

Importance Of Unity. RCCG SOD Year Eight

There are more lessons to be learnt from **Matthew 12:24-28**.

1. The kingdom of Satan is not divided, and this should be known by every disciple. We should know for example, that there should be no division also in the kingdom of God. Because God said one of us will chase a thousand and that two of us will put ten thousand to flight. This means that there is tremendous power in unity.

Now, let us ask ourselves some questions. Why is the kingdom of Satan united? Is there love in the kingdom of Satan?

Love is not even in the dictionary of Satan. There is no love because God is love, and anything godly is not to be found in the kingdom of Satan. So even though there is no love at all in the kingdom of Satan, we discover that they are united.

The Bible now says to us who are in the kingdom of God in 1 John 4:7-8,

“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”

Now if love is not in the kingdom of Satan, and believe me, every demon hates another demon, and every witch hates the next

witch. If there is anything common to all demons in the kingdom of Satan, it is hatred.

Then how come they are united? They are united because they have a common goal, and what is their goal? To kill, steal and destroy. They all love to do evil, they love to steal, they love to kill, they love to destroy and this common goal keeps them together, according to **John 10: 10** which says:

“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.” As they say among the elders, “conspiracy united them.”

You saw what happened during the Gulf War. All kinds of people joined together against Saddam Hussein. Who could ever believe that America and Russia would be fighting together in the same camp? All kinds of people just ganged together because of something. One goal, one conspiracy joined them together. When there is a common purpose and a common enemy, there should be unity.

So we, the disciples of Jesus Christ, should realise that at least we have one common enemy and that is the devil. We should unite against this common enemy. In other words, even if there is no love among us, the fact that we are fighting a common enemy should unite us.

But then, how can we be the children of God if we don't have love? After all, our Father is love, and like Father, like son. If God is love, His children should be love.

The Bible tells us in **Mark 16:17-18**, it spells out for us a common goal.

“These signs shall follow them that believe...”

These signs shall follow all believers.

“In my name, they will cast out demons.”

At least we have a common goal to cast out demons, to destroy the kingdom of Satan, because we are all believers.

2. Another point to note is that the kingdom of Satan is still standing, and we are the ones who will pull down that kingdom. How do we know that the kingdom is standing? The Bible says in Psalm 110:1

,

“The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.”

God told Jesus Christ to sit down at His right hand until He makes His enemies His footstool, and Jesus Christ is now seated on the right hand of God, waiting for us to make the enemies of Jesus Christ become His footstool.

How are we going to do that? How are we going to pull down this kingdom of Satan that is still standing?

In 2 Corinthians 10: 4, the Bible says,

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.”

We have the weapons; weapons that are not carnal, weapons that are mighty through God, to the pulling down of the strongholds of Satan. His kingdom is standing, but we will pull down this kingdom in the mighty name of Jesus. Now, how do we do it?

(i) First of all, you must pull down the strongholds of Satan in your life. Get rid of anything that Satan may be interested in in your life.

(ii) Secondly, unitedly, we must pull down the strongholds of the enemy in the life of every disciple.

So we must start with ourselves and then with other disciples, and of course, we now face the kingdom of Satan as a free united army. Unitedly, we will pull down the strongholds of the enemy.

3. Yet there is another lesson from the scripture (Matthew 12 22-28). The title given to Satan here is Beelzebub, which means “the father of flies.” This should tell you something. Every demon is like a fly in its activities. For example, look at the characteristics of a fly and see if you can compare them to the characteristics of a demon.

CHARACTERISTICS OF FLIES:

Flies have five common characteristics:

- 1) A fly is a carrier of diseases and death. This is what demons do.
- 2) Flies come in uninvited, and that is what demons do. You do not need to send for them before they come.
- 3) Flies are attracted by dirt and uncleanness. In the same manner, spiritual uncleanness attracts demons. Also, immoral thoughts, dirty jokes and bad music do the same.
- 4) Flies always only want to stay in either cool or lukewarm places, and demons are always to be found in congregations that are either cold or lukewarm.
- 5) As soon as you turn on the heat, the flies will fly away.

SECRETS OF VICTORY

If you want to get rid of the flies, you can do two things.

Either clean the top of the cooker or set fire to the cooker. As soon as the cooker begins to heat up, the flies will disappear. This will tell us the secret of victory to get rid of demons from your life, so that you have victory all the time.

1. You must constantly seek revival. You must be hot all the time. You must be so revived that even your heat will cause a revival for other disciples.
2. To have permanent victory, we must be together in hotness. If you are hot and I am hot, by the time we combine our

heat, the fire we get becomes bigger and remember, the bigger the fire, the farther away darkness will be.

Remember the name of our God is the Father of Light, so when we are together in love and unity, and we are all hot for Jesus, our victory will be eternal. It does not matter how hot you are, you can be hotter.

I want you to spend some minutes praying in tongues.

Invite the Holy Spirit in and get a little more heat. When you have done that, link hands together and pray together and let fire catch fire, and the enemy will be put to flight.

Go ahead now and do that, and God will bless you.

Disciple as an Eagle. Part Nine. RCCG SOD Year 9

HOW THE EAGLE DIES AND LEAVE THE WORLD

When an eagle becomes very old, and almost all eagles die old because they are not easy to capture and they are not easy to shoot down.

They do not fall sick because they do not eat rotten food and they do not catch pneumonia because the rain does not beat them.

When the eagle is very, very old and about to die, it does something again that is very strange.

It will again look for the highest point on the mountain and go and sit down there and face the sun.

It will keep on looking at the sun until , as somebody falling asleep, it will just drop dead.

When it is time for a disciple to go home, that is if Jesus tarries, and we do not go home through the Rapture.

Like the Eagle, there is nothing to fear. There is nothing to panic about. All we need to do is to just sit down and begin to look toward the Sun of Righteousness.

In Malachi 4:2 , the Bible describes the Lord Jesus Christ as the Sun of Righteousness and in Matthew 17:1-2 , the Lord Jesus Christ showed us a little bit of Himself. The Bible says he took Peter, James and John to a high mountain apart.

Just like the eagle, He took the three disciples to the highest point of the available mountain and there he was transfigured before them. The Scripture says "His face did shine as the sun; and his raiment was white as the light.

In Revelations 1:16, John the Revelator described Jesus Christ for us again.

Part of John's description was that:

“And his countenance was like the sun when it shineth in its strength”

When the eagle wants to die, it sits and faces the sun until it drop dead. When the child of God wants to die, he would sit down and face Jesus Christ, the sun of Righteousness.

Why?

Because **Hebrews 12:2** says we are to look

“...Unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith”

Why should we look unto Jesus when we are about to depart? He was the one who started our faith and He is the one who can finish it. All we need to do is to just focus on Him.

Whenever we find out that death is approaching , we know that there will be some people who still need help in order to walk through the valley of the shadow of death.

Then face Jesus Christ.

When the opportunity to die comes , face the Author and Finisher of your faith. If you need help, like David said in Psalm 12:1-2,

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the LORD which made heaven and earth”.

You should just lift up your eyes unto Him and you will discover that there will be nothing to fear, because help will come.

After all Jesus promised in John 12:32 and said that,

“And I , If I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me”.

Jesus will say just come and He will keep on lifting you higher and higher until you just discover that you are no longer in this world, you are in heaven.

When it is time to die, the reason why some people find it difficult to go is because they are looking at the things of this world.

The houses they have built, their numerous cars, their money in the bank , and they find it difficult to let go of those things.

But when you are looking at Jesus, He will take your eyes off those things and He will let you understand that over there, is much better than here.

And you will suddenly appreciate His promise in **Isaiah 45:22** which says,

“Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth. For I am God , and there is none else.”

When the time of departure comes, and you still have some doubts, “have I made it? Am I going to end up in heaven now? Am I going to hell? Have I failed him? The moment of truth has come, what is going to happen now?

Remember **Isaiah 51:1**, which says,

“Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness , ye that seek the Lord, look unto the Rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.”

Look unto the Rock of which you are hewn. Who is the Rock of Ages? It is Jesus Christ. Who was the one that saved your soul? It is Jesus Christ. Who was the one who made you a Living Stone? It is Jesus Christ.

The moment He saved our soul, He has made you a part of Himself, so all you have to do now is just focus on Him. Just like Paul said in **Philippians 3:13-14**,

“Brethren , I count not myself to have apprehended, but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind , and reaching unto those things which are before . I press towards the mark for the price of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus”.

This is the way we should do. Forget the things which are behind, forget success, forget failure, forget your material wealth.

Focus on Jesus . Keep pressing on. Just keep on pressing on.

We have an example of Stephen in Acts 7:55-60. The Bible says, as they were stoning Him, he , being full of the Holy Spirit , looked steadfastly to heaven it was not long before he saw heaven open.

He saw the glory of God, and he saw Jesus standing there , no wonder he just said, "LORD " receive my spirit.

The eagle does not suffer when he is about to die, It just sits down looking at the sun. Other birds may think that it was warming itself, and gradually , like falling asleep, it just goes. This is the way it should be.

When the disciple faces the Sun of Righteousness from here, he will just discover that he is transported from light to light, because the sun in the city into which he is going , is none other than Jesus.

In Revelation 21:23, the Bible says,

"And the city had no need of the sun, neither the moon , to shine in it, for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is in the light thereof."

So from here, you just move from watching Jesus Christ and you go to where Jesus Himself is.

You will remember that the three wise men when Jesus was born . They saw his star and they began to follow the star. They kept on following the star but unfortunately they branched in Herod's palace and there made a mistake.

This is because they could no longer see the star.

When they came out of the place, and they saw the Star again. They followed the star until they got to Jesus.

How should a disciple leave this world?

Focus on Jesus, the Sun of Righteousness. The Author and Finisher of your faith, and you will just sleep away quietly from this world into the world to come.

PRAYER

So talk to the Almighty, and say , Father, I thank you that I have finished Year 9. I know that when the examination comes, I will pass because Your Spirit will remind me of all things.

And when the time comes for the final examination, when I have to face death, LORD, grant me the grace that my eyes will never

leave you, so that I will just move from light to light. Talk to the LORD now.

The Disciple as an Eagle. Part Eight. RCCG SOD Year 9

April 30, 2025 Adeniyi Salau RCCG SOD 0

Sharing is Caring

Whenever there is a storm in the jungle, because birds do not like to get wet, they do not like to be drenched in the rain, because when they get drenched, their feathers will become wet, they cannot fly, they become very cold, and they begin to shiver. Some of them may even die,

So whenever there is a mighty tropical storm coming, every bird will begin to run frantically to their nests, they will be flapping their wings, screaming in terror, but the eagle does the exact opposite.

The first thing it does when there is a storm is that it will face the direction of the storm.

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It does not run from the storm. It faces the storm.

Secondly, the eagle waits for the storm to come, and just as the storm is about to hit it, it lifts its wings, and the speed of the storm will just lift it.

And then it will begin to rise on top of the storm, and when it gets to the top of the storm, it turns and looks at the other birds, which were now being thrown here and there by the storm, and begins to laugh.

The eagle rejoices over all the other birds who could not ride the storm like itself.

The spiritual eagles (Children of God) are expected to do these three things when the storm comes:

#1 Face the storm

In James 4:7, the Bible says:

“Submit yourself therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

It is not enough for you to be born again. After submitting yourself to God, you are to face the storm. You are to resist the devil”.

In Ephesians 6:13-17. The Bible says,

“Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand the evil day, and having done all to stand...”

When you want to resist the devil, so that you will be able to stand on the evil day. Then the Bible lists for you all the armour you are to put on.

There is something for your head, something for your chest, something for your girdle, something to wear, a shield, a sword, but there is nothing for your back. This tells you straight away that as a disciple, you are never to turn your back on the enemy.

You are never to run from the enemy. You are never to run from the storm.

You are to face the storm. Anytime there is a storm, you are to face it.

In 1 Sam. 17:48, the Bible says that when Goliath drew near, David ran into the battle. He ran to go and meet Goliath.

He did not turn his back on Goliath. He faced the enemy. This is the way you are to meet any storm.

#2 Ride on the Storm

The second thing the eagle does is that the eagle rides on the storm. In other words, it flies on top of it. The Bible says in **Eph. 1:19-23** that God has put all things under the feet of Jesus Christ, and you are part of the Body of Christ, whatever part you may be, even if you are the sole of His feet, you are already far above principalities and powers. God expect you to ride on your enemies. You are to be far above them, walking on top of them.

In **Psalm 20:7-8**, the Bible says our enemies may trust in horses and chariots, but they are going to stumble, they are going to fail and that we are going to stand upright.

It means we will be walking over our fallen enemies. Just like the eagle is riding the storm, just like an eagle will fly above all mountains, in the same manner, we are expected to ride above

our enemies. We are to ride above our problems if they do not exist at all.

In **Matt. 14:22-29**, we have the story of Peter walking on the water to go and meet Jesus. Unfortunately, he began to sink later as he took his eyes off Jesus, but let us not forget the fact that he had begun to sink, and first of all, consider the fact that he walked on water.

At least he walked, no matter how few the steps; if he had kept his eyes on Jesus, he would have kept on walking.

Remember that there was a storm when he was walking on the water and at the time he was walking on the water, he was not born again, he was not baptised at the time.

We are born again. The greater one is already dwelling in us. We are filled with the Holy Spirit, as there is no reason why we cannot walk on storms.

Well, how do we do it? Peter is again our example. Later on, when he was born again, he got baptised in the Holy Spirit, he showed us how to walk on storms.

In Acts 12:5-7, he was being kept in prison, and the king was going to kill him on the morrow.

What did Peter do?

Like a true eagle now, he was not weeping. He was not grumbling. He was not afraid, but he slept.

He slept so soundly that when the angel came to release him, he had to wake Peter up.

The angel had to beat him and wake him up. Peter was walking now like an Eagle.

#3 Rejoiced over the Storm

The eagle faces the storm. It rides the storm and it rejoices even as it rides the storm.

In **Isaiah 40:31**, the Bible says,

“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings as eagles...”

When we say that the eagle laughs or rejoices when it is riding the storm, those of us who grew up in the village can hear the eagle when there is a storm.

You can hear the laughter.

It is as if somebody is shouting Alleluyah, again, again and again.

Then what does **waiting upon the Lord** mean?

It means praising Him, worshipping Him, rejoicing before Him.

This is what Paul and Silas did in **Acts 16:25**.

They were in the biggest storm of their lives. They were in a maximum security prison. They were going to be killed also the following morning but what were they doing?

Like two eagles, they began to sing. They began to praise God.

They did it so loudly that they woke up every prisoner in the prison. No wonder there was an earthquake.

Whenever there is a storm, face it, ride it and rejoice as you do so.

Also, in 2 Chronicles. 3:21-22 is the story of Jehosaphat. He came against three mighty Kings, and how did he face them? He faced them by getting a team of choirs.

They were singing and saying, "Praise the Lord, for His mercy endureth forever".

They rode the storm, and they rejoiced as they did so. According to the Word of God, the Almighty God gave them a victory so mighty that it took them three days to carry the spoils.

So, as an eagle, how will you face the storm? How will you deal with the storm?

You must face it. Don't run.

Don't forget you are a king anyway. A king does not run. Face the storm.

Ride it, because all enemies are under your feet anyway.

And whatever happens, rejoice in the Lord always, and I say rejoice.

So, why don't you spend some minutes now and rejoice, and you will suddenly discover that your problems will begin to contract.

Because as you praise the Lord, you will realise how Big your God is and suddenly you will realise how little your problem is, compared to Almighty God.

So, rejoice a little, and God will surprise you.

The Disciple as an Eagle. Part Seven.

RCCG SOD Year 9

April 27, 2025 Adeniyi Salau RCCG SOD 0

Sharing is Caring

There are three categories of Christians:

1. There are Christians who are learning to walk.
2. There are Christians who are already running.
3. There are a few Christians who are already flying.

God expects every disciple to be able to fly.

Now we want to learn how the eagle begins to learn how to fly, so that we as disciples can know whether we are already flying or how we too can begin to fly.

When an eagle wants to lay its eggs, it goes to the highest branch of the highest tree on the highest mountain. There she will build her nest.

In building this particular nest, she will set the foundation with very sharp thorns. She will set the foundation with very sharp thorns, and cover them with leaves.

She will then make it very comfortable by plucking some feathers from her own body to cover the leaves, and then she will lay the eggs there. Later on, the eggs will hatch, and the little eaglets will begin to grow.

As the eagles grow, they will reach a certain stage where the mother eagle feels that these eaglets should begin to fly.

The Mother Eagle will not tell the eaglets that it is time to fly. What she does is that she would begin to remove first the feathers in the nest, and after that she will remove the leaves.

By now, the eaglets would be wondering what is wrong with their mother. Very soon, all that will be left will be thorns.

The eaglets will then begin to panic, and in fact, the mother eagle will not stop there; she will begin to push them towards the edge of the nest until they topple over, and then they begin to go down like a stone towards the ground.

The Mother Eagle will be watching and hovering around them. Meanwhile, the eaglets will be frightened, looking up and shouting for help, but just before the eaglets hit the ground, the mother eagle will swoop down and catch the eaglet and take it right back to the height again and drop it.

The mother eagle will keep on doing this until the eaglet says, 'wait a minute, I can see my mother flapping her wings, maybe if I do my own like that, something will happen.

'And I will try and suddenly discover that the wings are meant for flying. And that as she begins to flap her wings, she, too, could fly.

When God wants you to fly, the first thing He does is that all those things that have been making you comfortable. He will begin to remove.

If everything is fine, if you have no problems, all is just great, it will be difficult for you to learn how to fly. But when things begin to get tough, and you begin to wonder what is going wrong, many times it is God's way of telling you, "I am going to teach you how to fly".

At a time when you even think that God, things are getting too hot, He says all am doing is just removing the feathers. I have not even reached the leaves yet.

And then very soon after removing the leaves, He will say, I am still going to push you out of the next. I pray that whatever will not allow you to fly, God will remove today.

In Hebrews 5:12-14, the Bible says,

“For the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as need the milk, and not strong meat.

For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who, because of use, have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”.

Some of us, at times when we ought to be teachers, still want to be taught the very basic principles of God. At times when we should be eating strong meat, we still want to drink milk.

Whenever a problem comes our way, before you begin to bind and loose, you better check whether it is the devil that is fighting you or God that is trying to teach you how to fly.

When the mother eagle is pushing the baby eagle out of the nest, it is not that she hates the eaglet. She has a great purpose for the eaglet, so that the eaglet, by now, should begin to fly.

Whatever may be happening to you, remember what God said in Jeremiah 29:11, God said,

“For I know the thoughts that I think towards you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end”.

The Almighty God knows what He is doing. He knows that it must be well with a disciple, but He does not want you to remain a baby forever. God said there is something I have in store for you. I have to push you so that you can get there.

David said in Psalm 119:71

“It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I might learn thy statutes”.

In other words, he said, “Oh God, I appreciate the troubles that I have been through because as a result, I have learned new things about you”.

There is no doubt about it, it does not matter how much your mother and your father love you, a day is coming when you will be compelled to stand on your own feet.

If you are a baby and your mummy keeps carrying you on her back forever, you will never learn to walk, you will never learn to run. No matter how much she loves you, one day she will stand up and say “move”.

One day, mummy is going to stop giving you milk when she knows that you are old enough to eat solid foods. One day, she will teach you to begin to eat pepper. You have to learn these things. They are for your good. **The same thing is true of God.**

In Hebrews 12:11, the Bible says,

In other words, when you are going through some hard times, God is preparing you for something great.

In Hebrews 5:8-9, the Bible says concerning the Lord Jesus Christ that,

“Though He were a son, yet He learned obedience by the thing He suffered. And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him”.

Jesus Christ Himself suffered so that He could become perfect.

In Hebrews 2:10, the Bible says,

“For it became Him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”

Jesus Christ himself suffered so that He could become a perfect captain.

How was the Lord Jesus made perfect? Is it through comfort? No, but through suffering, even though He was the only begotten son of God, because He came into this world.

He put on human flesh, certain impurities must be got rid of through suffering.

There was a man who was told to fast for three days. he said he could never do it, then war came, and he found himself in a pit between two armies.

The bullets were flying over his head, and he could not even sleep for seven days because he did not know which way the battle would go. He was urinating and defecating where he was, he had no food to eat.

After seven days, he suddenly discovered that it is possible to fast for seven days without dying.

In 1 Peter 2:21, the Bible says,

“For even hereunto were ye called: Christ also suffered for us. Leaving us an example that we should follow in His steps.”

In other words, we should follow in the footsteps of His sufferings. I know some of you will say What kind of teaching is this? Are you saying that disciples should get ready for suffering?

Well, you are Year 9 disciples now, by now you should begin to eat some meat and break some bones. You should know that there is no way anyone could escape suffering. God said When you pass through the fire, He will be with you.

The point is, he said "when", not "if". In other words, you are going to pass through the fire whether you like it or not.

In Zech. 13:8-9, the Bible says,

"And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, said the Lord, two parts therein shall be cut off and die, but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried. They shall call on my name, and I will hear them. I will say, it is my people and they shall say, The LORD is my God."

In other words, God is saying that among all those who call themselves children of God, only one-third will survive. Two-thirds will perish. The remaining one-third will, however, be further purified by fire.

If you do not go with the first two-thirds, if Satan did not take you away, and you are among the remnant, and you are rejoicing and praising God that you are one of the remnant, then get ready for the fire. The fire will purify the remaining one-third.

I am not the one who said so, it is the word of God. The beauty of it, however, is that, by the time He has finished with the purification with fire, he will be bold to say, These are my people and they too will be bold to say: **The Lord is my God.**

In Malachi 3:1-3, God made it clear that He is going to purify the sons of Levi like silver and as gold. He will purify them so that they will be able to offer him offerings in righteousness.

In other words, God is saying until you have passed through fire, you cannot serve him in a way that will be acceptable., Then you begin to wonder why all these.

The elders have a saying that a slice of meat that is already dried will never have worms. In other words, God has passed you through all the fire He needed to pass you through, then there will be no corruption available unto you again. If God is going to use you,

He will pass you through fire, red hot one, to purify you so that you can become something the enemy cannot take away from Him. Every temptation that the enemy may want to present, the fire would have dealt with it.

In James 1:2-4, the Bible says,

“My Brethren, count it all joy when you fall into divers temptation. Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh

patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that you may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.”

God wants you to be perfect. He wants you to lack nothing. He wants you to be a child of God that He can look at you and say, **“I am proud of this.”**

In 1 Peter 1:6-7, the Bible says,

“Wherein you greatly rejoice, though now for a season. If need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations. That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise, honour, and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.”

When the fire comes, it purifies you; everything in you that is not divine will be flushed out, and then you become pure. You become a vessel unto honour in the hand of God.

The word of God now says that all these things will work together for your good, so that you will become a vessel of praise, a vessel unto honour, and a vessel unto glory. That is what **Romans 8:28** says,

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose”.

Once the fire has done its work, everything that is not divine has been removed, then you become almost like Jesus Christ. You become perfect.

So when God wants you to begin to fly like an eagle. He creates problems or He allows problems, which will compel you to go through the refining process, and by the time you finish, you will be soaring like an eagle. Problems will push you close to God.

You will learn to pray, like you have never prayed before. You will learn to fast. You will learn to study the Word of God by force.

You will memorise it by force, you will quote it by force, and very soon, it becomes part and parcel of you, so that even when all the problems are over, you will remain a great, wonderful and mighty man of valour. Then you too will be able to soar like an eagle.

PRAYER

Talk to God and say,

Father, whatever refining You need to do, do it, Lord, because I must be pure. I must fly like an Eagle. I must soar.

Talk to the Lord now.

The Disciple as an Eagle. Part 6. RCCG SOD Year 9

April 27, 2025 Adeniyi Salau RCCG SOD 0

Sharing is Caring

In spite of the fact that the eagle lives very high, it does not have to worry about other animals, other birds, and it is not even bothered by many hunters.

But the eagle has one enemy and that is the serpent. The favourite meat or food of the serpent is the egg of the eagle.

Somehow, the serpent has a way of when the eagle has laid its egg and slowly , quietly and cunningly, it will climb the tree with

Just like the serpent, the devil would wait until your eggs are laid, just when you are about to hatch, when you are about to get the reward of your labour, then he wants to attack.

The Eagle has two ways of dealing with the serpent. One is by pecking it to death. It will keep on pecking , jumping away and pecking again until the head of the snake becomes one bloody mess.

How will a disciple peck at the head of Satan? Just like the way Jesus did during the temptation, by pecking with the Word of God. In **Matt. 4:3-4**,

“And when the tempter came to Him, he said, if thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, it is written , man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God”.

Jesus pecked at the devil with the word of God.

That was the first peck. Then the devil presented a second attack. The devil took Jesus to the pinnacle of the temple in the holy city and asked him to jump down.

He, too, attempted to peck Jesus now. The devil said, “It is written, He shall give charge concerning you to his angels, to carry you in their hands, so that you will not dash your feet against the stone”.

The devil, too, was trying the pecking method; he was trying to quote from Psalm 91, even though he quoted wrongly. But Jesus pecked Him again and said again,

It is written...

And from verses 8-10, the Bible says the devil took Jesus to an exceeding high mountain. You can now see the serpent and the eagle on the mountaintop.

The devil now told Jesus to just bow down to him, and he would hand over the world to Jesus. But Jesus pecked him again. He said,

It is written once again. You see, the Word of God that is quick and powerful is also called **the Sword of the Spirit**. And you use it to peck and to peck and to peck.

So when the devil comes to you with temptations, you will reply by saying it is written. Jesus Christ said that if there is a mountain in your way, the way you remove that mountain is by speaking to it, saying to the mountain,

“Be thou removed. Be thou cast unto the sea.”

And it shall be so. So keep on pecking by saying,

“It is written.”

But how can you say it is written, if you do not know what is written? You can only quote what you already know.

That is why we say the disciple must eat the Word of God. He must memorise the word of God so that when the enemy comes, he would pull out of the treasure within him and he would say , "It is written".

In the olden days, the witchdoctors memorised all their incantations. They never write anything down. It may take them sixteen years but they will memorise every bit of it and they never forget any.

Now, if these people who were agents of the devil can memorise everything they needed to know, why should we not memorise the word of God too? SO you too must memorise the Word of God.

So, you too must memorise the word of God so that you will have words to use to combat the enemy when he comes. Many of us now, the slightest quotation we need, we go back and look at the concordance, but many times, the devil comes when you do not have time to go back and look at the concordance.

In James 4:7, the Bible says,

"Submit yourself therefore unto God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you".

It is the true word of God that is forever settled. But I am sure some of us have wondered, why is it then that I have submitted to God, I have resisted the devil, but he seemed not to be fleeing from me.

He is like a stubborn goat. The secret is found in **1 Peter 5:8-9**. The Bible says,

“Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour, whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world”.

James 4:7 says,

“Resist the devil and he will flee from you”.

1 Peter 5 now tells you, you have to resist him steadfastly until he flees”.

So, when you are dealing with the devil, it is like dealing with your fingernails. As soon as you cut your nails, they begin to grow again, as soon as you finish cutting, they have started growing again.

But some of us will say, Why must I keep on resisting the devil? Well, you may answer the question that I would want to put to you. “Why do you take your bath every day?

Why do you brush your teeth every day? I am sure you would answer that so that you would not die. If you keep cleaning your body daily, I do not think it is too much of an effort in the spiritual to **resist the devil steadfastly**. Keep on pecking until the enemy is destroyed.

Dropping the enemy on the Rock of Ages

The second way that the eagle deals with the serpent is by picking it up with its beaks, it will grab it by the neck and will begin to fly with it until it sees a rock below, and then it will drop the snake.

Knowing that as soon as it hits the rock, it is going to break into pieces.

I am sure you know who The Rock is. You know who the Rock of Ages is.

1 Cor. 10:4,

“And ~~all~~ drink the same spiritual drink, for they drank of that spiritual rock that followed them; and that rock was Christ”.

There is none other than Jesus Christ. The Bible tells us there is a certain rock that if you fall on it, you will break. If it falls on you, it will grind you to powder, and that is Jesus Christ Himself.

So the eagle drops the serpent on the rock, and we, the disciples, are supposed to drop the devil on the Rock of Ages. Now there is one thing we need to know here.

Many times, the eagle has already noted where a rock is. You know, while it has been flying about hunting for food, it has discovered that there is a rock here.

It will take note of it till the day that the rock is needed. We, as spiritual eagles, know where the Rock of Ages is. We know who he is.

According to **Psalm 90:1-2**, the Bible says,

“Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or even thou hast formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God”.

We know him. We are already acquainted with Him. We know where He is. Now, when the eagle is flying, at times it may see a heap of soil covered with some leaves.

It may look like a rock to somebody who is not careful, but the eyes of the eagle are very keen.

It knows ordinary soil from real rock. And I am sure, as a disciple, you know the actual Jesus Christ. You know the difference between the real Jesus and the Jesus of Oyingbo.

And you know the real difference between Jesus and all the pretenders.

In Psalm 46:1-2, the Bible says,

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be removed, and thou the mountain be carried into the midst of the sea”.

When trouble comes , and you find the pecking might not solve the problem, then you do what the eagle will do again. Drop the enemy on the rock of ages.

In Jude 9, when the angel Michael and the devil came face to face, what Michael said was that,

“Yet Michael the Archangel, when contending with the devil, he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against Him a rolling accusation, but said, The LORD rebuke thee”.

In other words, he says, I am not going to struggle with you. I will just drop you off at the Rock of Ages. I will let the Rock of Ages deal with you. “. This is a very powerful way of dealing with the enemy.

Do not forget **Phil. 2:10**, which says,

“God has given Jesus Christ a name that is above every other name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things on earth, and things underneath the earth”.

Through thee will push down our enemies, And through thy name we will thread them under, that rise up against us”.

If you have ever watched boxers before, you will know that jabbing is a very good weapon, and nobody is ever knocked out with jabs. It takes a knockout punch to knock out somebody else.

So it is good to drop the enemy on the Rock of Ages so that he breaks to pieces once and for all.

In 1 Samuel 17:45, David said to Goliath,

“...I come against thee in the name of the Lord...”

That day, he saw the end of Goliath. And i pray that you will see the end of Goliath in your life today. When you want the enemy to be destroyed once and for all, use the name that struck down Goliath, the name of Jesus.

If you hand over the enemy, If you drop the enemy on the Rock of Ages, The Rock of Ages will break the enemy to pieces.

And if you read Psalm 20:1-8, part of it says,

“...The Lord hear thee in the days of Trouble, and the name of God of Jacob defend thee, send thee help from the sanctuary and strengthen thee out of Zion”.

And if you go on and on and you read it, you find where it says,

“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we will remember the name of the LORD our God . They are brought down and fallen, but we are risen, and stand upright”.

To knock down the devil, to silence the enemy permanently, you need the name of the Rock of Ages.

When you have been jabbing and jabbing and you are tired of jabbing, then you can say, **The LORD rebuke you**. Just drop the enemy on the Rock of Ages.

I know there may be many devils disturbing you right now, some might be harmful habits or sins that will just not let go.

Some might be sickness or poverty and may be you are tired of jabbing all of them, why dont you right now drop them on the Rock of Ages and see what would be the result.

Go ahead. Talk to the Lord.

Know Your Enemy. Part Six. RCCG SOD Year One.

April 26, 2025 Adeniyi Salau RCCG SOD 0

Sharing is Caring

Now the Great Commission in Mark 16:15-18 made it abundantly clear that you cannot successfully and truly carry out the Great Commission without casting out demons because when He asked you to go forward into all the world and preach the gospel to all nation.

He said these signs shall follow them that believe. The first thing that he said you will do, **is that you will cast out demons**. You cannot deal successful with demons , unless you are fully aware of their strategies.

