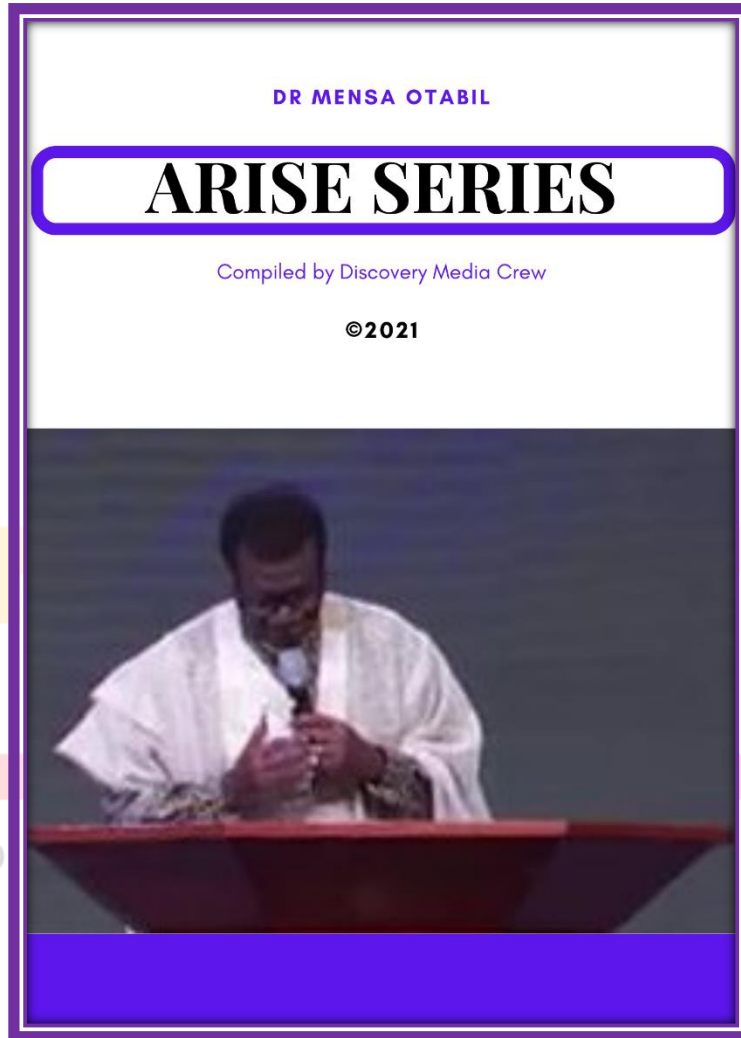


# DR. MENSAL OTABIL

## SERIES ON ARISE

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



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## 22ND AUGUST, 2021 - TOPIC: LET GOD ARISE



**TEXT: PSALMS 68:1**

Amen! Let's rise up together, as we make our DECLARATION OF FRUITFULNESS in this Year of Fruitfulness:

Are you ready? Say with me:

The Eternal God is our Refuge. He opens Rivers in desolate Heights. The Lord makes the wilderness a Pool of water.

The LORD God is my Sun and Shield; The LORD gives Grace and Glory.

Therefore, I delight myself in Him. Those who are Planted in the House of the LORD shall be Fresh and Flourishing.

Though the Earth be shaken; the Name of the Lord is my Strong Tower. By Faith I affirm that: In Christ alone is my Salvation. In Him I live, and move and have my Being.

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It is written: The Righteous are like trees Planted by the waters; bearing Fruits in its Season.

So I boldly declare: As for me, my God has made me Exceedingly Fruitful.

In this Season, my Spirit bears Fruits of Righteousness, my Talents make Way for me. With my hands, I will Plant, I will Build, I will Harvest - Day by Day, Step by Step.

In Jesus' Name - Amen!

My Message is Titled: LET GOD ARISE.

How many of you are familiar with that Song? - "Let God arise, and His enemies be scattered"

We used to really March with that Song Years ago - "Let God arise, and His enemies be scattered"

Psalms 68:1 is where that Phrase is recorded.

And it says:



Let God arise, Let His enemies be scattered; Let those also who hate Him flee before Him.

This is a Prayer as well as an expectation from David. And there is a Sequence there: God arises, His enemies scatter. And His haters flee!

It is both a Prayer and a Statement - "Let God Arise".

So, if we are saying it as a Prayer, it would sound like - "Oh, that God would arise, and His enemies would scatter. And those who hate Him flee before Him."

Now, for those of you who compare Bible Passages with different Translations; you would know that:

I. King James says: "Let God Arise".

II. New King James says: "Let God Arise".

But other Translation does not have 'LET'. It would say - God arise, Oh that God would arise.

And the reason why it is a little different in different Translations is because, in the Hebrew, there is no 'Let'. It is - 'God arise' or 'Arise God'.

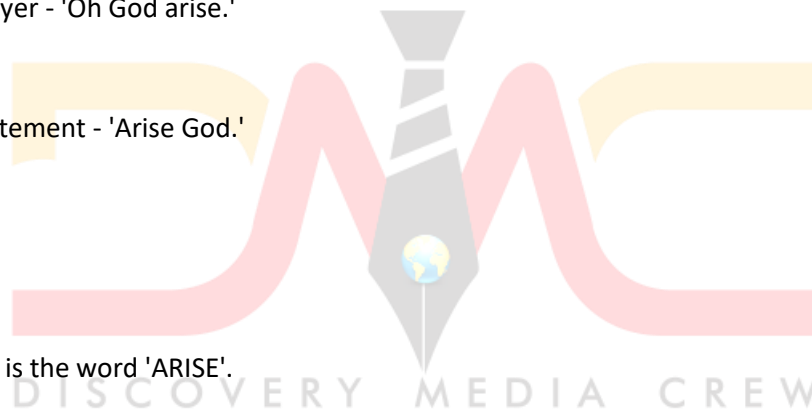
So, 'Arise God' can either be a Prayer or it can be a Statement of Faith - That God rises all the time. And when God rises, His enemies scatter!

We say it as a Prayer - 'Oh God arise.'

We say it as a Statement - 'Arise God.'

And God arises.

But the Key word is the word 'ARISE'.



... Everybody say: ARISE!

And so, I will take time to define the word Arise a little bit.

I. To arise means to STAND UPRIGHT.

The Hebrew word used means to stand Upright - The idea is one who is ready to act; one who is ready to do something.

So when we say: 'God Arise' it means God is in a state of readiness to do something.

II. Secondly, the word Arise means to be ESTABLISHED.

It is used in a sense like: "What I have said will Stand."

When a Person says: "What I have said will Stand"; it doesn't mean - what I have said 'will Get Up.' It means what I have said will not Change; it will be established.

So, when we say 'Let God arise.' That is another meaning - That God is establishing His Purposes.

III. Thirdly, the word Arise (and that is what I like the most); it is to SHOW UP.

To "Show Up" on the scene! And it is used in a battle sense. And that is the sense in which it is used in this Passage.

When a Champion steps into battle; there is a battle, and a Champion rises up and appear on the scene. And if he is a formidable Champion, his enemies scatter.

So, when God comes on the scene, His enemies scatter! When God shows up, His enemies scatter!

Now, the root word that David quotes in Psalms 68:1 occurs in the Book of Numbers.

Because in the Book of Numbers, you will find a similar Phrase, made by Moses. And I will want us to look at it in Numbers 10: 35-36.

It is a statement that is associated with the Ark of the Covenant and Israel's journey in the Wilderness. As Israel journeyed in the Wilderness, this statement was made.

Numbers 10:35-36; So it was, whenever the Ark set out, that Moses said: "Rise up, Oh Lord! Let Your enemies be scattered, and let those who hate You flee before You." And when it rested, he said: "Return, Oh Lord, To the many thousands of Israel."

The Ark of the Covenant was very important to Israel. It reminded them of God's Presence. They were not to worship the Ark but they were to remember that God was in their midst because the Ark was in their midst.

And if you read about the way the People of Israel related to the Ark of Covenant - When the Ark of the Covenant moved, they moved!

When they were going to a Place, the first thing to move was the Ark of the Covenant. And the People followed the Ark of the Covenant. And when the Ark of the Covenant settled, they settled.

It was a way of saying: When God moves I move! We move at the move of the Lord. We do what God does. When God moves, I move!

Someone say: "WHEN GOD MOVES, I MOVE."

Yes! When God Moves, we move. When God Speaks, we speak. When God Acts, we act. We move at impulse of the Lord. We move by His Direction, we move by His Spirit.

So, whenever the Ark of the Covenant was moved; it was taken from the Holy of Holies and it is moved; they lift the Ark, they Placed it on the shoulders of the Levites.

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And when that happens, Moses would say: "Rise up, Oh Lord! Let Your enemies be scattered, And let those who hate You flee before You".

And that is what David is speaking about in Psalms 68:1 - Let God arise, Let His enemies be scattered; Let those also who hate Him flee before Him.

It means that when God shows up, His enemies dispersed before Him. When God shows up, His enemies scatter before Him.

And Psalms 68:2 says they dispersed: "As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; As wax melts before the fire, So let the wicked Perish at the Presence of God."

As smoke is blown away! Have you seen smoke blown away in the wind? It just goes off. Wax that melts in fire, it just happens like that.

And when God rises, that which seems like an enemy, would be blown like smoke away. And that which seems like solid candle or wax - would melt before the Lord.

... Let God Arise and His enemies be scattered!

Now Note: It didn't say - Let God arise and 'MY' enemies be scattered. It says: Let God Arise and 'HIS' (God's enemies).

The People that scattered are not necessarily your enemies, they are the enemies of God.

For some People to scatter, they must not just be fighting you - they must also be fighting God.

And when that happens; when God arise, People scatter from the battle fields.

Let God Arise! - Don't minimize His Presence in your midst, don't downplay the Presence of God, don't look down on the Presence of God. Let God arise!

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In the days of Moses, God arise, when the Ark of the Covenant arose.

When they Picked up the Ark of the Covenant, Moses would say: "Rise up, O Lord!

... The Lord is arising! He is going to show up in battle.

"Let Your enemies be scattered, And let those who hate You flee before You."

Can you image how it was! Because they were in the wilderness. And in the wilderness, the enemies were all around. And this is a Nation without land;



It doesn't have an Army, it doesn't have Protection - They were just slaves. They have come out. God has delivered them. And as they go through the wilderness, there were enemies all around trying to attack them, steal from them, destroy them, steal their gold and their silver.

When they entered the wilderness, this is how they moved for forty (40) Years - The Ark of the Covenant moves, "Let God Arise (Moses would say) Let His enemies be scattered."

And all over, in every Nation, enemies that wanted to attack them scattered. And they were blown away like smoke in the wind, and they were dispersed like wax in fire.

May the same Power be manifested in your life as you wake up on Monday morning to face the world, let God Arise, as you go through the duties of your life - Amen.

Now, when we go back to Psalms 68, it tells us - HOW DAVID MADE GOD TO ARISE.

In the days of Moses, it was when the Ark of the Covenant was lifted! - We don't have an Ark of the Covenant today.

... So, How does God Arise for us?

Psalms 68:2-4 - And it says: But let the Righteous be glad; Let them rejoice before God; Yes, let them rejoice exceedingly. Sing to God, sing Praises to His Name; Extol Him who rides on the clouds, By His Name YAH, And rejoice before Him.

SO, HOW DOES GOD ARISE?

1. God arises when we REJOICE in the Lord.

Rejoicing in the Lord means you are glad!

We can't rejoice in the Lord, if we allow our hearts to be weighed down by sorrow.

When we rejoice, we exclaim Hallelujah! You Extol Him by His Name YAH.

Hallelujah! Rejoicing in the Lord.

If we go through life depressed, bowed down, defeated, crying, weeping; God will not arise on your behalf because God arises when our hearts are full of gladness and we rejoice in Him.

You have to learn to rejoice in the Lord, to celebrate the Lord, to see the beauty of His Holiness, to Praise Him.

... For God to arise, you have to Rejoice!

2. The Psalmist says, God Arises when we MAGNIFY His Mighty Work.

We Extol Him Who rides on the clouds. We declare how wonderful He is: He is the One Who rides on the clouds, He is the Maker and the Ruler of the Universe.

When we Magnify the Lord, we recognise what He has done, what He is doing and what He will do - And when we do that, GOD ARISES.

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3. And when we want God to Arise; We EXALT the Name of the Lord - We see Him so High, that everything is so Low.

That is how God wants us to approach Him everyday - When you get up in the Morning - "This is the Day the Lord has made, I rejoice and I am glad in it; the Joy of the Lord is my Strength".

We go through the day, magnifying the Lord. Praising His Name, Exalting His Name. And when we do that, God Arises!

So, when we Magnify the Lord, He shows up on the scene. When we call His Name, He answers. He shows up as a Man of War because the Lord is a Man of War.

You want God to Arise on your case? - Then rejoice in Him; Magnify His works; Exalt His Name, Praise Him - Because when we do that, the Lord shows up.

You know, many times we spend so much time talking about the devil; that we spend so little time talking about God.

You have to remember that: "Whatever you Magnify, will Manifest."

If you magnify Satan, he will manifest; you magnify demons, they will manifest.

If you spend all your time talking about irrelevant things - I hear People talk about Marine Spirit and that Spirit; they will manifest. They will!

If you talk about witches, they will manifest - Because whatever you magnify, you manifest.

If you talk about God, He will Arise. If you Exalt His Name, He will Arise. If you Praise Him, He will Arise.

If you Praise the devil, he will also arise.

If you have demonic activity all around you, check who you have been magnifying - That is the one arising in your case.

Everywhere you go - Someone is a witch. Your mind says it's a witch, it's a wizard. Then everybody says it's a witch, it's a wizard. And you wondered: "Why am I having too many demonic activity around me?"

Check who you are Magnifying - That is who is arising.

But if you Magnify the Lord, then He will Arise, and His enemies will be scattered. There will be no Place for demons and demonic activities in your Life.

Whatever you Magnify will Manifest! - If you Magnify God, He will Manifest His Power.

So go to Psalms 68:7-10, and David continued, he said: Oh God, when You went out before Your People, when You marched through the wilderness, Selah. The Earth shook; the Heavens also dropped rain at the Presence of God; Sinai itself was moved at the Presence of God, the God of Israel. You, Oh God, sent a Plentiful rain, whereby You confirmed Your Inheritance, When it was weary. Your Congregation dwelt in it; You, Oh God, Provided from Your Goodness for the Poor.

.... David is saying: When we Praise God and He arose, this is what happened.

So look at what happens when God Arises:

1. First, He Shakes and Moves established Powers.

In the wilderness, He shook mount Sinai. Things that appeared immovable will move - The mountain shook at the Presence of the Lord.

I. When God shows up in your Life, He will shake and move things.

II. When God shows up in your family, He will shake and move things.

III. When God shows up in your office, He will shake and move things.

IV. When God shows up in our world, He will shake and move Powers!

I don't know what Mountain is established; but let God Arise and His enemies will be scattered!

There is a shaking, there is a moving - And Mountains are moving, Powers are moving, Systems are moving.

... When God Arises, there is a shaking.

And not only that:

2. When God Arises, He opens the Heavens and favours His People.

The Psalmist said: "You, Oh God, sent a Plentiful rain."

Oh, may the Lord send Plentiful rain, Plentiful favour, Plentiful Miracles - Miracles upon Miracles, Favour upon Favour - Amen.

Because when He Arises, He opens the Heavens and sends Plentiful rain; He favours His People.

3. When God Arises, He confirms His Words to His People.

The Psalmist said: "You confirmed Your Inheritance, when it was weary. And Your People dwelt in it;"

May God confirm His Words to you - Amen.

When He Arises, He confirms His Words; when He Arises, He confirms His Inheritance.

Even when you are tired and weary, God will confirm His Words towards you - Amen.

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If you are down and out, God will confirm His Words towards you - Amen.

Let God Arise and every enemies of God that Pursues the People of God, be scattered - Amen.

... The People of God enjoyed the Presence of God.

Finally, I want to take you to the New Testament to show you a Case Study of what happens when God Arises:

Acts 16:25-26 - You know the Story of Paul and Silas.

They are in the City of Philippi, and they cast out a demon. And the People are offended because a demon had been cast out; because it had Financial Repercussions; it's affecting Business.

So, they Prevailed on the Political System, to arrest Paul and Silas, and they put them into Prison.

In Prison, Paul and Silas knew how to make God Arise!

And so the Bible says in Acts 16:25-26 - But at midnight Paul and Silas were Praying and Singing Hymns to God, and the Prisoners were listening to them.

Suddenly, there was a Great Earthquake, so that the foundations of the Prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

Let God Arise! - How does God Arise?

When we Rejoice in Him, when we Magnify His Name, when we Exalt His Name - Then He shows up on the Scene.

And as it happened in the Old Testament - When God showed up on Mount Sinai; there was a shaking.

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When we Magnify the Lord in our midnight Hour, He shakes Foundations, He breaks chains, and He opens Doors.

This week, Foundations would SHAKE; this week, Chains would be BROKEN; this week, doors would OPEN - Because this week God is Arising on our behalf!

As we rejoice in Him, no sorrow, no depression. We shall experience the Joy of the Lord as we Magnify Him, as we call on His Name, as we Praise Him, as we worship Him - God Arises.

When all is dark in the midnight Hour - God arises!

Somebody may be in your midnight hour, but God is Arising on your behalf - Amen.

If you will spend time Worshipping and Praising and Thanking Him, and Magnifying Him - God will show up!

Maybe you feel there is no way out of your situation - You are Imprisoned, you have been locked in, you can't brake out. But God will Arise: The hearts of men will be shaken, He will overthrow the Plots of evil People, He will open all doors that have been shut to you. And God will break every chains.

Somebody say: LET GOD ARISE!

Say: ARISE OH GOD! Arise my Help, arise my Strength.

Arise Oh Lord - You are Wonderful, You are Worthy to be Praised. I honour You. There is None like You, there is None besides You, None can compare with You. I Praise You LORD.

Why don't you just go ahead and Praise the Lord wherever you are or reading this Message now on the label of DMC.

And begin to declare His Praise, declare His Majesty and declare His Power. Lift up Holy Hands to the Lord and begin to Worship the Lord this Morning because God is about to Arise - God is about to Arise, His enemies will scatter. In the wilderness, His enemies will scatter.

Let God Arise!!!!

Oh, the Lord is rising - He shows up on the battle front. The enemies think they are fighting you, but they are fighting God. They think they are coming against you, but they are coming against God. They think they are touching you, but they are touching God.

And let God Arise, and let His enemies be scattered. I said, let His enemies be scattered. - Amen.

Oh, I sense that Monday, God would Arise. Tuesday, God would Arise. Wednesday, God would Arise. Thursday, God would Arise. Friday, God would Arise. Saturday, God would Arise. Sunday, you would come with a Testimony - Amen.

... God Arise, and His enemies be scattered!

CLOSING PRAYER.

We worship You Father, we declare Your Majesty. We declare Your Holy Name YAH.

You are Yahweh, the Holy One, The Awesome One, The Magnificent One, The Unconquerable One.

You cannot be conquered, You cannot be broken, You cannot be divided - You are All-One. You are All-together.

Arise Oh Lord, on behalf of Your People, and show up on the battle front, on behalf of Your People.

In Jesus' Name - Amen and Amen.

Why don't you give the Lord some Praise this Morning! Give the Lord some Praise this Morning!

Say God Arise; Enemies scatter - AMEN!!!

Thank you so much for staying all through to read.

To read other Messages on the Coverage of DMC Media Crew so far this Year and beyond; kindly visit our Website: <http://discoverymediacrew.com>.

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29TH AUGUST, 2021 - TOPIC: RISE UP AND WALK.



**TEXT: JOHN 5:1**

Amen! Let's rise up together, as we make our DECLARATION OF FRUITFULNESS in this Year of Fruitfulness:

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Are you ready? Say with me:

The Eternal God is our Refuge. He opens Rivers in desolate Heights. The Lord makes the wilderness a Pool of water.

The LORD God is my Sun and Shield; The LORD gives Grace and Glory.

Therefore, I delight myself in Him. Those who are Planted in the House of the LORD shall be Fresh and Flourishing.

Though the Earth be shaken; the Name of the Lord is my Strong Tower. By Faith I affirm that: In Christ alone is my Salvation. In Him I live, and move and have my Being.

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It is written: The Righteous are like trees Planted by the waters; bearing Fruits in its Season.

So I boldly declare: As for me, my God has made me Exceedingly Fruitful.

In this Season, my Spirit bears Fruits of Righteousness, my Talents make Way for me. With my hands, I will Plant, I will Build, I will Harvest - Day by Day, Step by Step.

In Jesus' Name - Amen!

Last week, I said I was going to focus my Teachings for next couple of weeks on RISING. And so, I will do Messages that has the word "RISE", or "RISING", or "ARISE", in them.

Last week, we looked at: "Let God Arise" and I believed God has arisen in your Life - Amen!

Because when He Arises, He also Empowers us to rise!

God does not just Arise; but He Empowers us to rise.

And when God Arises - His enemies scatter before Him. They are blown away as smoke in the wind; they melt as wax in fire.

DMC NOTES: We can get to access the Full Text of this Message on this Link:

<https://discoverymediacrew.com/Let-God-Arise-Pastor-Mensa-Otabil>

So today I am speaking on the Topic: RISE UP AND WALK.

For those of you who are very finicky with the English Language; People would say: You don't have to say 'Rise Up' because Nobody rises down.

So 'Rise' means the Person is up!

I understand all of that! But I use 'Rise up' as emphasis - It's almost like saying 'Rise and Rise and Walk.'

... So, RISE UP AND WALK.

If you have read the Gospels, you would have come across this Phrase 'Rise Up and Walk'.

... And Jesus Christ issued that command a few times.

And today, we would consider the Stories of three (3) People in the Scriptures who couldn't RISE and WALK - And each one of them was told "Rise Up and Walk".

Two (2) of those People met Jesus Christ; and the third one we would consider, met two (2) Disciples of Jesus.

Each one of them was stuck in a Position of Weakness; each one of them had difficulty in walking; but each one of them ended up walking!

I don't know about you, but today, Someone listening to me or reading this Message on the label of DMC, you would RISE UP AND WALK - Amen.

If you have been stuck in any situation of your Life; God is lifting you up - Amen. He is not just Rising, but He is lifting you up with Him, and He is bringing you to the Place of Victory - Amen.

... Somebody say: I RECEIVE IT!

Because when God Rises, His People also rise with Him!

So, I am going to talk about three (3) People - Each one of them was given the same instruction: "RISE UP AND WALK."

And maybe you would identify with one of those People, and that Message will be for you.

1. The First (1st) Person we will look at; who received the instruction: 'Rise Up' and Walk' is: THE MAN WHO HAD NO ONE TO HELP HIM.

He had no one to help him! And his Story is in John 5:5-9.

And it reads:

5 Now a certain Man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight Years.

6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"

7 The sick Man answered Him, "Sir, I have no Man to put me into the Pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me."

8 Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk."

9 And immediately the Man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath.

It was a Church-Going day (like today) - And this Man rose, took up the bed he was lying down on, and walked.

Now, if you know the background of the Story - The Man is at the Pool of Bethesda, where People would go to receive Healing; Because at certain time; an Angel would come and stir the water. And this Man, according to the Scriptures, had also gone there.

I. The first thing we noticed about the Man is that - He had being afflicted for a very Long Time.

He has suffered for a very long time; he has been in this Place for a very long time.

The Passage says that he has had this affliction for thirty eight (38) Years - That is a very long time!

For thirty eight (38) Years, he has been in affliction. And I believed that for much of the thirty eight (38) Years, he has been at the Pool of Bethesda - waiting to receive his Healing.

... He came to Bethesda because it was a Place of Hope

It was a Place that God visited the water, stirred it up, and People would get healed.

And the Passage said: 'And the Man had an infirmity.' It doesn't tell us exactly what kind of infirmity the Man has!

If you read a bit earlier, the People who were in Bethesda had three (3) kinds of infirmity - They were either Blind, Lame or Paralyzed.

I think we can safely strike out 'Blind' from this Man's case - I don't think he was blind.

And Probably not Lame because if he was, he would be able to move a little bit with his Lameness.

We can conclude from the Passage that the Man probably fell into the Category of Paralyzed - And the reason I reached that conclusion is that, the Greek word that is translated 'infirmity' in this Passage, means feebleness (weakness)!

So, the Man was in a state where he feels something has weakened him, or Paralyzed him.

Something about his condition showed that he had been there for a very long time. Because the Passage says, Jesus noticed the Man had been there for a very long time.

Maybe whilst he has been there, he had acquired a lot of Assets (clothes) and things around him to show that he had survived for a very long time.

I believed the first Year that the Man got there, he had expected to be healed. And then the next Year and the next Year and the next Year!

