October 7, 2018

Inspiration today WHEN YOU PRAISE AND WORSHIP GOD

Much attention has not been focused on the power of praise and worship by Christians as a vital channel for receiving blessings, winning battles and having breakthroughs. We are more accustomed to fasting and prayers with spiritual warfare to the neglect of praise and worship. There are numerous instances in the bible where praise and worship have gotten tremendous results for God's children and where God has encouraged His people to praise and worship Him as a means of obtaining from Him. I heard the testimony of a man the doctors gave limited time to live due to a terminal illness and he chose to praise God till the time death would call. Miraculously instead of dying the man got well. Someone's health will defy doctors bad report in Jesus name. God is always where He is being praised.

"But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel." Psalms 22:3 NKJV.

When God shows up for you, victory is sure. Israel bore the Ark of the covenant which was symbolic of God's presence and the walls of Jericho crashed down without bulldozers. This season of praise and worship with fasting will crush obstacles on someone's way to breakthrough in Jesus name. Isaac like his father Abraham built alters and was a worshipper of God. Then there was famine in the nation and he ripped a hundredfold harvest while others lost.

"Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You. Then the earth shall yield her increase; God, our own God, shall bless us." Psalms 67:5-6 NKJV.

Are you experiencing famine in your business or career or unfruitfulness in any area of life, God is saying it is time to praise Him. If God decides to fight your battles what will you do? I believe a wise man will engage in joyous praise of God. He says to cast our cares on Him for He cares for us. But this is far from the experience of many believers. We say we have given Him our cares and yet we pass sleepless nights brooding over them.

"The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace. Exodus 14:14 NKJV. When God told king Jehoshaphat that he did not need to fight the battle against his enemies, he assembled singers and musicians and allowed God to do the rest. Get into the habit of praise and worship and watch God deal with your enemies. In Ecclesiastes 2:26 God promised to transfer the wealth of unbelievers to us. This was the experience of Jehoshaphat. Same can be your testimony if you resort to a lifestyle of praise and worship.

"When Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away their spoil, they found among them an abundance of valuables on the dead bodies, and precious jewellery, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away; and they were three days gathering the spoil because there was so much." II Chronicles 20:25 NKJV

Some years ago we spent over an hour trying to cast out a demon in the life of a sister to no avail. When we inquired from God what to do He said "praise me". The demon left within five minutes as we began to praise the Lord. We all remember the case of Paul and Silas. God sent an earthquake to their prison. There will be earthquake in the midst of your captors and your possessions will be released to you in Jesus name. The jailers had to bow and they wanted to know the God of Paul and Silas.

"But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself.... Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"" Acts 16:25-27, 29-30 NKJV

God seeks worshippers. The easiest way to get God's attention is through praise and worship. King Solomon offered thousands of animals in worship and that very night God appeared to Him with a blank cheque. Be a worshippers and get God's attention always.

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him." John 4:23 NKJV In this month of fasting and prayer, anyone who dares to skip asking God for something and focus in praise and worship to Him, will definitely have enormous testimonies at the end.

October BIRTHDAYS

1 Kome Okeregha 3rd, 2 Ayomikun Dele-Ajayi 3^{rd,} 3 Tamilore Seriki 3rd, 4Theophilus Imoukhedemen 5th, 5Chinazam Onuora 5th, 6Serena Lewis 8th, 7 Pastor Luke Ibe 17th, 8 Adeola Akinyemi 18^{th,} 9 Kemisola Shotala 19th

10 Omolara Maiyegun 21st, 11Tsega Tadese 23rd, 12Collette Cochrane 24th



Vision/Mission Statement To Make Heaven

- To take as many people as possible with us
- 3. Committed to Spiritual revival in the Merseyside region and the United Kingdom
- 4. To make Holiness our lifestyle
- 5. Helping members grow into the fullness of the stature of Christ through the Word, Prayer & Evangelism
- 6. To be relevant in our community through helping the elderly, the homeless & the vulnerable
- 7. We will pursue these objectives until spiritual revival comes to our Nation & the world is reached for Jesus Christ our Lord

Services Sundays

Prayer meeting 9.30am

Church Service 11.00am—1.30pm

Evening Service 6pm—7pm

Holy communion Services First & Third Sundays Last Thursdays every month

Thursdays Bible Study 6pm—7.30pm

Prayer Meeting 5pm daily except Thursdays

Notices

Children aged 7 and below MUST be accompanied to the restrooms at all times

• Use of disabled toilet

Male Children, 12 and under are no longer allowed to use the male toilets. Henceforth, they should use the disabled toilet

> ¢ Evangelism
> Every Saturday 10.30am at Tuebrook.
> 11am City Centre

Water Baptism If you are born again and want to be water baptised by immersion, please see Pastor Christiana Ikeri