Demon on Assignment

In 2 Cor 2:11, the Bible says,

Signup and get 10 Digital Marketing Ebooks for free.

- ☐ Yes, please keep me updated on news, events and offers *
- ☐ By signing up, you agree to our [Terms of Use and Privacy Policy](#), including the use of cookies and transfer of your personal information to *
- Email*
- Count Me In
- [Provided by SendPulse](#)

“Lest Satan should get an advantage of us. For we are not ignorant of his devices”.

We need to know his devices, we must not be ignorant of his devices. When we are well informed, the devil will not be able to cheat us.

So you need to know that the devil has demons on assignment in almost every sphere of life.

He cannot be everywhere at all times, so he put demons everywhere. Even though he move pretty fast according to Luke 10:18 but he cannot be everywhere at all times.

Now we are going to look at these demons on assignment in various forms.

Demon on assignment in religion

You see, the devil has always had a doctrine to preach. According to 1 Timothy 4:1, the Bible talks about the doctrine of devils.

The devil has his doctrines, and the first time he preached was in the garden of Eden in Genesis 3:4-5, when he told Eve, "don't listen to God.

You wouldn't die any death at all, in fact God doesn't want you to become like Him which is why He asked you not to eat the forbidden fruit". Now the devil is still preaching the same sermon today.

In 2 Cor. 11:3, the Bible says;

"But I fear lest by any means as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your mind should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ".

The doctrine of Jesus Christ is very simple, but Satan can add to it and subtract from it.

Now the devil knows what people want to hear. He knows what will make them feel happy, so when he is preparing his doctrines, he prepares them in such a way that some people will say, "Oh, that makes sense".

But remember the Bible says in **Proverbs 14:12**,

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof is are way of death".

You must take note of that. Any way that seems to look good but is not according to the word of God will surely lead to death.

The devil also knows how to perform lying wonders. He is a magician. The Bible talks about him in 2 Thess. 2:9 concerning his lying wonders, the Bible says:

"Even him (that is talking about the devil) whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and sign and lying wonders."

He also knows about variety being the spice of life.

When he wants to establish his doctrines, he prepares a variety so that the world would be able to take whichever one they want, and then he puts special demons in charge of particular doctrines.

In Ephesians 4:14, the Bible warned us that:

“We henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine by the sleight of men and cunning craftiness whereby they lie in wait to deceive”.

Now, he has all kinds of doctrines, every wind of doctrine. As a master counterfeiter, he copies the original very closely.

The Bible says that if we are not careful, we might be deceived.

In 2 Cor 11:13-14, the Bible made it abundantly clear that the devil you are dealing with is very cunning. It says:

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel, for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.”

So there are false apostles who will pretend to be apostles of Christ, just as the devil their father, can transform himself into an angel of light.

Now, occasionally, he does not send a demon when the fellow that he wants to deal with is a spiritual giant.

In such instances, he will come himself. For example, he preached to Jesus Christ in Matthew 4:5-6. He said:

“It is written, he would give charge concerning you to his angels that they will carry you upon their hands so that you will not dash your foot against a stone”.

He preached to Jesus Christ, and he was trying to quote Psalm 91:11, but he quoted it wrongly. He even told Jesus Christ: “Listen, look at the whole world, look at the glory of it.

You bow to me and I will give it to you”. And you know the trap, the owner of Jesus and whatever the slave owns belong to the owner.

He said, I will give the whole world to you, and then you belong to me. Automatically, if Jesus belongs to him, then he would own the whole world as well.

Demons on assignment in religion are well organised and obedient. They preach a variety of false doctrines, and there is a demon in charge of each doctrine.

HOW TO KNOW CHURCHES (RELIGION) THAT THE DEVIL CONTROLS

How do we know religions and churches that are demon-controlled? Any organisation that adds or subtracts from the Bible is demonic, irrespective of the name they call themselves.

In Revelation 22:18-19, God warned us against adding or subtracting from the Bible.

I am sorry to say, the book of Revelations is not in their Bible, and they have several other books that they have added.

Those people who called themselves Christian Scientists subtracted from the Bible. The Mormons, who always say God is love and that God will never judge anybody, have subtracted from the Bible.

There are several others (I am sorry to say,) the Celestial Church, who add to the Bible. Anyone who contradicts any bit of the Word of God is demonic because the Bible says let all men be liars and let God be true.

The Grail Message, for example, say that Jesus Christ was not born by a virgin.

They contradict the Bible and any organisation that brings frustration to its members is demonic. It does not matter what scientific wisdom their teachings may contain.

According to Isaiah 44:24-25, any organisation that brings frustration to its followers is not of God.

Take the Rosicrucians, for example. Whenever you find any doctrine in any organisation that contains evident lies, sorry to say, the organisation is demonic.

Take Islam, for example, they believe that by putting water into their ears, they have cleansed whatever evil they have heard.

When you put some water in your mouth and throw it out, every evil that you have spoken has already been washed away.

Even when there is no water and you take some sand, and you do the same with the sand, you are cleansed from your sins.

This is a lie, and that is a doctrine of the devil. In 2 Thess. 2:11-12, the Bible make it clear that:

“For this cause God shall send them strong delusion that they should believe a lie. That they all might be damned who believed not the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

The truth is clear: Jesus is the son of God.

The truth is clear: Jesus had come to save the world.

The truth is clear: no one can come to the Father except he or she does so through Jesus Christ.

Any other doctrine, any other addition or subtraction of demons, and what are you to do as disciples?

You see, many of our relations who refuse the gospel are being influenced by these demons, and if we can move the mountains of demons out of their lives, it will be easy to get them converted.

You will remember the story in Acts 13:6-12, when Paul was preaching and there was this sorcerer, who was hindering the message.

Paul commanded that the man be blind so that he could be removed from the way. As soon as he moved out of the way, the Governor believed. It is your duty to deal with every demon that is blocking your relatives, to move them out of the way

Remember Mary Magdalene, she was a witch, a chief among them, with seven evil birds in her alone. When the demons were cleared out of her, she became a strong disciple of Jesus.

Remember the Gardarene demonic, who was so demonic that he was living in a tomb. As soon as he was set free, the Bible said he began to follow Jesus,

SO WHAT SHOULD YOU DO NOW

1. You must thank God for diverting the attention of those demons the day you got saved. The demons did not want you to be saved. Somehow, may be as a result of the prayer of somebody. God turned the attention of all demons away from you. You heard the gospel and before the demon knew what was happening, you are born again.

2. You have a duty to take authority over all demons that are influencing your friends and relations, and are preventing them from receiving the gospel. Command in the name of Jesus and they will lose their hold this very day. In God's supernatural way, all your relatives and friends might become children of God.

Go ahead now, take authority over all these demons, cast them out in the name of Jesus and they will flee.

The Disciple as an Eagle. Part Five. RCCG SOD Manual

WHERE THE EAGLE LIVES

The eagle lives on the highest point available in its surroundings. In other words, the eagle will look for the highest mountain in its vicinity, and then it will look for the highest tree on the highest mountain

Then will look for the highest branch of the tallest tree, and this is where it will build its nest. This is why it is very difficult for any hunter to easily get an eagle.

There are Christians who love to live in the valley. Some Christians are living halfway on the mountain.

They grumble, they are the people who criticise, they are the people who never achieve anything for God.

But the disciple should be like the eagle, he should live on the highest mountain top because in **Psalm 1:1**, it is the people who live like eagles that God is referring to as blessed. The Bible says:

1. **They will not work in the counsel of the ungodly.**
2. **They will not stand in the way of sinners.**
3. **They will not sit in the seat of the scornful.**

The disciples should be like an eagle, they should live on the highest mountain top. In other words, you will not find a disciple among those who are in the valley, the ungodly, the sinners and the scornful.

Anywhere you find the eagle will be the highest point available. And you will meet him there, either singing, praising God,

memorising the Bible or speaking the Word of God. Spiritual Eagles live on high.

Ephesians 2:1-6 talks about spiritual eagles and where they sit. It says, **“And you hath He quickened who were dead in trespass and sin”**.

Look at Verse 5-6,

“Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ. And hath raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. “

Where are we seated? Heavenly places. Not in the valley. Not in the clouds in the heavenlies. Just as Jesus Christ is set at the right hand of the Father, **so we are also set at the right hand of the Father.**

Ephesians 1:20-21 explains it further, it says,

“Far above principalities and powers, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come.

In other words, the living place of the spiritual eagle is very, very high up. If there is a true disciple, you will never be found in the valley, you will be found among plotters, you will be found among fornicators.

You will be found among those who share bad jokes. You will never be found among those who are gossiping or those who are backbiting because those people are in the valley, and the disciple is in the heavenlies.

Talking about the eagle, you will never find a nest that is higher than that of an eagle. If an eagle is flying and it finds that another bird has built its nest higher than its own, it will go back home immediately and look for a higher point than that one to build a new nest.

When you find two nests equally as high, you can be sure that the birds in the two nests are eagles, because nobody builds higher than that of a king.

In the olden days, no matter how rich you were, you could not build a palace. A palace belongs to the king.

Why Eagles live on High Mountain

The reason why the eagles build their nest so high is many.

1. It is the king of birds, and it must be higher than the other birds, and it must be able to look down on them, because it is the one who has dominion.
2. The mountain is a place of victory. Now, if you also look at all the great men of God, you will discover that you will always find them on mountain tops. In 2 Kings 1:9-10, when the enemy sent soldiers to go and arrest Elijah, they found him on the mountain top, and of course, from there he was easily able to rain down on them.

In 1 Kings 18, you will discover that Elijah deliberately choose Mount Carmel for the competition between himself and the prophets of Baal, because he knew that on the mountaintop.

Because the worshipers of baal belong to the valley, he has now come to the same level as jezebel, with witches and wizards, so they can now begin to torment him as they like.

That is why you, as a disciple, must stay on the mountaintop.

3. The mountain is a place to get help in times of trouble. In Exodus 17:8-15, the Bible says that when the Amalekites came to attack Israel, the first thing that Moses said he would do was,

"I will go to the mountaintop, it would be easy for him to receive help from above.

You cannot help anyone higher than. You have to be higher than someone before you can lift them. This is why the leader must always be higher than the followers.

4. You can have close contact on the mountain top, in 2 Kings 4:25-27. Elisha was on the mountain top when the Shunamite woman came to tell him that her son was dead. You can be sure Elisha was there meditating on the word of God. It was not long before a miracle came to the Shunamite woman.

In Psalm 121:1-2, David said.

I will lift my eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth”.

You can see something about the hill and the Lord. The devil is saying you will not find the LORD crawling in the valley. You are likely to find him seated majestically on the mountaintop. That is why, as a disciple, you must always be spiritually high.

How To Get To The Spiritual Mountain

You must keep doing whatever gets you to your spiritual height. Some people sing, and that takes them to spiritual heights. For some, it is only after fasting for seven days that they are where they should be spiritually.

For some, by the time they pray in tongues for 45 minutes ,they are gone. Whatever you do that lifts you high spiritually, keep doing it. Stay on the mountain top; do not come down.

5. There is divine security on the mountain top

Psalm 91:1 says,

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadows of the Almighty. “

Stay up there on the mountain top. That is where the eagle lives. Stay there forever. Do not go to the mountain top and then come to the valley. Do not stay where satan the hunter can get you. Stay on the mountain.

5. There are showers of blessing on the Mountaintop. David said in Psalm 23:6 that,

“Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Lord does not live in the valley. He lives on the mountaintop. If you want goodness and mercy to follow you all the days of your life, live where the eagles live, on the mountaintop.

Lazy people do not climb mountaintop and lazy birds do not fly high and this is why the hunters get them easily.

For example, if you look at the Turkey , you will find out that it does not fly. It is big and fat and it is always found in the valley.

That is why anytime you want to kill one, all you have to do is to just grab one. If you need an eagle .for whatever purpose, you will sweat before you get one because he will not stay where you will reach it easily.

So you too should not stay where the enemy can reach you easily. Get to the mountaintop and stay there.

Now, those who have spending plenty of time on the mountaintop, eating the right kind of food, which is the word of

God, which is full of life, the Bible says they will always receive help from the Lord.

If you look at Psalm 24:3 , in fact you can read the whole chapter. The Bible says,

“Who shall ascend unto the hill or who shall stand in the holy place?..”

You can see the hill again being compared to the holy place of the Lord. The Bible went on to say in verse 4 that,

“He that has clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully”

How are we going to get clean hands? The Bible says: How can a young man clean his ways”? He said ,”By taking heeds unto thy word”. How will your heart be pure? Load your heart with the word of god which is pure.

We have been talking about the eagle as being pure and also about you being a disciple, that your life must be a life of purity. It is going to be very difficult for you to live spiritually high if your heart is not pure.

If your ways are not pure. But if you have been eating the word of God that is pure, quick and powerful, you will discover that your life also will begin to respond and then you will begin to live a life of holiness.

And then what will happen, The Bible says the one who can ascend to the hills of the lord shall receive help from the Lord. He will receive blessings from the Lord and such a fellow not only will be blessed by God, not only will poverty become a stranger to him.

He will be able to receive assistance from God against all his enemies. And he will even be able to help those who are in need.

And how do eagles renew their youth? How do they remain forever strong so that they can fly high?

This again has to do with what they eat. Eagle suck the blood out of other living beings. They transfer the life of those animals into their own. We cannot go and begin to suck the blood of other animals. But there is life in the word of God. It is quick and powerful.

Remember Jesus Christ said concerning the disciples in John 10:10,

“...I have come that you might have life, and have it more abundantly.”

Do not forget that Jesus Christ is the word of God. Eat the word, meditate on the word. When you sing, sing the word and you will have the life of God in you. Jesus said,

“If I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me”.

So, why dont you talk to Him and say,

“Father, where You are living, that is where I want to live. Where you are seated,that is where I want to sit. Draw me to yourself.

Talk to the Lord now.

The Disciple as an Eagle. Part Four. RCCG SOD Year 9

WHAT THE EAGLE EATS

We have already said that there are two types of eagles- the royal eagle and the golden eagle.

Talking about eagles in general, we find that the disciple is to be just like both the golden and the royal eagle merged.

Now, whether the eagle is royal or golden, they have certain things in common.

For example, they eat the same kind of food. What does the eagle eat? The eagle will never eat any dead animal that it did not kill itself.

It does not eat anything that dies itself. It eats something that is living, something that it kills itself.

For example, the eagle eats little chicks, so if the eagle is flying above and a little chick observes that an eagle is up there, it pretends to be dead, refuses to move, and remains completely motionless.

The eagle will fly past it because it would think that the chick is dead.

The eagle does not eat any animal that dies of itself. It does not eat carcasses. It eats only something alive, and it kills itself.

So, what should we eat as disciples?

The disciples are also to eat living food. And what do we mean by living food? It is the word of God. It is the only food that is alive.

In John 6:63, Jesus Christ says,

“It is the Spirit that quickeneth, the flesh profiteth nothing. The words that I speak unto you, they are Spirit and they are life”.

So the word of God is full of life. Hebrews 4:12, the Bible says,

“For the word of God is quick and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

The word of God is not just alive, it is vigorously alive.

The word of God is not alive and sickly, but it is alive and powerful, energetic and full of life.

We also discover that the word of God can conquer death. For example, in Mark 5:39-42, the Bible says that when Jesus got to the House of Jairus, people were already weeping because the daughter of Jairus was dead.

But when Jesus said,

“The child is not dead but sleeping.”

And the moment He spoke, the word ‘death’ was changed to sleep so that when He entered into the room where the child was, all He had to say now was,

“Daughter, I say to you, arise”.

And what happened, the girl arose, because the One who was dead had received the Word and the Word has changed death to sleep, because the Word of God is quick and powerful, and it can conquer death.

In Luke 7:11-15, the Bible tells us that there was a widow in a town called Nain, who was going to bury her son.

When Jesus Christ got there, He touched the bier and asked everybody to stand still. He then spoke to the young man and said,

“Lazarus, come forth”.

That was all he said, and the powerful Word went into the tomb, entered into the man who had been dead for four days, put right every part of his body that had gone rotten and brought him back to life.

And then the man who was dead came forth.

Why are we telling you all this? When you begin to eat the Word of God and you begin to memorise it, you will suddenly begin to discover that the life of God begins to come unto you.

For example, there is a young man who is a little over seventy years old, but there is not a single grey hair on his head and no wrinkles.

So somebody asked him how he did it, and he said in their convention, they have a Bible memory verse competition, which they do every year, and you cannot join the competition unless you know at least one thousand bible passages off hand.

He had been in this competition for years, memorising the Bible more and more.

And the miracle is that the more he memorised the scriptures, the younger he became, because the Word entering into him began to make him young.

Even if you feel dead inside, maybe your brain is dead, or there is a particular part of your body that is inactive, and you begin to eat the word of God, you begin to memorise the word of God, you will suddenly discover that life will come into you.

The reason the eagle is so powerful is because it eats live animals. if you look at other animals that eat something live too, like the lion , the tiger and the leopards, you will find that these animals are always very healthy and very strong.

The same thing is true of spiritual eagles. Whatever is true in the physical, you can find a parallel in the spiritual.

How many bible passages do you know? How many word of God have you eaten and digested and have become part of you?

In Luke 4:33-36, the Bible says,

"And in the synagogue there was a man of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, saying, let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us?

I know thee who thou art: the Holy one of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him and hurt him not.

And they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, What a word is this! For with authority and power he commanded the unclean spirits and they come out.

The Bible tells us that Jesus was casting out demons with His words. Everybody knows that demons are carriers of death.

Now when the Word of God that is quick and powerful comes in, it chases out these carriers of death. And in verse 36 of this scripture, the Bible says,

“And they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, ‘what a word is this?’

What kind of word is this that is driving out demons? That is the word of God. You eat the Word, memorise the word of God and demons cannot stay in you, carriers of death cannot stay in you.

“...If thou will diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, to do , to observe and to obey them.

“I will put none of these diseases upon you that I have put upon these Egyptian, for I am the Lord that healeth thee”.

God says, **“If you will take my word seriously and make it your very food, sickness would not even be able to come upon your body.”**

In Psalm 1:1-3 , the Bible says you are not only to read the Word , you are to meditate in the Word of God day and night. He said that is the way you will prosper in all that you do.

Day in day out, you

are memorising the Word of God, you are meditating on it. He said you will then become **like a tree that is planted by the rivers of water, you will bring forth your fruit in due season, and your leaves will not wither**, which is another way of saying that you will not even have wrinkles and that **whatever you do will prosper**.

In Deut. 28, which we have been quoting again and again, we love to quote the beautiful part,

“We shall be the head and not the tail. We shall be above only , we shall never be beneath”.

But the condition for that is found in verse 1, which says,

“If thou will diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord your God...

In other words, you will listen, you will understand, you will absorb, you will digest, and then certain things will begin to happen.

In Joshua 1:8, the Bible says,

“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth”

It did not say it shall not depart from your eyes. It did not say it shall not depart from under your pillow. It did not say it shall not depart from your shelf or table. He said it shall not depart from your mouth.

This means you are either memorising it or you are speaking it out. And then he said you shall memorise it day and night.

During the day , you are to meditate on the Word of God, during the night, you are to *meditate on the word of God*.

In fact there are some people that will not even sing any song that is not the word of God. If the song is not composed around the word of God, you will not find them singing it.

You will find them singing song like, **“I know my Redeemer liveth”**. It is because they know that is scriptural.

They sing songs like **“Oh LORD my God, how excellent is thy name.”** It is because they know all that is scripture. They sing song like , **“Forever Oh LORD, thy word is settled.”** It is because they find them singing.

“Congratulations, my friend bring your hands and let me shake you.” It is because even though that may be a good chorus, It is not the Bible.

Some people want everything they say to be the Word of God because that is what they eat. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

In Psalm 119:103, the Bible says,

“How sweet are thy words unto my taste, yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth”.

In other words, David said, ‘Your word is sweeter than honey’.

In Jeremiah 15:16, Jeremiah said,

“Thy word were found and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of my heart...”

The law of the Lord is the word of God. And it is perfect, pure, true, right, more precious than gold. Everything about the word of God is beautiful.

Spiritual eagle eat the word of God. When they talk, they talk the word of God. When they speak with their friends, they speak the word of God. They do not live on philosophies.

They do not live on junk food. There are some people whose food is the newspapers particularly the rotten ones, the ones that are full of scandals. Some people’s food is the films they watch on television.

These type of food will not bring any blessing to their life. With some people , their food is the songs of the world, no wonder they are sick, no wonder they are dying.

But you as an eagle from now on must eat the word of God, absorb it ,digest it, speak it and you will be amazed how young you will become. On a day to day basis,quote some scriptures.

I am sure you know how few like **John 3:16**, and **1 John 4:8** and also **Phil. 4:13** and **Phil. 4:19**.

Why dont you try and see **how many of these scriptures** you know off hand. Quote some of them and I am sure you will be amazed how sweet it is in your mouth.

Go ahead and do that.

The Disciple As An Eagle. Part Two.

RCCG SOD Year 9pes of Eagles. The Royal Eagle and the Golden Eagle.

THE GOLDEN EAGLE

The Golden Eagle has something about it that is peculiar. Everybody knows that gold is a symbol of prosperity. So when we talk about the golden eagle, we are talking about prosperous eagle.

The disciple is to be like a golden eagle, which means you are to prosper, whatever you want, you get it, because that is exactly the meaning of prosperity.

It means whatever you want, anytime you want it, you will get it. God wants you as a disciple to prosper.

in 3 John verse 2, the Bible says,

“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health even as thy soul prospereth”.

As a disciple God wants you to prosper. Whatever God wants for you, that is what will happen and without any doubt, you will prosper because it is already settled. The word of God says in Ps. 35:27

“Let them shout for joy and let them be glad that favour my righteous cause. Yea, let them say continually, the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant”.

God has pleasure in the prosperity of His servants. Now whatever is pleasing to God is also pleasing to me. It is pleasing to God that I prosper, believe me honestly, it is also pleasing to me that I prosper.

So if God says He will be happy if you prosper and you say you do not want to prosper, then in that case I think you need deliverance.

In Ps. 1:1-3 , the Bible tells us that a true disciple of Jesus Christ **shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth its fruits in its season. Its leaf also shall not wither, whatsoever he doeth shall prosper:**

God has already decreed it, that as a disciple you will prosper. Whether the devil likes it or not, so shall it be.

In Psalm 34:10, the word of God says,

“The young lion do lack and suffer hunger, but they that seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing”.

REASON WHY YOU MUST PROSPER

#1 The rich rules over the poor

God does not meant you to be poor and become a slave to the rich. Remember a king is supposed to be a ruler, an eagle is also a royalty, and a king rules. In Proverb 22:7 , the Bible says,

“The rich ruleth over the poor and the borrower is subject to the lender.”

Well if you say then you are a king, and you are a borrower, then we will begin to wonder. Are you actually a ruler? It is the rich

that rules over the poor, that is why by the grace of God, i refuse to be poor.

If you make up your mind, and decree that you want to prosper, because a king rule by decrees, the moment you make that decree, the Almighty God is going to say Amen.

#2 Money is a defense

The Golden eagle is an eagle that nobody bothers to attack,. We will discover why later on. In fact all eagles have only one enemy and that is serpent.

The serpent is the one that climbs to where they live. But then the eagle has a defense, and to you as an eagle, one defence that God is saying is available to you is money.

In Eccl. 7:12, the Bible says:

That is why you must not be poor and that is why like the golden eagle, prosperity must be part and parcel of your life.

There is also something else about the colour of gold, it is also the colour of the sun, and there is something about the sun, it is beautiful, it is pure and it is heavenly. You do not want to look at it for two long.

In the same manner, God wants his disciples to be full of His glory so that when people look at them for a while, they will be compelled to take their eyes off, because the glory of God in their lives will be dazzling.

In Judges 5:31 , the Bible says,

“So let all thy enemies perish O Lord, but let them that love him be as the sun, which goeth forth in its might”.

The Lord want every disciple to be like the sun that is going forth in its strenth. He wants you to be as powerful as the sun, beautiful, pure, golden and heavenly.

He wants everything about you to be just glorious. You knew why the streets of heaven are gold, why every mansion is built with gold, the very ground is gold? It is because there is something about gold that is pure, beautiful and glorious.

In Malachi 3:3 , God says He is to purify the sons of Levi like silver and gold. He said when He is purifying His servants , He will not stop until they become as pure as gold. So we see that there is something beautiful about gold.

But then does that mean we should be wearing gold? Why should we be putting on ourselves that which we are supposed to walk on? We are to walk on gold, it is not to walk on us.

That is why you must decree poverty out of your life. That is why you must decree that prosperity must become the common thing in your abode. That is why you must decree that the angels of the Lord must go to the east, the west, the north and the south and bring your blessings.

You are not only a royal eagle, you are are a golden eagle too. You are not only powerful, not only a king, not only are you to rule by decrees, you are also to be prosperous.

SO why dont you spend some time even straight away now?

Go and agree with God that prosperity is pleasing to you, that prosperity is distasteful to you. And then decree poverty out of your life and decree prosperity into your life. And it shall be so in Jesus name.

Go ahead and talk to the Lord.

The Disciple as an Eagle. Part One.

RCCG SOD Year 10

The Bible tells us in Isaiah 40:31 that,

“...They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint”.

This means that the disciples of Jesus Christ can mount up with wings as eagles.

We can fly as eagles. There are two type of eagles, the royal eagle and the golden eagle.

We will be considering the royal eagle in this part.

THE ROYAL EAGLE

As soon as you see the Royal Eagle, you will know that it is the King of birds.

It is powerful, it is majestic. It has dominion.

It even flies with Authority, and it is extremely strong.

Now, the Almighty God wants every disciple to be a king.

He wants us to be powerful. He wants us to have dominion. He wants us to have authority.

He wants us to have power. He wants us to rule by decrees. He wants us to be physically strong.

In the book of Revelation 1:4-6, the Bible tells us that not only has Jesus loved us, not only He has also washed us from our sins with His blood.

He has also made us kings and priests unto God and His father.

Every true child of God who has been washed in the Blood of the lamb has become royalty, whether he or she recognises it or not.

In other words, I am a king and you are a king because Jesus made us kings.

And so if we are kings, we are to behave like Kings, even in our prayers, we must pray like a king.

A king does not beg, so he does not say 'please do this, please do that'. He commands and it is done.

There is only one fellow that the King humbles himself before, and that is the one who made him King.

So we are to be kings because God made us to be royalty. In 1 Peter 2:9, the Bible says,

“Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, and a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light”.

God himself decreed that we are to be royalty.

A king has a domain, and he is the head of his domain.

In **Deut. 28:13**, the Bible says,

“And the Lord shall make thee the head and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken to the commandment of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them”.

God says we shall be:

...above only and never be beneath...

This is the promise of the Almighty God.

This is the word of God that is settled forever. It is possible to be the head anywhere you go if you are a true disciple of Jesus Christ.

The eagle did not become king because it wanted to be. It is God who made him King. The Bible says, "The Lord shall make thee the head"

You are not the one who will struggle for it.

Those who always struggle to be number one never get there. But those that the Lord wants to be there would get there effortlessly.

So we also are made kings, not that we wanted to be kings. We were made kings by the Lord Jesus.

A KING HAS DOMINION

A king has dominion. He is always in control. There is an area where he has control. He is not controlled by anybody in his domain. In Genesis 1:27-28, the Bible says:

"So, God created man in His image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them, And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowls of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth".

God said we are to have dominion in the sea, in the air and everywhere.

Science has shown us clearly that man can have dominion in the air, we fly in the air.

Man can have dominion in the sea, men now live under the sea, and no animal has not been tamed.

God expects you as a disciple not only to have dominion over living creatures, He even wants you to have dominion over demons, witches, wizards, and all circumstances of life.

A KING HAS POWER

It is not enough just to have authority, God knows that for your authority to be effective, there must be power behind it. In Acts 1:8 , Jesus said,

“But ye shall receive power, after the holy Ghost is come upon you; And ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth”.

Every child of God, born again, washed in the blood, baptised in the Holy Spirit, has power. The Bible tells us in Matt. 10:1,

When Jesus has called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out , and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of diseases.

Jesus gave his disciples power, and you are one of His disciples, so God expects you to back up the authority. He has given you the power of the Holy Spirit.

A KING RULES BY DECREES

A king rules by decrees. He says whatever he wants to happen, and it happens. God is the king of kings and the Lord of Lords. And the Bible says,

Forever O Lord thy word is settled in heaven”

So, like any other king, you, as a disciple, are expected to rule by decrees.

For example, a king will look at a soldier and say From today, you have become an officer in my army, and from that day onward, you will be an officer in the army.

He could look at another man and say, ‘you, you are dead’. Unless he changes his mind, that man is dead.

So God expects you, too, as a king to rule by decrees. He expects you to wake up in the morning and decree that, ‘This day will be a glorious day.

This day will be a wonderful day for me.” God expects you to enter into the New Year and decree that every month of the new year will be a wonderful month for you.

And if you decree that way, that is the way it will be.

KING CAN BIND AND LOOSE

What does this mean? It means you do not bind something on earth, it will not be bound in heaven. If you do not loose anything on earth, it is not going to be loosed in heaven.

So if you ask God ‘Please come down and help me bind this demon.’ He is not going to answer you, but when you say “I bind you demons” as soon as you decree that in Jesus’ name, it will also be bound in heaven.

The Almighty God expects you to rule by decrees. He expects you to do whatever you want done like Royalty.

Remember, Jesus Christ said in John 14:14,

Whatsoever you ask in my name, I will do it.

In other words , He is there in heaven ready to back you up. He is the power behind your throne.

So He is waiting for you to issue the decree and He will give the necessary backing to the decrees.

THE SECRET OF STRENGTH

Now we also notice that this royal eagle is a very strong bird. Why? It is because this bird is always happy. It has discovered the secret of strength.

The Bible says in Nehemiah 8:10 that,

“The joy of the LORD is my strength”

So as a Royal Eagle, God expects you to face every situation with joy, knowing fully well that it is a settled matter that you are going to be head, you will not be tail.

That there is no possibility of failure for you because you will always be above only you will never be beneath. There is no way the enemy can overpower you.

If you will meet every situation with joy, bind what needs to be bound, loose what needs to be loosed, decree every day, compel things to happen your way and do everything with joy.

You will soon discover that you are a king indeed, not because you want to be a king, but because the LORD made you king.

Praise the LORD.

The Disciple and The Resurrection Of Christ. Part Three. RCCG SOD Year 10

Lessons from the Resurrection

The greatest message of the resurrection of our LORD Jesus Christ, if we are to summarise everything that the resurrection is saying to us, **it is simply a new beginning.**

In Matt. 28:1 when the story of the Resurrection was to be told, we were told that a new day was beginning to dawn.

Whatever we begin to talk about the resurrection of the LORD Jesus Christ, each time you remember his resurrection , take note that it says to you , "Let there be a new beginning".

The Bible says in 2 Cor. 5:17 that,

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold all things are become new.”

In other words, the Resurrection is talking to you about a new life. Not only a new life but a new living. Everything is expected to become new because of the resurrection.

In Acts 4:19-20, when the disciples were commanded not to preach in the name of Jesus, Peter , who denied him before he was crucified now said,

“We cannot but speak about Jesus . We will obey God rather than men”.

In Acts 5:41, the Bible tells us that after they had beaten the disciples , they let them go, and they went home rejoicing.

Rejoicing over what? They were rejoicing because they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name of Christ. What is this telling us? It is talking about a new beginning of dedication.

These were the people who ran away before Jesus was crucified. Those who deserted Him now came rejoicing because they were beaten for his name sake. You too might have denied Him before.