So, by the time Jesus met him, Hope has dried up within him - Such that when Jesus asked him whether he wanted to be healed; there was no enthusiasm in his Life.

II. The Second Thing you will noticed about this Man is that - He had no one to lift him into the Pool.

It wasn't that opportunity didn't Present itself; the Years he had been there, the waters have been stirred - Many times the water would have been stirred; many times there would be a move.

Many times there would be something Supernatural and he would try to get into the water. But he couldn't get into the water because he needed somebody to lift him up. And nobody was lifting him up!

... The People who brought him to the Pool left him!

You know sometimes, there are People who help you halfway - They take you to a Place and leave you alone. You have to fend for yourself after that. And that's what this Man was going through - He has been brought to the Pool, but he has been left!

The reality is - It is not just about being at the Pool, you have to be ready when the waters are stirred.

They did half of the job but didn't complete it!

And so, anytime the water is stirred, he made efforts to get into the Pool. And Because you couldn't Predict when the water would be stired; you know, it could stir anytime and you wouldn't be ready.

And I am sure he Probably would have gone to lie very close to the Pool. But he could never get it right.



You know, there are certain times in your Life when you just can't seem to get it right - It doesn't click

And then the Man makes a complaint - He says that anytime he tried to get into the water, People stepped over him and move ahead!

It's almost as if he has become a Stepping Stone to People's Breakthrough - He can't compete with those who were around him; he was not a "Competitive Person".

Because when you listen to his conversation with Jesus, you get a sense of Passivity - This is a very Non-Competitive Person. He doesn't like trouble, he doesn't like competition. He doesn't understand that life is very Competitive.

And so, he has been in the situation for so long because People jumped over him, all the time.

It is easy to lose Hope when you have been in a situation for a very long time without Improvement.

The worse Part is when you see others bypassing you.

I don't know whether you have ever been there - Especially People who just came - bypass you.

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It can be sometimes in many areas of our lives - It could be in your Marriage; you are waiting to get married, and you never get married. And then People just come along and marry.

And especially when you are a Believer and you are Living Right. And somebody who was an Unbeliever - Bad Boy, Bad Girl, comes to Church. Alas! They are gone.

What kind of situation is this? - Everybody is jumping over you.

Or maybe you are married, and you are expecting a child - The First Year no child, Second year no child. Now people you used to know as children, get married and they have children.

You have been in that situation for so long.

And everybody is jumping over you. And you can't get into the flow.

Moments when you think there is a stirring; something is going to happen, nothing happens!

Sometimes, it's a situation in our office, sometimes it's in the Ministry, sometimes it's in the Family - I don't know how you relate to this Story; maybe you feel like him - Stuck in one Place, never moving, never taking advantage of opportunities, People jumping over you.

But Jesus came to this Man and said: My friend, get up, take up your bed and walk out of this Place!

I feel like repeating the words of Jesus, to somebody now or those reading this Message on the Label of DMC: Rise, take up your bed, because this is your day of Visitation - Amen.

An Angel missed you, but Jesus would never miss you, an Angel couldn't come to you; but Jesus would come to you - Amen.

Jesus believed the Man could rise up and walk - Although he had been in that situation for a long time. Jesus said to him - Rise up and walk!

Nobody is going to help you; nobody is there for you. But God is there for you. You don't have what it takes, but God has what it takes. And today He says to you: 'You are Rising Up' - Amen!

Because when God rises, those who are His Children, also rise up with Him and walk.

... That's the first man!

2. The Second (2nd) Person who was told to Rise up and Walk: THE MAN WHO HAD PEOPLE TO HELP HIM.

The First one had no one to help him; Second guy (we are going to look at), he had Helpers.

This Man's situation is very opposite to that of the Man at the Pool of Bethesda - The Man in Bethesda had no one to help him. The one we are about to read about had friends, or People to help him.

The Story goes on from Mark 2, from Verse 1. But I will read Mark 2:3-4, 9-12:

3 Then they came to Him, bringing a Paralytic who was carried by four men.

4 And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the Paralytic was lying.

9 Which is easier, to say to the Paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'?

10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has Power on Earth to forgive sins" — He said to the Paralytic,

11 "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house."

12 Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the Presence of them all, so that all were amazed and Glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

What really amazed me as I was Studying the Passage is the number of times the word "they" is used - In Verses 3 and 4, the word 'they' is used five (5) times.

.. They - it's not 'him' it's 'they.'

So, we get the impression from the Scriptures that this Story is not even focused on the Paralyzed Man, but on his Helpers!

The Story is not about the Man who is Paralyzed; but focuses on People who don't give up on others - And so the Bible talks about 'THEY'.

Now when Jesus saw what had happened, the Bible says 'Jesus saw their Faith - Not the Man's Faith. And He says to the Man: 'Your sins are forgiven.'

The People argued; the People were very unhappy that Jesus said 'your sins are forgiven.'

And Jesus in His Characteristics manner was quite very humorous - He had a deep sense of humour.

Many times when I read the Gospels, I can almost imagine a wicked smile on the face of Jesus, when He is talking.

He says: 'Your sins are forgiven' the People were complaining. He says, between saying: 'Your sins are forgiven' and saying: 'Rise up and be Healed' - Which one is harder?

... And you can almost imagine how His brain is working.

And He says: Well, I can just show you that I can even do what you think is harder - So He says to the Man 'Rise Up' and Walk!

Mark 2:9-11; Which is easier, to say to the Paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and Walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has Power on Earth to forgive sins"— He said to the Paralytic, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." (Laughing)!

Jesus said: you are in My House, leave here! You have come to where I am. He was 'sacking' the Man! Because in the 'sacking' of the Man, was his HEALING.

I feel like saying to Somebody: Go to your house! Because you are going to leave this House of God (even while reading on the Label of DMC) and you are going to go to your house with a Testimony - Amen.

I say: You will leave this House of God and you are going to go to your house with a Story of Healing, a Story of Deliverance - Amen.

... Somebody say: I AM GOING TO MY HOUSE WITH A TESTIMONY.

Oh, I love Jesus: 'Take up your bed and go to your house.'

Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the Presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!" (Mark 2:12)

What sort of Man is this? He can sack People to go home with Healing.

I. The first (1st) thing you will notice about this Man is that HE COULDN'T ACT FOR HIMSELF.

... He was totally incapable of doing anything by himself.

Because the Passage says that he was Paralyzed. And if you Study that word that is used - 'Paralyzed' in other English Translations, it would say: 'He had a Palsy.'

Palsy is when People have a Muscle Paralysis.

So, it's not like his legs can't walk or his arms can't move - His body was suffering from a kind of Palsy (Maybe Cerebral Palsy).

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And those of you who know; when you have a Palsy, your body shakes a lot. And as it gets to a Point, not only is the body always shaking; it shakes uncontrollably.

And then it gets to a Point where you can't talk and you can't react! You may hear People talking, but you can't talk. You see, but you can't gesture anything - That was what the Man had. He is different from the first guy!

The first guy, Jesus engaged him in conversation; this guy, you can't engage him in a conversation - because he cannot do anything! He is totally Paralyzed - Paralyzed totally!

That's why the Story is about 'they' - Everything that is happening is not happening because of him, it's happening because People believed in Him.

... So that's what we see: he couldn't help himself at all.

I. Sometimes People get to stages like this through sickness.

II. Sometimes others get to a Place where they can't help themselves at all through some addictions - Maybe it's alcohol addicted, or drug addiction, or some form of other addictions.

III. Sometimes it is Spiritual control by a Cult or by Demonic Possessions; where a Person just can't help themselves.

IV. Other times it can be Mental illness, depression, bipolar, or seizure - The Person just can't help himself.

If you are expecting them to initiate it, they can't initiate it. If you want them to think about it, they can't think about it. If you want them to use Will Power, they can't use Will Power; because they are totally incapable of acting.

And that is what this Man was - He couldn't help himself but, he had People who carried him Spiritually and carried him Physically.

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The People who carried him might have been Family Members, they might have been Friends but they didn't give up on him.

They believed in him, even though he couldn't believe in himself - He couldn't even know if Jesus was in a place.

The Man at the Pool of Bethesda, he could tell when Jesus talked to him; this Man couldn't tell - He didn't know where he was, he didn't even know what City he was in, he didn't know about Jesus.

But there were People who believed and stood for him because you know sometimes in Life, there are People who need you not to give up on them.

Their Mind may be gone, don't give up on them! They may be soaked in alcohol, don't give up on them! They may be taken Captive by drugs and they can't help themselves. They say 'I will never take it again'; then they go and shoot the drugs back; don't give up on them.

It may be your friend, it may be your son, it may be your daughter, it may be your father, it may be your mother, it may be your Uncle, it may be your aunt, it may be your grandfather, your grandmother, it may be your grandson, your granddaughter;

I don't know who it is, who may be in this State - Who can't help themselves. And everybody says: 'They are a wasted case, there is no hope for them.' But you must be one of the four (4) who says, I will Stand by you. I'm going to carry him, I'm going to Pray for him, I'm going to look for Help for him because they can't help themselves.

... So this Man had People who believed in him.

For all you know - You are the only one whom your brother needs! You are the only one your sister needs. You are the only one your father and mother needs. And if you stop and you give up on him, he will die in that State.

... But there must be Somebody who says: I will not give up!

They went to where Jesus was - The crowd was there, the door was full of People.

And Remember, these rooms, they weren't like the big Auditoriums we have now - In those days, these were small Places. When it's jammed, it's jammed!

They got to the roof - It is not their house. They tear the roof down, they lowered their friend right in front of Jesus.

They have taken all the risk and their friend is just there, he can't respond.

The Bible says: Jesus saw their Faith; not the Paralyzed Man's Faith - He saw their Faith.

Is it Possible to have Faith for Somebody? - Yes!

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Is it Possible to Pray for Somebody who doesn't even believe in Prayer? - Yes!

Is it Possible to believe for Somebody who has lost Hope? - Yes!

Can you have Hope for the Hopeless? - Yes!

Because Jesus saw their Faith and responded to their Faith! - He responded to the Faith of those who cared for this Man.

... Jesus saw their Faith.

For some of you - God is looking up to you for your family; don't give up on that sister, don't give up on her because your Faith is what God is looking up to.

Don't give up on that Alcoholic who has no control - Don't give up on them. Somebody who's with a Mental challenged, don't give up on the Fellow. Your Relatives who are sick in the Hospital, don't give up on the.

The Doctors may have given up, but you must never give up on them.

They say there's no Hope, but you must keep Hope alive.

"It cannot be done" - God can do all things - Because even the Person may say: 'Let me go'. But you have to be determined - GOD WILL TOUCH YOU.

And that's what these friends did.

Jesus saw their Faith; and interestingly, Jesus says to the Man who cannot respond, who is inactive - "Your sins are forgiven you."

That's one of the few times, Probably the only time Jesus forgave a Person's sin before their Healing.

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Why? - Because vividly, his sin was what had brought him there.

So, it is the Person's bad deeds that had made him who he is - He is a kind of Person we would say - God has Paid him his wages. He deserves it, because he was bad.

Jesus said I know what you did is bad, I know what had brought you to this Place - You are wreckless, you don't spend money wisely, you have made all the mistakes - Your sins are forgiven you!

People said: You can't forgive sins like that!

Jesus said: Oh you think so? Which is harder - If I say your sins are forgiven you, you don't see whether it's gone or not. But if I say 'Rise Up' and Walk' you would see whether he would rise or not.

So, to Prove to you that when I say: 'Your sins are forgiven'; the sins were truly forgiven. I say to the Man; to the hearing of you and to the sight of you: Man who has never spoken, never moved, never acted. Jesus spoke to him: "Rise up, take up your bed and get out of my house!

And the Man rose up, took up his bed and walked.

... It is so interesting how Jesus could speak to a Hopelessly dead situations.

Jesus didn't speak to the friends, the friends have been showing Faith - He spoke to the Man. Just like Jesus spoke to Lazarus when he was dead, He didn't speak to Mary and Martha. He said 'Lazarus, come forth!'

3. The Third (3rd) Person: THE MAN WHO NEEDED A LITTLE HELP.

... The First one had no Help; the Second had a lot of People Helping; the Third Man, he needed just a little Help.

The Story is in Acts 3:6-9 - The man who was at the Beautiful Gate.

6 Then Peter said, "Silver and Gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."

7 And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received Strength.

8 So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the Temple with them—walking, leaping, and Praising God.

9 And all the People saw him walking and Praising God.

The Verse 2 has stated that the Man was born Lame from his Mother's womb and has been begging at the Temple daily.

Remember, Jesus has been going in and out of this Temple and the Man has been there!

So, there were times he was there and Jesus was there, but he didn't get Healed. Now the Disciples of Jesus are coming.

You know this is the kind of Place where you can say with sarcasm: "Your Boss Himself Passed by here and I didn't get Healed; who are these little boys?"

It is like People who say: "I have spoken with the Senior Pastor himself, who are you - a Young Pastor?"

... So few things about this Man;

He sat daily begging for a Living.

Of all the three (3) Characters we have looked out today, this is the only one who was doing something, where he was!

He had a Daily Schedule - He begged for a Living.

He had the ability to do something; but a condition has limited how much he could do.

The Man at the Pool was not doing much; the Paralyzed Man we just spoke about was not doing anything - This man was doing something!

In those days, People with disabilities did not have the opportunities we have today, so they begged for a Living.

Today, a Person with disability can do a lot.

But what I want you to Note is that - When Peter said to the man: "RISE UP AND WALK", he didn't rise up and walk.

... He is the only one who was told 'Rise up and Walk' and didn't walk.

The man at the Pool of Bethesda - 'Rise up and Walk' - He walked!

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The Paralyzed Man who had the Palsy, who had done nothing - 'Rise up and Walk', and he walked!

This one that could do something - 'Rise up and Walk' he is sitting down!

You know Strange things happen in this world - People you think would do better; you give them the opportunity - Nothing.

So, this is the one you thought would be the most instant response to the Word but Nothing! - 'Rise up and Walk' he is still sitting down.

And the Bible says: Peter lifted him up by the right hand before he could rise up and walk.

.. So Peter helped him to rise up and walk.

This Man needed just a "Little Help" - He believes it, but he just needed someone to give him a little Push, a little Help, a little Encouragement. And then, the rest happens!

First one, no one to help him. The Second one had a lot of People helping him. The Third one needed a Little Help.

\*I don't know which category you fall into!:

I. Maybe you are like him - You just need a Little Help.

II. Or you need a lot of Help because you can't do much for yourself.

III. Or you have no one to Help you.

But whether you have no one to Help you, or you have Helpers all around you or you need a Little Help; The instruction is the same: "RISE UP AND WALK".

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And I want to speak those same words over your Life today - Wherever you are now or reading this Message on the Label of DMC - In every situation of your life: Whether you need a Little Help, or you need a lot of Help or you have no one to Help you; I speak to you 'Rise up and Walk!'

The same God Who rises up on your behalf, will lift you up and you will walk into Victory, you will walk into Abundance, you will step into your Destiny - Amen.

You will leave this house and go to your house with a Testimony; with a Story of Recovery; with a Story of Deliverance, with a Story of Favour, with a Story of Increase - Amen.

I don't know if you have sinned; but God would forgive you of your sins and He will cause you to Rise Up and you will walk again!

YOU WILL WALK AGAIN - Amen!!!

Even if you have never walked before from your Mother's womb; this is your Season of Walking - Amen.

Rise Up and Walk! And in the Process, you will take up your bed; the things that used to carry you, you would carry it - Amen.

You would overcome it; you would rule over it, and you are going to walk into your Destination.

In Jesus' Name - Amen!

Somebody say: I RECEIVE IT!

Say one more time: I RECEIVE IT!

Thank you so much for staying all through to read.



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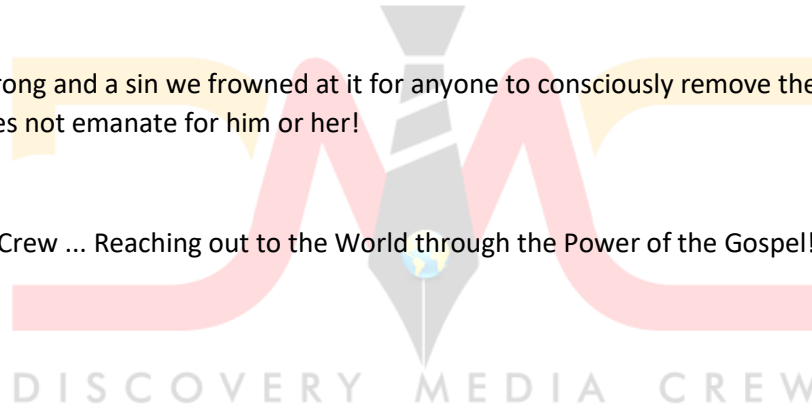
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It is out rightly wrong and a sin we frowned at it for anyone to consciously remove the original source of the work that does not emanate for him or her!

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5TH SEPTEMBER, 2021 - TOPIC: RISE ABOVE YOUR SHORTCOMINGS.



TEXT: LUKE 19:1-10

Amen and Amen! Let's rise up together, as we make our DECLARATION OF FRUITFULNESS in this Year of Fruitfulness:

Are you ready? Well say with me:

The Eternal God is our Refuge. He opens Rivers in desolate Heights. The Lord makes the wilderness a Pool of water.

The LORD God is my Sun and Shield; The LORD gives Grace and Glory.

Therefore, I delight myself in Him. Those who are Planted in the House of the LORD shall be Fresh and Flourishing.

Though the Earth be shaken; the Name of the Lord is my Strong Tower. By Faith I affirm that: In Christ alone is my Salvation. In Him I live, and move and have my Being.

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It is written: The Righteous are like trees Planted by the waters; bearing Fruits in its Season.

So I boldly declare: As for me, my God has made me Exceedingly Fruitful.

In this Season, my Spirit bears Fruits of Righteousness, my Talents make Way for me. With my hands, I will Plant, I will Build, I will Harvest - Day by Day, Step by Step.

In Jesus' Name - Amen!

I just want to remind those of you who have not read the Messages on this Series; I indicated that I will be doing a Series on RISING.

That doesn't mean that would be the Title of the Series. But it means that everything I Preach in this Series would have the word "Arise" or "Rise" or "Rising" in it.

And I started by talking about: "LET GOD ARISE".

And I indicated that when God arises, His enemies are scattered. They are blown away as smoke in the wind and they melt like wax in fire.

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DMC NOTES: We can access the Full Text of this Message on this Link:

<https://discoverymediacrew.com/Let-God-Arise-Pastor-Mensa-Otabil>

And then last week, I spoke about - "RISE UP AND WALK".

I talked about three (3) People who were commanded to rise and to walk:

- One who had no one to Help him.

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- One who had a lot of People to Help him.

- And one who needed just a "Little Help" to be able to rise.

So whether you are one who feels that nobody helps you; or you feel that so many People are trying to help you; or you just need a "Little Help" - The Net effect is that you will Rise up and you would Walk (Amen).

Somebody say: I AM WALKING.

DMC NOTES: We can get to access the Full Text of this Message on this Link:

<https://discoverymediacrew.com/Rise-Up-And-Walk-Pastor-Mensa-Otabil>

So today I am following through from there with the same concept - And my Message is Titled: "RISE ABOVE YOUR SHORTCOMINGS"

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... Everybody has some form of Shortcoming.

A Shortcoming is something that makes you fall short of Expectation; or fall short of a Standard; or fall short of your own Desires.

Shortcoming can keep you from a big thing that God wants to do in your Life - It can be a Dream, it can be a Vision, it can be a Desire.

And a Shortcoming can make you feel inadequate for the things that God wants you to do.

So today, we are going to learn how to Overcome the Shortcomings; and we are going to look at a Man who had Shortcomings, but tried to rise above them - And his name is Zacheaus, and his Story is in Luke 19:1-10.

But I would be reading Luke 19:1-6 (just for time sake):

1 Then Jesus entered and Passed through Jericho.

2 Now behold, there was a Man named Zacchaeus who was a Chief Tax Collector, and he was rich.

3 And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature.

4 So he ran ahead and climbed up into a Sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to Pass that way.

5 And when Jesus came to the Place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house."

6 So he made haste and came down, and received him Joyfully.

The Story of Zacchaeus sometimes appear almost comical. Because you can imagine the height of the man and his sense of activity, and the whole effort of climbing up, and Jesus seeing him.

And then later on, when you read his whole attitude, Zacchaeus seemed to be a very fun-loving, outgoing Personality and very energetic. He was a very Colourful Character.

Now I am going to use the Story of Zacchaeus, like a Metaphor - For how we RISE ABOVE OUR SHORTCOMINGS.

... And we are going to work through the Steps he took to rise above his Shortcomings.

Zacchaeus lived in Jericho and he was a Chief Tax Officer. He was rich, he was a quick Thinker, he was Active, he was Outgoing, he had a Cheerful Personality. And all that energy was bundled in a small body - Zacchaeus was short.

Interestingly, his name (Zacheaus) means Pure - That is what his name meant 'Pure'.

So by name he was expected to be Pure. But by his actions he was seen as not being Pure by the Jews and People didn't have a very Good Consideration of him.

Unlike the three (3) People we spoke about Last week - Who were paralyzed and couldn't move and needed help; Zacchaeus could move! He could walk, he could run, and he was an Active Person, he was not Paralyzed.

But he had Shortcomings; he had two (2) Main Shortcomings:

1. The first one was his REPUTATION.

He had a bad reputation - He was a Chief Tax Collector. Tax collecting is generally a Noble job in current times. Although none of us like Tax Collectors but it is a Noble job.

To be a Tax Collector, you have to be an Accountant sometimes to be able to do that. But to the Jews of Jesus' time, Tax collecting was not a Good job; he was hated.

And that is why Zacchaeus had a Reputational Problem - People didn't like him. And that was a Shortcoming for him - We will find out soon!

Because Tax Collectors in the days of Jesus were Contractors who worked for the Roman's Government. And the Roman's Government was oppressing the Jewish People. And the Tax Collectors were Picked among the Jews;

And normally, they would be given a quota of Taxes they must collect. If you collect Tax in a neighborhood and you were told: 'You must collect so much Taxes!'

Now the Tax Collectors, in order to make more money had to collect the quota and then collect beyond the quota because everything above the quota is for the Tax Collector.

So People didn't like them, because they squeezed money out of the Jews; and that is what Zacheaus was doing.

Actually, he was a Chief Tax Collector, not just a Tax Collector.

That means that he had employed other People in various locations who went out - Harass People, collect Taxes from them and he was sitting on top of this Big Pyramid.

And because of that, his reputation was very Low. People didn't like him. And when People don't like you in that Community, you may go ahead and enjoy your money.

But there comes a time when reputation may go against you.

2. His Second Shortcoming was his STATURE.

So you had a Problem with his Reputation, he had a Problem with his Stature - He was limited in height, he was not a tall Person.

And he couldn't be blamed for his height. He didn't make himself - He was born that way. Probably, his parents were short.

So, He inherited that Limitation.

His Reputation as a Tax Collector, he didn't inherit - He chose it! His stature as Short, was inherited.

What Does That Mean?

Sometimes Shortcomings are inherited - You were just born that way; that is who you are. And sometimes it is as a result of Choices you made.

So, whether it is Choices you made or who you are (we were just born that way). It is still a Shortcoming.

And ordinarily, when we look at Zacchaeus, the Bible calls him a Rich Person - So it means that he had found a way to manage his Shortcomings.

People didn't like him, that didn't bother him. He still moved on and made money. He had limited height, it didn't bother him. You don't need height to collect money.

... So he did well, his Shortcomings didn't seem like Shortcomings.

Then one day, all of those things that he had managed so well, he had managed to handle so well in his life, came against him. Because he heard of Jesus and they wanted to see Jesus.

The Passage says he sought to see who Jesus was.

Because sometimes you know, you can be okay with the Shortcomings, but you can manage it because you can manage it well.

Probably maybe your Shortcoming is:

You don't speak Good English, you can manage it well - If everybody you trade with do not speak Good English. Or you just don't need English to trade. Until the day when you need English to trade.

Or you have some other Shortcomings that you are able to manage well. Until something comes up where you realised you can't manage it.

And for Zacheaus, that they came - When Jesus came to town; and he sought to see Jesus.

Something interesting about Zacheaus is that: Although the Man doesn't have a Good Reputation (People don't like him); he seems like a crook, he seems like somebody who is just taking advantage of People.

Deep inside his heart, he had the love of God, he had a Spiritual desire. And it seems like the Spiritual Desire was a very Big Desire of his!

You know there are People who can seem very rough on the outside, but deep inside them they have a deep hunger for God - And that is who Zacheaus was. He had a deep hunger for God which Nobody knew.

As a matter of fact, he is a Person who loves God. Although he seemed to love Money more than God. He seems not to care about anyone until Jesus came that way. And then his true desires showed up and he sought to see where Jesus was.