• Annual Fasting & Prayers All days in October

Theme: Thanksgiving, Praise & Worship Ps. 34v1

• Worker's Rally Tuesday October 16, 7pm

¢ Festival of Life EXCEL Centre, London Friday October 19, 7pm Today's Sunday School—Lesson 6

BE HOLY

Memory Verse: "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation" 1 Pet. 1V15

Lesson text: Ps. 15v1-5

A. Why believers must be holy

Our God is a holy God and He commands every believer to be perfect in His sight (Lev. 20v26; Gen. 17v1; Eph. 1v4). God desires to use believers as His chosen vessels to reach out to the numerous sinners out there, hence, believers must be holy (2 Tim. 2v21). Holiness is an essential requirement for a believer to do exploits and do even greater works than Jesus did (Jn. 14v12). Any believer living in Sin cannot fellowship with a holy God (1 Jn. 1v3-7). The believer must be holy in order to be able to see God on the last day (Heb. 12v14)

B. Benefits of Holiness

A holy believer will be eligible to receive detailed classified information from God as they fellowship with Him (Dan. 2v17v20; Gen. 18v17; Amos 3v7; Ps. 25v14). God will provide comprehensive all round protection around such a believer (Ps. 121v3-4; Pro. 18v10). The Lord who is the author of peace will ensure that the believer lives at peace even with their enemies (Pro. 16v7). He will enjoy continuing divine blessings and long life (Deut. 28v1; Pro. 3v1-2, 4v10). Living holy enables every believer to enjoy God's presence and to live forever with God in eternity (Ps. 24v3-5). Other benefits include answered prayers (Lk. 1v13; Ps. 34v15-17), an assured pleasant future (Isa. 3v10; Jer. 29v11), a life free from health scares provided by God (Ex. 15v26), supernatural prosperity (Ps. 92v12), victory over the troubles and challenges of life (Deut. 28v7), promotion and spiritual anointing (Heb. 1v9).

Conclusion

Living holy must be the yearning of every true believer (Matt. 5v6). Always strive to live holy

Open Heaven for today THE BEST TIME TO SOW

MEMORIZE: Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an Hundredfold: and the Lord blessed him. Genesis 26:12

Read: Genesis 26:12-14 (KJV)

Any farmer who wants to reap a bountiful harvest knows that sowing is a specialized act. In other words, you don't expect a great harvest when you sow at a time of your own choosing and in a haphazard manner.

After soil preparation sowing is often the next and most important step taken by a farmer in anticipation of harvest. The principles of sowing that govern the physical realm are also applicable in the spiritual realm. Ecclesiastes 3:2 tells us that there is a right time, which also is the best time, for sowing. Good farmers know very well that the planting of crops is a major event, and its timing depends on the type of seed to be sown. Some factors that determine the right time to sow include the season or time of the ear, sunshine and clouds, length of day and night, rainfall pattern and soil fertility. Sowing in the time of famine, being a time of drought, is a ridiculous thing to do, to say the east. Nevertheless, for Isaac in today's Bible reading, it was the right time, and he experienced the miracle of a hundredfold harvest. His case is a classic example of doing the ridiculous to produce the miraculous. Just as it happened to Isaac, I pray that as you sow into God's kingdom, you will experience returns in a hundred fold in Jesus' Name.

When is the best time to sow into God's kingdom? The best time to sow is when you are born again and living in total obedience to the will of God. It is when the source of your livelihood is clean and your way of life is pure, such that on can lift up holy hands to God in adoration and worship (Psalm 24:3-5). It is when curses have been removed, devourers rebuked, cankerworms destroyed and contrary circumstances have been turned around to work in your favour. If for any reason you have missed it somehow and your life does not fit these descriptions, it is never too late with God. You can retrace your steps back home to God for a new beginning - a new be inning of peace, progress and bountiful harvest.

Thankfully, it is still the season for sowing, and there is still time to sow righteousness and obedience now, before you face God's law of harvest based on your deeds (Romans 2:6). It is yet a sunny day, the weather is favourable, and the timing is right. You can set your life on the right path by sowing righteousness, mercy and favour today. Invest into God's kingdom today and reap a hundredfold in eternity. The best seed you can sow is the seed of your life. Invest your time, money and energy into sou winning activities today, and watch as things will begin to work in your favour. If you are busy doing God's business, He will also respond by going the extra mile to take care of your family and business.

Prayer point: Father, please let my contribution to the expansion of your kingdom produce hundredfold returns for me in Jesus' name.

Open Heavens Daily Devotional Lessons was written by Pastor E.A. Adeboye, the General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian