

From my heart...

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

We have crossed half of this year by His grace. We are safe and blessed by the supernatural favor of God. God told me in the beginning of this year that there would be a gruesome attack against children. Recently we are hearing many horrible news of how the devil is trying to destroy the younger generation and children. Let us pray against the tricks and attacks of the enemy against our children.

Apostle Paul had the revelation of the grace of God, so that he could say "But by the grace of God I am what I am" (1 Cor.15:10).

This should be our statement also. Our hearts must be filled with an attitude of gratitude. What we are today, the blessings that we enjoy and the ministry we are doing is not because of our goodness, it is because we have a very good God, our Father. Thank Him every day for all His faithful deeds and blessings. Learn to thank Him for everything that has happened in your life from your birth and thank Him for all the supernatural favor you enjoyed and are enjoying till today. This attitude will take you into the destination God has planned for your life. May the grace of God increase in your life more and more abundantly!

We had a very powerful youth meeting ZOE 2013 in Theni this month. God inspired me to lead the young boys and girls into the calling of God. Our eyes were filled with tears to see thousands of youth coming forward and committing their life for full time ministry. It is time for India to see Joshuas, Daniels, Josephs, Deborahs and Esthers. Pray for them very specially that they may keep walking in God's perfect ways.

As always, I plead your prayers for my Literature and Media ministry. Continue to pray for the right, spiritual people to come and join with us for His kingdom work. I have started the third volume of our daily devotion "See yourself in Christ daily". We need your prayers for prophetic revelations.

We had planned to have our fourth women's batch of School of the Holy Spirit in the month of July, due to our European and Australian programs we are postponing this batch to November. Already applications started to come, and many are awaiting this school with very much expectation and thirst. God is raising a mighty army of women for His End Time revival. Don't hesitate to send sisters who have a deep desire to serve Jesus from your family and church. We are

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overwhelmed to hear the powerful testimonies from our ladies and their families. LADIES, THIS IS YOUR TIME. RISE UP FOR JESUS!

Our next three months men's & couples' batch of our School of the Holy Spirit will be held from August 1st to October 31st. Pray for it, attend and become a different person. Pray for all our upcoming programs. Keep visiting our website www.ezekiahfrancis.org and our Facebook page EzekiahFrancis for updates, and follow us on Twitter EzekiahBPM.

Continue to pray for our European TV programs in German language. Pray also for my dear wife, our aged parents, counselors, key leaders, coordinators, staff and partners.

God will bless you and your generations as you stand with this God-raised ministry!

With love and heartfelt prayers,



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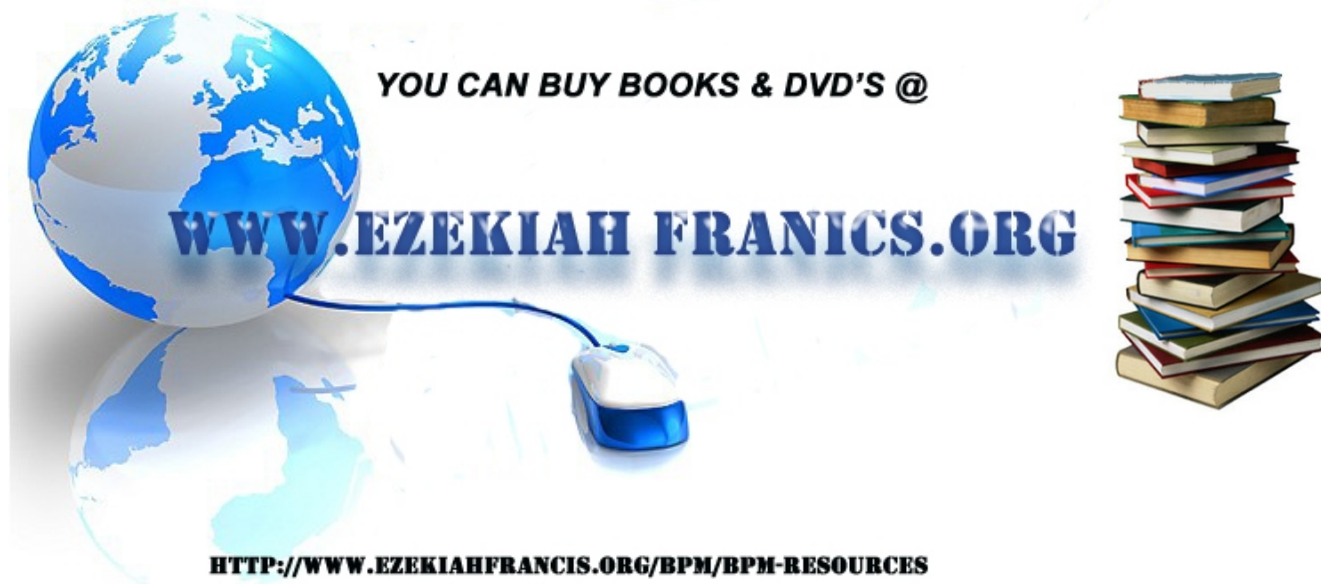
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A THOUSAND FOLD INCREASE!

