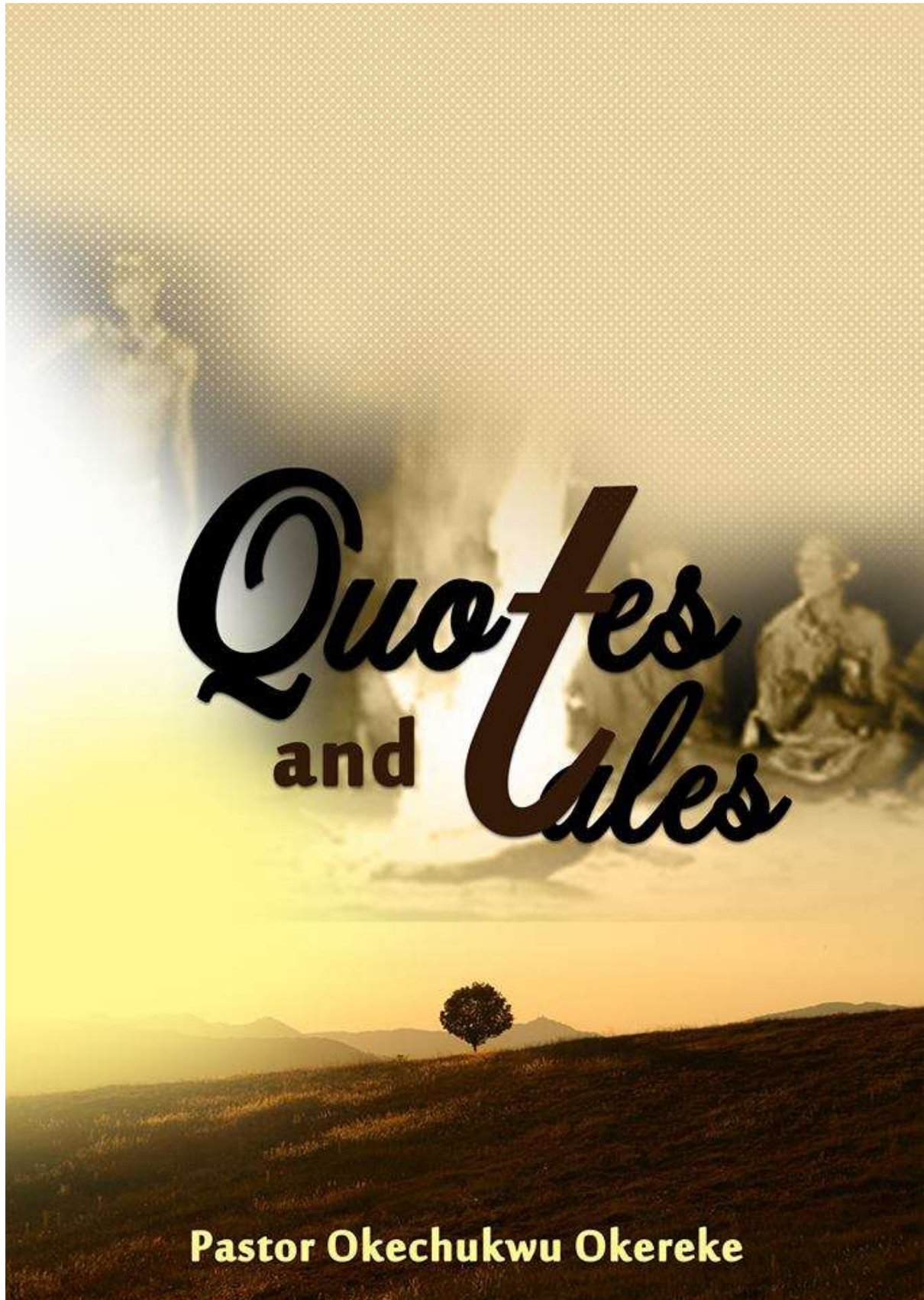


QUOTES AND TALES



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QUOTE ONE

WHEN A MAN IS IN SYNC WITH
GOD, HE DOES NOT SINK AT THE
BRINK OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

“And he said, ‘Come’. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying Lord save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him...” MATT 14:29-31;

Very amazing miracle by Jesus, walking on the water. Well, some credit must also be accorded Peter for his bravery, trying to emulate Jesus' feat.

However, you would discover from the preceding verses that the disciples were on a voyage and a great storm rose against them. The bible says that the tide was contrary, meaning the sea was opposing them. There are times in life when it seems like the elements of life are working against you; when it looks like everything around you is opposing your journey of vision and purpose, cheer up, the God who saw Peter and the disciples through, the same God will see you through.

They had a vision and a clearly defined purpose to cross to the other side of the sea. They also had the Master's instructions to do so. They were not on a frolic of their own; they were men on assignment. Yet the environment of the sea opposed their movement to achieving their goal. Are you in the same situation,

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where you find yourself opposed by the environment of your job, family, mind, past experience, nationality etc, here is a word for you; there is a God who is master over any environment – he is God Almighty and he will make you prevail today like the disciples did prevail, in Jesus name.

Also, note that the disciples did not sink nor did their ship before the Lord Jesus came to their rescue, because he instructed them to over to the other side. In the same vein, God has instructed you go on to live and not die, go on to progress and not regress, go on to prosper and not stagnate, go on to be blessed and not be cursed; and on the strength of God’s word, I decree that you will not sink neither will the ship of your life sink before your help arrives.

The bible says that while the disciples struggled with the storm, Jesus came walking on the same stormy water. He is Lord over all. The disciples were struggling with the storm but when he showed up, there was no struggling, but a triumphant walk over the boisterous sea. I pray that Jesus will show up in any area of life you may be experience a struggle. When he shows up, every toiling will cease.

Then Jesus shows up walking on the boisterous water; it was so sudden a sight to the disciples that they trembled and thought it was a ghost. However, Peter summoned courage and requested that if it be the Master he should tell him (Peter) to come. Jesus asked him to come. So, he stepped out, relying on the Word of the Lord, he walked on the water towards the Lord Jesus – what no man has ever done. Peter did not walk on the water because he was just courageous, but because he had faith in the Word from the Lord – ‘Come’. Reliance on God’s Word connects you to the Realities of God’s Ways.

Notice that Peter had a target which was to walk on the water, get to the Lord Jesus, and eventually return to the ship with him. So, he began his journey of purpose, walked on the water – making



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the impossible possible in his journey, he was quite successful already, completed the first phase of the journey, but when he was close to reaching the Lord Jesus the bible says:

“But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying Lord save me.” Matt. 14:31

Peter was close to completing his course, but he began to sink. He was at the brink of accomplishment and began to sink. What really happened?

Remember the disciples were experiencing a storm on the sea but when they saw the Lord walking on the water, that wonder took away their mind from the stormy sea that they worried no more about the sea waves but who it was that was walking on the sea. From the tone of the scriptures, that miracle made them forget that they were experiencing a storm, which was the reason the bible says, “But when he saw the wind...” The wind had always been there, it did not stop until the Lord Jesus got to the ship; but the miracle they saw made their problem look so elementary that they forgot it. There are miracles that God will bring your way and it will make the many years of the enemy’s torment look like they never existed. I pray that God will give you a Miracle that will swallow your Debacle, in Jesus name. So, the storm did not stop at any time, then started again, while Peter walked on the sea; rather, the wonder of a man walking on water swallowed their concern for the raging sea. Note, that as long as Peter was not distracted by the raging sea he was under no threat of sinking. Distraction Attracts Destruction. As long as Peter was focused on the wonders and possibilities of God he was on the water, walking on it. As long as his eyes could see only the Lord Jesus victorious over the sea, he was on the water, winning against the tide. As long as he was in sync with what God was doing (currently) before him, he was on the water never going to sink. As long as his connection to the Lord Jesus was unbroken, he was definitely going to get THERE –the ordained destination.

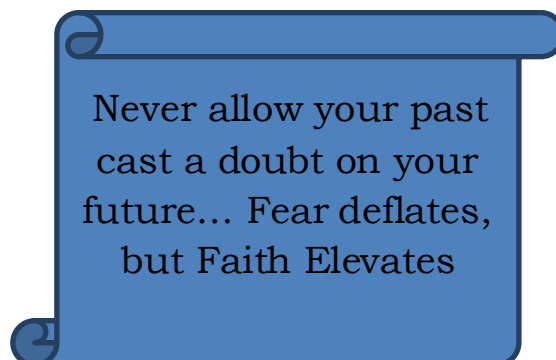
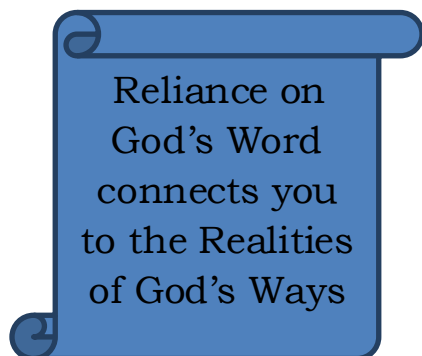


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Unfortunately, his mind raced back to the old problem – the storm, which by this time was their past experience for they had forgotten it. Thus, his past came to hunt his present progress. And once his past gained access to his mind, fear crept in, doubt sat down, and he began to sink. Never allow your past cast a doubt on your future; and beware, fear is satanic fiat that flattens a man's future. Fear deflates, but Faith Elevates. I pray in the name of Jesus that no undesirable past will hunt down your present progress and may every such past remain in the past, amen.

Peter could have completed his quest if he stayed tuned and in sync with God at his critical moment. However, thank God for the merciful Lord who stretch out to pick up Peter from the watery grave. And may God who is rich in mercy, by his out-stretched arm restore every sinking area of your life, spirituality, business, marriage, destiny, etc. in Jesus name, Amen!

FLASH BACK



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QUOTE TWO

TENACITY BREAKS DOWN
ADVERSITY; PERSISTENCE
WEARS OUT RESISTANCE.

“His father Isaac answered him, ‘Your dwelling will be far away from the earth’s richness, away from the dew of heaven above. You will live by the sword and you will serve your brother. But when you grow restless, you will throw his yoke from off your neck.’ 27:40 (NIV).

The story of Esau and Jacob, touching as well as intriguing. Before this time, Jacob had impersonated Esau, went to his Father with a requested meal and got the blessing reserved for Esau. Isaac had reserved a blessing for Esau; a blessing with Esau’s name tag, yet Jacob, by much subtlety and trickery, aided by his mother, took the blessing reserved for Esau. It was Esau’s entitlement but he never got the title conferred on him; it was his for the taking but he lost it. I declare today that what is meant for you shall not be given to another; and any blessing with your name on it shall arrive at your address, in Jesus name.

However, the bible does not patronize Esau about losing the blessing reserved for him, having earlier sold his qualification for the blessing- his birth-right – to Jacob. See Gen.25:31-33;

“And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birth-right. And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birth-right do to me. And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he swore unto him: and he sold his birth-right unto Jacob.”

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By that seemingly simple conversation Esau sold out his future for all eternity. He had lost the blessing long before Isaac was ready to release the generational blessing of the house of Abraham. I pray that you will not make a mistake that will hurt your future; neither will you make a decision that will give the devil a lawful standing to oppose your future.

What Esau did created his adversity. Though it looked simple and intangible telling his brother to have his birth-right (not understanding that spiritual transactions are made by spoken words) because he needed food; that action triggered reactions in the spirit realm that culminated in the physical drama that made him lose the blessing of Abraham. He engineered his adversity, he forged his despair, he set the stage for his loss; the alliance of Jacob and Rebekah only made it manifest when the time was right. Adverse situations may arise as result of someone's mistakes of the past. Adverse conditions may also be the result of some spiritual or physical trickery and subtlety of another (the same way that Jacob obtained Esau's blessing by subtlety) otherwise understood as witchcraft or manipulation. Adversity may also arise as a result of the wicked alliance of other men against someone, just as Jacob and Rebekah conspired and took Esau's blessing. The good news, however is that whichever route that adversity took to enter someone's life there is always an exit door with God.

"For with God all things are possible" Mk. 10:27

Esau had lost it all. There was nothing, absolutely no blessing, remaining for him to be blessed with. He had been condemned to a life of servitude to his younger brother, but I love Esau's response to his adversity. Three times Isaac told Esau how hopeless and bereaved the situation really is:

"And Isaac trembled very exceedingly, and said, Who? Where is he that hath taken venison, and brought it me, and I have eaten of all



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before thou camest, and have blessed him? Yea, and he shall be blessed.” Gen 27:33.

“...Thy brother came with subtlety and hath taken away THY BLESSING.” Gen.27:35

“And Isaac answered and said unto Esau, Behold, I have made him thy lord, ... and what shall I do now unto thee, my son?” Gen.27:37

Isaac tried explaining the hopelessness to Esau, but Esau would have none of it; he would not that servitude and adversity become his eternal way of life. In response, three times he tenaciously insisted that something be done for him:

“And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, even me also, o my father.” Gen.27:34

“And he said, Hast thou not reserved a blessing for me?” Gen. 27:36d

“And Esau said unto his father, Hast thou but one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, o my father. And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.” Gen. 27:38.

I believe God must have seen Esau’s heart, knowing that if Esau continued with the dogged and resolute pursuit of what he wants but had lost, then he would eventually gain freedom from Jacob’s lordship over him. So God opened the mouth of Isaac once again to proclaim, not necessarily a blessing, but a key to breaking out from the bonds of Jacob. Not necessarily a blessing because Esau was furious at the words of his father, Jacob:

“And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him with:” Gen. 27:41.

