

Inspiration today

THE YEAR OF GRACE AND POWER

Congratulations to everyone reading this message. It is evident that the Lord brought you through 2018 into 2019. Last year was a mixed bag for different people. Some may have had a very glorious year and some others may have passed through difficult and challenging times. In whichever group you fall or you were somewhere in between, let us all thank the Lord who brought us through it all and we are now in the new year. God commands us to give Him thanks in all things and for all things.

"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18 NKJV.

"I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth." Psalms 34:1 NKJV.

He is all knowing and His wisdom is beyond man's comprehension. Somethings that were not convenient and very challenging at the very time they occurred have eventually turned out to be what was right for me with the benefit of hindsight. Looking back today, I give glory to God. When trials and difficulties assail us let us remember that victory is in Jesus Christ.

There is hope for you in 2019 and the scriptures say:

"But for him who is joined to all the living there is hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion." Ecclesiastes 9:4 NKJV.

Again **"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28 NKJV"**

As I sort the face of the Lord for the new year, He said the following:

1. That there will be greater outpouring of grace in 2019.
2. The Holy Spirit just like in the early days of Acts of the Apostles will work great wonders through His church and
3. This will lead to more awareness of the Saviour Jesus Christ like never before in our cities and all over the world.

Let us therefore with faith, position ourselves to receive from the Lord great mercies and favours as we serve Him, with the full assurance that many prodigals will return home because of His abundant grace this year.

Welcome to 2019 and abundant blessings.

January BIRTHDAYS

- ¹ Odunayo Seriki 3rd, ² Albert Klomegha 6th, ³ Jaden Ezenekwe 14th,
⁴ Adaolisan Onuora 27th, ⁵ Miriam Kenkwo 31st



Dominion Assembly

Jesus Christ the same yesterday,
and today and forever.
Hebrew 13:8

Vision/Mission Statement

1. To Make Heaven
2. 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

♠ RCCG Fasting

Friday January 11, 2018 to Thursday
February 28th
Nigeria: Prayer for Mercy
RCCG: (Psalm 91) Divine Insurance

♠ Festival Of Praise

Friday January 11, 2018 starts at 7pm

Today's Sunday School—Lesson 19

KNOW YOUR ENEMY

Memory Verse: "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." 2 Cor. 11v14

Lesson text: 1 Pet. 5v8-9

A. His Name and Titles

Satan formerly known as Lucifer was a principal angel in Heaven until he rebelled against God and was cast out of Heaven alongside the fallen angels (demons) that joined the devil in the rebellion against God. (Isa. 14v12-15). Satan is a real personality. He has names, titles, and a highly organised system of demons. Among his numerous titles is 'the tempter' (Matt. 4v3). God is not a tempter and can never be (James 1v13). Satan is the tempter and has always been. Satan is also called the prince of devils (Matt. 9v34). He is the prince of this world (Jn. 14v30), though he manifests as a prince of sorrow, destruction, war, hatred, evil and abomination (Jn. 10v10a) Satan is also called the god of this world (2 Cor. 4v4). That is why the Lord warns us not to love the world or the things that are in the world (1 Jn. 2v15-17).

Satan is also described as a murderer, liar and father of lies (Jn. 8v44). Therefore, you must never listen to him or believe whatsoever he says.

Deception is not unusual for Satan, it is his nature to pretend to be a holy angel (2 Cor. 11v14). In actual fact, he is a killer who is always on the lookout for prey (1 Pet. 5v8). The bible also refers to Satan as the 'great dragon', the 'old serpent' (Rev. 12v9), the accuser of the brethren (Rev. 12v10) and the wicked one (Matt. 13v19; 1 Jn. 5v18)

B. His Activities

The great aim of Satan is to deceive the whole world and win them to his side (Rev. 12v9). Therefore he tries desperately to blind the minds of sinners so that they will not be able to receive the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 4v3-4). He knows that, once the light of the Word shines into their hearts, they will discover that Satan is a liar (Jn. 1v9; Ps. 119v130; Acts 13v47). Therefore, he steals the Word of God from them so that they might not believe and be

saved (Lk. 8v12). Hence, if you find that you often forget the scriptures, you had better watch out. Satan is also busy accusing the believer before God day and night (Rev. 12v10). But thank God, we also have an advocate in heaven pleading our cases before the Father round the clock (1 Jn. 2v1; 1 Tim. 2v5). As long as we remain loyal to Christ, the devil cannot prevail against us (Rom. 8v37-39; 1 Jn. 4v4). Christ has given us the power and authority to overcome Satan (Lk. 10v19; Rev. 12v11). We must therefore, submit ourselves to God, never give place to the devil but resist him steadfastly by faith and proclaim our victory over Satan (Eph. 4v27; James 4v7; 1 Pet. 5v9)

Conclusion

Every Child of God must know about the tricks of the devil and resist him with the whole armour of God (Eph. 6v11)

Open Heaven for today LESSONS FROM THE FIG TREE I

Memorise: Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Proverbs 31:30

Read: Matthew 21:18-22 (KJV)

For the next two days, we shall be reflecting on some lessons from the fig tree which Jesus condemned to death for being fruitless. Fruitlessness is a grievous deviation to all children of God. From our Bible reading, we see that our Lord Jesus Christ was attracted to the fig tree because everything about it told Him that it had the capacity to bear fruit, but alas, He was disappointed (Matthew 21:19). For this reason, the first lesson we need to learn from this fig tree is that physical appearances can be very deceptive. This lesson is stated very clearly in today's memory verse. In 1st Samuel 16:7^b, when Samuel went to anoint another king to replace King Saul from the house of Jesse, God explained to him:

"For the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart."

These words should speak to young people who are waiting on the Lord for a godly spouse.

Another lesson to be learnt from the fig tree is that it is dangerous for you to portray yourself as what you are not. The appearance of the fig tree was such that anybody would expect it to possess some fruit. One can reasonably assume that the fig tree was cursed, not necessarily because it did not bear fruit (Mark 11:13 clearly says it was not its seasons to bear fruit), but rather because it deceptively appeared to bear fruit. Unfortunately, these days, people pretend a lot. To their shame and peril, many people fail to get the help they need from potential helpers because of the fake lifestyle they portray to the world.

They ride in borrowed cars to show off wealth that they do not possess. When such people ask for financial assistance from their closest friends, it is assumed that they are just joking or trying to hide their real worth. Also, many marriages have broken down irreparably because of deceitful lifestyles. During courtship, some couples conceal many things from each other only for the truth to be discovered on the first night of marriage. Some men appear to be gentle during courtship, only for them to show their true colours as wife-beaters after the woman says "I do". Sadly, for them, a fellow who sows deceits will also reap deceit. An adage in my mother-tongue says, "The wife you choose from a dancing floor will sooner or later dance away from your house." Beloved, the antidote for a life of deceit is to be in Jesus Christ, who is the Truth. Accept Him as your personal Lord and Saviour today, and the shame that follows a deceitful life will cease in your life. When you have the Truth in your life, you will not be a victim of deceit, because you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (John 8:32).

Action Point

Repent of all appearance of deceitful living, and be truthful to God, your neighbour and to yourself.

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