'How was the man who was REJECTED, able to STAND in this Place?'

And you can only answer in one way: 'This is the DOING of the Lord, and it is MARVELOUS in our sight.

... May God do a Marvelous work in your life - Amen!

May God do something Marvelous in your life; that when People look at you, the only explanation they can give is: "This is GOD - Amen!

They cannot Praise a Builder, they cannot Praise your School, they cannot Praise your Teacher; they cannot Praise the Government, they cannot Praise the Political System, they cannot Praise somebody who is Powerful.

The only thing they can say is: 'This one, was REJECTED; and This one is God's Signboard.

The only way this could ever happen, is the DOING of the Lord, and IT IS MARVELOUS in our sight.

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Somebody is about to come from Rejection, to BECOME the CORNERSTONE - Amen.

Somebody is going to be Pulled out of Rejection, and set in Place - Amen.

1. Consider NOT the words of REJECTION; they are the words of man.

2. Consider NOT those who threw you away; they are Human Beings and they are not God.

3. Consider NOT those who said you can amount to NOTHING because they are just People.

The BUILDERS may reject you; the BUILDERS may think you have no Value;

For some of you: Even your own Father said you have no VALUE; your own Mother said you had no VALUE, your own Husband said you had no VALUE; your own Wife said you are USELESS but God is going to take the STONE that was REJECTED by the BUILDER, and put it in Place of Prominence as CORNERSTONE.

He will bypass the BUILDERS and SET YOU UP - Amen. (Repeatedly).

Somebody say: I WILL BECOME A CORNERSTONE!

... You will BECOME it!

And you must have FAITH to BECOME a CORNERSTONE.

You must have FAITH that: "God will MAKE ME that which Christ has already established me to be!"

He says: "I am the HEAD and not the tail." And I am going to be the HEAD, and not the Tail.

The Bible is full of CORNERSTONES, who started as Rejection:

1. JOSEPH - was because of his DREAMS.

But he became a CORNERSTONE of his family!

The STONE his brothers rejected, became the Chief CORNERSTONE.

Maybe you have become the STONE that your brothers and your sisters and your classmates rejected;

Joseph was REJECTED because he dreamt too much! He was a Day Dreamer; thinking BIG. He was ambitious!

And sometimes People REJECTED you because your 'mouth' is too BIG; your Vision is too BIG - You think you are better than other People so they throw you away.

But Joseph became the CORNERSTONE for his family.

2. MOSES was REJECTED because he didn't belong.

He didn't belong to Pharaoh's house, and the Hebrews also, didn't accept him.

You know, the man who didn't have a location.

He was REJECTED as a Ruler and as a Judge; but he became the CORNERSTONE of his Nation.

The BUILDERS rejected him; but the Lord took him, and made him the CORNERSTONE.

And when he returned, they had to accepted him - He had been made God's CORNERSTONE.

Maybe your Nation has rejected you, but God will make you the CORNERSTONE - Amen

3. JESUS CHRIST was REJECTED by the world.

But He became the CORNERSTONE of the world!

Can you imagine that the Bible says: 'He came to His own, and His own did not RECEIVE Him.'

.. JESUS, rejected!

The Pharisees, great Religious Leaders said He had no place;

Sadducees, great Intellectuals - n!No place!

The Scribes, great Writers - No Place!

The Ordinary People - No Place!

But God has given Him the Name that is above every other names.

Rejected by the Builders; but PLACED by God.

So I came here just to encourage someone:

1. The Builders have rejected you; but God would Place you - Amen!
2. The People who think they control destinies, they have rejected you. But God would Establish you - Amen!
3. Consider not their Rejection; consider not the VIOLENCE with which they treated you.
4. Consider not the words of ABUSE and INSULTS that they mentioned when your name comes you.

Because God is about to Make you the CORNERSTONE;

Not hidden in the Foundation, but DISPLAYED at the Top of the Building - The CAPSTONE.

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The STONE which they didn't want anybody to see, is now God's Advertisement.

Somebody say: I WILL BECOME GOD'S CORNERSTONE:

1. In my Family, in my Workplace, among my Schoolmates, among my Friends;
2. In my Nation, in my world, I will BECOME a CAPSTONE, CORNERSTONE to the Glory of God

My life, will be a TESTIMONY to the Nations of the world - Amen!

They would see me, and say: "This is the DOING of the Lord, and it is MARVELOUS in our sight."

May God DECORATE you, and SHOWCASE you to the world - Amen.

May God AMPLIFY you and make you a TESTIMONY - Amen.

May He PICK you from REJECTION; and PLACE you in HONOUR in Jesus' Name - Amen!

If you believe that say Amen - AMEN!!!!

Say: I AM A CORNERSTONE TO MY GENERATION!

CLOSING PRAYER

Father we Thank You for every life that feels REJECTED; and we Pray that they would find their Place in Christ JESUS, the Chief CORNERSTONE, the Saviour, the Redeemer.

And if you don't know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, I just want to lead you briefly to Him.

Say with me: LORD JESUS, I ACCEPT YOU! YOU WERE REJECTED BY MEN. BUT I ACCEPT YOU AS MY LORD AND MY SAVIOUR.

I BELIEVE IN MY HEART THAT YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD; THAT GOD RAISED YOU FROM THE DEAD.

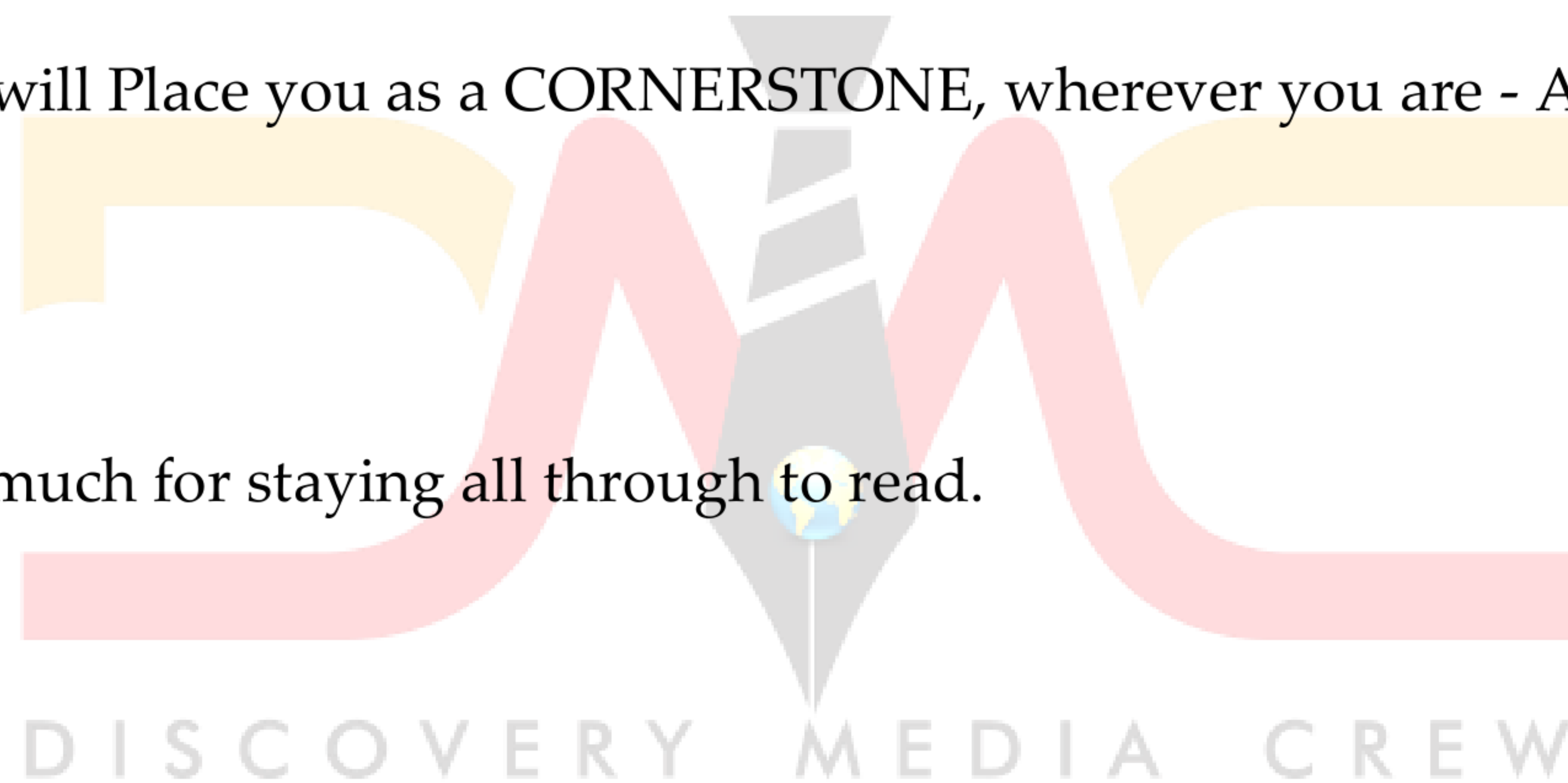
AND I DECLARE YOU AS MY LORD AND MY SAVIOUR. THANK YOU.