... That is when he had the Challenges:

I. The first challenge he had was a Hostile Crowd.

The crowd was hostile to him, they disliked his Reputation, they didn't like him mingling with them.

And so if he is going to be with that crowd - People say: "Zacheaus, you don't belong here, you are a bad Man. You are not supposed to be in this crowd."

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It is almost like when some People go to Church and People ask: Are you in Church? How did you come to this Church? Because People think you don't belong to Church.

That is what they thought about Zacheaus - He doesn't belong to the 'Jesus Crowd' - That is his first Shortcoming!

How do you survive in a crowd when the crowd is hostile against you? How do you survive in a Place where People don't like you? How do you survive in an Office where People dislike you? How do you survive when the crowd is hostile?

Because sooner or later, some of us find ourselves in Places where People don't like us for whatever reason.

... So that is the first thing - The crowd is hostile because of his Reputation.

II. Secondly, it is the Hindering Crowd.

How did they hinder him? They were taller than him! Everybody seemed to be taller than him; they stood in his way and hindered him from seeing Jesus.

So the crowd is hostile to him and the crowd is hindering him.

Sometimes we feel that way; Sometimes we feel we are Strong, Sometimes we feel we are Active, Sometimes we feel we have Gifts, Sometimes we feel we have Talents.

Everything seems to be going on for us.

And then you get into another Season in your Life where your Shortcoming is kicking - Hostility, Hinderance!

So how do you feel with it? How does Zacheaus deal with this?

Well, he understood his Shortness; but he didn't allow his Shortness to shorten him.

Because my friends, sooner or later, you are going to have a Dream. And that Dream is going to make all your Shortcomings appear!

You are going to be invited in a Boardroom, and then you will realise you are not Prepared - Your English Language is not Good.

You are going to be invited in a Place; and then you realised your Education doesn't match up. You are supposed to submit a Report, and you don't know how to write a Report.

You are supposed to do something great, and then you realised: 'I don't have what it takes.'

For some of us, our Big desire is: "I want to live for God like Zacchaeus".

Other People would say: I want to have a Great Marriage or I want to get Married or I want to Set Up a Business or I want to be Financially Independent; or I just want to be happy - These are Simple Desires.

But these Desires, like Zacchaeus' desire to see Jesus, can sometimes be very difficult to achieve. Simply because your Shortcoming will come against it.

Sometimes, you want to live for God, but you have a lot of Past and Current Entanglements.

... And I hope you know what I mean by Entanglements?

I. All kind of things - Relationship and Entanglements are making it difficult for you to live for God.

So that is your Shortcoming.

II. Your Past Associations: Maybe a Past boyfriend, a Past girlfriend Relationship. You are in Entanglements and they are hindering me from seeing God.

That is your shortcoming.

III. Or maybe Probably want to have a happy Marriage but you have a bad temper; and get angry at People.

So that is a shortcoming - And it is ending your Marriage.

IV. Or maybe you want to get Married but you are not Physically attractive. People don't find you attractive and you wonder 'if somebody would ever find me Good enough to marry me.'

V. Or maybe you want to Set Up a business, but you have limited resources. Or you want to be happy in Life, but you are just making bad Choices everyday.



Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but he was in the wrong Place. The crowd didn't like him and he was short. And how does he see Jesus?

How do you fulfill the desire of yours when you are in the wrong crowd; in the wrong Place and there is hostility all around you?

So let's see how Zacchaeus overcame his shortcomings - I love this guy. I truly do! Jesus also loved him. So you better love him.

1. First thing you Notice is that he ran ahead.

He ran ahead of the criticizing crowd, he ran ahead of the hostile crowd - He didn't stay where People wanted him to stay.

If you stay where the crowd wants you to be, they will keep you in the Place that they designed for you.

... That is the first thing he did!

Running ahead of the Crowd means he left the crowd; but he is still Short.

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You have left the crowd, you have solved one Problem of hostility, you have distanced yourself from the crowd - Now Nobody is going to be Pushing you around: Hey, you don't belong here!

... He's gone ahead, but he is still Short.

So he did something else:

2. He Climbed the Tree.

To solve the height Problem, he had to look for something he didn't have. He had to be creative, he had to use an opportunity that was ahead of him to get high; and so he rose up and got to the Top of the tree. And Jesus Passed by!

It is very interesting, because Zacchaeus had anticipated where Jesus was going to be, and chose the right tree in the Path of Jesus and was waiting for the crowd to catch up with him.

And when Jesus got to where Zacchaeus was, Jesus looked up. He didn't look down on him, he looked up

Zacchaeus had Positioned himself in a way that he will be Visible and available to Jesus. And he did that by running ahead and climbing up - Running ahead, Climbing up!

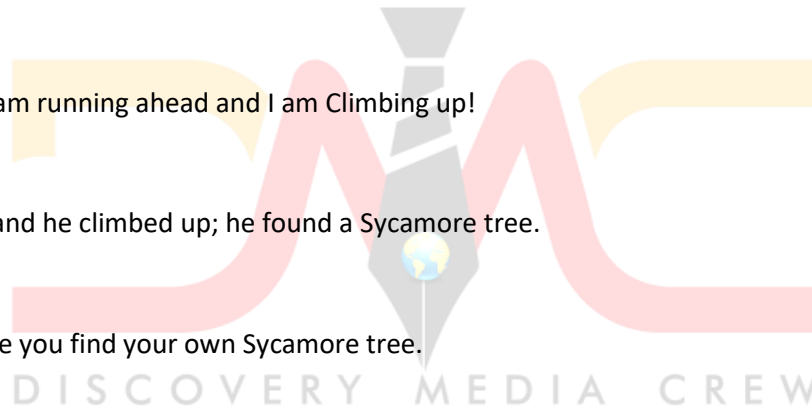
I want to say to Somebody: It is time for you to Run ahead and Climb Up - Amen.

Don't go backward, don't abandon the dream, don't stop becoming the Person God wants you to be. You have got to run ahead and you have got to climb up.

Somebody say: I am running ahead and I am Climbing up!

So he ran ahead and he climbed up; he found a Sycamore tree.

... Maybe it is time you find your own Sycamore tree.



Sycamore tree is a very interesting tree - It is broad, it is a heavy tree and it can grow quite high - about fifteen (15) meters. It is large with Strong branches. It has all these things but one Good thing about the Sycamore tree is that its branches reach down.

... They are trees that are Strong, but their branches are too high, you can't reach up to it.

But the Sycamore tree branches reach down; they go down.

So, they are at the Point where Zacchaeus can reach it - They are not too high for him.

I believe for every situation in our lives, for every Shortcoming, for every Limitation - Whatever the Limitation is: it could be a Spiritual Shortcoming, it could be your Temper, it could be Education, it could be Choices you made. It could just be something you were born with.

For every Shortcoming, there is a Sycamore tree that God will put in your way - Amen.

1 Corinthians 10:13 put it this way: No Temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to Man; but God is Faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the Temptation will also make the Way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

... God will make a way of escape. So you can be Prepared.

That is what he did for Zacchaeus: his height didn't Change, his Reputation didn't Change; but God gave him a way of escape. And he ran ahead, found the way of escape and used the way of escape.

... And that way of escape was his Sycamore Tree.

No matter what your Shortcomings are - It could be Reputation, it could be Stature, or it could be a Physical look, it could be Academic, it could be Financial; listen to me, God will cause you to find a Solution - Amen.

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Because with every difficulty He Provides a way of escape - Our Sycamore Tree.

The Good Thing about the Sycamore tree is that it was very common (It was not a rare tree).

Where Zacchaeus was, it was common, it was available, it was accessible.

Because you know, sometimes something is common, is available, but it is not accessible - You cannot take advantage of it.

But because the branches were Low, Zacchaeus could climb it.

Even short Zacchaeus found something that was Purpose-fit for him and then it lifted him up above the crowd, above the People who despised his Reputation, above People who despise his height. And when he went there, Jesus saw him.

The Sycamore tree is what I called the Sufficiency of God's Grace for us.

... The sufficiency of God's Grace for us!

There is always Grace available for your Shortcomings - Where Shortcomings abound Grace "Much More" abounds!

In 2 Corinthians 12, Paul talks about the thorn In the flesh that he had. That was a hindrance to him. And he says he Prayed about this thorn in the flesh three (3) times.

And in 2 Corinthians 12:9 Jesus said to him: And He said to me, "My Grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made Perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my Infirmities, that the Power of Christ may rest upon me.

There is something about your weakness that activates the Grace of God; so that while you are weak God's Strength steps in. Because God is going to give a way of escape.

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But don't just watch the way of escape; you have to run ahead to meet it. And you have to climb up! You have to use it.

Because of what Jesus said to Paul, he said in 2 Corinthians 12:10 - Therefore I take Pleasure in Infirmities, in reproaches, in Needs, in Persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am Strong.

I love that: When I am weak then I am Strong.

For every weakness of yours, God has an appointed Strength for you. For every Place of weakness you have, God has an appointed Strength for you.

That is what I call your Sycamore Tree.

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You may not have it Naturally, but God will make it available to you - It could be a Person that God Places in your Life, it could be an opportunity that God opens for you, it could be a word that inspires you.

Maybe this Message that you are listening to (or reading on the Label of DMC) is your Sycamore Tree - To help you to rise up to the Place God wants you to be.

The Sycamore Tree deals with your Shortcomings, but the Sycamore tree doesn't solve the Problem.

That is a Good thing - It doesn't solve any Problem, it only gives you a way out of the Problem. But it doesn't solve the Problem.

And I like how the Story of Zacchaeus Ends - He met Jesus!

What he had desired right from the beginning. He wanted to see Jesus, and he met Jesus - His hindrances, Shortcomings didn't stop him. He met Jesus!

Then when he met Jesus, Jesus said to him: "Come down from the Sycamore tree".

What is Jesus saying? - Jesus says: He use this to get to me, now I am here to be all that you Need.

When you have him, He becomes the Completion, the Perfection.

The Lord knows every Needs of your heart - When you meet Jesus, you find your heart Desires.

... So what did we learn today?

We learned from Zacchaeus that sometimes there are Shortcomings - It could be Reputational, it could be Stature or it could be Inherited, it could be Chosen but whatever it is that is keeping you from getting to the Place where God wants you to get to; we can rise above every Shortcomings in our lives because God always makes a way of escape.

And when He gives you the way of escape, you don't go back to your Past; you run ahead and you climb up.

May the Lord cause you to run ahead and to climb up: Above every limitations, above every Shortcomings, above everything that wants to hold you down - Amen.

You will rise and you will Overcome - Amen.

Somebody say: I AM RISING.

#### CLOSING PRAYER

Father we Pray this morning for every Child of Yours who feels in one way or the other like Zacchaeus - with a Shortcoming, not knowing how to manage their Shortcoming;

Today I Pray Lord, as you did for Apostle Paul; You will do for each and everyone of us and Your Grace will be sufficient for us.

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That You would show us the Person, You would show us the Path, You would show us the opportunity - Whatever is needed for us to get to the Place that You have called us to get to.

Open our eyes to see it and help us Lord never to sit in a Place of hostility and the Place of rejection; but to rise above it and do Your Will, and to fulfill Your Vision.

In Jesus' Name 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 out rightly 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!!!

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12TH SEPTEMBER, 2021 - TOPIC: ARISE AND DEPART.



TEXT: MICAH 2:10

Amen and Amen! Let's keep Standing, as we make our DECLARATION OF FRUITFULNESS in this Year of Fruitfulness:

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Are you ready? Well say with me:

The Eternal God is our Refuge. He opens Rivers in desolate Heights. The Lord makes the wilderness a Pool of water.

The LORD God is my Sun and Shield; The LORD gives Grace and Glory.

Therefore, I delight myself in Him. Those who are Planted in the House of the LORD shall be Fresh and Flourishing.

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Though the Earth be shaken; the Name of the Lord is my Strong Tower. By Faith I affirm that: In Christ alone is my Salvation. In Him I live, and move and have my Being.

It is written: The Righteous are like trees Planted by the waters; bearing Fruits in its Season.

So I boldly declare: As for me, my God has made me Exceedingly Fruitful.

In this Season, my Spirit bears Fruits of Righteousness, my Talents make Way for me. With my hands, I will Plant, I will Build, I will Harvest - Day by Day, Step by Step.

In Jesus' Name - Amen!

Well, as I indicated, I am doing a Series with the word: "Rise or Arise" in it.

And I have spoken about: "Let God Arise"; I have spoken about: "Rise up and Walk". Last week I spoke on: "Rise Above your Shortcomings".

