\*TEMPTATION IS INEVITABLE\*

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

 \*"Watch and pray that you may not fall into temptation; the Spirit is willing but the flesh is weak".\*

Matthew 26:41

This message had been prepared as directed by God on the 14th of April 2018 and it was meant to be sent out last week; until the devil struck and took the life of a beloved Sister in the Lord.

The Lord will console and comfort the family that is bereaved in the name of Jesus 🙏🏼.

Without doubt it's a trying time for the Church of God; when things happen in the manner it ensued recently, it calls for sober reflection and seeking the face of God.

 \*"If you say: but we knew nothing about this, does not HE who weighs the heart perceives it? Does not HE who guards your life knows it? will HE not repay everyone according to what they have done?"\*

Prov 24:12.

I \*pray\* that God will heal all the wounds of everyone who are affected in one way or the other; whether physically or emotionally. 🙏🏼

However, the \*Distinguished Chief Judge of the heaven and the earth\* ;who sees everything that appears as mystery to us, will unravel the whole thing and \*deal will the cause\* of all the trials of our faith accordingly in Jesus name🙏🏼.

The bible says:

 \*"Count it all joy my brothers and sisters when you are faced with divers trials and temptations for the testing of your faith produces perseverance ".\*

James 1:2-3.

Temptation can be defined as a luring desire to engage in a temporal enjoyment of something or an act that is morally wrong, which will have adverse effects on the long term purpose or goal of the individual involved.

The primary aim of temptation is to thwarts the destiny of the person being tempted by hoping he falls into temptation and commits sin.

Temptation has been with mankind since after creation;

The devil is the agent behind the serpent that tempted Eve; the first woman.

 \*"Did God actually say you shall not eat of any tree in the garden?"\*

Gen 3:1-13.

Satan is the \*tempter\*.

 \*"And the tempter came and said to Him"if you are the son of God command this stone to become loaves of bread"\*

Matthew 4:3.

 \*Our God does not tempt.\*

 \*"Let no one say when he is tempted:I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted by evil and He Himself tempts no one"\*

James 1:13.

Being tempted is not a sin but falling to the temptation is what amount to sin.

However, you gain strength and power over the devil by overcoming any temptation.

Temptation, actually put your strength and character to test.

Satan tempted Christ after HE fasted for forty days and forty night.

If the devil can tempt our Lord Jesus Christ, we can be sure we are very susceptible to temptation.

This is what informed the topic of the message: " \*temptation is inevitable".\* It's a matter of " \*when and not if"\* temptation comes.

Temptation does not \*respect the anointing;\* "am a Prophet, a Pastor or bible Scholar" does not mean you will enjoy immunity from temptation and trials in life.

Jesus said to Simon Peter:

 \*"Simon Simon, satan demanded to have you that he might sift you like wheat".\*

Luke 22:31.

It is not unusual to see Spirit filled people being tempted.

The bible says:

 \*"Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you as though something strange were happening to you".\*

1 Peter 4:12.

What we should be concerned with as believers is how you react to every temptation that comes your way.

 \*"No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind and God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear, but when you are tempted He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it".\*

1 Cor 10:13

The assumption in the above scripture, as written by Apostle Paul is that we have at our disposal all it takes to shield and defend ourselves against the schemes of the devil and overcome temptations.

 \*"Put on the whole amour of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil".\*

Ephesians 6:11.

Our God is very much interested in the manner in which every believer deals with temptation that comes his way.

 \*"God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation; afterwards they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him".\*

James 1:12.

Our Lord Jesus came out clean without sinning when Satan tempted him, so we enjoy the same grace to overcome the devil when he tempts us.

\*Matthew4:8-10\*

 \*"For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to empathize with our weeknesses, but we have One who has been tempted in every way just like we are, yet He did not sin".\*

Hebrews 4:15.

\*Consistency in prayer.\* is a necessity. It does not prevent temptation but it gives alertness to deceitful ways of Satan.

That's why Jesus said to the disciples:

" \*Why are you sleeping,get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation\*

Luke 22:46.

Temptation is always hidden inside desires of the flesh,desires of the eyes and pride of life.

The bible says:

 \*"But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire".\*

James 1:14.

Joseph was tempted by Potiphar's wife; but he refused her advances and said to her:

 \*"How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God"\*.

Gen 39

 \*The word of God is the potent weapon\* needed to tackle temptation. When you are well equipped with the Word of God, you will silence the devil when he comes to tempt.

Knowledge of the word of God gives you a step ahead of the devil.

 \*"Oh, how I love your words; I meditate on it day long, your commands are always with me and makes me wiser than my enemies"\*

Psalm 119:97&98

Our Lord Jesus exhibited the effectiveness of the Word of God: \*For it is written\*, quoting the scriptures.

Matthew 4:4-10.

For a certainty, that same Spirit that lives in Jesus is in us today, all we need to do is to engage the Power of the Word of God to our advantage.

\*PRAYER\*: Father, please grant me the grace to overcome every temptation that comes my way in the name of Jesus.🙏🏼🙏🏼🙏🏼.

If you are yet to give your life to Jesus, you can be sure you do not have what it takes to triumph over temptation and trials of life.

Surrender your life now, so you can have access to the Power that subdues temptations.

 \*"For this reason the Son of God was revealed, so that He might destroy the works of the enemy".\*

1 John 3:8.

JESUS REIGNS.

Shalom.

Signed, Bro Cole