In Jesus' Name I Pray - Amen and Amen!

God Bless you for Listening and reading on the Label of DMC. And I trust God for all of you:

That the Lord will Place you as a CORNERSTONE, wherever you are - Amen!!!

Thank you so much for staying all through to read.



18TH OCTOBER, 2020 - TOPIC: FAITH TO REFUSE - PART 1



TEXT: HEBREWS 11:24-26

Amen! - Let us rise together wherever you are (or reading on the Label of DMC) as we make our DECLARATIONS OF EXCELLENCE, in this Year of Excellence.

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... Are you READY?

SAY WITH ME:

Out of Zion, the Perfection of Beauty, God shines forth. The Lord my God causes the righteous to shine forth as the Sun.

His Awesome Hands has formed me; His Creative Spirit inspires my mind. He skillfully guides my hands.

Therefore, I boldly declare: I am set apart for Excellence. The Ruler of the Universe has exalted my horn among the Nations. He sets my feet on high! In His Strength, I rise!

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By Faith, I Press forward towards the Prize of my Highest Calling.

I believe in my heart, and confess with my mouth: that Jesus is Lord! He is the Vine, I am the Branch; in Him I abide, in Him I Blossom.

As it is written: God, who commanded Light out of darkness, has shone His Light in our hearts;

We have His Treasure in Earthen Vessels. That the Excellence of the Power may be of God, and not of us!

In this Year, I commit to EXCELLENCE, I commit to EXCEPTIONALISM, I commit to do the EXTRAORDINARY.

In Jesus' Name - Amen and Amen and Amen and Amen!

And you may be seated in God's Presence wherever you are joining us or reading on the Label of DMC.

Today, I want to consider another aspect of Faith which I Title - "FAITH TO REFUSE".

Or if you want to be more dramatic: Faith to Reject.

And I will do it in two (2) Parts. So this is PART 1 of FAITH TO REFUSE.

When I talk about "FAITH TO REFUSE", it is the ability to reject wrong labels on your life.

It is the ability to reject being stuck in a place that God had not Purpose for you.

And it is the kind of Faith that Moses exercised in order for him to fulfil his Destiny.

And our Text would be taken from the Book of Hebrews 11:25-26.

If you are familiar with the Book of Hebrews Chapter 11; it is what is called "The Faith Hall of Fame".

Because the whole of the Book of Hebrews Chapter 11 is about Faith - It defines Faith, and then it shows us examples of Faith, mainly from both the Old Testament - Running through lives of people who lived by Faith.

So, Hebrews 11:25-26 (NKJV)

... And let us hear the reading of God's Word:

24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the Passing Pleasures of sin,

26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

I would want you to note three (3) words - Each occurring in each of the three (3) Verses above.

- In verse 24, note the word 'REFUSED';

- In verse 25 'CHOOSING';

- And in verse 26 'ESTEEMING'.

REFUSE, CHOOSE, ESTEEM.

In the Bible, there is an account of Egypt. And that is where Moses was!

... And there is a real historical Egypt.

However, many times throughout the Bible, Students of the Bible see Egypt also as a Symbol of Oppression or a Symbol of the World System.

So, in my Message today; I want you to see Egypt in that sense - As a World System, or as an Oppressive System.

... That is what Egypt was to Moses!

Moses was born in Egypt, a Nation that oppressed his people. And you and I are born into an Oppressive World System that also wants to keep us down!

But we are here to REFUSE and to REJECT being kept down.

So, our Passage today deals with Moses and how he REFUSED something that was supposed to be a blessing for him.

By faith Moses, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

To REFUSE simply means: To say NO to something.

Many of us know how to say YES, and have never learnt how to say NO.

But there are certain things in life that we must learn to say NO to!

And by FAITH, Moses was able to say NO - To Pharaoh's daughter.

And the Passage says that Moses was able to say NO, "When Moses became of age."

"By Faith Moses, when he BECAME OF AGE, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,"

The Phrase "BECAME OF AGE" is very important; because this 'became of age' (for Moses) happened when he was forty (40) years old.

... That is when he became fully aware of himself!

The Phrase "BECAME OF AGE" means when he reached Maturity - When he got to Maturity.

When he left Childhood and came to Maturity, he BECAME OF AGE!