You might have deserted Him before, you might have caused Him shame before, but now remember the resurrection.

Let there be a new beginning of dedication in

your life. Be more dedicated to Jesus.

In Acts 2:13 , the Bible was talking about Paul the Apostle . He was about to travel to Jerusalem and God sent message to Him, telling him that he would suffer where he was going , that he would be bound, and he would be thrown in prison.

The brethren began to plead with Him not to go but he said he was ready to suffer for Christ, that is, he was ready to suffer because he was the man who was persecuting Jesus before.

Now, he is not only ready to suffer, he was also ready to die for him. This is a new beginning of consecration. As His discipl

es, the Lord expects you to be ready to die for Him.

In Revelations 2:10, the Bible says,

“Be thou faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life”.

The Lord is asking for a new beginning of faithfulness .

There are some of us who will do the will of God when somebody else is there but it is when nobody is there to see you, that God expects your faithfulness to come to the surface.

That is when he expects everybody to see that definitely this is someone who is faithful to the Almighty.

In fact, God expects you to be faithful unto death. So each time you remember that God expects you as His disciples to be faithful unto death.

In Acts 4:31, the Bible tells us that when the disciples gathered together and they prayed, the place where they were was shaken.

These were the people who did not know how to pray before, they has to ask the LORD,

“Teach us how to pray”

I am sure we still have in some churches today , people just repeat the same prayer that the Lord taught them till today.

“Our Father who hath in heaven. Hallowed be thy name”.

But after the resurrection, the disciples gathered. They prayed and the ground shook. God is telling you as His disciple that each time you remember His resurrection .

He is expecting from you a new life of earth shaking prayer.

And then in Acts 5:32, the Bible tells us that the disciples went from house to house everyday witnessing. There are some of us who call ourselves disciples and we have never witnessed for Christ.

For some of us, the last time we witnessed for Him would probably be a month ago. God expects you to tell others everyday that Christ is risen and that he is alive. My redeemer liveth.

And then in Acts 19:11-12 , the Bible tells us that God performed special miracles by the hand of Paul, that from his body, handkerchiefs and aprons were taken to those who were sick. The sickness disappeared and demons vanished.

Now, what does this mean? The Almighty God is telling you that if you are willing to live a new kind of life, a new life of holiness, a new life of purity, a new life of dedication, a new life of prayer, and a new life of witnessing.

He is also ready to release to you a new beginning of power . Even your handkerchiefs would raise the dead.

You can talk to Him now and say,

Father, I want a new beginning in every sphere of my life.

Talk to Him and He will surprise you.

The Disciple as an Eagle. Part One. RCCG SOD Year 10

The Bible tells us in Isaiah 40:31 that,

“...They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint”.

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The Bible says in 2 Cor. 5:17 that,

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold all things are become new.”

In other words, the Resurrection is talking to you about a new life. Not only a new life but a new living. Everything is expected to become new because of the resurrection.

In Acts 4:19-20, when the disciples were commanded not to preach in the name of Jesus, Peter , who denied him before he was crucified now said,

“We cannot but speak about Jesus . We will obey God rather than men”.

In Acts 5:41, the Bible tells us that after they had beaten the disciples , they let them go, and they went home rejoicing.

Rejoicing over what? They were rejoicing because they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name of Christ. What is this telling us? It is talking about a new beginning of dedication.

These were the people who ran away before Jesus was crucified. Those who deserted Him now came rejoicing because they were beaten for his name sake. You too might have denied Him before.

You might have deserted Him before, you might have caused Him shame before, but now remember the resurrection.

Let there be a new beginning of dedication in

your life. Be more dedicated to Jesus.

In Acts 2:13 , the Bible was talking about Paul the Apostle . He was about to travel to Jerusalem and God sent message to Him, telling him that he would suffer where he was going , that he would be bound, and he would be thrown in prison.

The brethren began to plead with Him not to go but he said he was ready to suffer for Christ, that is, he was ready to suffer because he was the man who was persecuting Jesus before.

Now, he is not only ready to suffer, he was also ready to die for him. This is a new beginning of consecration. As His discipl

es, the Lord expects you to be ready to die for Him.

In Revelations 2:10, the Bible says,

“Be thou faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life”.

The Lord is asking for a new beginning of faithfulness .

There are some of us who will do the will of God when somebody else is there but it is when nobody is there to see you, that God expects your faithfulness to come to the surface.

That is when he expects everybody to see that definitely this is someone who is faithful to the Almighty.

In fact, God expects you to be faithful unto death. So each time you remember that God expects you as His disciples to be faithful unto death.

In Acts 4:31, the Bible tells us that when the disciples gathered together and they prayed, the place where they were was shaken.

These were the people who did not know how to pray before, they had to ask the LORD,

“Teach us how to pray”

I am sure we still have in some churches today , people just repeat the same prayer that the Lord taught them till today.

“Our Father who hath in heaven. Hallowed be thy name”.

But after the resurrection, the disciples gathered. They prayed and the ground shook. God is telling you as His disciple that each time you remember His resurrection .

He is expecting from you a new life of earth shaking prayer.

And then in Acts 5:32, the Bible tells us that the disciples went from house to house everyday witnessing. There are some of us who call ourselves disciples and we have never witnessed for Christ.

For some of us, the last time we witnessed for Him would probably be a month ago. God expects you to tell others everyday that Christ is risen and that he is alive. My redeemer liveth.

And then in Acts 19:11-12 , the Bible tells us that God performed special miracles by the hand of Paul, that from his body, handkerchiefs and aprons were taken to those who were sick. The sickness disappeared and demons vanished.

Now, what does this mean? The Almighty God is telling you that if you are willing to live a new kind of life, a new life of holiness, a new life of purity, a new life of dedication, a new life of prayer, and a new life of witnessing.

He is also ready to release to you a new beginning of power . Even your handkerchiefs would raise the dead.

You can talk to Him now and say,

Father, I want a new beginning in every sphere of my life.

Talk to Him and He will surprise you.

The Disciple and The Crucifixion Of Christ. Part Three. RCCG SOD Year 10.

We are going to look at the agonies of the crucifixion . In the Garden of Gethsemane in Matthew 26:36-40, we find that Jesus was alone in His moment of greatest need.

There was no one with him when he needed prayer most. There was no one with Him when He needed the support of His friends.

When He asked the three disciples that He considered the inner circle to watch and pray with Him, they slept, and He was compelled to say.

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“Cant you even watch with Me for one hour”.

He said it but they kept on sleeping.

In Luke 22:24, the Bible told us that while He was praying in the garden, He was sweating, and it was not an ordinary sweat. The sweat was like drop of bloods.

It was a terrible moment. In the same Matt. 26:48-49, Judas Iscariot added an insult to the injury when he betrayed the Lord Jesus Christ with a kiss.

He showed the worst that a human being can be to a friend in the time of his greatest need.

A kiss is reserved for someone you love. When your friend now hands you over to the enemy with a kiss, it is a terrible thing.

You need to put yourself in that situation to get a little bit of the agony of our Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane .

In Mark 14:46 and 50, the Bible records for us that when the soldiers came to take the LORD away, everyone of His friends deserted him. He looked and there was no one to stand by Him, not a single one. They all deserted Him.

And then come the terrible story in Mark 14:66-72, that terrible story where Peter , a very close friend , said to the hearing of Jesus Christ, "I dont know Him". He did not say it once, he did not say it twice, he said it three times. "I dont know this man".

You can put yourself in the situation. This is a friend that you have been eating with , sleeping with for three years, the one that you regard as your right hand man.

Then he goes as far as to say, "I have never even met him". You will know how painful that Jesus Christ had already gone through, you would know that the physical agony must have been very little compared to these ones.

In Mark 15:15, the Bible explains to us how they scourged Him, and in those days , scourging was a terrible thing because they did not use ordinary whips.

The whip had hooks at the ends. Each time it is used to beat a person, the whip goes into the skin and it pulls out the flesh. Many weak people die while they are being caned.

In Matt. 27:27-31, the Bible tells us about the crown of thorns . The crown of thorns was forced on Him when it would not go in easily.

But that was not even all, they mocked him saying, "Hey, look at the King. Look at the one who called Himself King, All these were done before they even led Him to be crucified.

In Matt. 27:33-43, the Bible gave us a detailed story about His crucifixion. It tells us in details how they crucified Him. It tells us about the painful process .

Then when He got on the cross, He had been bearing all these pains. He had not seen anything. He did not open His mouth when they were scourging Him, He did not cry for Help.

When they were forcing the crown of thorns on His head, He did not cry out for help. When they were slapping Him and spitting on Him, He did not complain, but when He got to the Cross, the agony of thirst was too much to bear. He had to cry out in John 19:28-30 saying,

"I thirst".

It was as if he was saying , "Alright, I know you are going to kill me. Cant you give me some water to drink? And what did they do? They gave him vinegar instead of water.

They wanted to add to His pain . In all these, he was still enduring. But then in Mark 15:33-34 came the climax of the agony, when He carried your sin and my sin on the Cross before the Bible said,

"The eyes of the Lord is too holy to behold sin".

The Father turned away from the Son. The desertion of His friends He could bear, the kiss of the betrayer was okay, because all these people were human beings anyway. But when God himself turned His back to him, you can imagine the cry of agony. He had to say,

"My God, My God, why has thou forsaken Me."

But he bore it all and as Luke 23:24 tells us, He kept on praying till the end saying,

“Father , forgive them for they know not what they do”.

Why am I telling you all these as Year 10 disciples? I know you know the story .

You can probably tell even better than I could, but telling it is not the same as putting yourself in the same situation. Try and live through the experience yourself. If you are a husband, let us assume that it is your wife that betrayed you along these lines.

Try and think that it is your children who deserted you when trouble came calling. Maybe you will understand a little if you are a wife and you put yourself in a position that all these things are happening to you through your husband and that would lead to just one appeal.

The rest of the world might want to crucify Him the second time, but you as His disciples must resolve from this hour that you would not crucify Him again. In Hebrews 6:4-6, the Bible says that those who have tasted this Lord, who have found him so good, if they backslide , it would be difficult.

It would be impossible to restore them, because they are crucifying the Lord to themselves a second time, putting Him to an open shame.

That is, if it is ever said that someone who had been a disciple up to Year 10 should backslide, what do you think the world would say about our Lord?

Remember according to John 15:13 that he went through all that He did the first time only because of you. He said,

“Greater love has no man than these that a man laid down his life for his friends.”

And you are the friends that He is talking about.

I want you to talk to the LORD for a moment and pray that you would never put Him to an open shame again.

Talk to the LORD.

The Disciple and The Ascension Of The Lord. Part Two. RCCG SOD Year Ten

The ascension stands for the dazzling glory of the Lord. In Psalm 24:7-10, we find that there is a linkage between the power of God and the glory of God.

In other words, while the Cross may stand for the so-called weakness of God, and the Resurrection stand for the fantastic power of God, the ascension stands for the dazzling glory of God.

In Psalm 24, we see the link in the question,

Who is the king of Glory?

And the answer came,

“The LORD of Hosts. The LORD strong and mighty in battle.

The Commander-in-Chief of the hosts of heaven, is also the king of glory. So we think the link between power of God and the glory of God.

Now where is the King of Glory coming from, that He is asking the everlasting doors to lift up their heads that He may come in?

You will know that the King of glory traveled to the world, died on the cross, rose from the dead, and he is now returning home. This is where the King of glory now becomes applicable. And what was he returning to do?

Daniel 7:9-14 gave us the description of how Jesus Christ, the Son of Man was brought before God the Father, the Ancient of Days, to receive a kingdom that will never end. But He was not coming alone, the clouds of heaven followed him.

Who are the clouds that followed Him? They are his disciples that are robed in white. They are so many that anyone looking from below would think it is a cloud following Him.

In other words, when Jesus goes to receive His glory, the glory of His Kingdom from His Father, I pray that you and I will be there going with Him. And what is this glory like?

John the Revelator , the beloved of the Lord described Him in Revelations 1:12-17 , and he told us how glorious He was, that the very glory caused him to faint.

You will remember that on the road to Damascus, Saul of Tarsus saw a little bit of the glory of the ascended Christ, an experience which he had in Acts 9:3, and when he was describing it in Acts 22:6, the glory that he saw was brighter than the moonday sun.

We are talking of a glory that if you look at it, it will blind you for three days, and this is the kind of glory that is waiting for you and for me, because the Bible says in Matthew 13:43 that,

“Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.”

The Lamb of God will be the Sun there and we too will be shining like the Sun. We will have the same glory that Paul saw on the way to Damascus. But there is a condition for sharing this kind of glory and this is found in Romans 8:17,

And if children , then heirs ; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified together.”

In other words, if you do not suffer with him, if you are not crucified with Him, there is no way you can be resurrected with Him and there is no way you can be glorified with Him .

In other words, if you are not willing to suffer all kinds of insults for His sake, if you are not willing to suffer abuse and indignity , then dont expect that you will also be glorified with Him.

In Philippians 3:20-21,the Bible says,

“For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.”

He is going to change our body so that it will become like his own which means , if you are already proud of your beauty, if it is your beauty that will not allow you to do the will of God.

God is going to ask you to keep your beauty and then He will not refashion your body to be like His own.

You remember what he said to the Pharisees? He said,

“If only you agree that you are blind, I would have opened your eyes, but because you say you see already, then there is nothing more I can do.”

If you think you are already powerful, then He is not going to increase your power. If you think you are already glorious according to the wisdom of this world, He will leave you like that.

But the Bible made it clear in Colossians 3:1-4 that if you die with Him, you will appear with Him in glory, and in 1 John 3:1-2, the Bible after talking about the special love that God has for us says,

“Beloved, now we are sons of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see him as he is.”

We know one thing, when he shall appear, we shall be like Him. We shall have the same glorious body with Him.

After John rise from the dead Himself , he could see the glorious Jesus without fainting. And I am sure after we have died with Him, and we rose with Him, we will share the same glory.

This is why Paul said in Romans 8:18 that,

“For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

Also, in 2 Cor. 4:17-18,

“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us after more exceeding and external weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen ; for the things which are seen are temporal but the things which are not seen are eternal”.

This is somebody who was beaten several times , went to prison several times, and stoned several times.

He added it all together and called it light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding an eternal weight of glory.

He was not looking at the present, he was looking towards the future.

That reminds me of the graduate drivers that I told you about. They were told that as bus drivers, they will be insulted, all kind of things will be done to them. They said these things did not matter.

They knew where they were going. They said they had a goal, all they wanted was the job. The same thing can happen to you. You too can say I know where I am going.

I have my goal. Anybody can do whatever he likes to me. I know what I want. I know that one day, I would be glorified with Christ.

In 2 timothy 2:10, Paul said,

“Therefore I endure all things for the elects sake...”

In other words, He said ‘I am ready to endure anything, I know where I am going’.

And then there is one beautiful thing about this glory in 2 Cor. 3:18, the Bible tells us that this glory is a progressive one. The Bible says,

“We are changed from glory to glory”.

Brethren, I am looking forward to that day when we will meet in heaven. And from time to time we just find our glory increasing and it will continue like that forever.

It is only for those who have been crucified with Him, those who are willing to suffer with Him, those who are willing to become nothing for His sake. These are the people who will rise with Him. They are the people who will be glorified with Him.

If you think you are one of them, talk to Him and tell him,

LORD, I want to be one of those who will be glorified with You. Whatever it is going to cost, I am ready LORD. I am ready to pay the price.

Talk to the LORD now.

He understands and He knows those of you who are sincere.

The Disciple and The Resurrection Of The Lord Jesus Christ. Part Two. RCCG SOD Year 10

The resurrection of our LORD Jesus Christ is a symbol or a demonstration of the violent power of God.

In Matt. 28:1-6, after the Lord had been buried, that is after He had hung as it were helplessly on the Cross until He died, after he had died and was buried, a stone was rolled across the tomb.

In other words, it was to ensure that He would not escape. But when the Almighty God was ready ,he sent an angel. He just sent one angel.