AND THE KEY:

Let us look at it from different translations of the bible -



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“And by the sword shalt thou live and shalt serve thy brother; and it shall come to pass when thou shalt have the dominion, that thou shalt break the yoke from off thy neck.” Gen.27:40b (KJV)

“But when you decide to break free, you will shake his yoke from off your neck.” 27:40b (NLT)

“You will live by the sword and you will serve your brother. But when you grow restless, you will throw his yoke from off your neck.” 27:40 (NIV)

“You will live by the sword but you will serve your brother. When you grow restless, you will tear off his yoke from your neck.” 27:40 (NET)

“Isaac said to him, you’ll live far from Earth’s bounty, remote from Heaven’s dew. You’ll live by your sword, hand-to-mouth, and you’ll serve your brother. But when you can’t take it anymore you’ll break lose and run free.” 27:39-40 (MSG)

“By your sword you shall live and serve your brother. But (the time shall come) when you will grow restive and break loose, and you shall tear his yoke from off your neck.” Gen.27:40 (AMP)

“You will live by the power of your sword and be your brother’s slave. But when you decide to be free you will break lose.” Gen. 27:40 (CEV)

“You will live by your sword, But be your brother’s slave. Yet when you rebel, you will break away from his control.” Gen. 27:40 (GNT)

So, despite Esau creating his calamity, his tenacious importunity got him a key to breaking away from his adversity.

First, it is important to note that Esau was just a hunter, not a swordsman nor a soldier. There is no record, before now, of Esau’s bravery with the sword. But, by the words of his father, the grace and gift of a swordsman was bestowed on him – “You shall live by the sword...” I pray for you, that by the words that



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you are reading today may God release on you new gifts, ideas, wisdom that will open up doors before you, in Jesus name.

That means the sword will become for Esau a means of livelihood i.e he would make a living by using the sword. That has the implication that Esau was going to be a man who lived by force and gets things done forcefully. There was not going to be any gentle achievement in the life of Esau; he gets things done forcefully. This forceful disposition equals TENACITY which forcefulness is both of might and mind. Literally, Tenacity means diligence, determination, doggedness, firmness, inflexibility, perseverance, persistence, resoluteness, resolution, staunchness, strength of purpose, wilfulness, etc. In putting all that together we could really conclude that Tenacity is the forceful disposition of mind and might.

Now, the big question is, Why live by the sword? Remember, Esau had no blessing reserved for him after Jacob had got every good word that his father had. Moreover, behind his back he had been proclaimed an eternal slave to Jacob. His situation was adverse enough that he had no business leading a gentle life. When faced with adverse conditions of life the one recognizable response is tenacity. So his father declared:

“...But when you can’t take it anymore you’ll break lose and run free.” 27:39-40 (MSG)

“...Yet when you rebel, you will break away from his control.” Gen. 27:40 (GNT)

“But when you decide to break free, you will shake his yoke from off your neck.” 27:40b (NLT)

That means Esau when you are tenacious enough you will break out from that unfriendly condition. In other words, when life pushes hard at you push harder back at it in faith. The only language a satanic stronghold will hear is FORCE:



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“And from the days of John the Baptist until now the Kingdom of God suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.” Matt. 11:12 (KJV)

That adverse situation will listen to the forceful voice of the weapons of our warfare – Prayer, the Word of God, faith, righteousness, truth, spiritual zeal, and your salvation. That is the power God has given the believer; and until you make up your mind to use it, that negative circumstance, that satanic burden, that niggling challenge may continue to hang their claws on your neck. But I pray that every stubborn challenge refusing to leave your life be crushed by fire, in Jesus name.

However, like Esau, make up your mind that you can't take it anymore. Rebel against that negative issue and you will break free; give adversity no chance, insist until it breaks, refuse until it is dumped. Victory must be yours!

FLASH BACK

Tenacity is the forceful disposition of mind and might.

Give adversity no chance, insist until it breaks, refuse until it is dumped. Victory must be yours!