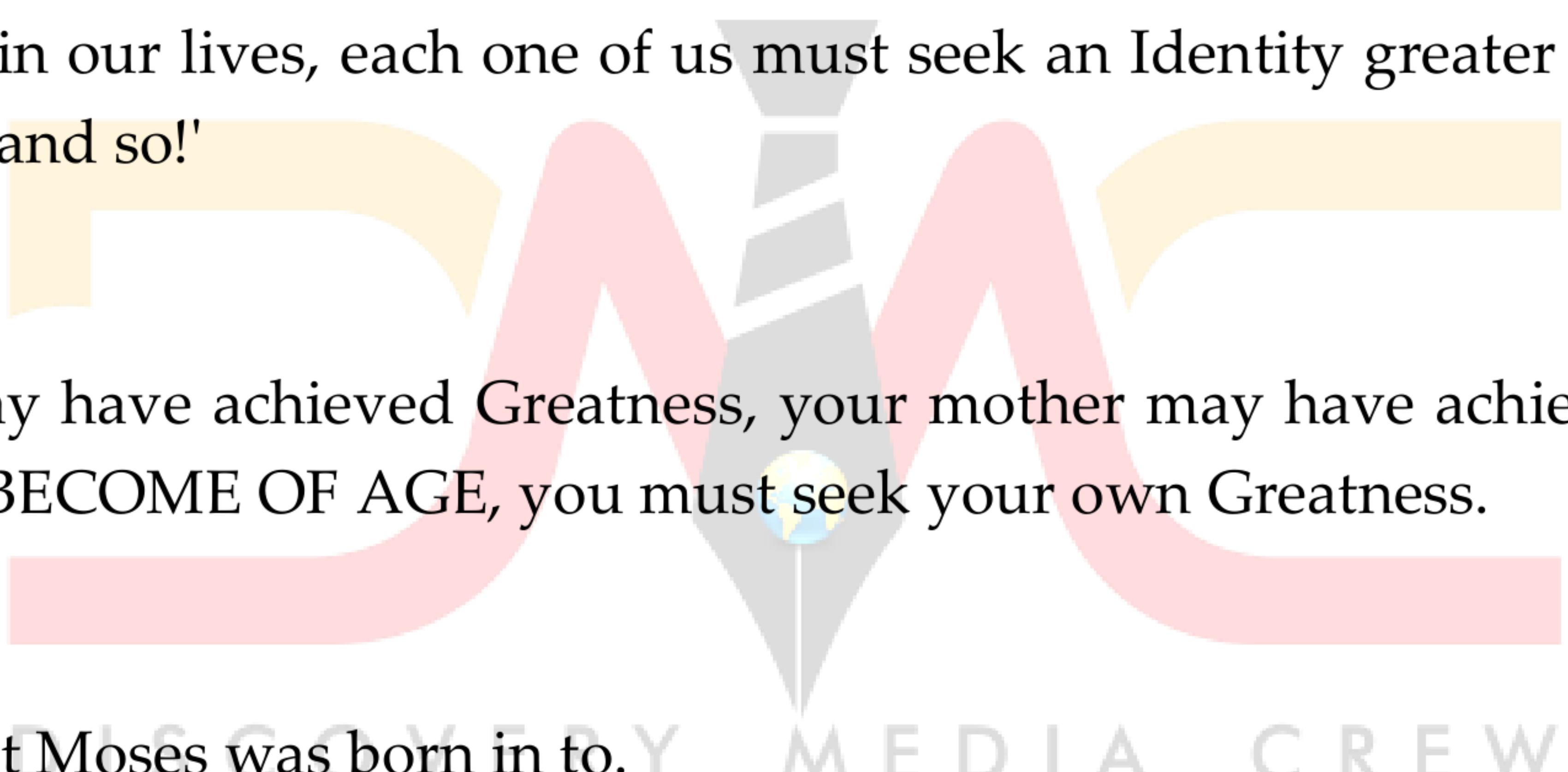
Interestingly, when you read the Original Language; the Phrase 'became of age' also means: To discover your Greatness.

So, when Moses became of age, he discovered his greatness; he found that his life was far BIGGER than just becoming a son Pharaoh's daughter.

And no matter how great your Parents are, you must discover your Greatness beyond your Parentage.

At some Point in our lives, each one of us must seek an Identity greater than just being 'the child of so and so!'

Your father may have achieved Greatness, your mother may have achieved Greatness; but when you BECOME OF AGE, you must seek your own Greatness.

And that's what Moses was born in to.  DISCOVERY MEDIA CREW

Or he grew up in a very Prestigious environment; but when he BECAME OF AGE, he discovered his own Greatness!

May God help you to discover your Greatness - Amen!

And the Book of Acts gives us some clarity as to how that happened.

Acts 7:23 says: "Now when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel".

"... It came into his heart."

That Phrase is another way of saying: IT DAWNED ON HIM; he became AWARE, or something BURNED in his heart.

When Moses reached this age, something KICKED inside him, and told him: YOU ARE BIGGER THAN THAT, MOSES! YOU ARE BETTER THAN THAT, MOSES! YOU ARE GREATER THAN THAT, MOSES!

Something touched him, and he knew that he had something to do with his life.

And there are moments on our lives when each one of us must COME OF AGE, and realise the Purpose of our lives!

Now, if you know the story of Moses; when Moses was a child there was a decree that was made by a Pharaoh of that time that every male child should be killed.

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That was not the decision Moses made, it was made by Pharaoh.

And his Parents made a decision for him: "That he was a Good child, he was a handsome child - and he would not die!"

And the Bible says: "They hid him for a long time and Prevented him from been destroyed".

Then when it was impossible to hide him, his Parents took him to a Place where he would be discovered by Pharaoh's daughter.

They knew where Pharaoh's daughter went to have her bath; and they took Moses, put him in a basket, put him in the river and waited, to see what would happen.

... And Moses was discovered by Pharaoh's daughter.

So, his Parents made the decision for him - A Good one!

Then Pharaoh's daughter discovered Moses, and made a decision that she would not allow this boy to be killed!

... But she would raise the boy as a Prince of Egypt!

So, she made a decision also, for Moses.

So far, good decisions are being made for Moses!

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His Parents had made a Good Decision for him; Pharaoh's daughter had made a Good Decision for him. Then when Moses came of age, he had to make a Decision for himself!

No matter the decisions that have been made for you; there comes a time when you have to make your own Decision!

... And he CAME OF AGE!

And Mose had grown with a label - And the label was "PRINCE OF EGYPT".

... That's his title - 'PRINCE OF EGYPT'.

If you lived in those times, I am sure there would be servants walking around him, and calling him 'Prince of Egypt'.

And Probably, there were umbrellas on top of him, with people carrying him.

He was the Privileged Boy - That was his label, that was his Title.

But his Mission was not PRINCE OF EGYPT.

His Mission was 'DELIVERER OF ISRAEL'.

So, he had a label that said: 'You are a Prince'; but his Mission was DELIVERER.

There are times when your label doesn't fit your Mission.

What you are called doesn't fit what you are called to do!

How people see you doesn't fit how God sees you!

And there are times when, a label you have inherited does not fit you.

For Moses, the label seemed to be a Good one! But some of us have grown up with some label that does not fit our Mission.

And today, I came to tell you; you can REFUSE the wrong label.

So, for everyone with a "Self Limiting Label": Something people say about you, something that people have imposed on you - They may have done it with Good Intention; but it's a limitation to your Mission.

... May God set you Free - Amen!

In the Bible you find many people who inherited a wrong label, but their Mission was Greater:

1. If you were JEPHTHAH, the label on your life says: 'Prostitute Son' (if you will be blunt). But the mission on your life says: 'The Lord's Warrior'.

So life says - You are a harlot son, but the Mission on your life says you are a Mighty Warrior.

2. If you were JABEZ, the label on your life says: 'You are a child of Pain.' But the Mission on your life says 'Possessor of a Large Territory'.

So, you have to choose the Label or the Mission

3. If you were PAUL, the label on your life says: 'Persecutor of the Church'. But the Mission on your life says: 'Planter of Churches'.

4. If you were DAVID, the label on your live says: 'Conceived in Iniquity'. But the Mission on your life says: 'The Man after God's heart'.

5. If you were ESTHER, the label on your life says: 'Orphan Slave Girl'. But the Mission of your life says: 'Queen and a National Influencer'.

6. If you were GIDEON, the label on your live says: 'Timid Farmer'. But the Mission on your life says: 'Mighty Man of Valour'.

I don't know about you: If there is a label upon your life that does not fit your Mission, you have to REJECT IT!

Somebody say: I REJECT IT!

And there are some people who have been wrongly labelled.

Maybe you made a mistake once (in your life time) and have determined that is who you are for your lifetime!

Maybe you made a mistake in Secondary School, and people want to make it your 'Time Mission' but you have to REJECT IT!

It was a mistake in the Past, but it was not your Destiny! - God has an Assignment for you, God has a Destiny for you.

... You will FULFIL IT - Amen!

When you grow up as an African, you inherit a label: 'Third (3rd) World'. But your Mission is not third (3rd) world.

My mission is not Third (3rd) World - My Mission is a "WORLD CHANGER"; my Mission is a "GLOBAL INFLUENCER".

... That is your MISSION!

The world may call you THIRD (3RD) but you are FIRST (1ST) on God's mind!

So, Moses had a label: 'PRINCE OF EGYPT'. It seemed like a Pretty Good one! But the Mission was greater than 'Prince of Egypt'.

In fact, if he had remained Prince of Egypt, we would never have heard of him. But he took on the Mission 'Liberator of God's people - Israel'.

And we are still talking about Moses, because he moved from the Label to the Mission!

So What did Moses do, when he BECAME OF AGE?

There are Three (3) Main Things he did:

1. He REFUSED the wrong Label.

"By Faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter" - Hebrews 11:24.

He did it by Faith!

He REFUSED to be called by a Label that was not his Mission. He stopped living by his childhood fear.

Fear had been Part of Moses' life:

I. It was fear that landed him in the Palace of Pharaoh.

II. It was the fear of his Parents that dictated all the choices they made for him.

And there are adults who are still living by their 'Childhood Fear' - The fear of your Past has your Potential.

There are decisions that Parents make for their children out of fear - 'Don't do that, don't drink that, don't aspire to do that, the world is dangerous, there are witches, there are wizards, our family is hard, things are tough, be careful!'

... And that imposes a burden on you!

DISCOVERY MEDIA CREW

The fear of your Childhood has become a Limitation of your future

I came to announce to somebody: It is time to REJECT the FEAR of your CHILDHOOD.

In the midst of witches you will Prosper - Amen!

You can't live your life looking to see which Aunty is coming after you; which Uncle is coming after you; what System is coming after you!

You have to live your life - Looking at the Vision God has for you, the Mission ahead of you and fulfilling Destiny.

Someone say: I REFUSE THE WRONG LABEL!

He stopped living by his Childhood Fear and he stopped living a life of lie! - Moses life was a LIE for forty (40) years.

... He was called an Egyptian, but he was a Hebrew.

There was a time that, that Pretense Probably saved his life! But at this Point, it had no Point.

And there are some people who had continued to live a life of lie - You boasted of a School you didn't attend; you Pride yourself in Grades you didn't have; you Pride yourself to have Passed Test that you failed; you Point to houses that are not yours; you Point to relatives that you are not related to.

DISCOVERY MEDIA CREW

.. All to boost your Self Esteem!

But a time has come, when you are of age; you have to come out as you are!

... 'I am not an Egyptian' Moses said! I'm a HEBREW.

It may have helped you to deal with issues in your Past but it is no longer helping you, because you cannot continue Pretending to be who you are not.

You cannot continue running away from the Mission that God has given to you; because it seems dangerous for you.

Moses REFUSED the wrong Label.

And there are people who must refuse the wrong Label:

I. Somebody just saw you once, and conclude, this is how far you will go!

II. Your Teacher just mark one Paper of yours, and told you, you are not smart.

Maybe he marked your Term Paper, and told you you are not smart, you cannot achieve much, you don't have the intelligence.

III. Somebody saw you failed on one area, and tells you to be careful of that area that is not your ability!

DISCOVERY MEDIA CREW

And you imprison yourself in a wrong Label; when God has called you in a Mission greater than the Label of your Fears and the Label of your Limitations!

May God set you Free - Amen; may you stop living a life of lie - Amen; may God give you the Victory - Amen!

Somebody say: I REFUSE every wrong Label.

Moses did not only REFUSE a Label;

2. But he CHOSE God's Mission.

"Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the Passing Pleasures of sin" - Hebrews 11:25

For Moses, it was a very tough choice because the Label he was rejecting and what he was choosing; it seemed like he was moving away from something Good, to something Hard.

But Moses accepted his Divine Calling, and he acted in line with God's Mission.

He actually started doing something about it.

People didn't accept it; he tried to act like a Liberator not like a Pampered Prince!

When God had a Mission for you, it will always conflict with the Label that has been put on your life!

The Label on my life (when I was growing up) is not the Mission I'm living out now!

If I had lived by the Label on my life, I would be no where near Pulpit; I would be no where near Preaching - Because when I was young, I wasn't brilliant! I wasn't a smart Student, I was Borderline.

You know what Borderline is?

I remembered one time in our School, when you failed, you repeated or you were thrown away!

And my name was just on top of the red line - Mensah Otabil (right there)!

And if somebody had just added one more mark, I would go beyond the Red line.

But you see, my Mission is not based on how I am assessed in the classroom because my Destiny is BIGGER than my Report Card.

My Report Card may say 'Borderline Average, you can't do much but my MISSION is GREATER than that!

And I had to choose God's Mission for my life.

I had to choose! And it's amazing what happens when you choose God's way!

All of a sudden, you become Intelligent! All of a sudden, you become capable! All of a sudden, the Fear that made you Underperformed is gone.

And you are now Performing, and Over-Performing.

WHY? - Because you REFUSED the wrong Label and you have CHOSEN the Mission of God.

May God HELP YOU - Amen!

Moses chose God's Mission for his life.

How could Moses do that? How could he make such a choice?

... That's the Third (3rd) Point;

3. He ESTEEMED God's Mission.

Because the Bible says: "Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward" - Hebrews 11:26

He saw God's Mission as more SIGNIFICANT;

He compared the Mission that God had for him with the Label that Egypt had given to Him, and he said "What God has for me, is BETTER!"

... And he expected his rewards from God.

There are people living in their forties, and their fifties, in their sixties. I dare say - there are seventies and eighties and lives they are living as adults, is based on a Label that was put on them when they were children.

When they were children they were called: 'You are a Bad Boy, you are a bad Girl' maybe because they went behind the house to smoke.

And all of a sudden everybody says: 'He is a bad Boy' because he smoked something. Or she is a Bad Girl because she went to do something with somebody - She was caught with a boy behind the house; under a tree. Just caught with a boy. A silly boy anyway! And all of a sudden everybody says 'you're a bad Girl'.

And the sad thing is, you grow up saying: 'As for me, I am bad oh.'

You have accepted a Label based on one tiny mistake you made as a child.

And everybody says you are a sex addict, you are a drug addict, you are a drunkard, you are weak because of some Label, some Mistake of your Childhood.

And there you are, struggling at forty, struggling at fifty, struggling at Sixty. Because you cannot shake this Label off you.

Today, I came to announce Deliverance to every Captives: By FAITH, you will REFUSE the wrong Label - Amen.

To some of you, the Label has been, 'Small Boy', 'Small Girl'.

I remembered when I started working - I was quite young but I was working.

And there was one of the Staff Members - A Senior who just decided, he had to call me 'Small Boy'.

And for whatever reason, I am not competing with you. I was just much younger than him and every time he will call me 'SMALL BOY'.

One day I summoned the courage, I said: Sir, I am not a small Boy. Why are you calling me 'Small Boy?'

He said, you are a small Boy! And he didn't change it!

And then years later, I went to Preach somewhere in the United States, and he was there.
And he came to see me after!

And he said, oh my Boss.

Sir! I said, when did this small become my Boss?

But you know, there are people who want to belittle you, they will call you names. Even when you reject it, they will call you because they want you to accept your weakness, your inability, incapacity. They want to put you under their feet!

But I came to announce to somebody: God has a Mission for your life, and you will REFUSE IT!

Pharaohs daughter said: I found you in the River - Moses I saved you, without me you are nothing! Without me you are going nowhere! You are my BOY, you belong to Egypt, you belong to me. This is your future.

DISCOVERY MEDIA CREW

Moses says: Thank you for all you did for me! I appreciate it but my Destiny is not limited to where you want me to be. I REFUSE to stay under your Shadow!

And by FAITH, Moses CHOSE something better and Greater!

If you are an adult living in the shadow of your Youth; I came to announce Liberation to you!

If you are living a life, based on a Label that was put on you when you were twelve (12) years old; you didn't know any better! - They said you were a nice girl, and an Area Boy

kissed you, and you didn't know how to kiss! And then your Big Brother caught you. And then everybody in the area says you are a Bad Girl!

And they used the words I don't want to use - it doesn't befit you!

And you are an Adult now, and you still think: I am unclean, I am not worthy, I cannot be used by God. I cannot do anything great because somebody labelled me in my Youth!

... May God Deliver you - Amen!

Or maybe you started a class and you repeated the Class; and repeatedly it three (3) times. But you finally scaled through after repetitions and repetitions - So it becomes a Label on your head. 'You are SMART!'

I came to announce to you, that Label can be Rejected, and you can be somebody. And you can do something for God and for yourself.

Or maybe you went through a stage in your life; you Served! You were a houseboy, you were a house girl, you just served people.

And somebody has decided, you cannot Progress beyond that - This is who you are for life: Because you served, because you cleaned somebody's house or helped them. And they feel you cannot go beyond that!

I came to announce to you: There was a moment when you were a child. But when you COME OF AGE - when you become like Moses; Moses REFUSED and he CHOSE a better way!

Today God wants you to choose a better way!

And if you want to exercise your Faith to REFUSE, you have every right to refuse it!

You refuse Small Boy.

You refuse Third World.

If there is a Label that we must refuse as Africans, as Black people; it's THIRD WORLD NATION.

Third World Nation, Under developed - People treat us as if we can't help ourselves. They have to come up to help us before things can happen for us.

If they don't help Africa - Africa is dead! Africa cannot survive. Africa is the burden of the world!

... WE REFUSE THAT LABEL!

And if God has shown us during this Pandemic, that the Label of the world does not stick on us!

They said we are going to die lie flies; the world was Perplexed,: 'How are we going to handle Africa?' How are we going to handle those people who can't help themselves?

They can't help themselves, what kind of medicine will cure, oh Africa!

Who is Standing?

And the people who said they can handle themselves; they had the first wave of the virus, they couldn't handle it; second wave, they can't handle it!

And they are watching; what happened to those people?

.. It is called SIGN.

God gave us a Sign - To say Africa, the days of wearing the Label of Third World, of Weak, you can't do it, you can't make it, somebody must help you, if they don't help you, you are dying;

God says: Africa, the days are over! You have COME OF AGE!

And we choose the Mission of God; we are the Redeemers of the world. We are at the Top of the world. We are the head and the tail. We are Above, we are not beneath.

Because like Mose, we REJECT the wrong Label and we CHOOSE the Mission of God.

Lift up your hands with me:

For everyone struggling with the wrong Label, I don't know what Label you are struggling with. I don't know what you did that has trapped you.

CLOSING PRAYER

As from today, I speak into your spirit man; I speak a Release, I speak Freedom into your spirit, into your mind, into your heart;

I go back into your history, into your youth - in Primary School, in Secondary School, in University;

And I declare that every Label upon your life, in your neighbourhood, in your family, that has limited you, is broken today, in the Name of Jesus!

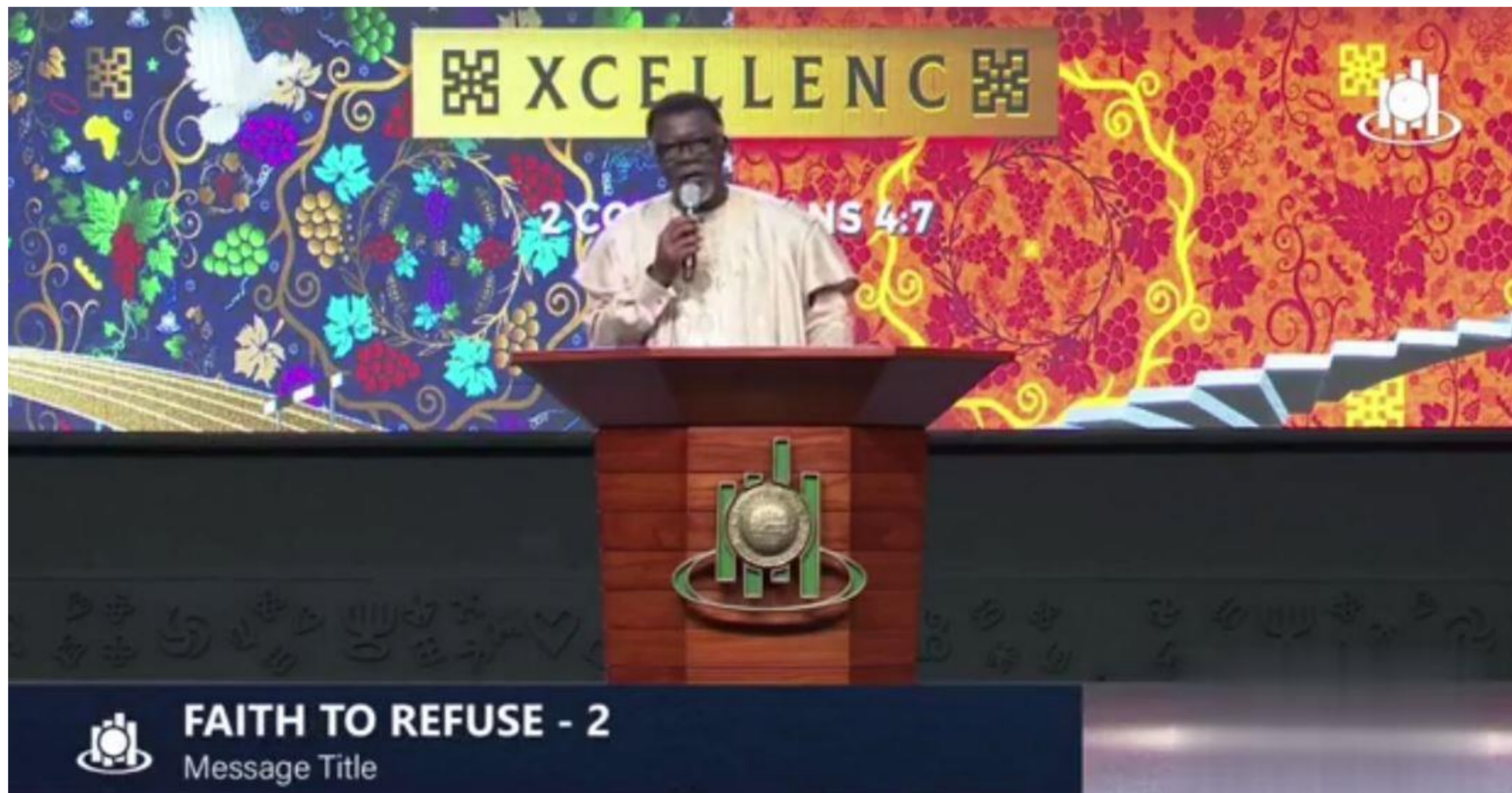
And may God set you free. And may you be like Moses, rise up to full your God given Mission, in Jesus' Name.

... And everybody say - AMEN!

Thank you so much for staying all through to read.



1ST NOVEMBER, 2020 - TOPIC: FAITH TO REFUSE - PART 2



TEXT: GENESIS 14:18-23

Amen! - Let's keep standing (wherever you are reading on the Label of DMC) as we make our DECLARATIONS OF EXCELLENCE, in this Year of Excellence.

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... Are you READY?

SAY WITH ME:

Out of Zion, the Perfection of Beauty, God shines forth. The Lord my God causes the righteous to Shine forth as the Sun.

His Awesome Hands has formed me; His Creative Spirit inspires my mind. He skillfully guides my hands.

Therefore, I boldly declare: I am set apart for Excellence. The Ruler of the Universe has exalted my horn among the Nations. He sets my feet on high! In His Strength, I rise!

By Faith, I Press forward towards the Prize of my Highest Calling.

I believe in my heart, and confess with my mouth: that Jesus is Lord! He is the Vine, I am the Branch; in Him I abide, in Him I Blossoms.

As it is written: God, who commanded Light out of darkness, has shone His Light in our hearts;

We have His Treasure in Earthen Vessels. That the Excellence of the Power may be of God, and not of us!

In this Year, I commit to EXCELLENCE, I commit to EXCEPTIONALISM, I commit to do the EXTRAORDINARY.

In Jesus' Name - Amen and Amen and Amen and Amen!

Today, I am doing PART 2 of a Message I started two (2) weeks ago. Titled - FAITH TO REFUSE (this is the PART 2).

DMC NOTES: We can get to access the Full Text of the Part 1 of this Series via this Link below:

<https://discoverymediacrew.com/Faith-To-Refuse-Part-1-Dr-Mensa-Otabil>

We know that:

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I. Faith is essential for us to RECEIVE from God.

II. And Faith is essential for us to BECOME what God wants us to be;

III. And Faith is essential for us to PULL DOWN strongholds and see Miracles.

But in this two (2) Parts Message, I am focusing on: FAITH that does not just receive, but REFUSES (or REJECTS).

Sometimes we need FAITH, to refuse something!

In PART 1, we looked at Moses - Who by Faith, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

He REFUSED a wrong Label and a wrong Mission.

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In this PART 2 today, we are going to look at ABRAHAM - Who also had Faith to REFUSE.

And the story is in GENESIS 14:18-23 (NKJV);

... Just to give you a little background to this story:

Abraham lived with his Nephew called Lot. And as their businesses grew; their cattle grew and it was necessary for them to separate!

And Abraham gave Lot the first option; and instead of Passing on his Uncle's option, he took it!

And he exercised the first option and he chose what he considered "the most fertile land around." And that is the land of Sodom and Gomorrah.

And he went to live there for some time. And there was a war, and some Kings - five (5) Kings; came against Sodom and Gomorrah and other Towns or Cities around!

The five (5) Kings were able to conquer Sodom and Gomorrah and the other Towns and took people captive.

And that's what happened in those days - if you are conquered, they take you Captive to go and sell you as slaves.

So they took the people captive (including Lot). And not only did they take the people captive; they took all the Properties captive and ran away!

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So somebody came to tell Abraham that: Lot your Nephew has become a victim in this war, and he has been taken as a slave: and his family, his Property of his Town or City - :Everything is gone!

Abraham was not a Soldier, but he put together three hundred and eighteen (318) people and decided to go and fight those who have come to conquer his Nephew's Town.

And God gave him the Victory - Abraham won.

And when he won, he won the Victory - Not only to get Lot out, but all the Nations that had been conquered, he took the people free, liberated their slaves and got their Properties back!

And now, Abraham is the New Champion! - He has won the Great Victory, he is returning!

And when he is returning, he was met by two (2) Kings - One called Melchizedek (we would not say much about him today) and then another King!

And both Kings made an offer - And we are going to read how Abraham responded.

So, Genesis 14:18-23;

18 Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the Priest of God Most High.

19 And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of Heaven and Earth;

20 And blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all.

... This is where Tithing Started.

21 Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, and take the Goods for yourself".

22 But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have raised my hand to the Lord, God Most High, the Possessor of Heaven and Earth,

23 that I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich’.

Two (2) Kings came to meet Abraham:

1. Melchizedek King of Salem.

Melchizedek brought bread and wine and a Blessing for Abraham!

2. Then after Melchizedek, is King of Sodom.

Now you have to remember: Melchizedek King of Salem had not been Part of this drama.

In other words, his country had not been attacked. He had not lost anything.

He just came with a Blessing to Congratulate Abraham.

But the King of Sodom - His property had been taken, and he had lost so much and he offered things to Abraham and Abraham REFUSED them.

And for us to understand why Abraham REFUSED them - I mean, he has worked hard for it, he had conquered.

Why is he REFUSING a Blessing?

So we are going to look at: THREE (3) OF THE STATEMENTS THAT ABRAHAM MADE.

And we will examine each one of them.

And to address them appropriately, as to why - ABRAHAM HAD FAITH TO REFUSE THEM.

1. The First (1st) thing Abraham said was: "I HAVE RAISED MY HAND TO THE LORD."

Now that Phrase: "I have raised my hand to the Lord" means: "I HAVE MADE A VOW TO GOD".

That Practice is still in vogue now - When you have to swear to an oath, you go to a Court. Or you go to swear an oath into an Office - They will tell you, lift your hand and you raise your hand, and put the other hand on a Bible, or some other Sacred object, and you take your Vow!

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So, it was happening at this time - Abraham did the same thing: He RAISED his hand to God.

... So, Abraham took a Vow.

The implications of that statement that: "I have raised my hand to God" is that Abraham had made an Oath in the Past.

Before he set out to fight the battle with five (5) Kings who had captured his Nephew - Lord; HE MADE A VOW.

He didn't make the Vow AFTER the battle; he made it BEFORE.

He said: "God, I am going to this Battle. In this Battle I make this Vow."

So that is very important - he made this Vow BEFORE the Battle.

But it also mean that the Vow he made to God was still in FORCE.

Abraham did not say: "Well, I made a Vow to God. Now the situation has changed, I have to change the VOW."

He made a Vow in the PAST, and now the Vow was still in FORCE.

After the Battle, Abraham is saying: "Before I went out to do this Battle, I made a Vow. And that Vow is till working now."

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It is very important! - A Vow in the Past, but still having effect now.

So that's the first (1st) Statement Abraham made: "I HAVE RAISED MY HAND TO THE LORD."

2. Second (2) Statement Abraham made: "I WILL NOT TAKE ANYTHING THAT IS YOURS."

So, that is the Vow he made! - He made a Vow to God and said, "I will not take anything that is yours."

Why did Abraham make that Vow?

We will get to know later (to try to examine why he made that Vow).

He is going to Battle, his Nephew Lot has been captured with his wife and children, Properties have been taken from his City and from everybody;

And Abraham is going to attempt a rescue. And he says: Lord, when I go to this Battle and win, I will not take ANYTHING from these people.

And he made that Vow before he went into Battle!

That Vow was a Self Imposed Limitation; or a Self Imposed Restraint.

Abraham placed an EMBARGO on himself - He stopped himself from doing something. And he itemised what he would not take, to include: A thread to a sandal strap.

In today's language, if Abraham was making such a Vow, he would not say a thread to a sandal strap.