Dr. Ezekiah Francis

This message is straight from the throne of God. The more you linger on this and meditate upon this message and imbibe it, the more shall be your blessings.

“A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation. I, the LORD, will hasten it in its time” (Isa.60:22).

What a glorious promise it is! ‘The least of you will become a thousand’. The lowly shall become the elite! They shall become a clan! The Lord Almighty Himself shall accomplish this! He will hasten it in its time. And **‘now’** is its time and He will hasten it and do it swiftly. This promise shall come to pass, in your life, immediately.

Looking upon His children the Almighty God says, “You shall increase a thousand times more than you are now” (Deut.1:11) Now that your Creator, Himself has blessed you so, there is no reason for you to be dismayed. Nor have you to lament seeking His blessings. Only believe His words and start praising Him. Confess every day that the Lord your God shall multiply you a thousandfold. Praise the Lord and thank Him for increasing you a thousand times, more than you are now! Thousand times just means countless times. Therefore you shall multiply and shall become as numerous as the stars of heaven.

The least and lowly:

The lowly who are relegated to the last place shall, suddenly, become a mighty race. The faithful believers, who considered themselves with low self esteem, who were lacking in self confidence and were weighed down by their own failures, shall suddenly spring forth, to the amaze-

ment of many. They shall become mighty performers and a great race. The humble shall be exalted. Stunted ministries shall suddenly sprout and grow.

This truth is clearly brought out in the Bible, time and again. “Do not be afraid, **O worm Jacob**, O little Israel, for I, Myself will help you” says the Lord. Imagine this worm to be transformed into a threshing sledge, new and sharp, with many teeth, that will thresh the mountains and crush them and reduce the hills to chaff (Isa.41:14-16). Imagine small and tiny worms crushing the hills and reducing them to chaff! Is it possible? Yes it is!! It is very easy with God. This is what is going to happen in the days to come. The children of God who, hitherto, were afraid of the enemies, shall arise with new vigour and strength and demolish the strongholds of the enemy. Our Lord Himself shall accomplish this.

Jesus said to His disciples, “Do not be afraid, **little flock**, for your father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom” (Lk.12:32) Mighty kingdom - to the little flock!! It is the pleasure of our dear Father. We are going to see the fulfilment of this prophecy. The ‘minority’ label is going to be removed from the Christians.

We should first stop referring to ourselves as a minority. Just as the Lord said to Jeremiah, “Do not say, ‘I am a youth’, He is telling us now, “Do not call yourselves a minority”. Faith is the conviction of things not seen and yet confessing with the mouth what is believed in the heart. It is the words of your mouth that will activate the faith of your heart. **The Church of God is not merely an assembly. It is a mighty kingdom of God.**

In the days gone by, Gideon lamented, saying, “My clan is the **weakest** in Manasseh and I am the least in my family” It was, indeed, true that his family was the least in his clan. But God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, had thrown His lot with him. Therefore he became stronger than the strongest. The combined forces of many nations came against him. Now the Midianites and Amalekites, all the people of the East, were lying in the valley as numerous as locusts; and their camels were without number, as the sand by the seashore in multitude (Judg.7:12). Gideon, the least, and his band of three hundred men came tumbling into the Midianite camp like a round loaf of barely bread. The enemies collapsed. This is going to be the prophetic picture of the future Church.

Dearly beloved, the Word of God, “The least of you shall become a thousand, the smallest a mighty nation” is not a myth. It is a real blessing we are going to enjoy. The least of all shall become the mightiest of all. Little flock shall become a mighty empire. Paul, who considered himself the least of all the saints became the greatest of all and conquered the entire known world for Christ.