Today, my Message is Titled: "RISE AND DEPART".

Somebody say: I'M RISING, AND I'M DEPARTING.

One of the most destructive circumstances of Life happens when you find yourself stuck in the wrong Place! When you find out that you are in a Place that is not Good for you, but you are not able to move away from it.

Sometimes we find ourselves in a Place that is wrong for us because we were born into it; Other times it is because some People made decisions and landed us in the bad Place. Or we could find ourselves in a bad Place because of decisions we have made ourselves.

So when you find yourself in a bad spot, what do you do?

... I say that you: "RISE and DEPART"!

That does not mean that any time you find yourself in a difficult situation you must arise and depart - If you do that, that will turn you into an Unstable Person; who is not able to Stand and win their battles.

... That is not what I am talking about!

Life generally has tough spots: in our Marriages, in our work and School, in Relationships, in Church, in Politics - Generally in Life, you will come against tough decisions.

It doesn't mean that anytime you come against a tough decision, you rise up and depart. That is not what I am talking about. But there are Places that you don't have to stay.

There are moments in our lives when we need to arise and depart.

And this moment do not happen every day - It may happen once in our lives, twice in our lives, three (3) times in our lives; but there are special moments in our lives when we must get out from a certain Place that Life has locked us in.

... And those are the Moments that we are talking about today!

And I am going to start by referencing Micah.

Those of you who are not familiar with all the Books of the Bible - Micah is also in the Bible.

And just to give you a little background: Micah was a Prophet to the Kingdom of Judah. You know, Israel was divided into two (2) - There was a Northern Kingdom and there was a Southern Kingdom.

The Northern Kingdom was generally what was called Israel. The Southern Kingdom was called Judah.

And Micah was a Prophet that God raised for Judah - The Southern Kingdom.

And Micah's first time of Ministry was about the same time when Isaiah was also in Ministry - And so both of them were Prophets about the same time.

Micah's Ministry went through the times when Jotham was King; when Ahaz was King; and when is Hezekiah was King - Just to give you a background!

So let's go to Micah 2:10 (NKJV):

“Arise and depart, For this is not your rest; Because it is defiled, it shall destroy, Yes, with utter destruction.

This Prophecy that God spoke through Micah happened at the time when the Southern Kingdom and the whole of Israel was going through a bad situation.

Where Powerful People were dominating the weak People; and there were False Prophets in the Land.

So the Land had become a very bad Place; the People were in a bad Place of their lives.

And so God raised Micah to go and speak about this.

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And when Micah started to Prophecy (if you read earlier) he spoke a lot of 'WOES' to the People.

But in this Particular statement of his Prophecy, he is talking about the People who have settled for all these destructions and deceptions, and False Prophecies and all the evil that is going on and the People have just settled!

And so God spoke to Micah to go and announce to the People: Don't sit here, don't settle here - He said, ARISE and DEPART.

Somebody say: I AM RISING and I AM MOVING.

And the reason why God said they should Arise and Depart is because he says: The Place they where was defiled.

So let me just define the words for us - What it means to be defiled - When Micah said the Place was defiled, what did he mean?

1. He meant first, that the Place was Unclean.

A Defiled Place is an Unclean Place - It means it is not wholesome. Something that is Unhealthy; it is not Good for your well-being.

So God says: The People must not rest here.

Why because it is Unclean; it is not Wholesome, it is not a Good Place to be.

2. The Second definition of Defiled is Corrupted.

... Something that has lost its Purpose.

When we say something is corrupted, it means it used to have a Good Purpose but now it has lost its Purpose.

It used to serve a Good Purpose, it is no longer serving a Good Purpose - It is Corrupted.

3. Thirdly, Defiled means something that has been Degraded.

... Something that has lost its Power!

It used to have Value but it has no Value.

It had no value now; it has become cheap!

So that is what God is saying to His People: ARISE AND DEPART.

Why? - Because where you are is Defiled. It is Unclean, it is Corrupted, it is Degraded, it is not a Good Place, it is not a Wholesome Place to stay in.

... And that is why He says: ARISE AND DEPART.

A Defiled Place is a Destructive Place. And God warns the People - He says: "if you stay there, it will destroy you!"

And there are many things that can Defile a Place - A Place can be Defiled with Idolatry - Where People are worshipping False gods.

Or it can be Defiled by Oppression; it can be defiled by Bitterness, it can be Defiled by envy, it can be Defiled by sin, it can be Defiled by lust, it can be Defiled by bad friends.

When we find ourselves in a Defiled Place, we must not settle there - We must rise and we must depart.

And that is what God is saying to His People - The Place you are in is bad for you; it is not a Place where you are supposed to stay.

So I am going to illustrate this Concept of RISING and DEPARTING with Three (3) Biblical Stories.

... And I will run through them quickly:

1. The first Story is the Story of Abraham - When God told him to Rise and Depart.

Abraham departed from a world of Idolatry.

Genesis 12:1 - "Get out of your Country, from your family and from your father's house, to a Land that I will show you."

Just listen to the instruction - GET OUT!

... Arise and depart. Move away from your Country, your family, your father's house.

And in Genesis 12:4 - So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

He departed, why? - Because God says depart!

Abraham, in the Land of the Chaldeans - That was his native land, that was his Culture. He lived among his People and his family.

Normally, when you live amongst your own People, in your own Country, with your own family, that is the Place to feel comfortable.

That is the Place to rest! You do what they do.

But Abraham's family was living in a Land of Idolatry. And God wanted to start something New with Abraham. And for that New Thing to happen, Abraham had to depart.

The thing to note about Abraham is that, he got into Idolatry because he was born into it.

That was where he was! He got into Idolatry because he was born into it; he didn't know any better. He worshipped the gods of his People, he believed what his People believed.

But God had a different Purpose for him; He wanted to reveal Himself to Abraham. Abraham could not have the Revelation of God by being in the same Place that he was born into - He had to ARISE' and DEPART.

When God wants to do something New for you, He will demand something New from you.

So He says Abraham, I'm going to do something New for you. So, I am going to ask you to do something New; and that something New is: You are going to Rise from your familiar Place and you are going to Depart.

There are many Christians who have still not departed from the idols of their fathers - The spiritual world view of their fathers.

You know these days, a lot of Christians respond to God the way their fathers used to respond to their idols. They respond to Men of God the way we used to respond to Fetish Priest.

So, at one Point, it looks like we are Christians; but we have not departed! Our world view is still "African Traditional Religion".

That is why People these days, can't just simply believe in the Name of Jesus - They want the Name of Jesus Plus you have to do something!

Sometimes you go to Church, People say you have to do something! - That is African Traditional Religion; where you go and the Priests must do something. He must do some incantations, some magic - Something!

In Christianity, we don't go to a Man of God to do something. We go to hear the Word of God - That is the difference between Christianity and the other Religions.

... It is not about doing something, it is about hearing what God says!

That is why every revelation of God in the Bible (Just check your Bible) always comes with God says something - Telling People something, telling them what to obey; what to depart from, what to change.

Abraham had to depart from Idolatry! - That is the first Story of a Person Rising and Departing.

2. The Second Illustration of Rising and Departing is about the Nation of Israel.

... Israel departed from living under oppression in Egypt.



Numbers 33:3 says: They departed from Rameses in the first Month, on the fifteenth day of the first Month; on the day after the Passover the children of Israel went out with boldness in the sight of all the Egyptians.

... They went out with Boldness in the sight of all the Egyptians.

Unlike Abraham who was in the Chaldeans because he was born there; he was born into the wrong environment.

The children of Israel were not born into the wrong environment - They got into bondage because of Choices made by their Ancestors.

... Their fathers made Choices for them.

A Previous Generation made Choices for them - Going to Egypt was the best Choice at the time.

Why?

I. Because there was food in Egypt.

II. Because Joseph was in Egypt and Joseph had become the Second most Powerful Person in Egypt.

And so when they went to Egypt it was the 'Best Choice' - It saved them from famine. And in Egypt they had Privileged Position because Joseph was there!

They got the best Land, Pharaoh favoured them, respected them. So it looked like a Good decision had landed them in Egypt.

Then the Bible says, a New Pharaoh arose, who did not know Joseph.

It doesn't mean he did not know Joseph had existed - It simply means he didn't care about Joseph. He didn't owe Joseph anything. And he decided that he was going to treat the Israelites differently.

I have always wondered: when a New Pharaoh arose who did not know Joseph, did the People know it? And if they knew it, why didn't they leave?

But I am sure they were thinking - Well, the days of Joseph will come again. One day maybe somebody will favour us. One day we will be favoured again; one day it will become better.

... And they stay there and they were in bondage for a very long time.

Abraham was born into the situation but these People, they got there because something that started right turned bad! And God had to get them out.

Because sometimes, something that started out right can turn bad and you are stuck in the Place.

Because oh, it used to be Good here - Oh, in the Good Old Days!

It is not the Good Old Days; the Good Old Days are gone!

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I. Your father is no longer whom he used to be.

II. You may have been born rich, but now you are broke!

Don't continue talking about it - Oh, how we used to live in London, when we used to live in Paris, when we used to live in Australia, when we used to live in America. My father was this, and my mother was that!

My friend, you are no longer in that situation - You are in Egypt, you are in bondage!

And if you keep living on your Past and your Old Heritage, you will stay in bondage for a very long time!

I came to announce to somebody: Stop dreaming, Arise and Depart from that situation And stop talking about how things used to be.

That was the Problem with Israel - Things had changed, but they were still stuck.

... God says Arise and Depart.

Somebody say: I Will Arise and I am Departing!

And I like the way God told them to Arise and Depart - He said that day:

I. They had to eat their bread before it arisen.

li. They had to eat meat with bitter herbs.

III. And the day they were departing, they had to leave in the Night - Not in the day.

... Because, when it it is time to Arise and Depart, you don't waste time!

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Somebody say: I am Rising, and then Departing.

3. The Third Example of Somebody who had to Rise and Depart - We are familiar with the Story): The Prodigal Son.

... The Prodigal Son departed from a Low and Miserable Life

Luke 15:17-18 - But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired Servants have bread enough and to spare, and I Perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against Heaven and before you,

I. The Prodigal Son was not like Abraham - He was not born into Misery.

II. The Prodigal Son is not like Israel - Nobody made Choices for him to get to where he is.

... The Prodigal Son got into misery by his own choices and his own actions.

So we are looking at Three (3) Categories:

1. You were born into it.
2. Somebody's decision got you into it.
3. Your own decision got you there.

Whether you were born into it, somebody got you there, or you got yourself there; the instruction is still the same - ARISE AND DEPART.

... It is time to Rise up, it is time to Depart!

Many times we think we are the cause of our own woes - We got ourselves where we are.

You know, when People feel that they got themselves where they are - They feel they deserve it: "I brought it up on myself, it is okay. I made a mistake, it is okay. This is karma!"

By the way, KARMA is not Christian Philosophy - Because between Action and Reaction, there is God, there is Grace, there is Mercy, there is favour, and there is forgiveness.

... Karma does not have that inside it - That is an Heisten Philosophy.

But in Christian Philosophy - You hit the ball against the wall; before it gets to you, God can catch it. Hallelujah!

Between sowing and reaping, God can intervene.

So don't just say: "I did it, so it must happen to me." No! You may have messed up, but God didn't mess up. You made a mistake, God didn't make a mistake.

And God is a Redeemer - The whole of the Bible is about Redemption.

The Prodigal Son got into the mess; and by the Law of Karma he should suffer and wait to die, or maybe sometimes come out as a Monkey!

But he came to himself and said: "I messed up, I put myself here. It is my fault! But I remembered my father and I will Arise and go to my father."

I don't know where you Stand in these Three (3) Examples:

I. Maybe you were born into it.

II. Maybe it was a decision that was made at the time it was good but it has become bad.

III. Or maybe you messed up yourself.

In any of these Three (3) Categories, the instruction is the same - ARISE' AND DEPART.

God can deliver you from what you were born into; God can deliver you from where People took you to; and God can deliver you from where you took yourself to.

Don't sit down there and say: "This is my lot, this is my Destiny, this is how it is in my family, in my father's Lineage they all go through this. Everybody in my Ancestral Line goes through that!

I. You are like Abraham - Everybody in your family is in that Place. God says: Arise and Depart!

II. You are like Israel - Somebody made a decision at the time it looked Good, but it has now turned bad. Don't stay there. You will Arise and Depart!

III. You are like the Prodigal Son- You made the decision yourself and you got into the mess. But you will Arise and Depart!

Because, this Place is not your resting Place: This is not your resting Place - don't stay there!

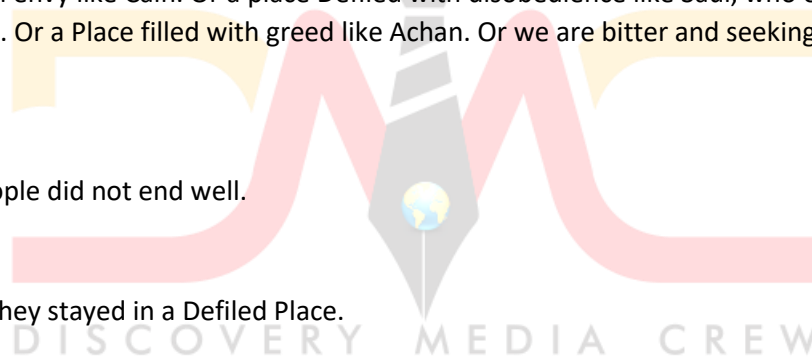
Because you know, sometimes we allow ourselves to stay in Places:

I. God wants us to depart from our Defiled Places - Don't stay in a Defiled Place.

II. Many of us have allowed ourselves to stay in our Defiled Places. We are living in a Defiled Place - A Place Defiled with envy like Cain. Or a place Defiled with disobedience like Saul, who embraced fame. Or like Judas Iscariot. Or a Place filled with greed like Achan. Or we are bitter and seeking for vengeance like Absalom.

Each of these People did not end well.

Why? - Because they stayed in a Defiled Place.



Listen! - Don't stay in bitterness no matter what has happened to you don't stay in bitterness, it will destroy you. Don't let your heart be filled with so much vengeance, it will kill you.

You must rise from vengeance, you must rise from bitterness, you must rise from envy, you must rise from greed - "I want it, he has it, I will get it." That is Greed - It will Defile you, it will destroy you. Don't stay in that Place.

Somebody say: I am RISING and I am DEPARTING. We have to Rise and Depart.

So what happens to those who do not settle in the wrong Path - Who Depart?

Micah 2:12-13 - "I will surely assemble all of you, O Jacob,

I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together like sheep of the fold, Like a flock in the midst of their Pasture; They shall make a loud noise because of so many People. The one who breaks open will come up before them; they will break out, Pass through the gate, And go out by it; Their king will Pass before them, With the Lord at their head."

... That is what God says to them, after He says ARISE and DEPART. So these are what God Promises them.

Three (3) Things that I want to highlight in these Promises .

When we choose to Arise and Depart, this is what God Promises us:

1. First God says, I WILL HELP YOU TO BREAK OUT.

... If you want to Rise and Depart, God says I will help you to do it.

And this morning, Somebody would Rise and Depart because you are Breaking Out from whatever situation: Whether you were born into it, whether you got into it by somebody's decision, or you got into it by your own decision, you are breaking out - Amen.

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Somebody say: I am Breaking Out! God says I will help you to Break Out- Amen.

2. Secondly, God says: I WILL TAKE YOU THROUGH THE GATE.

He is your Way Maker.

Where doors have been shut, the Lord will lead you out into a Good Place - "I will take you through the Gate."

3.The Final Thing God says: I WILL BE YOUR HEAD.

When the Lord is with you, you are never alone - He is your Head, He is your Guide.

So, I came here this Morning to tell Somebody: ARISE and DEPART. The Place you are is Defiled, it is Polluted. If you keep staying there, it will destroy you.

I. Maybe it is a sinful life, you must Arise and Depart from it.

II. Maybe it is envy and bitterness, you must Arise from it.

III. Maybe it is just a heart of Vengeance, Arise from it.

IV. Maybe it is Greed, Arise from it.

V. Maybe it is bad Relationship that you have gotten yourself into and you know 'this is not where God wants me to be; you must Arise from it!

Don't stay in a Place - God doesn't want you to be; where your own heart condemns you, where you know within yourself: 'This is not what God wants me to have; this is not the Place God has for me; this is not God's Will for my Life".

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If you know that, don't stay there; don't entertain it.

Don't say: I was born into it; don't say: Well, I can't do anything about it because some People brought me here; don't say: My own mistake brought me here.

... You are going to Rise up and you are going to Depart.

And this Morning, if you desire to really Rise and Depart, I am going to Pray with you, I am going to agree with you wherever you are or reading this Message now on The Label of DMC; that God will Break you Out.



He will break you out and He will get out of that situation now and Miracles will happen in your Life - A Breakthrough Miracle, a Full Transformation in your Life.

If you believe there is something in your Life - You have been there for too long and you know: 'This is not where God wants me'; God will break you up!

... Let us rise up together.

I don't want you to just do it alone. But you know, put your hands upon your Heart!

#### CLOSING PRAYER

Father, You have not called us to defilement; You have not called us to destruction; You have not called us to be Prisoners of our father's house; You have not called us to be Prisoners of bad situations we find ourselves in; You have not called us to be Prisoners of bad Choices of our Actions.

You have called us to be Free and to be Free Indeed!

And so Father, I Stand in Your Name and in the Name of Jesus, in Your Presence, before Your Throne; on behalf of Your Children:

That anyone who has found themselves in Defiled Places, who has desires to be Free this day - In this moment, Break them out of it LORD.

Anyone Oh God, who desires to be Free from Defiled Places, open the gate for them Oh Lord.

Anyone Oh God, who says: I need Help, Lord be their Help and Lord, take them out!

From today, in this Place: I speak Liberty to your Spirit; I speak Liberty to your Soul; I speak Liberty to your Mind; I speak Liberty to your Emotions; to your Purposes, in the Name of Jesus.

Any Defiled Places you find yourself, you are Breaking Loosed from it!

You will not be Defiled in this Place, and this situation will not destroy you.

I speak Life to you; I speak Health to you; I speak Strength to you; I speak Favour to you; and I speak the Fullness of God's Purposes.

You will Arise and you will Depart, in Jesus' Name - Amen and Amen!

Somebody say: I RISE AND I DEPART, in Jesus' Name - Amen.

... Give the Lord some Praise!!!!

Don't walk in bondage again; walk is the Victory of the Lord - Amen!

Thank you so much for staying all through to read.

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19TH SEPTEMBER, 2021 - TOPIC: ARISE AND TAKE WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU.



**TEXT: GENESIS 13:16-17, DEUTERONOMY 2:24, JOSHUA 8:1 AND JUDGES 7:9.**

Amen and Amen! Let's keep Standing, as we make our DECLARATION OF FRUITFULNESS in this Year of Fruitfulness:

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Are you ready? Well say with me:

The Eternal God is our Refuge. He opens Rivers in desolate Heights. The Lord makes the wilderness a Pool of water.

The LORD God is my Sun and Shield; The LORD gives Grace and Glory.

Therefore, I delight myself in Him. Those who are Planted in the House of the LORD shall be Fresh and Flourishing.

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Though the Earth be shaken; the Name of the Lord is my Strong Tower. By Faith I affirm that: In Christ alone is my Salvation. In Him I live, and move and have my Being.

It is written: The Righteous are like trees Planted by the waters; bearing Fruits in its Season.

So I boldly declare: As for me, my God has made me Exceedingly Fruitful.

In this Season, my Spirit bears Fruits of Righteousness, my Talents make Way for me. With my hands, I will Plant, I will Build, I will Harvest - Day by Day, Step by Step.

In Jesus' Name - Amen!

Today I am concluding my "Rising Series".

As you know, for some time now I have been talking about different things with the word Arise or Rising or Rise in them.

I began with: "LET GOD ARISE". And then I spoke about "RISE UP AND WALK"; and then we spoke about "RISING ABOVE YOUR SHORTCOMINGS"; and then last week I spoke about 'ARISE AND DEPART".

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And so I am concluding today with: "ARISE AND TAKE WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU".

As you read the Scriptures, we see that many times when God wants to do things for People or He wanted People to do things for Him, He will usually demand the People to Rise up - To ARISE.

... And it is so many times stated in the Scriptures.

We are going to look at four (4) Examples of those Commands, where God tells People to Arise to Possess something.

And so we are going to look at four (4) Scriptures today.

The first reading is Genesis 13:16-17.

This is God talking to Abraham about the Land He was Promising him. And I want you to Pay attention to what God says:

16 And I will make your descendants as the dust of the Earth; so that if a Man could number the dust of the Earth, then your descendants also could be numbered.

17 Arise, walk in the Land through its Length and its Width, for I give it to you.”

Then Deuteronomy 2: 24.

This is when God commanded Israel that He was giving them the Promised Land. And it says:

‘Rise, take your journey, and cross over the River Arnon. Look, I have given into your hand Sihon the Amorite, King of Heshbon, and his Land. Begin to Possess it, and engage him in battle.

Joshua 8:1:

And the LORD said unto Joshua, Fear not, neither be thou dismayed: take all the People of war with thee, and arise, go up to Ai: see, I have given into thy hand the King of Ai, and his People, and his City, and his Land:

... Again God tells Joshua to Arise.

The Final Scripture is in Judges 7:9.

This is God's instructions to Gideon, after Gideon has cut down the number of his Army to Three hundred (300).

And then God says to him: It happened on the same night that the Lord said to him, “Arise, go down against the Camp, for I have delivered it into your hand.

If you look at all these Four (4) Scriptures, something is very common - God told each one of them to ARISE and TAKE something He was offering to them.

I. He told Abraham: I have given you the Land, but you must Rise and Walk in the Land.

II. He told Moses: I have given you the Amorites - Kings and their Lands. But you must Arise and engage in battle.

III. God told Joshua: I have given you the City of Ai, but you must Rise and go up against it.

IV. Then He told Gideon: I have given the Medianites to you. But you must Arise and go against their Camp.

In each of these cases, God tells them what He has done and what he wants them to do.

God tells them: I have given you the Land, but you must Rise and take it.

So there are two (2) Ideas:

1. First, we must KNOW what God has given to us.

We cannot live our Christian lives just hoping that things will happen well for us - We must live our Christian Life with certainty, with the knowledge of what God has given to us.

2. And then Secondly, we must TAKE what God given to us.

... KNOW it, TAKE it!

So God says: I have given it into your hand (That is the knowledge). But RISE and take it!

We must KNOW what God has given to us, and we must TAKE what God has given to us.

So what God says is: I have given it to you!

Most of the time - If you look at these Verses of Scriptures, the Tense is in the 'Past'.

It is something that God has Already done; He has Concluded.

Because God conclude things in the Spirit; but what he has concluded in the Spirit must be manifested in the Natural.

So He says: I have given it to you - It is done. RISE and TAKE it. You must now actualised it; you must take what is concluded in the Spirit realm and bring it into the Natural realm.

Between KNOWING what God has given to you and TAKING what God has given to you, is that word Arise.

... Arise!!!

And that is what He told all of them - I have given it to you, take it! But in-between that: ARISE!

Everybody say: ARISE!!!

The three (3) thoughts that explains Arise to us:

1. First to ARISE means to Stand Upright; to take on the task. Be ready to take on the Challenge.

To be alert, to be set. Arise! Stand Upright, take on the task.

When God says I have given you something, it doesn't mean it just happened in the Natural; it has happened in the Spiritual. But He wants us to take it by first, Standing up, taking on the task.



2. ARISE also means to Show Up.

That means to work towards what God has given to you.

3. And thirdly, ARISE means to establish it, to make it happen.

So, He says to each of them, I have given it to you - Rise, take it!

So giving to you, taking it; in-between that is RISING: Standing Up, taking on the task, Showing Up, not running away from the battle and establishing it or making it happen.

So we see from the Scriptures that we cannot be Passive about the Blessings of God, we cannot be Passive about the Goodness of God. We cannot just sit and say well, God has done it, so there is nothing for me to do!

God says: I have done it, I have given it to you. But you must Arise and engage in battle. So there is always activity in our Part in relation to the Word of God and the Promise of God.

And we are going to look at a Statement made by a Character in the Bible - A gentleman called Jephthah.

... Most of you must have read about Jephthah.

Jephthah was one of the Judges of Israel in the times before Israel had Kings. In those days, God will raise Judges and these Judges were basically Deliverers or Warriors.

And they would go and fight the enemies of Israel, deliver them from bondage. And then the time of the Judge will Pass. And they would get into another bondage, God would raise another Judge.

Jephthah was one of the Judges that God raised. And he had to fight the Amorites.

And Jephthah was a sort of a bad boy; a Vagabond because his mother was not the rightful wife. So he was sacked from Town and then he became a Vagabond

But he became a fighter! And when Israel went into trouble, they said: 'Who will fight for us?'