The Roman soldiers in those days were very strong hard men , but when they saw this angel, the Bible said they shook so violently that they fell down as dead.

They saw only one angel and they were so frightened. **This will tell you about the power of God.**

This will let you know that if God had sent the twelve legions that Jesus Christ mentioned, there would have been real confusion.

When the angel rolled away the stone, he sat on it, as if to say, "I would see the Father of the person who will ask me to get up."

Brethren, when Resurrection comes after the Cross, there will be power. This is why we said you must be crucified first.

In Romans 1:1-4, the Bible says the power of God was demonstrated in the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In fact Revelations 1:18 tells us that not only death could not hold Him, Jesus Christ said triumphantly,

"Now I have the keys of hell and of death."

To let you know how meek He was, how powerful He was, He was in the grave for three days but his body did not decompose because there was so much power there. In fact, David had prophesied in Psalm 16:10 that,

"For thou will not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption."

It is impossible for his body to decompose ,and Isaiah 63:1 talking about this our powerful God, said

“He is mighty to save”.

In Job 26:12, the Bible says,

“He divided the sea with his power, and by his understanding he smiteth through the proud.”

He has enough power to divide the sea and yet He behaved like a lamb. Ps. 62:11 says,

“God has spoken once, twice have I heard this, that power belong unto God.

How powerful is this our God? There are other passages you can read about his power. You can read Ps. 107:15-16 and Psalms 65:5-6

This our God the Bible says, is even guarded with power. His girdle, his belt is power. The Bible says in Romans 6:25-27 that He uses this power to stabilize you. He has enough power to stabilize every Christian in the whole world.

He has power to kill. He has power to save. He has power to uphold till the end. This is probably why you lasted up till Year 10

of the School of Disciples and which is why I will see you in heaven one day. In Psalm 115:3 , the Bible says,

“But our God is in the heavens, he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.”

In other words, He just does as he pleases. He has no much power that there is nobody who can actually say “I am controlling you.” This is why he said in John 16:33 that it does not matter what happen to you in the world, just be of good cheer, He said,

“I have overcome the world”.

This will tell you how difficult it is for anybody to want to understand this great God with our little brain. For example, He did not tell us the reason why He died until several years later.

According to Hebrews 2:14-15 , He said the reason he died was so that He could destroy the one who has the power of death and that is the devil, so that He can rescue those of us who by the fear of death are held in bondage all days of our lives.

He died so that He can go to the headquarters of Satan, grab the keys of death and hell from the one who was holding it.

And this fantastic power of our God that breaks the gates of brass, that scatters the bar of iron.

He is willing to give to some people, some people that are considered to be absolutely weak, according to 1 Cor. 1:27-29. This is where He was talking about callings,

“But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise, and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty. And the base things of the world , and the things which are despised , hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are. That no flesh should glorify in his presence.

He is not looking for wise people. He is not looking for mighty people. He is looking for people who are nothing, people that are holy , people that are despised, people that are weak, people that are nought, that he might pour His power into them, and then use them to confound the wise.

Confound the strong and mighty, to bring to nought those things that think they are, that all glory might belong to God.

Do you want this kind of power? It is simple. Some years ago, the Town Council in Lagos said they wanted to hire some drivers for their buses, and there were some graduates who had been looking for jobs for a long time, who wanted a job at all cost.

They went to apply and they said they were told that maximum qualification wanted was first school leaving certificate. They said they had primary six certificate, but they were told that they had university degrees.

They said their employers should forget about that and that they would never tell anyone that they went to the university.

They just wanted the job. They forgot their degrees in order that they could get the job they wanted because they wanted to survive.

Do you want the power of God?

Are you willing to forget who you are?

Are you willing to forget all that you have been?

Are you willing to reduce yourself to nothing?

Talk to the Lord about it. He is willing if you are willing.

Talk to Him now.

The Disciple and The Crucifixion Of Christ. Part Two. RCCG SOD Year 10

Whenever we think of the Cross, you could actually , if you look at it with the eye of an ordinary man, see the Cross as a weakness of God.

Because how can somebody who is the Almighty God allow Himself to be crucified on a cross. You may almost sympathize with those who said , "If you are the Almighty God, how can you hang helplessly on the cross?

Come down. If you can help others, help Yourself now". So, you can call the Cross the weakness of God.

But thank God for 1 Cor. 1:25 which says even if you call it the weakness of God, it is still stronger than the strength of men. In other words, even when God is at the weakest, He is still stronger than the strongest man available.

Actually the Cross is not the weakness of God, it is the meekness of God, Another name for Jesus Christ is the Lion of the Tribe of Judah. But when John saw him in John 1:29, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world".

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah clothed Himself in the clothing of a lamb. This One is not an ordinary Lamb. According to **Isaiah 53:7**, the Bible says,

"He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not His mouth; he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth."

We are told this particular Lamb would not even open his mouth. He would not cry. Even as they are leading Him to kill, He refused to talk. What are we saying?

A meek person is somebody who has tremendous power but who decides to become helpless for a purpose. In Luke 9:51-56, the

Bible record an incident for us. It says Jesus Christ was going to Jerusalem

. He sent His disciples ahead to a village to tell them that He wanted to spend a night there. The people said He could not stay there and two of his disciples . James and John said,

“LORD , let us call down fire from heaven and destroy them like Elijah did.”

What is it that Jesus said? He rebuked them saying,

“Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the son of man is not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them.”

He said if you are going to be my disciple, then your spirit must be like my spirit not the spirit that destroys but the spirit that saves. If you are talking of the power to bring down fire from heaven , when they came to arrest him in Matthew 26:51-53, and Peter tried to defend Him. Jesus Christ said,

“Do you think I cannot ask My Father and He would send Me twelve legions of angels to defend ME?”

Now let us assume that a legion is 1,000 angels , twelve legions will be 12,000 angels, and if you have read your Bible very well, you will have come across the place where one angel destroyed 185,000 soldiers in one night. If one angel can do that, can you imagine what 12,000 angels could have done?”

Jesus was aware of his power. He knew that if he were to use that power without control, the very people that he had come to save would have been destroyed.

So he was keeping everything under control, not that He was weak but He was meek and that is what God is waiting for in you as a disciple. Before he would deposit His power in you, He has to be sure that you will not use the power to destroy.

Many of us want the power of God and we are yet to conquer anger. If you get angry once, you would destroy the whole world.

This is why He is making sure that the people who would receive His power would be crucified, dead and resurrect before He can begin to deposit His treasure in their earthen vessels.

In Matt. 11:28-29, while He was inviting you to come unto Him, so that you can have rest for your soul, he insisted that you have to put His yoke upon yourself and He described Himself there. He said,

“I am meek and lowly”

He said if you want to be my partner, you need to know whose partnership you are entering into.

This is why I pray that the Almighty God will let us have the same kind of mind that Jesus has. In fact, the Bible says in Phil. 2:5-7 that,

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God , thought it not robbery to be equal with God; But made Himself of no reputation , and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.”

This is the crux of the matter. He made himself of no reputation. It does not mean that He has no reputation, but He deliberately made Himself of no reputation.

This is the same person that we saw on the Mount of Transfiguration in Math. 17:1-6 . When the disciples saw a little bit of His Glory, they were afraid and wondered if this is the same Person they had been sleeping with.

If this was the One that they had been eating with, the One who had all his glory. He allowed himself to be born in a manger. This is the same Jesus with all the power , with all the glory, the Ancient of Days himself, according to John 13:3-9 , yet he washed human's feet.

When we are talking about meekness, we are talking of a trained horse. We all know there is no human being that can face a horse when it comes to strength , but when you have trained a horse, it keeps that tremendous strength under control, this is what we call meekness.

I am sure you know a little about the power of God. If He makes a little bit available to you, you can say let there be no rain, and there will be no rain for three years. You can destroy a whole nation just by using a little bit of the power God give you.

You know what Elijah did . You know what Elisha also did before he knew the kind of power that was already transferred to him. Some children were mocking him, he turned and said,

“I cursed you in the name of the Lord”. Before he finished speaking, forty-two of them were dead. This kind of power is frightening. Are you ready for that kind of power? It goes only with tremendous meekness . And anyone who is going to have this kind of power must know what is called humility.

When Jesus Christ was washing the feet of the disciples, He said unto them,

“You called me Lord. That is what I am. There is no doubt about it, I am your Lord, but now in washing your feet, I am giving you an example that you can follow.

There is something about humility, You must forget that you are something before you can really be humble. You have to be humble in order to be meek.

When we talk about the word HUMILITY, it comes from the same root word ‘humus’, that is good soil.

So when we say somebody is humble, we are talking about somebody who is like the soil. You know something about the soil? You walk on it, it does not complain. You excrete on it, it will not complain. You dig it, it will not complain. Why?

Because when we talk about the soil, we are talking about humility per se. This is the most powerful thing probably available on earth, because if the soil refuses to produce food, every one of you walking on it now would soon be dead. But the soil will not even complain, it will keep on bringing the food.

It will ask you to go on doing whatever you like with it, knowing fully well that one day, it is going to swallow you . You that is jumping on top of it now, it will be the one who will swallow you.

So it is the humble who will ultimately overcome all the enemies. After all today, Jesus has a name that is above every other name.

So when we are talking about the weakness of God, the Cross is not the weakness of God. It was the meekness of God. I am telling you that in the meekness of God there is a lot to learn.

If you want the power of God, you better talk to God , now and say,

Lord, help me so that I will be very , very meek.

Talk to Him now.

The Disciple and The Crucifixion Of Christ. Part Two. RCCG SOD Year 10

April 18, 2025 Adeniyi Salau RCCG SOD 0

Sharing is Caring

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What is it that Jesus said? He rebuked them saying,

“Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the son of man is not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them.”

He said if you are going to be my disciple, then your spirit must be like my spirit not the spirit that destroys but the spirit that saves. If you are talking of the power to bring down fire from heaven , when they came to arrest him in Matthew 26:51-53, and Peter tried to defend Him. Jesus Christ said,

“Do you think I cannot ask My Father and He would send Me twelve legions of angels to defend ME?”

Now let us assume that a legion is 1,000 angels , twelve legions will be 12,000 angels, and if you have read your Bible very well, you will have come across the place where one angel destroyed 185,000 soldiers in one night. If one angel can do that, can you imagine what 12,000 angels could have done?”

Jesus was aware of his power. He knew that if he were to use that power without control, the very people that he had come to save would have been destroyed.

So he was keeping everything under control, not that He was weak but He was meek and that is what God is waiting for in you as a disciple. Before he would deposit His power in you, He has to be sure that you will not use the power to destroy.

Many of us want the power of God and we are yet to conquer anger. If you get angry once, you would destroy the whole world.

This is why He is making sure that the people who would receive His power would be crucified, dead and resurrect before He can begin to deposit His treasure in their earthen vessels.

In Matt. 11:28-29, while He was inviting you to come unto Him, so that you can have rest for your soul, he insisted that you have to put His yoke upon yourself and He described Himself there. He said,

“I am meek and lowly”

He said if you want to be my partner, you need to know whose partnership you are entering into.

This is why I pray that the Almighty God will let us have the same kind of mind that Jesus has. In fact, the Bible says in Phil. 2:5-7 that,

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God , thought it not robbery to be equal with God; But made Himself of no reputation , and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.”

This is the crux of the matter. He made himself of no reputation. It does not mean that He has no reputation, but He deliberately made Himself of no reputation.

This is the same person that we saw on the Mount of Transfiguration in Math. 17:1-6 . When the disciples saw a little bit of His Glory, they were afraid and wondered if this is the same Person they had been sleeping with.

If this was the One that they had been eating with, the One who had all his glory. He allowed himself to be born in a manger. This is the same Jesus with all the power , with all the glory, the Ancient of Days himself, according to John 13:3-9 , yet he washed human's feet.

When we are talking about meekness, we are talking of a trained horse. We all know there is no human being that can face a horse when it comes to strength , but when you have trained a horse, it keeps that tremendous strength under control, this is what we call meekness.

I am sure you know a little about the power of God. If He makes a little bit available to you, you can say let there be no rain, and

there will be no rain for three years. You can destroy a whole nation just by using a little bit of the power God give you.

You know what Elijah did . You know what Elisha also did before he knew the kind of power that was already transferred to him. Some children were mocking him, he turned and said,

“I cursed you in the name of the Lord”. Before he finished speaking, forty-two of them were dead. This kind of power is frightening. Are you ready for that kind of power? It goes only with tremendous meekness . And anyone who is going to have this kind of power must know what is called humility.

When Jesus Christ was washing the feet of the disciples, He said unto them,

“You called me Lord. That is what I am. There is no doubt about it, I am your Lord, but now in washing your feet, I am giving you an example that you can follow.

There is something about humility, You must forget that you are something before you can really be humble. You have to be humble in order to be meek.

When we talk about the word HUMILITY, it comes from the same root word ‘humus’, that is good soil.

So when we say somebody is humble, we are talking about somebody who is like the soil. You know something about the soil? You walk on it, it does not complain. You excrete on it, it will not complain. You dig it, it will not complain. Why?

Because when we talk about the soil, we are talking about humility per se. This is the most powerful thing probably available on earth, because if the soil refuses to produce food, every one of you walking on it now would soon be dead. But the soil will not even complain, it will keep on bringing the food.

It will ask you to go on doing whatever you like with it, knowing fully well that one day, it is going to swallow you . You that is jumping on top of it now, it will be the one who will swallow you.

So it is the humble who will ultimately overcome all the enemies. After all today, Jesus has a name that is above every other name.

So when we are talking about the weakness of God, the Cross is not the weakness of God. It was the meekness of God. I am telling you that in the meekness of God there is a lot to learn.

If you want the power of God, you better talk to God , now and say,

Lord, help me so that I will be very , very meek.

Talk to Him now.

The Disciple and The Ascension of The Lord. Part One. RCCG SOD Year 10

In John 16:7, Jesus Christ said that it is not enough for Him to rise from the dead. He has to go to heaven. He has to ascend back to His father to make the whole matter complete. He said,

“Nevertheless, I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you.”

He is going to die. He is going to rise up from the dead, and He said the matter would not be complete until He has ascended to heaven. Why? Because of something very crucial, a statement that He made in John 14:12. He said that,

“Verily, verily I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also, and greater work than these shall he do, because I go unto my Father”.

Because he is ascending. This is why we are going to be empowered. The ascension will not just empower us, it will also guarantee that we have absolute victory over all forces of darkness.

Because He rose from the dead, you will now be able to excel, and He will give us to do more works than He did.

Note that the devil will not be happy with you the moment God begins to use you. If he sees us performing all kind of miracles in

the Name of Jesus, and then he folds his hands without reacting, the devil would be deemed to be a fool .

It does not matter what name you call him but you cannot call him a fool. So God knew that in advance and He says,

” I better make arrangements that these My people are placed far above principalities and powers so that the enemy will not be able to touch them, even before they begin to perform miracles even before they begin to do the works that I do and greater works”.

This is why we read in Ephesians 1:20-21 that God has arranged for us to be “Seated with Him far above principalities and powers”.

This is why He tells us again in Ephesians 2:4-6 that we are made to

“.. Sit with Christ in the heavenly places”.

In other words. He rose. He took up position in heaven and now He has arranged accommodation for all of us where he is, so that we can sit down there with Him.

He plans that, while we are here on earth and we are troubling the kingdom of the devil, and the devil tries to react, we will have a place we will run into and say,

"Satan, we are seated far above you. And then the enemy will become frustrated.

This is again taking us back to the beginning. If there is anything you are holding on to here on earth, if there is anything that anybody can touch and it will pain you.

Then even though you say you are up there seated, the enemy will say, 'fine, you sit down there. I will torment your property here on earth.'

You know the story of Daniel very well. What did the people say about him? They said they could not tempt him with money or women because he was not interested.

The only way they thought they could catch him was to ask him not to pray to his God. If he prayed to his God, he would be thrown into the Lion's den.

What did Daniel say? He said, Thank you very much. I want to go. So you will just help me. When he wanted to pray, he opened the window so that they could see him.

"You will not kill me, who told you I am afraid of death?" So they grabbed him and threw him into the Lion's den.

They thought that from the Lion's den, he would go from glory to glory, but he did not die there because he was already dead.

He was already dead before they even threw him into the lion's den. He was already dead at the time they brought the king's wine and they brought the meat of the king and he said,

"No way, my mouth belongs to God. I don't eat what the world eats and I don't drink what the world drinks. I am already dead to the world".

Because he was dead already, and he was just living a resurrected life. When they threw him into the lion's den, the man who was dead once could not die again. The same thing is what we are saying to you now.

The moment you get to that point where you really die with Christ, and then you rise with Him, he can now empower you through His ascension and then you can now do exploits for the Lord, and if the enemy tries to attack you.

He will discover that you are not here because your Lord has ascended and you are seated with Him in the heavenly places, and he cannot touch you because you are far above principalities and powers.

There is nothing tying you down into this world, not wife, not children , not money and not anything material. So he can neither touch you up there nor can he touch you here, because your link with this world has been severed.

But suppose you make a mistake while you are walking in this world. I am not talking of sin. I am just saying a mistake. The devil will run to heaven to go and report you. He will say, I know I cannot attack him, let me go and report him to God.

The Bible tells us in 1 John 2:1-6 that by the time he comes, he will meet Jesus Christ as your lawyer who will be telling the Father. "This is not a sin, it is a mistake.

The Bible tells us in Hebrews 10:19-23 that, **"...you can boldly enter into the throne room of God..."**.

This is because you have a Pastor and High Priest there. He is already there waiting, because He knows you have died with Him, you rose with Him and He has ascended and you are just down here representing Him.

So whatever the devil comes to say, He (JESUS) would tell the Almighty God to disregard such report.

WHY DID JESUS GO?

The Bible makes it clear to us that another reason that Jesus Christ ascended to heavens is that He has gone there to go and prepare a place for you.

“...In my Father’s house, there are many mansions. I am going to reserve one of the mansions for you..”

There is a place prepared for me. My own seat is reserved. Anytime I get there , my seat is there. If I do not come, nobody would sit on it. In fact, every building in heaven, all the wealth in this world cannot build one. That is why he said,

“What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and he loses his soul?”

This means if you are the owner of the whole world and you combine all the money in this world, it cannot even build one mansion in heaven.

So when you lose one little thing here because of Him, you have not lost anything at all compared to what is waiting for you up there.

There is a mansion there waiting for you. The joy of knowing that, is even enough for you to be able to undergo anything for him.

But this is not just all. In Revelations 3:21 , Jesus Christ said if you will overcome all the temptations of the world, all the lusts , all the affections, all the attractions , he said,

“To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcome, and I am set down with my father in his throne”.

You are not just going to get a mansion in heaven. You are not just going to get there and sit down on an ordinary chair. You are going to sit on the throne, the very throne of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I have said it before , if there is anyone of us who is asked to sell everything he has so that he can sit with the president for just three months, that anybody who wants to see the president must see him first, he would sell everything he has within one day and distribute it.

Because he knows that within three months , all those who wants to see the president would have brought him to a level of wealth that his family will never be poor again.

That is a president that is there today and gone tomorrow. But now we are talking about witting together with the King of Kings , not for three months but forever. I dont think there is any cost too big to pay.

That is why I want you to talk to the LORD now and say, Father, whatever it is going to cost for me to be an overcomer, give me the grace to pay.

Talk to him now.

The Disciple and The Cruxifixion Of Christ. RCCG SOD Year 10

What is the relationship between the disciple of Jesus Christ and his crucifixion?

In Matthew 10:38-39, the LORD said, **And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it, and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.**

And the Lord repeated this in Matthew 16:24-25, **"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it, and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.**

What is the Lord saying here? He is saying that if you want to be a disciple of Jesus Christ,

1. You must deny yourself.
2. You must pick up your cross.
3. You must follow him.

Let us look at a story in Mark 10:17-22. It was the story of a young rich man who came to Jesus and wanted to know what to do to make it to heaven. The LORD told him what is expected of him – Loving God and your neighbour. He said he had been doing all these since his youth.

The Bible went on to say in verse 21,

“Then Jesus, beholding him loved him, and said unto him, one thing you lackest, go thy way, sell whatsoever you hast, and give to the poor, and thou shall have treasure in heavens, and come, take up thy cross, and follow me.

The Bible says this fellow went away sorrowful because he had great possessions. He was also sorrowful because Jesus said unto him, **“You have to sell what you have, give to the poor and come and follow Me, carrying your cross. “**

We all know that we must be born again to make it to heaven and thank God for the salvation of our souls. We all know we must live a life of holiness, that we must have no spot, no

wrinkle, and I believe that as a Year 10 Disciple, you have reached that level.

I know none of you will ever dream of committing adultery or lying, but the Lord is now saying that it takes a little more than this to make it to heaven. This is why He said it is going to be difficult for the rich man to make it to heaven; you have to be holy and then you have to let go of worldly possessions.

You will find out that it is the poor who find it very easy to pay Tithes. For example, paying 10 naira out of an income of 100 naira is not a problem, but paying 100,000 naira out of an income of 1,000,000 naira is a burden to the rich.

The poor never ask how he is going to pay the Tithes, whether on the gross or on the net incomes. It is the rich who ask such questions.

The Lord ask somebody now to surrender 50% of what he has to him. It is the poor who would be ready to give because they do not have much. Maybe the fellow has only one bicycle. He will say, "God, I don't know how we are going to share it.

If you want it all, you can have it. 'But the one who had twenty houses will say, Yes Lord, I am ready to give You ten houses, but I hope You know, God, that houses are houses. You can have the one in Ifewara (the village) and the one in Erijiyan (Another village), but don't think of the one in Victoria Island (the city), and don't think of the one in America.

The rich have a problem because material wealth blocks their sight of God. But what you need to know is what Jesus says here. He says if you try to keep your life, you will lose it.

In other words, if there is anything you do not surrender to God, you are going to lose it anyway. You should give it to Him so that He can bless you rather than for Satan to take it away from you and curse you in addition.

You will remember how long it took Abraham before Isaac came, but when God said to Him,

“I want your only son, Isaac...”

Abraham remembered that he started from zero anyway, and so anything he had came from God, and if God wanted it, he could have it.

If Abraham had wavered when God asked Him to surrender Isaac, that would have been the end of the story concerning Abraham. And you, too, may ask, “When is God likely to ask me to surrender anything?”

According to Luke 9:23-36. He asks you to carry your cross daily. And what does this mean? It means any moment from now, He may ask you to surrender all you have.

I know this may sound foolish, because what God is saying now is that you can have anything, keep on enjoying it but tomorrow, I can ask for everything. You may say Why am I building houses if He can ask for all of them tomorrow?

Why am I buying cars if he can require everything tomorrow?
Why am i piling money up in the bank when tomorrow He can say, "I want 100%?"

The Bible tells us in 1 Cor. 1:17-18 that the preaching of Christ is foolishness to them that perish.

Today, what we want to hear is that we are King's kids. We are, no doubt about that, but the King's kids must be ready to surrender everything that he is to the King. Your father is not a King because you are a prince.

If is the other way round, and if your Father provides you with all kinds of treasures, you can lose it like Vashti lost her own, and became a nobody or God can take you like Esther, from a slave, and make you a Queen, and give you everything, provided you are aware that tomorrow, you might be asked to risk not even all that you have, but your very life too.

Why do you need to hold on to something you cannot keep anyway, when you know that it's the Almighty God who can make sure you keep whatever you retain?

THE CROSS OF CHRIST

So When we talk about the Cross of Christ, it is not something for decoration as some people wear it. When we ask you to come to the foot of the Cross, you are to come with humility to the cross, the blood of Jesus will cleanse you from your sins. We know you will not go back the way you came.

THE ENEMY OF THE CROSS

The Bible says the cross has many enemies. Why does the Cross have so many enemies?

Philippians 3:17-18, the Bible says, "Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an example. For many walk of whom I have told you often and now tell even weeping, that they are the enemy of the cross of Christ.

Bible made it clear that for some people, the Cross is their enemy because their god is their belly, their glory is in their shame because they mind earthly things.

You need to note one thing here. There are very few enemies of Christ, but many enemies of the Cross. You, too, have to be careful because if you are not , you can become an enemy of the

Cross, because the Cross can take everything you have away from you.

SELF MUST BE CRUCIFIED

Paul said in Galatians 6:14 that:

“But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world”.

There must be a total crucifixion on the cross. Crucifixion of you, you to the cross. In other words, you must get to that stage where you no longer glory in anything except the cross. Do not glory in your wisdom because a Professor can become a madman.

Do not glory in your might because there is no might except that of God. And believe me, honestly, if you are wealthy, do not glory in your wealth because the Bible tells us clearly that money can grow wings. It can fly away at any time.

Do not glory in your children. The elders have a saying that nobody should rejoice over his children because it is the only one who had been buried by children that has children, which means the only time you can rejoice over your children is when you are dead.

And then how can the dead rejoice? So they are saying listen, do not rejoice over children at all.

If you don't sit down today and take sum of everything you have, make up your mind that you are ready to crucify everything; you are not yet a disciple. If you are not willing to say to the LORD. If you want the total sum of everything I have today, you can have it, then you are not a friend of the cross.

THE OLD MAN

The world looks for certain things in certain people before they will say the person is successful. For example, the world will determine how successful you are by the dress you wear, the kind of car you ride in, and the number of houses you possess, and there was a time when the number of wives you had determined how wealthy you were.

All these things the Bible sum up as our "old man". You must stop thinking the way the world thinks. Your values must be different from the values of the world.

Romans 6:6 says that:

"And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts"

This is a very serious one. We understand crucifying the lusts, but crucifying affections too? Because affection is not a bad thing, it

is alright to love your wife. It is alright to love your children, but if you want to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

If you want to be a solid disciple, you have to crucify your affections too. What does this mean? It means that if the Almighty God asks for your son, that son that you love, if you have not crucified your affections, then it will be difficult to say, "Yes Lord". You will remember what God said to Abraham,

"Take thy son, thy only son, Isaac, whom thou lovest, go and offer him for a sacrifice"

THE SECRET OF PEACE

The secret of peace for any true disciple is to have nothing in this world, absolutely nothing. Do not regard anything as your own. Be it wife or children or husband, do not even to talk of material things because the moment the devil knows that there is nothing you hold there other than Jesus, it will be difficult for him to attack you.

Let him know the children are not your children. They belong to God. You have surrendered your wife. Your business is not yours. If it prospers, glory be to God. If it does not, let the managing director or the chairman himself take care. If you do not get to that stage, you are going to have problems.

Paul said in Galatians 2:20;

“I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live...”

What does this tell us? The only fellow who will not care what happen to my wife or children or material possessions, is only the one who is dead, because if you are alive and you are still living in the flesh, how can you say you don't care about what happens to your wife and to your children. This is why Paul said,

“Nevertheless, I live...”

In other words, unless you die, you don't even begin to live, because until you die, there can be no resurrection. Until you are crucified in Christ, you cannot even begin to discuss resurrection.

So we need to think about this very seriously. We need to remember that as disciples of Jesus Christ, we are to carry our cross daily because any moment, the need for total cruxifison may arise.

So we need to think about this very seriously. We need to remember what as disciples of Jesus Christ, we are to carry our cross because any moment, the need for total cruxifison may arise.

God may separate you and everything you have in a moment, which is why it will be advisable that you crucify yourself right now. Make up your mind that from now on, I am for Christ and Christ alone. Whatever comes does not matter. If you do not decide now , when you have to decide, it might be painful.

PRAYER

Talk to the Lord for a few minutes and ask Him. Lord, lay me on the Cross and finish a total cruxifision so that when the time comes, I might live with You. Talk to Him now.

The Disciple And The Resurrection Of Jesus Christ Part One. RCCG SOD Year 10

In 1 Cor. 15:14-20, the Bible says that if Jesus did not rise from death, then our faith is in vain and that we are of all men most miserable.

If we die with Christ, crucified with Christ, if we suffer the loss, of all things just for the sake of Christ, and then we discover that there is no resurrection, what a waste. But glory to God, there is a resurrection. As Jesus said in John 11:25,

“I am the Resurrection and the life: He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet he shall live”.

The resurrection Himself is Jesus Christ. Thank God there is a resurrection, and Jesus said it in Luke 20:27-36. The Bible talked about some people who came to Jesus and tempted him.

They said there was this man who had a wife, and he died without his wife having an issue. This man had six brothers, and they all married this lady.

They all kept doing it without an issue. Finally, the woman died. So they said at the resurrection, whose wife is the woman going to be? If there were no resurrection, Jesus would have said there was no resurrection.

All he told them was that they were making a mistake and that at the resurrection, there is no marriage. In other words, He made it clear that there will be resurrection.

THE CHILDREN OF RESURRECTION

Jesus went on to say that the true children of God are the children of resurrection. In other words, if you are not a child of the Resurrection, you are not a child of God.

But then there can be no resurrection unless there had been a crucifixion. You cannot talk of raising somebody from the dead who had not died.

So the children of the resurrection are those who have been crucified with Christ, who now rose from the dead, those who had already said goodbye to the things of the world.

Who had decided to cut themselves off from every affection and every lust. These are the ones called the children of the resurrection.

Now, because they have died once, and now they are alive, like Paul said,

“I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live...”

They can no longer die, and God can now rely on them. **There are two resurrections:** there is the Resurrection of Life and there is Resurrection of Damnation.

In John 5:28-29, Jesus Christ said the children of the first resurrection are blessed children. That is, they are the children of the Resurrection of Life.

There is a gap of 1000 years between the first resurrection and the second. The first resurrection will bring all the children of God together, while the children of damnation will still be sleeping off.

In that 1000 years, all those who have crucified themselves to the cross of Christ will be enjoying.

In other words, whatever you lose in this life, even if you lived to be 200 years before you died, you will earn a reward in the Kingdom of God for at least 1000 years.

We are talking of 1000 years, where the Bible says even the sun will not beat us by day because there will be no sun there. Jesus Christ Himself will be the Sun there. Can you imagine whether that is air conditioned for 1000 years?

In Philippians 3:7-11, Paul was talking about losing everything and counting them but all dungs that it might win Christ. He could look ahead and see what was coming.

He said if I can attain to the first resurrection, everything I have lost is nothing at all. We are saying that Paul looked into the future, and he saw the glory that is coming.

He saw the blessings that were waiting. He said, "All those things I said I have lost are like dung compared to the mighty blessings that are ahead. Let us say you live to be 200 years old.

Whatever you have cannot be compared to anything at all in the world to come.

But it was not Paul alone that had a glimpse of this first resurrection. According to Hebrews 11:35, the Bible says several people were in serious trouble and in danger of death. God said "I can deliver you.

I want to deliver you" but they said, "No Lord, let us die that we may attain to the first resurrection".

We all know the story of Stephen very well. When he was being stoned, and he looked up to heaven, he saw heavens opened, He saw the glory of God and he saw Jesus Christ standing.

The Bible tells us that after Jesus finished His work here on earth. He sat down at the right hand of the Father on High. But on this occasion. He was so concerned about what was happening to Stephen that He stood up.

Just one prayer. If Stephen had said, Lord, help me. Deliver me." Instant deliverance would have come. But when he saw the glory there, he said, "Lord, receive my spirit. Let me come over.

These people were conscious of the first resurrection.

Romans 6:5 says,

"For all we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection".

If we are crucified with Him, when we are resurrected, we shall be like Him in His resurrection. If we can get to that stage when we are utterly dead to the world, that we are crucified to the cross, certain things will begin to happen to us.

Even our physical bodies will begin to resemble the body of Jesus Christ. Because we are like Him in death, we will then become like Him in His resurrection.

AN INCORRUPTIBLE BODY

If we die with Him and are Resurrected with Him, we will have an incorruptible body. 1 Cor. 15:35 and 42 talks of that kind of body. It is a body that is incorruptible, a body that death can have no power over and a body that cannot be tempted with sin.

This is because when we decided to crucify ourselves to all the things that the world will call success, certain things will begin to happen. For example, our body will become healthier.

Why?

Because all the things that God forbade the children of Israel from eating are what rich people of the world now call delicacies, things like crabs and snails. These are the delicacies of the rich.

Everything God said don't touch are the things they love because that is the way to show they have made it, and they eat it so that they can die young. But when you do not measure your values like the world measures its own, suddenly, your body will begin to respond.

THE GLORIOUS BODY

1 Cor. 15:43 talks about that body as being a glorious body. The body will become a body of glory. I have always told you that it is

difficult to define glory. I have always told you that it is difficult to define glory.

When you look at the face of someone who is not worried about today, who is not worried about tomorrow, who is not worried over a wife or children or not worried whether he has money or not, then you will see a kind of peace that will begin to radiate and shine.

The body will also be a body of power

Some people want power before they are crucified. They want the Almighty God to give them power, but they are not yet crucified with Christ.

This is a dangerous thing because if God give you power before you are dead to the world, that power will destroy you.

After all, you will commercialise the power. The power then will separate you and your God. And you may discover that power may ultimately lead you to hell. Because God said there are people on the day of judgment who would say, "In your name, we raised the dead. We performed Miracles.

And he is going to tell them, "I don't even know you. Depart from Me." This is why you must die first, then you will rise and begin to enjoy His resurrection power.

THE SPIRITUAL BODY

If we die and resurrect with Him, we will have a spiritual body. People will look at you and will still think you are wearing the same body as their own, but because you have crucified unto you, then God will now be able to entrust you with such a body that anyone you touch will receive a miracle.

This is because God knows that you can no longer be corrupted. After all, you have died, and you are now risen.

He knows you have reached a stage where there can be no temptations to entice you at all. What is anyone going to offer you that is going to lead you astray when you know that you have nothing? Anything they give you goes back to Him. It becomes impossible to lead you away from Him.

This brings us to one question. If we are going to die before we put ourselves on the Cross, what guarantee do we have that we will rise?

In John 6:39-40, 44 and 54, even though God is not talkative, Jesus in one chapter of the bible repeated the following four times.

"I will raise you up"

When God repeats something twice, this must be something very special. But now He repeats it four times. In Cor. 6:14, Daddy Himself , God the Father, says,

“Even if the Son does not raise you up, I will raise you”.

And then in Romans 8:5-11, the Holy Spirit says,

“I will raise you Up”.

So you have the assurance of God the Father, God the Son and the Holy Spirit, that you are willing to die, they are willing to raise you up, so that you can begin to have a life of someone who rose from the dead. This is why I am encouraging you once again.

PRAYER

Spend a few minutes talking to the LORD. Disclose anything that remains in you that is not dead in Him. Anything that is of the flesh must die, and die today because when you die, God will raise you. Talk to him now.

The Disciple and The Crucifixion Of Christ. RCCG SOD Year 10

What is the relationship between the disciple of Jesus Christ and his crucifixion?

In Matthew 10:38-39, the LORD said, **And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it, and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.**

And the Lord repeated this in Matthew 16:24-25, **"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it, and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.**

What is the Lord saying here? He is saying that if you want to be a disciple of Jesus Christ,

1. You must deny yourself.
2. You must pick up your cross.
3. You must follow him.

Let us look at a story in Mark 10:17-22. It was the story of a young rich man who came to Jesus and wanted to know what to do to make it to heaven. The LORD told him what is expected of him – Loving God and your neighbour. He said he had been doing all these since his youth.

The Bible went on to say in verse 21,

“Then Jesus, beholding him loved him, and said unto him, one thing you lackest, go thy way, sell whatsoever you hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heavens, and come, take up thy cross, and follow me.

The Bible says this fellow went away sorrowful because he had great possessions. He was also sorrowful because Jesus said unto him, **“You have to sell what you have, give to the poor and come and follow Me, carrying your cross. “**

We all know that we must be born again to make it to heaven and thank God for the salvation of our souls. We all know we must live a life of holiness, that we must have no spot, no wrinkle, and I believe that as a Year 10 Disciple, you have reached that level.

I know none of you will ever dream of committing adultery or lying, but the Lord is now saying that it takes a little more than this to make it to heaven. This is why He said it is going to be difficult for the rich man to make it to heaven; you have to be holy and then you have to let go of worldly possessions.

You will find out that it is the poor who find it very easy to pay Tithes. For example, paying 10 naira out of an income of 100 naira is not a problem, but paying 100,000 naira out of an income of 1,000,000 naira is a burden to the rich.

The poor never ask how he is going to pay the Tithes, whether on the gross or on the net incomes. It is the rich who ask such questions.

The Lord ask somebody now to surrender 50% of what he has to him. It is the poor who would be ready to give because they do not have much. Maybe the fellow has only one bicycle. He will say, "God, I don't know how we are going to share it.

If you want it all, you can have it. 'But the one who had twenty houses will say, Yes Lord, I am ready to give You ten houses, but I hope You know, God, that houses are houses. You can have the one in Ifewara (the village) and the one in Erijiyan (Another village), but don't think of the one in Victoria Island (the city), and don't think of the one in America.

The rich have a problem because material wealth blocks their sight of God. But what you need to know is what Jesus says here. He says if you try to keep your life, you will lose it.

In other words, if there is anything you do not surrender to God, you are going to lose it anyway. You should give it to Him so that He can bless you rather than for Satan to take it away from you and curse you in addition.

You will remember how long it took Abraham before Isaac came, but when God said to Him,

"I want your only son, Isaac..."

Abraham remembered that he started from zero anyway, and so anything he had came from God, and if God wanted it, he could have it.

If Abraham had wavered when God asked Him to surrender Isaac, that would have been the end of the story concerning Abraham. And you, too, may ask, "When is God likely to ask me to surrender anything?"

According to Luke 9:23-36. He asks you to carry your cross daily. And what does this mean? It means any moment from now, He may ask you to surrender all you have.

I know this may sound foolish, because what God is saying now is that you can have anything, keep on enjoying it but tomorrow, I can ask for everything. You may say Why am I building houses if He can ask for all of them tomorrow?

Why am I buying cars if he can require everything tomorrow? Why am i piling money up in the bank when tomorrow He can say, "I want 100%?"

The Bible tells us in 1 Cor. 1:17-18 that the preaching of Christ is foolishness to them that perish.

Today, what we want to hear is that we are King's kids. We are, no doubt about that, but the King's kids must be ready to surrender everything that he is to the King. Your father is not a King because you are a prince.

If is the other way round, and if your Father provides you with all kinds of treasures, you can lose it like Vashti lost her own, and became a nobody or God can take you like Esther, from a slave, and make you a Queen, and give you everything, provided you are aware that tomorrow, you might be asked to risk not even all that you have, but your very life too.

Why do you need to hold on to something you cannot keep anyway, when you know that it's the Almighty God who can make sure you keep whatever you retain?

THE CROSS OF CHRIST

So When we talk about the Cross of Christ, it is not something for decoration as some people wear it. When we ask you to come to the foot of the Cross, you are to come with humility to the cross, the blood of Jesus will cleanse you from your sins. We know you will not go back the way you came.

THE ENEMY OF THE CROSS

The Bible says the cross has many enemies. Why does the Cross have so many enemies?

Philippians 3:17-18, the Bible says, "Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an example. For many walk of whom I have told you often and now tell even weeping, that they are the enemy of the cross of Christ.

Bible made it clear that for some people, the Cross is their enemy because their god is their belly, their glory is in their shame because they mind earthly things.

You need to note one thing here. There are very few enemies of Christ, but many enemies of the Cross. You, too, have to be careful because if you are not , you can become an enemy of the Cross, because the Cross can take everything you have away from you.

SELF MUST BE CRUCIFIED

Paul said in Galatians 6:14 that:

"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is cruxified unto me, and I unto the world".

There must be a total crucifixion on the cross. Crucifixion of you, you to the cross. In other words, you must get to that stage where you no longer glory in anything except the cross. Do not glory in your wisdom because a Professor can become a madman.

Do not glory in your might because there is no might except that of God. And believe me, honestly, if you are wealthy, do not glory in your wealth because the Bible tells us clearly that money can grow wings. It can fly away at any time.

Do not glory in your children. The elders have a saying that nobody should rejoice over his children because it is the only one who had been buried by children that has children, which means the only time you can rejoice over your children is when you are dead.

And then how can the dead rejoice? So they are saying listen, do not rejoice over children at all.

If you don't sit down today and take sum of everything you have, make up your mind that you are ready to crucify everything; you are not yet a disciple. If you are not willing to say to the LORD. If you want the total sum of everything I have today, you can have it, then you are not a friend of the cross.

THE OLD MAN

The world looks for certain things in certain people before they will say the person is successful. For example, the world will determine how successful you are by the dress you wear, the kind of car you ride in, and the number of houses you possess, and there was a time when the number of wives you had determined how wealthy you were.

All these things the Bible sum up as our “old man”. You must stop thinking the way the world thinks. Your values must be different from the values of the world.

Romans 6:6 says that:

“And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts”

This is a very serious one. We understand crucifying the lusts, but crucifying affections too? Because affection is not a bad thing, it is alright to love your wife. It is alright to love your children, but if you want to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

If you want to be a solid disciple, you have to crucify your affections too. What does this mean? It means that if the Almighty God asks for your son, that son that you love, if you have not crucified your affections, then it will be difficult to say, “Yes Lord”. You will remember what God said to Abraham,

“Take thy son, thy only son, Isaac, whom thou lovest, go and offer him for a sacrifice”

THE SECRET OF PEACE

The secret of peace for any true disciple is to have nothing in this world, absolutely nothing. Do not regard anything as your own. Be it wife or children or husband, do not even to talk of material things because the moment the devil knows that there is

nothing you hold there other than Jesus, it will be difficult for him to attack you.

Let him know the children are not your children. They belong to God. You have surrendered your wife. Your business is not yours. If it prospers, glory be to God. If it does not, let the managing director or the chairman himself take care. If you do not get to that stage, you are going to have problems.

Paul said in Galatians 2:20;

“I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live...”

What does this tell us? The only fellow who will not care what happen to my wife or children or material possessions, is only the one who is dead, because if you are alive and you are still living in the flesh, how can you say you don't care about what happens to your wife and to your children. This is why Paul said,

“Nevertheless, I live...”

In other words, unless you die, you don't even begin to live, because until you die, there can be no resurrection. Until you are crucified in Christ, you cannot even begin to discuss resurrection.

So we need to think about this very seriously. We need to remember that as disciples of Jesus Christ, we are to carry our

cross daily because any moment, the need for total crucifixion may arise.

So we need to think about this very seriously. We need to remember what as disciples of Jesus Christ, we are to carry our cross because any moment, the need for total crucifixion may arise.

God may separate you and everything you have in a moment, which is why it will be advisable that you crucify yourself right now. Make up your mind that from now on, I am for Christ and Christ alone. Whatever comes does not matter. If you do not decide now , when you have to decide, it might be painful.

PRAYER

Talk to the Lord for a few minutes and ask Him. Lord, lay me on the Cross and finish a total crucifixion so that when the time comes, I might live with You. Talk to Him now.

Divine Representatives. RCCG SOD Year Six

Now we want to round up this session by studying Divine Representatives. We will look at the lives of two young men who excelled as divine representatives. We want to see what we can learn from their lives.

In Acts 6:1-2, we found that certain young men were chosen as deacons and all those who are chosen as deacons has three basic qualifications.

1. They were all to be HONEST.
2. They were all to be full of HOLY SPIRIT.
3. They were all to be full of WISDOM.

In addition to the above, they also had the following:

#4 HUMILITY

When you consider the work that these deacons were to do for God, they were to be serving at tables and to be serving Widows. By implication, they had to be humble. You have to be humble to be serving others.

Others sit down and eat while you serve them.

So, anyone who is going to be a representative of God, in addition to being honest, full of Holy Spirit and wise, ,must also be humble . The Bible has a lot to say about humility.

In Luke 14:11, Bible says:

“He that humbles himself shall be exalted”.

Also, in James 4:6, the Bible says:

“God resist the proud but He gives grace to the humble”.

Then 1 Peter 5:6 says:

“Humble thyself under the mighty hands of God and He will exalt you in due time”.

#5 Holiness

In addition to being humble, these people must have been Holy too. Why? Because they were going to minister to widows. They take food to the houses of widows, if they are not holy, there will be problems.

There are men, those people are widows, they have no husband to protect them so it is only Holy people who could be divine representatives.

Divine representatives must have five additional qualities.

ADDITIONAL QUALITIES OF DIVINE REPRESENTATIVES

Stephen and Phillip had certain qualities common to both of them and we will consider that of Stephen for illustration. If you look at Acts 6:5, the Bible says:

#1 Stephen was full of FAITH

In other words, he trusted God completely. He understood that underneath are His everlasting arms into which he surrendered himself for better for worse. He had the kind of faith of Shadrack, Meschack and Abednego, the kind of faith that was recorded for us in Daniel 3:14-18.

This is where those three boys said, "we know our God can deliver us. We know he will deliver us and even if he does not deliver us, we don't care. We are not going to bow to any idol.

We trust Him completely". Stephen had that kind of faith and of course Philip had that kind of faith too. Otherwise they would not have been able to achieve the kind of miracles that they achieved.

#2 He was full of FAITH and POWER.

Then in Acts 6:8, the Bible says that Stephen was full of POWER. Why was he full of power? Because he was full of FAITH. It is just one step to being full of power.

#3 Acts 6:9-10 also says he was full of irresistible WISDOM.

All the Professors gathered together but could not resist his wisdom because that wisdom was supplied by the Holy Spirit.

#4 Triumphant Peace

If you look at Acts 6:15, he was full of glory because he had peace, triumphant peace, the lack of fear that was within him.

#5 He was full of the Word.

But then when you go to Acts 7:1 , you will see this young man begin to preach and you will suddenly notice that he was full of the Word of God. He was full of the scriptures. In one single sermon, he went from Genesis to the end of the Gospel.

#6 He was Visionary

Just before he died in Acts 7:55-56, he looked up to heaven and he saw the invincible, because he was visionary. Those who will be representatives of God will be able to see far ahead.

They will be able to see far ahead. They will be able to see what ordinary people cannot see. They will be able to see into tomorrow. It is only then that they can be divine representatives.

#7 He was full of Prayer

And if you look at Acts 7:59, you will find that he is a man full of prayer. The last thing Stephen did before he left this world was prayer. He prayed,

“Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. Father forgive them, lay not this sin to their charge”.

He was praying all the time.

SUMMARY

What are the qualities you must have before God can choose you as His Representative?

1. You must be honest because God will not deal with somebody who is deceitful.
2. Full of the Holy Spirit because the work of god cannot be done by might or by power, it can only be done by the Spirit of God.
3. Wise because after all, the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
4. Humble because it will take humility to do the kind of assignment God will give you.
5. Holy because God may have to send you to minister to widows.
6. Full of faith because without faith , nobody can please God.
7. Full of power because the work of God has to be done with tremendous power.
8. Full of Glory but this will come as a result of inner peace, because you know who you believe. You are entirely in the Hand of the Almighty God.
9. FULL OF THE WORD OF GOD because these words are living spirits. When you are full of the Word of God , you will be able to speak out and say, "Thus said the Lord". You will be able to say "It is written".
10. VISIONARY. You must be ready to see the invincible and of course you must be full of PRAYERS.

Now we want you to spend at least twenty minutes to pray quality prayers. If you cannot pray for twenty minutes at a time, you need a revival. Go now and talk to the LORD.

Next time I see you in the mighty name of Jesus , you will be a very strong representative of the Almighty God.

Talk to him now. God bless you as you do so.

Action Point

PS: I know you might agree with some of the points raised in this article or disagree with some of the issues raised.

Please share your thoughts on the topic discussed. We would appreciate it if you could drop your comment. Thanks in anticipation.

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