Moses, who trembled at the prospect of leading the Israelites, saying, “Who am I”, did, indeed, go to Pharaoh and brought the Israelites out of Egypt. Do you feel suppressed and oppressed? Do you, who should soar into the high sky, feel cast down like a lame duckling? Are you, who are to bind the strongman and plunder his captives, lying low and trembling? Are you, who are to rescue many, struggling for your own safety? Hear the good news! The coming days are your golden period. These are the days when you shall multiply and increase with enormous strength. You shall work heroics for the Lord, both in quantity and quality.

This is God’s eternal decision. This is the prophesy that is going to be fulfilled now. ‘Do not be terrified by the frightening appearance of the enemy. Look at the huge idol with a prophetic look. May be, it has a golden head and its chest and arms silver; its belly and thighs may be

bronze; and its legs of iron. But a stone, not cut out by human hands, is coming towards this. Now, you should not miss this vision. When this stone strikes the statue, the iron, the clay, the bronze the silver and the gold shall be broken to pieces at the same time. The large statue-enormous and awesome in appearance shall become like chaff on a threshing floor (Dan.2:34). The mighty wind of the Holy Spirit shall blow them away, without leaving a trace. The stone that struck the statue shall become a huge mountain and fill the whole earth (Dan.2:35) You are that stone. You, the little flock shall grow like a huge mountain and fill the whole earth. The Kingdom of God shall strike at the root of all the other kingdoms and smash them. This is the unchanging plan of God. God has already shown in His Scriptures what the future holds for us.

The Lord shall bless his people to multiply. He shall make them prosper and be fruitful. ‘He will add to their numbers and they will not be decreased. He will bring them honour and they will not be disdained’ (Jer.30:19). The more you were suppressed, the more shall you increase. As for the Church, **suppression sublimates - tribulation triggers growth.** The more they were suppressed, the more shall they multiply and spread - to the consternation of the enemy. (Ex.1:12) What a glorious promise!

Christ compared His kingdom to a mustard seed. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, when it grows, it becomes the largest of all garden plants and becomes a tree, so that birds of the air come and perch in its branches (Mat.13:31,32). This promise is for you. Are you a little flock? Confess from this day onwards that you shall become a mighty nation. Are you a small stone? Fear not! Like the stone in the hands of David, you are going to defeat and destroy the powers of this dark world and the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. You are the small stone that is going to grow into a great mountain and subdue nations. The tiny seed of faith that is planted in you is going to grow into a huge tree that will sustain and feed thousands.

Yes, ‘the least of you will become a thou-

sand and the smallest shall become a mighty nation', Did not from Abraham, who was as good as dead, come descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky? (Heb.11:12) And Sarah, though advanced in years and her womb dead, did she not become the mother of the nations? (Gen.17:16) Did not the lonely Jacob, who had only his staff when he crossed the Jordan, return with two big groups (Gen.32:10). If so, how certain it is for you to increase a thousand fold, despite your hopeless situation! How certain it is that you shall become the leader of tribes. Your little ministry is going to grow into a large one. Your family, though least now, shall be a blessing to the multitudes. (Rom.4:17-20; Gen.15:5,6)

Your Heavenly Father has the abundance of riches. Everything is bountiful in His house. If He opens just the windows of heaven and pours out His blessings, it will overflow and you will have no space to store them. What would happen, then, if He opens the doors of heaven? Lean on the matchless **promise - 'a thousand fold increase.'**

In its time:

There are some more truths hidden in this promise. It says that the Lord will hasten it, in its time. The moment we read the phrase '.... in its time', we tend to put it off to a future date. As for Isaiah who prophesied this promise, it signified a future date. 'In its time' in the prophecy referred to the period of Jesus Christ, as well as that of ours. This becomes evident when we further read on. God said to Isaiah, "I will hasten it in its time" Jesus explained, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (Lk.4:21) "Now is the acceptable time and now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor.6:2) This is the day when the least shall become a mighty nation. And this is the time when the least of the churches shall increase to a thousand strong. This indeed is the time when the afflicted children of God shall become the mighty and valiant.

Dearly beloved, acknowledge that this is the right time for God to act. Do not waste your time saying that your time had not yet come. **The greatest tragedy of today's Church is not knowing its time.** During the earthly days of

Christ, the people had not known the day of their peace. They had doubted the days of the visitation of the Lord. This caused Jesus to weep over the city (Lk.19:41-43) The people in the times of Haggai did not realize the time of the temple to be rebuilt. The anguished Lord of hosts said, "This people says, "The time has not come, even the time for the house of the Lord to be rebuilt." (Hagg. 1:2)

Yes, beloved, God has appointed time for everything. Everything comes to pass according to His time table. We should find that out and act accordingly. 'And there is a time for every event under heaven' (Eccl.3:1-8) God had appointed a time for the birth of Jesus. When the fullness of the time came, Jesus was born of a woman. (Gal.4:4) Even the death of Christ came at the right time. (Mk.14:41, Rom.5:6) Why, the spirits of darkness, also, move according to God's time table. And for the fullness of the gentiles, too a specific time had been appointed. Not only that, even for Satan, a time has been fixed for the conclusion of his nefarious activities. He knows that he has but a short time" (Rev.12:12, Rom.16:20)

According to the Scripture, we are living in the days of harvest. This is the time when the might and power of God shall be manifested. This is the time the glory of God shall be seen; when the prophecies shall be fulfilled. These will be the days of revival. We can just go on and on like this. If only we realize this time of the Lord, our very life style will change.

Harvest time:

Jesus said to His disciples, "Do you not say, "There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest? Behold I say to you, lift your eyes and look on the fields that they are white for harvest" (John.4:35) Our days are the days of the harvest. Even in the beginning of these coming years, we shall have a tremendous harvest of souls. This harvest period started on the day of the Pentecost. Our days are the closing stages of that harvest period. The chosen people of God in their hundreds and thousands shall fill the churches. Many of the gentiles will run towards the field of Boaz. People from every race are going to be saved in multitudes. Just as three thousand people were

saved in one day in the early church, the anointed, apostolic messages will draw thousands to the Lord. Miracles and great signs and wonders, such as the one that drew five thousands to Jesus, will draw many to Christ. Everyday many who are saved shall be added to the Church. The number of disciples are going to increase by leaps and bounds. The priests and religious leaders will subscribe to the faith. Magicians shall bow down. People in their large numbers will queue up for baptism. Leaders of nations shall make obeisance to Lord Jesus. **Professed enemies of Christ will become pronounced apostles of Christ.** Soldiers and their captains are going to become the soldiers in the army of the Lord. Village after village, city after city will become the citadels of Christ. In short, the harvest that started in the days of the Apostles is going to be completed in our days (Act.2:41,47 ;4:4; 6:7;8:12,13,27,28,38; 9:1-6,35,42; 10:24,44). More than the beginning, the end is going to be wholesome (Job.8:7)

The ‘harvesting period’ also indicates that the Lord of the harvest is going to send out labourers into His harvest. Mighty apostles, in their thousands, are going to arise. Energetic youth shall rise up, with zeal for Christ. The humble believers will do mighty signs and wonders. Martyrs shall abound, shouting victory. O! What a glorious period of harvest are we living in! God is the Lord of harvest. But we should cooperate with Him. ‘We should realize that this is the harvesting period and plunge ourselves whole heartedly in soul winning. Put an end to giving excuses. Be busy with singleness of purpose to win souls. (Pro.6:6-8) Resist sluggishness. Be ready for concerted efforts. Sleeping in harvest period is shameful (Pro.10:5) This is the time to labour, to run about; to pray; to perfect our talents. ‘If we are silent during this period, others will rise up and complete the harvest’ (Esther 4:14)

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THE CURSE OF GOD'S BLESSINGS

Rev. Benita Francis

Did you ever know that your loving God is suffering a terrible dilemma?

And did you know that you can actually soothe His Heart and make Him extremely happy?

Did you ever know that God has to refrain Himself from executing His greatest Heart desire?

And did you know that you can actually enable Him to freely indulge in His greatest pleasure?

No??? Well, then let us study...

From the very beginning, your loving God created man for His pleasure and delight (Ge.3:8; Pr.8:30-31). From the very beginning, God created man as a recipient of His blessings (Ge.1:26-28). It is His pleasure and hobby to bless His people (Nu.24:1). God's noble intention with the creation of man was to have a loving family and to enjoy the closest fellowship with them.

This desire in God's Heart has never changed, but how great must have been His shock and hurt when He had to find out that every thought and intention of man's heart was only evil continually from his youth (Ge.6:5)! What a tragedy for His loving Heart! He had to destroy every living being except those who found refuge in Noah's Ark and start all over again with a new breed of people who would worship Him.

Unfortunately, even Noah's descendants didn't fulfill God's desire for fellowship. They were drawn by all kinds of worldly occupations and pleasures and soon succumbed to fights and murders again (Ge.6-9). Up to today, God's tender Heart is being pierced as with daggers by the idol worship of the nations, and even of His very own people. Fortunately, you can soothe His heartache

by your love and close adherence to Him. Hallelujah!

When I was a very young believer, I used to ask Jesus to make me an oasis for Him to come and rest and enjoy any time when He got weary of the many rejections of the unbelievers and excuses of believers. I told Him that I always wanted to be there for Him, anytime He would call on me, day or night. I expected some beautiful supernatural experience - but like always, He did much more than what I asked for. He granted me a wonderful, exciting 24-hour-love-relationship with Him, plus He blessed me with the privilege together with my precious husband of being an "oasis" for many of His weary servants.

God so much desires to pour out all of His blessings upon you, but can you bear it (Dt.8:11-20)? Many times, it seems to me that it is more dangerous to be blessed than to just struggle at a minimum level of blessings.

You can see it all over the Old Testament. Whenever Israel was in distress, they called out to God. As soon as He delivered and blessed them, however, they started going astray after other gods. Can you see His dilemma? What can God do? Time and again, He had to give them over into the hands of their enemies to afflict them, so they would come back to Him, the Fountain of all life.

Dear child of God, please understand. Your God is not a cruel God who wants to afflict you. Your God is a wise and loving God, but He is a Spirit (Joh.4:24). That means, He sees and understands the spiritual world. Our problem is spiritual world. See this powerful warning Paul is giving to the Philippian believers:

18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame - who set their mind on earthly things (Phil.3,18-19).

Can you see it? What a tragedy! God's blessings of provision can actually become our eternal destruction! I have seen sincere believers who fast and pray and dedicate their lives to serve Jesus. As they seek Him, He pours out His anointing and flows through them with all His gifts and power. When this happens, invitations start coming, first from their own area, then even from abroad. Yet alas, how many became entangled in their glory and fame! How many started manipulating and scheming to get more invitations and to make sure others are NOT invited... it is a shameful and painful thing to see in the Body of Christ.

Can you see Paul's tears? He says, "I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ!" Wow! Who are these people? They are not heathens. They are not unbelievers. They are born-again believers who allowed their physical senses and desires to rule over their spirit. You might say, "Sister, they are NOT believers". Well, maybe, but then what about Col.3:1-3? What that about Gal.5:16-21? Yes, you are a citizen of heaven (Phil.3:20). You have the mind of Christ which is filled with heavenly things (1.Cor.2:16); but when you step out of your spiritual status and heavenly mind and live like a natural man with your mind full of the things of this world, you automatically take a stand against the cross which made Paul to

weep (Mt.16:23; Jas.4:4). What a tragedy! What a loss! What a shame!

We see Paul crying here, but whose tears are those really? They are the tears of your loving God who once again has to see the tragic truth that His blessings can actually destroy His beloved children. Remember, the glorious covering angel Lucifer fell and became satan because by the abundance of his trading he became filled with violence within, and sinned (Eze.28:16). Even in Christ, you are not exempt from this danger and temptation (1.Tim.6:9-10). Money is a great blessing in the hand of a real Christian, but love of money can destroy even a born-again believer.

Your loving God doesn't want you to fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. That is the reason why He allowed His faithful servant and main preacher of grace, the apostle Paul, to do such an outrageous thing as to give a sexually immoral believer over into the hands of satan for the destruction of his body! See this:

5 deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus (1.Co.5:5)

Your God doesn't see only this temporary, short life on this earth. Since He is a Spirit, He sees your eternity and is concerned about it. He so much desires to spend all eternity with you, His beloved child!



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**HEAR THE VOICE OF GOD
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Even in nations like USA and Germany, church attendance reached an all-time high during and right after wars when people were in fear about their loved ones and in great financial distress. God blessed them, as He always does when we draw near to Him, and Germany became an example of quick reconstruction and blessing to the entire world.

Nowadays, however, our European nations are turning their back on the God who poured all these blessings upon them. Beautiful old church buildings are sold for one Euro because the cost of heating and maintenance is too much for the community to bear. They are turned into museums, culture or Islamic centers. What a tragedy! Even born-again, Spirit-filled believers request their pastors to “make it short” on Sundays so they can go home or to a nice restaurant and enjoy the Sunday with their families. Calling them to a mid-week meeting is getting increasingly difficult. Why? Well, they have so many commitments like social gatherings, visits with friends, theater, concerts, dance classes, gym, tennis, golf, mountaineering and many other kinds of exercise, so their time is fully occupied.

Dear child of God, your God wants you to have all of this! He is the Author and Creator of all these wonderful things! There is only one thing He insists in:

You shall have no other gods before Me (Ex.20:3; Dt.5:7)

Please, go ahead and do all these wonderful things, BUT put your God first. When He or His servants call on you for a meeting, let alone a help for His Kingdom, don't give excuses. Drop anything and everything and make time to attend to His call. Let it not happen to you what happened to the Shulamite in Songs of Solomon and even to Israel as a nation:

2 I sleep, but my heart is awake; It is the voice of my beloved! He knocks, saying, “Open for me, my sister, my love, my dove, my perfect one; for my head is covered with dew, my locks with the drops of the night.”

3 I have taken off my robe; how can I put it on again? I have washed my feet; how can I defile them?

4 My beloved put his hand by the latch of

the door, and my heart yearned for him.

5 I arose to open for my beloved, and my hands dripped with myrrh, my fingers with liquid myrrh, on the handles of the lock.

6 I opened for my beloved, but my beloved had turned away and was gone. My heart leaped up when he spoke. I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer.

7 The watchmen who went about the city found me. They struck me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took my veil away from me.

8 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if you find my beloved, that you tell him I am lovesick! (SS.5:2-8)

Her reasons were very valuable, logical and understandable; but she lost her opportunity of opening the door for her Beloved. There can be a “too late”! If you don't attend to His call when He calls you, you might have to struggle to experience again that precious intimacy the next time when you desire it.

24 Because I have called and you refused, I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded,

25 Because you despised all my counsel, and would have none of my rebuke,

26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your terror comes,

27 When your terror comes like a storm, and your destruction comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

28 “Then they will call on Me, but I will not answer. They will seek Me diligently, but they will not find Me.

29 Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD,

30 They would have none of my counsel and despised my every rebuke.

31 Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way, and be filled to the full with their own fancies.

32 For the turning away of the simple will slay them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them;

33 But whoever listens to Me will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil” (Pr.1:24-33)

Your God desires for you to keep your heart and your mind fixed on Him. He wants you to discover and know His heavenly realms (Col.3:1-3). He even promises you tremendous peace as you keep your mind on Him:

3 You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You (Isa.26:3)

Your God is not a selfish God. Whatever He asks you to do is for your very own benefit and blessing! His apostle Paul understood His loving heart. He labored more than anybody and went through terrible hardship for the sake of God and His Gospel message. And yet, because of his eternity-consciousness, he could write joyfully to his churches in the midst of unimaginable physical distress,

16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

1 For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens (2.Cor.4.16-5:1)

God's special apostle Paul clearly understood God's plan and purpose. He was willing to lay down his life to bless humanity like His Savior had done. He didn't care about worldly riches, although God would definitely have provided these also; but God specially blessed him with more spiritual revelation than any other human being (Phil.4:10-19; 2.Cor.12:7). Paul never allowed his revelations, his fame and his many travels to divert him from his one and only purpose: To make known Christ and the power of His resurrection (2.Cor.8:1; Ga.1:11; Eph.6:19;

Col.1:27). That is why his life blesses the whole world still today, 2000 years after his physical death.

Do you really want to make history for God? Well, this is the way:

20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me (Ga.2:20)

10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace (Ro.6:10-14).

In a nutshell, you can sum up the whole matter in one verse straight from God's own Heart:

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you (Mt.6:33)

They SHALL be added to you as you seek His Kingdom. You need not worry and fret about anything. Your God takes care of everything (Mt.6:34).

But, dear child of God, let me ask you just this one question:

CAN God bless you??? Or will His blessings destroy you???

Please search your heart and give Him your answer today itself.

Worshippers in the Holy Bible

THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRAISE AND WORSHIP IN DAVID'S TABERNACLE

Bro. Manuel Jeyaraj

(Continuation of the previous month article)

In modern times, we can use the pianos or keyboards, guitars and drums or electric rhythm pads. As a worshipper, I am both for natural and electrified instruments. In those days, these people played natural instruments and prophesied in the tabernacle of David. There were also some sons of Jeduthun who played harps to prophesy and they did so using the harp to thank and praise God. There were some more musicians who were sons of Heman who exalted God through His promises. Altogether, there were three kinds of musicians who were trained for three different kinds of praise and worship ministry.

1. Playing an instrument and prophesying.

2. Playing an instrument, praising and thanking God and then prophesying.

3. Playing an instrument and exalting God for His promises.

There was also one more praise ministry that David brought in his times. It is nothing but a choir of worshippers standing in the tent just to sing, "The Lord is good; His mercy endures forever". They sang this day and night in all the years of David's reign. These were the same people who sang the same song and brought the glory of God into Solomon's temple during the temple dedication.

One of the major things I learnt here from this passage is that prophesying accompanies praise and worship ministry. I often used to say that **the secret of Jesus was the Spirit of prophecy in Him. Praise and worship kindles Spirit of prophecy.** Not only a pianist or a guitarist can prophesy but also a drummer can prophesy. **In**

David's tabernacle, all the musicians were either students or teachers. There was no difference. There was no ego problem. There was no seniority problem. But in our churches, we find all these things. Beloved, understand what spirit you have received by becoming a new creation in the Lord Jesus. My heart cry is that we all submit ourselves to the Holy Ghost so that we become powerful worshippers in the days to come.

The Bible records in I Chronicles 5:13 that **they all joined in unison as with one voice to give praise and thanks to the Lord accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments.** Beloved, this is the secret for the glory of God to manifest. Why there is no glory in the church today? It is just because we do not praise and worship God in unison, in one voice. **What we need is not another practice session for praise and worship but another consecration session in our lives to commit our talents and skills into His hands.** Whatever is given into His hands shall multiply and becomes something glorious that you and I wouldn't have imagined.

And to those of you who don't know to play any music instrument, please take courage to learn some instrument. **You don't learn to play an instrument for displaying your skills but His awesome existence.** So, the Holy Ghost will help you to do this. He is the Spirit of praise and worship. He is a glorifying Spirit who glorifies Jesus continually in us.

When I started to learn music as a young boy, may be when I was in my 3rd or 4th standard, I didn't know anything. But my passion for music did not dry out. I was thinking about music all the 24 hours. At this time, my father bought a violin for my eldest brother who was then going for violin classes but lost interest in playing violin at the very early stage and the violin was kept aside. I picked

up the same violin and started going for violin classes. After two years, I too lost the interest for playing violin but I did not lose the passion for music. By this time, my father bought a small pedal organ for my elder brother who was then going for piano classes. But he lost interest in that also and the organ was kept aside. Out of nowhere, suddenly a burning desire and thirst bloomed in me to play the organ. Believe me; I started from zero level. I did not have any knowledge about piano chords, keys or anything. I started practicing songs which were sung in my church and slowly I gained the knowledge to tune into any song. I did this for 8 years. And later I went on for some music classes, may be 20 classes at a stretch, that's it. Then after that, there was no time for music classes. The Lord Himself used me in different convention meetings and all-night prayers. I started participating in many all-night prayers.

In those days, the top musicians would not come for all-night prayers and so I used this opportunity to enhance my skills for God's music. I don't know how many would opt for such all-night prayers these days. Then the Lord took me to different meetings where I was exposed to many different kinds of singers. Many were good and some were really bad. Apart from this, I was regular in listening to different gospel and praise and worship songs. I used to try out all these songs on my keyboard. I would practice them for hours

and hours, sometimes even 6 hours at a stretch. All these ventures made me a good praise and worship musician.

Even now, I listen to many praise and worship songs. Sometimes, I listen to a song for at least 200 to 250 times and then try the same song on the stage to lead people into praise and worship. Someone said like this, "When you listen to a song, you not only learn how to sing the song but also you receive the anointing of the song". The anointing gets transferred. Now by His grace and mercies, God has enabled me to talk about David and his praise and worship ministry. Hallelujah!

Beloved, nothing has gone out of your hands. It is not too late. However young or old you are, start today. Who knows! May be you will become like David and more than him. We are all going to see something unique in the churches these days. Do you know what that is? **We are all going to see a lot of spirit-filled musicians, song composers, praise and worship music composers, spirit-filled song writers and a lot of music instruments coming into our churches in the days we live.** We are living in a period to witness the fullness of everything that is God's. Believe this.

So get encouraged and be mindful to learn some instrument for a powerful praise and worship breakthrough. Let praise and worship arise from within your spirit. Hallelujah!

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