So they went to pick Jephthah; and Jephthah decided to fight for them.

... And I want you to listen to something Jephthah said to the enemies of Israel at that time in Judges 11:23-24 (I love it so much)!

At this time Amorites have come up against Israel. They said: 'We are going to fight you!

We are going to fight you because, when Israel left Egypt and was coming through to the Promised Land, you took our Land from us.'

So that is what the Amorites are saying - 'You took our Land from us'.

So we have come back to take the Land back from you because it was ours and you took it away from us.

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And that is why they have to call Jephthah to come and help them Protect the Land; because the Amorites are saying: 'It is time! - The lease is over, give us back our Land.'

Now listen to how Jephthah responded to that. When the Amorites said: 'Give us back our land.' And these are the words of Jephthah. He said in Judges 11:23-24:

And now the Lord God of Israel has dispossessed the Amorites from before His People Israel; should you then Possess it? Will you not Possess whatever Chemosh your god gives you to Possess? So whatever the Lord our God takes Possession of before us, we will Possess.

Do you get the logic of Jephthah?

Jephthah is saying: You guys, you worship Chemosh. And if Median says: "I have given the Land of Israel to you' won't you obey Chemosh and come and take your Land?

How much more, when Jehovah God says: 'I have given the Land of the Amorites to you.' Don't you think we should also come and take what Jehovah has given to us?

So whatever God has given to us, Jephthah says we must Possess it (I love that)!

... We must Possess whatever God has given to us.

Now Jephthah did not say: 'Whatever God gives to us is ours'. That is not what he says. He says: whatever God gives to us we must POSSESS + We must make sure that we don't lose it.

And because of that, you guys - The reason we took your Land is because "OUR GOD" says we should take it! We didn't take it on our Will and Accord; we took it because God said we should take it.

... In the same way that you would take your Land if your god says you should take it!

You know many times, People who worship idols are more Obedient to their idols than those who worship Jehovah God. People who consult "Juju Power" are sometimes more Faithful than those who worship God.

If somebody goes to consult a Fetish and the Fetish says: I will make you a Millionaire or I will do this for you, I will do that for you - Go and lift up a Store, and gives them instructions.

Believe you me, they will do whatever they are told to do!

If they are told to wear White on Fridays; every Fridays they would wear white. If they are told to go and sprinkle something on People's Shops - In spite of the shame; they will sprinkle it.

... Whatever they have been told to Possess, what is demanded, they will do it.

And yet when it comes to Believers, when God tells us: I have given you the Land, do this. We don't do it.

No wonder the People who worship Chemosh are Possessing the Land and the People who worship Jehovah are losing the Land.

If an Unbeliever goes to a Fetish and they say 'Go and put food in the junction of a road' they will go and put food there!

And then God would tell His People "GIVE" and I will take the devourer from you. We won't Give! And if they attempt, they will do half of it. They will only 'GI' (and not DIVE) ... Laughing!

That is why I like Jephthah - Jephthah says: You guys think the Land is yours because Chemosh says it is yours; we believe the Land is ours because YAHWEH says it is ours.

... And whatever YAHWEH says is ours, we will Possess it (I love that)!

I. So when Yahweh gives you Salvation, repossess it.

II. When Yahweh gives you Healing, you Possess it.

III. When Yahweh gives you Wealth, you Possess it.

Yahweh cannot say you are rich and you say I am Poor. When Yahweh says you are Rich, you Possess Riches.

Whatever the Lord says He has given to us, we must Possess it!

And that is why Jephthah says: We are ready to fight in this battle because everything God gives to us is surrendered in Battle.

All the People God gave Victory, they had to fight for it. Why is it so? Because the enemy will always Challenge your claim.

If you say: 'God has spoken to me'. The enemy will show up to challenge you. He doesn't sit down and say: 'Take it freely'.

Battles birth Champions. Champions do not emerge from Comfort - They emerged with Battle Bruises.

If you love Movies, and you watch the Rocky Series - Staring Sylvester Stallone.

Rocky is a boxer, but in every battle, when it ends, Rocky is holding his Title Belt. But his face is battered. There is blood from his mouth. He has been Punched badly; but he is the Champion.

Because in life, you would be Punched, but you don't lie down when you are Punched; you are Punched, you get up! Because God has called you to be a Champion.

And after you have been Punched, and you Stand many times; in the end you are like a Rocky - You are holding on the Title Belt; but there is blood all over your face.

Battles Produce Champions! - If you want to be a Champion for God, get ready for Battle.

You think the devil is going to smile at your Blessings? You think your enemies are going to clap for you because you have Plans? You think the world will be happy with you?

... Then leave Planet Earth - Go to Neptune.

But if you live on this Planet (Earth), your Title will be challenged - The spoils of battle come out of the scars of battles. Good things come to those who win their battle in all areas of Life. Whether in Academics, in our Careers in our Marriage, is our Ministries - Everything comes from battle.

If you see a Married couple who have been married for fifty (50) to sixty (60) Years and you look at them and say - Oh, it is so beautiful to see these Old People Married. Oh look at them, they are laughing and they are smiling. Look at how he holds her hand!

Do you think that it has always been like that? Go back to sixty (60) Years earlier: it was battles, quarrells, fights (I don't mean blows)! - I mean difficulties. But they Persevered. And now, you are taking Pictures of them (after 60 years) to say 'I wish I was like that!'

And you, every little thing - 'Oh, we are incompatible; we don't agree - I like to sleep there and my wife doesn't like to sleep there. I want my food hot, she makes it cold.'

... You will not get the Picture of the sixty (60) Years, because the Reward comes after battle.

Whatever God has given to us, He gives us the Grace to receive it; so no matter the battles surrounding it, you have the Grace to receive it.

Somebody say: I HAVE THE GRACE FOR IT.

... You have the Grace for it!

I. When you marry, you have Grace for Marriage.

II. When you start your business, you have Grace to succeed.

III. When you start Education, you have the Grace to be the Head and not the tail.

Whatever God entrust into your hands, He will give you the Grace for it.

In the midst of the battle, there is Grace.

That is why you hear People say: 'We don't know how you survive.' - It is called GRACE.

AND HOW DOES GOD GIVE US GRACE?

1. He Trains our hands for War.

Psalms 144:1 says: Blessed be the Lord my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, And my fingers for battle.

If you don't know how to fight, God will train you for the battle - Amen.

He trains us ahead of our battles. And when you are in the battle, don't forget the training He gave you for the battle.

... Not only does He train us for warfare.

2. He Teaches us how to Profit.

Isaiah 48:17 says: Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord your God, Who teaches you to Profit, Who leads you by the way you should go."

... He orders our steps in the Right Way!

I. He told Abraham: Rise up and walk in the Land for - I have given it to you.

II. He told Israel: Rise up and Possess the Land of the Amorites - I have given it to you.

III. He told Joshua: Rise up and Possess the Promised Land.

IV. He told Gideon: Rise up and deliver Israel.

Each one of them had to battle for what God has given them:

I. And for each one of them, God Trained them for battle.

II. For each one of them, God taught them how to Profit.

You don't just sit with Good Intentions; you must RISE UP and TAKE what God has given to you!

And don't be afraid of the battle - It is Part and Parcel of the Package.

What you must take, you would battle for it. But the Lord is with you!

You would be Punched many times, your face will be swollen, your mouth will be swollen, you may lose a tooth but Thank God for the Dentist, they will give you a replacement (Laughing). But in the end, you will hold the Title Belt.

And may the Lord cause you at the end, to hold the Title Belt - Amen.

There are some of you who have been Punched so much - You just want to quit. But the Title Belt has been Promised to you; Please don't quit! Get up again, get to the Battle again, try it again, do it again, start it again, move it again because God has ordained you for something, and you must take it. You must Possess it - Amen.

My Concluding Thoughts: God rewards those who Overcome in all areas of life.

When you lose the required battle, you get Punished; but when you Win, you get Rewarded.

... The Rewards always go to those who Overcome!

And when you look through the Bible, in the Last Book of the Bible - The Book of Revelation; this is how everything is ending.

The Book of Revelation tells you this is how this whole thing that started in Genesis is ending up.

And I am going to read to you some Verses from the Book of Revelation, and what it says to us who Overcome;



In Revelation 2:26, it says: And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give Power over the Nations.

Somebody say: I WILL HAVE POWER OVER THE NATION.

Revelation 3:12; it says: He who overcomes, I will make him a Pillar in the Temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the City of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of Heaven from My God. And I will write on him My New Name.

... May God make you a Pillar - Amen!

Revelation 3:21; it says: To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My Throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His Throne.

Somebody say: I will sit on the Throne!

But if you look at the last one in Revelation 21:7-8; it says:

7. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their Part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

... He who overcomes shall inherit all things.

The first on the list of things not to be inherited is: the COWARDLY. I mean, you will not think how cowardly compares with murderers.

But before He mentioned murderer, He talks about cowards. Why? - Because being a Coward in God's Economy is more serious.

When God tells you something and you are a Coward: you are afraid, you run from the battle, you give up, you surrender - YOU ARE A COWARD.

... Overcomers are not Cowards!

Somebody say: I AM NOT A COWARD.

Yes, you tell the world - We are ready for battle: We tell our Destiny, we will battle for it. We tell our Assignment, we will battle for it.

... I will not stop battling until I become what God says I would be.

I. If God says I am the Head, I am going to battle to the Headship.

II. If God says he will prosper me, I will battle my way to prosperity.

Don't let poverty knock you down - Poverty may blow you, it may hit you, it may give you Punches; but you must get up!

Because it should never be said that - Here lies a man who was knocked out by Poverty. It knocked his father down, knocked his grandfather down. And finally succeeded against him.

... Minus me, minus my children, minus my children's children - Amen.

As for me and my family, we will fight, because we are not Cowards - Amen.

We would push through because God says it is ours - Amen.

It is my Heritage! And whatever the Lord God says is mine, we will Possess it - Amen.

This morning I came to tell you: You are a Champion; there is a reward for you - Amen.

Yes, life has hit you very HARD. But you are like Rocky - You are coming out, and your Title Belt is in your hand. There may be blood oozing from your nose but you are a Champion!

Somebody say: I AM A CHAMPION. I AM A WINNER. I AM NOT A QUITTER. I AM NOT A COWARD. I DON'T SURRENDER. I DON'T LIE DOWN - I RISE!

Because whatever God has given to me, whatever God has said about me, whatever God has declared about me, whatever God has written about me, I WILL PROCESS IT - Amen.

This morning, I want you in the next three (3) Minutes to do a warfare battle - WARFARE PRAYER.

You are not going to do some Simple Prayer and say - Whatever will happen will happen.

No Que sera sera here!

We are Praying to say: LORD, what you said I will be, today I Stand to Possess it. I Rise to Possess it. I Arise to take it.

Let's Pray now: what God says about your Marriage, what God says about your children, what God says about your business, what God says about His Purposes for you:

Don't give it up! Don't surrender it. Don't throw it away - There are battles all around. There are battles to be fought. There are battles to be won.

In the Name of Jesus, we refuse cowardice! The devil is a liar - You will make it. You will rise again. You will Prosper. The favour of God is upon you!

In the Name of Jesus Christ, we Possess our Destiny, we Possess our future. We come out of the Battles. We emerge from the scars of the battle. We emerge with our Title Belt.

CLOSING PRAYER.

And so Lord, in the Name of Jesus: Strengthen the feeble hands, Strengthen the feeble knees that are weak, Strengthen your People Lord.

Train their hands for battle. Teach them how to Profit!

Where they don't know, guide them. What they don't know how to do it, help them to do it.

Speak to them by Night: speak to them in a Dream, speak to them in a Vision, speak to them through the Scriptures - Speak to them!

Guide them Lord by Your Spirit within and show Your People how to Profit, in the Name of Jesus.

And we declare in Agreement with Your Word, that whatever You have given to us - we will POSSESS it, in the Name of Jesus the Son of God - Amen.

Somebody give a Battle to SHOUT - Hallelujah - AMEN!!!



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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 out rightly 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, ADEBANJO ADESOLA AND TOPE BABALOLA

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# Thanks for reading

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We are poised to readily get closer and be easily accessible to you All.

Feel free to follow Us on any of the Handles above and help us share same with all your contacts.

It will surely get better and bigger each passing day!

... Discovery Media Crew, Reaching Out to the World through the Power of The Gospel.

SIGNED

MOSES DURODOLA

**CONVENER, DISCOVERY MEDIA CREW**