He would have said: "I will not take a PESUA" (if it was Ghana);

"I will not take a PENNY" (if it was British). If it was America - "I will not take a CENT."
If it was Nigeria - "I will not take a KOBO."

So, Abraham is saying: "I am not going to take ANYTHING." *I will not take a thread, I will not take a sandal strap.

I will not take a Pesua, I will not take a Penny, I will not take anything!

Can you imagine, he is going in to Battle, he doesn't even know what will come out of it
- What if God gives you so much?

And he says - I will not take ANYTHING out of it.

*... That's the Vow he made!

And when he said it, he actually Specifically directed that Vow to the King of Sodom. He said, I will not take ANYTHING that is YOURS, your Majesty!

It was specifically directed to the person and situation he was involved in. It was not just a rule.

... He took bread and wine from Melchizedek.

DISCOVERY MEDIA CREW

So, Abraham is not saying: I'm not going to take anything at all; but I am not taking anything that is yours - Your Royal Highness, King of Sodom.

... That's interesting!

So, why would Abraham, before he even know the outcome of a battle make a Vow to God?

And say; God, when I go to this Battle, I am not going to take anything from the King of Sodom. I ma not going to take ANYTHING from him.

He answers it: LEST YOU SHOULD SAY, 'I HAVE MADE ABRAM RICH'.

Abraham is saying: I am not going to take ANYTHING from you, so that in future; you wouldn't take credit for my success.

I am not going to take ANYTHING from you, because I don't want you one day, to take away God's Glory from my success.

When Abraham said: I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich'.

There is an implied statement in there!

And the implied statement is that: Abraham knew that he would be RICH.

He knew he would be Rich; he knew he was destined to be Rich. He had full confidence in how his future would work out!

In fact, in Genesis 13:2 the Bible says: "Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold."

This is before Chapter 14.

So, already, he had Prospered; but he would Prosper MORE. And he was careful who should get the Glory for his Prosperity.

And so he said, King of Sodom: before this Battle, I made a Vow to God, I will not take a PESUA, a CENT, a KOBO, from your hand.

Because I don't want you one day to stand somewhere and say: "I MADE ABRAHAM."

Because I know, GOD WILL MAKE ME - And I don't want a man to say, he made me!

So Abraham, didn't want to deny God the Glory for his riches!

He was determined, that nothing would happen to take away God's Glory from what would happen to him in the future.

I mean, when you read the Bible, and you read this - You will say: Why did he make such a Vow concerning the King of Sodom?

Well, something of these things are not directly explained because the next verse did not say "BECAUSE (and then tell us why he did it)"

So, you have to read the Scripture to get a sense of why Abraham would make such a Statement.

So let's look at WHY ABRAHAM WOULD REFUSE?

And this why I believed he REFUSED - Two (2) things:

1. THE SOURCE OF THE OFFER - Where the offer was coming.

Because he said to the King of Sodom: I will not take ANYTHING that is yours!

... He didn't say I won't take anything from anybody else.

But you - King of Sodom, I am not taking ANYTHING from you!

The SOURCE of the offer was that Sodom (as we know) was associated with EVIL.

Maybe Abraham did not want to Associate his future Prosperity with an EVIL SOURCE.

Although he is already rich, he didn't want this one act to come and mess up the Testimony that God is going to give him in the future!

So, he says - Even before the Battle had been determined. Whilst he is going in; he says: God, I know you will give me the Victory, I know that You are going to give me everything;

But I am not going to take ANYTHING from the King of Sodom.

DISCOVERY MEDIA CREW

Why? - I believed the SOURCE!

But that is not a Perfect answer! Because there were other people that Abraham took gifts from, who were not the best of people;

Like Abimelech (in Genesis Chapter 20) who wanted to take Sarah - Abraham's wife from him!

He wanted to steal Abraham's wife; and later God went to warn him. And the man gave gifts to Abraham, and Abraham accepted.

Now, if you can accept gifts from a man who wanted to take your wife; then it means he was a bit accommodating.

So, the first (1st) reason could be the SOURCE.

But there is a second (2nd) reasons.

2. If the SOURCE was evil; the Second reason is: The CIRCUMSTANCE of the offer.

... And that I believe, was the MAIN REASON!

Sodom had already lost so much! And I believed Abraham said: "I will not take ANYTHING from the King of Sodom because he didn't want to take undue advantage of Sodom's Calamity.

The people of Sodom had suffered a lot at this time - Their City was attacked, destroyed; their Citizens and Goods taken away from them.

And if you read the Passage (especially Genesis 14:10) - There is an indication that their King might even have died in the Battle.

So this King who is making the offer is a New King who had come in after the first King had died when they were attacked.

If that is the case, it would then seems as if Abraham was taking advantage of them!

Abraham looked at it as if 'these people are at the Lowest Point of their life - They have lost everything; their King had died, citizens have been killed.

I am there to go and deliver them; and I am not going to take advantage of the situation to make myself rich. Lest one day somebody would say: Oh, Abraham destroyed others in order to Proposer! He took advantage of other people who were down, in order for him to rise up.

... Abraham Pulled people down to get up!

I believe, that is the reason why he said: "I am not going to take ANYTHING from the King of Sodom. "

Because if you look at the case Properly in Verse 21 (Genesis 14:21) - The King of Sodom said: Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, *"Give me the persons, and take the Goods for yourself".

So, he is saying: The people whom you have gone to rescue; give them to me, and take the goods!

Why is he saying that? - Because he doesn't deserve either!

Because in those days whenever you go to war, whatever you captured is yours!

So, when Abraham went, rescued the people; it means actually - Not only are the people the Property now of Abraham; the King himself, is a property of Abraham!

Because he (Abraham) has now come to rescue them. And not only that; all the items that were rescued, were for Abraham!

So, Legitimately, Legal; Abraham is the owner of the people and the Goods!

He has earned it by right, by hard work to the PERIL of his LIFE!

If anybody should say: I worked for it, I laboured for it, I sweated for it, I did everything for it, it's Legal.

... It is ABRAHAM: the goods are his, the people are his!

So, the King says: I know they are yours; but just give me the people - so we go and start afresh. And keep the goods!

And Abraham says: I am not going to take ANYTHING from you; because, before this War, I have made a Vow to God "That I would not take ANYTHING from you!"

SO WHAT IS FAITH TO REFUSE IN THIS MATTER?

"FAITH TO REFUSE" is believing so much in the future God has Planned for you; that you refuse to get there by any means necessary - Including destroying or taking advantage of others!

So, there are certain times that God would give you an advantage in life and you must REFUSE IT.

... That's FAITH TO REFUSE.

What Abraham did is very similar to what David did when he had the opportunity to kill King Saul..

David knew he would be King of Israel; he had been Anointed King! As a matter of fact - The Bible says an evil spirit was now upon King Saul.

And to make matters worst, King Saul was Pursuing David, to kill him!

Now, David had an opportunity to kill King Saul so that he become King. And he REFUSED TO DO IT!

He REFUSED to become a King at the expense of killing King Saul.

David had FAITH TO REFUSE.

Elisha gave direction for the healing of Naaman. And he EARNED his reward!

Naaman brought rewards and Elisha REFUSED IT; Because he said it was not time yet for him to accept such things.

DISCOVERY MEDIA CREW

So, there are times when it seems as if everything is to your advantage. But, your success is going to totally destroy another person - And you should REFUSE that kind of success.

It is called "FAITH TO REFUSE."

Abraham said King (of Sodom): I am going to give you back your people. And I am going to give you back the Goods.

Because I know I would be great in the future and I don't want somebody to come and say; Abraham, oh you know why he Prospered? - Because he went up there and he

impoverished the people of Sodom, and he took everything from them - That is why he was rich!

He says, I Vowed to God: I will never do that!

So let me ask you a few questions:

1. If you knew that God would make you rich, would you steal to get rich?

2. If you knew that God would lift you up in life; would you like to bring somebody down in order for you to rise up?

3. If you knew that your Church or your Business would increase and grow and become mighty; would you attack others and what they have built in order to grow yours?

Because if you truly have Faith in your future, the choices you make, would determine your Faith.

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If you knew that God would give you a beautiful family life - Your own husband, your own wife; give you a decent family, give you a good home;

... Would you take somebody's Partner for yourself?

I am not going to desire an Answer from you. I would say it again;

If you knew that God would give you your own Partner; Would you take somebody's Partner away from them?

If you knew God has a Glorious Future for you; would you say ugly things about someone else, in order to get FAME and POPULARITY?

Abraham knew God would make him Rich; he knew as for riches - I WOULD BECOME!
And it is not this time with Sodom that would make my future prosperity.

And he was able to look at King of Sodom and said:

1. First (1st) of all, you are a BAD MAN - Leader of evil people.

... That's number one (1)!

2. Secondly, you are at the lowest level of you life - You have lost everything! And God has used me to redeemed you!

But I am not going to take advantage of what God has used me to do: I am going to allow you to keep everything you have, and go one with your life.

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*Because I know.

God is going to make ms great, and Richer than you!*

And I don't want history to come back and say I became Rich because I destroyed you!

It is called FAITH TO REFUSE.

... Abraham knew that!

So the question you want to ask yourself:

If you were David and Saul was harassing you. And now you can kill him to become the King; WOULD YOU KILL HIM?

... Or you have Faith to REFUSE that opportunity.

I. Do you have Faith to Refuse to destroy your enemy?

II. Do you have Faith to Refuse to take advantage of someone in a Vulnerable situation?

III. Do you have Faith to Refuse to pull down someone, so you can take their Position?

IV. Do you have Faith to Refuse to repay evil for evil.

VI. If you truly believed that God is taking you somewhere; WOULD YOU TAKE SHORT CUTS?

In Part One (1) of this Message we saw that Moses REFUSED a wrong Label.

And today, we see Abraham REFUSING to take advantage of a Vulnerable person!

At some point in your life, in my life: we must have FAITH TO REFUSE.

Although it may seem as if Oh, this is a Good opportunity - i have to take advantage, I don't know when anyone is going to come for it!

Listen to me: the God you serve is the Ancient of Days; the same yesterday, to and forever.
New Mercies come every morning!

Why do you think if this one PASSES, God will not show you another mercy? And God would not open better door for you?

Why do you limit yourself to only one (1) moment in History - as the only moment God can Bless you?

Abraham had FAITH TO REFUSE!

*But let me stretch this Message a little further - In application; and apply it to us Africans;

If we believe in the Greatness of Africa, we must have FAITH TO REFUSE wrong Labels on us;

Like Moses, like Paul - underdeveloped! And all the other labels.

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We must not call ourselves by it, and we must REJECT it when we are called by it!

If we believed in the greatness of BLACK PEOPLE, we must FAITH to REFUSE to see ourselves as VICTIMS - in every situation.

Blaming the world for EVERYTHING that goes wrong with us! We must have FAITH to REJECT Victimhood.

If we believe in the greatness that God has placed in our LAND, in our Continent; we must have the FAITH to REFUSE to sell that wealth CHEAP - or for nothing.

... Because there is a Market for it!

And if we believed in the greatness of our PEOPLE; we must have FAITH to REFUSE to destroy them!

Because if we believed that the greatest Asset of a Nation is its people; then we must have FAITH in the people and NOT DESTROY them.

If we believed in the Greatness of our citizens, we must have FAITH to REFUSE looking up constantly to Foreign expense.

... Even if they seems to have the Answer!

We should not let China or America or Great Britain or Germany or Canada or any other Nation say: They are the REDEEMERS of Africa; they are the ones who helped us - We were the helpless people! And we were so down they came to pick us up!

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We must REFUSE THEM that Testimony!

Abraham said: I refuse you King of Sodom; the Testimony of saying "I made Abraham Rich!"

And Africa must say: We REFUSE you China - the right to say REDEEMED Africa".

We REFUSE you Canada - The right to say "we REDEEMED Africa."

We REFUSE you Germany - The right to say "we REDEEMED Africa."

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We REFUSE you Great Britain - The right to say "we REDEEMED Africa."

And we REFUSE you America - The right to say "you made us who we ARE!"

We want us as a Nation, as a people, to stand somewhere Five (5) to twenty (20) Years from now and say: LOOK WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US (AFRICANS)!

But for us to do that, we have to be like Abraham; we have to say: I REFUSE to accept what you are offering mW now;

Because I believed TOO MUCH in my Destiny; I believed too much in where I am going.

Do you believe in where you are going? Do you believe in where God is taking you to?

Do you believe God has a husband for you? A wife for you? prosperity for you? Abundance for you? Peace for you? greatness for you?

So you believed you are the head and not the tail?

If you believe that; then you are not going to try to bring somebody down; take from somebody; destroy another person - in order to get it!

And Abraham believed he would be rich; and he said I will not do this - lest you would say: " I have made Abraham rich."

WHY? Because I would be RICH!

If this opportunity passes, I would still be Rich! If I don't destroy you, I would still be Rich! If I don't STEAL from you, I would still be Rich! If I don't bring you down, I would still be Rich.

And I have so much Faith in God, that I would let this one GO!

I will let this one GO: because I have FAITH in my Future, in my Prominence, in my Destiny!

And today I came here to encourage you; God has a great Destiny for you;

And you must have so much FAITH in Him : That you REFUSE anything that will destroy the testimony that God wants to give you in the future.

... Lift up your hands to God - like Abraham. And say with me:

Heavenly Father, I know the Plans You have for me. They are for Good and not doe evil;

I know the GREATNESS You have for me, it is for GOOD and not for evil;

I know You would Prosper me; I know You would Bless me; I know You would make me Happy; I know You would make me Joyful; I know You would cause me to ABOUND;

So I REFUSE any offer that will destroy my Testimony; I Vow to You Oh God - That when You have done it, all the Glory would be yours.

When You have done it, You would deserve all the Glory;

When You have done it, the whole world would say: This is the doing of the Lord, and it is Marvellous in our sight.

May the Lord give you a Testimony that the whole world cannot RESIST - Amen!

And when men see it and women see it, they would say: Look at what the Lord has done for him and for her.

Your Testimony is coming - Don't rush for it; it's coming. YOU WILL BE IT!

And God would make you, whatever it is - You will be IT. And you will get there, and you will be all that God has caused you to be!

And your Testimony will go to the Lord God - Jehovah - Amen.

... Are you ready for that?

Give God some Praise right now. Amen and Amen!

Thank you so much for staying all through to read.

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And I can assure you that you will be glad you did as it will avail you first hand access to comprehensive reports on the various Messages of Pastor E.A Adeboye and other Men of God!

It is outrightly wrong and a sin we frowned at it for anyone to consciously remove the original source of the work that does not emanate for him or her!

Discovery Media Crew ... Reaching out to the World through the Power of the Gospel!!!

COMPILATIONS BY:

MOSES DURODOLA, TITILAYOMI AJAYI AND TOPE BABALOLA

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