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QUOTE THREE

A LEADER SHOULD BE A
LADDER FOR OTHERS TO CLIMB
HIGHER; NOT A DIGGER THAT
PREPARES THEIR GRAVES

“Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, I will be king: and he prepared him chariots and horsemen, fifty men to run before him...And Zadok the priest took an horn of oil out of the tabernacle, and anointed Solomon. And they blew the trumpet; and all the people said, God save King Solomon.” 1 kings 1:5,39

At some point in Israel, David the King became very weak because of age; he was no longer strong enough to personally pilot the affairs of the state of Israel. Adonijah, one of his sons, the 4th son of David and from his wife Haggith; rose up and self-proclaimed himself king of Israel. At the time, so many well-meaning Israelites rallied round him in support. Adonijah had the crowd but not the crown. He had the people's ovation but no revelation of God's plan for Israel's leadership. Adonijah had the aura of a leader who attracts support but had no oil on his head for the throne. Adonijah was a man who exalted himself above the knowledge of the word of God for Israel's kingship – God had promised David that Solomon will sit on the throne in his stead. Adonijah was a man who took advantage of the weakness on ground to further his selfish course. He was a man who put fun fare ahead of the people's welfare. He was the kind of man who would work against a system set by God to advance his personal

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course. Adonijah was a power usurper who reigned as king while David was still alive and knew nothing about his reign.

Alright, let us look again at those qualities of Adonijah as it shows us the kind of leader we must not follow:

CROWD BUT NOT THE CROWN

Adonijah had the crowd but not the crown; the Israelite men and women gathered around him during his campaign to become King, though there was no crown or the promise of a crown for his head. In the oriental times, kings were viewed as divinely sent to rule over the people, and the crown was a symbol of that divine authority to rule. Some kings like Caesar Augustus of Rome, Xerxes of Persia etc stretched the concept of the divine authority of the king by proclaiming themselves gods among men.

So it may have been such a feat for Adonijah to have gathered such a cream following that he had without a crown on his head or the promise of a crown for his head, but it ended in utter disappointment for him and all who followed him.

Simple lesson: Do not follow a leader on whose life you cannot sense or confirm DIVINE AUTHORITY. Divine authority is simply the support of God evidenced by godly results. This was the only thing that the Israelites asked of Joshua after Moses had commissioned him as the leader of Israel. Josh. 1:17,

“According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: ONLY LET THE LORD THY GOD BE WITH THEE, AS HE WAS WITH MOSES”

Notice the condition (in capital case) the Israelites gave Joshua for the obedience they were willing to give him.

OVATION WITH NO REVELATION

Adonijah had the ovation of the well meaning people of the time but he had no revelation of God’s plan for Israel’s throne.



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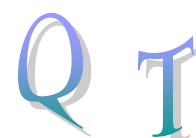
Adonijah apparently did not know that the throne was destined for Solomon. Maybe he should have overheard the promise of the throne for Solomon while he was in the palace, but he did not hear. He presumed that the kingdom will be his after David his father. He said after his failed attempts to take over power:

"... Thou knewest that the kingdom was mine and that all Israel set their faces on me, that I should reign: howbeit the kingdom is turned about, and become my brother's for it was his from the Lord" I Kgs. 2:15

So, he had assumed that the kingdom was his after his father without a revelation of what had transpired before God about the throne of Israel. For David had sworn before the Lord that Solomon would be king: *"Even as I swear unto thee before the Lord saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me..." I kgs. 1:30.*

Adonijah knew nothing about the future of Israel's throne though he lived in the palace, how could he ever know the future of the common people of Israel whom he does not live with, and which he should lead as king. A leader without revelation will leave the people in trepidation for their future. When a leader lacks insight about his people's future, the people end up in fear and uncertainty about where they are headed. Besides, *"Where there is no revelation the people cast off restraint."* Prov. 29:18 (NIV). That means, where there is no revelation the people will give up on life, get tired of life because they are obviously unaware of which way to go from where they are. A leader without revelation is a time bomb.

Also note that Adonijah did not recognize that the kingdom had been given to Solomon until his efforts failed. In other words, Adonijah learned by HINDSIGHT who the true king of Israel should be. A leader with foresight and insight provides a safe harbor for his people's dreams and aspirations. A leader that learns by hindsight, on the other hand, is a calamity. And when



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you consider how everyone that followed Adonijah ended in fear, confusion and despair, you would agree that Adonijah was not the man to be followed.

AURA AND NO OIL

Adonijah had the aura of a king but no oil on his head. Every king in Israel must first be anointed with oil by the Prophet or Priest as a sign of divine conferment of authority. By this process, the kingdom of Israel was both spiritual as well as political. Any king will have to satisfy both elements of the spiritual (by being anointed by a prophet) and the political (commanding the people's loyalty and followership) in order to be effective in the long run. Adonijah satisfied only one of the requirements and it was a matter of time before he was pushed aside. In the same vein, every leadership sphere has these two elements for maximizing effectiveness. Spiritual because you need divine acceptance to last on your seat and political because you need the people's cooperation and acceptance to avoid constant mutiny and being forcefully pushed out of authority. Discern to find favor on both ends. The bible says of Jesus: *"And Jesus increased in ... favour with God and man."* Lk 2:52c

ABOVE THE WORD

Adonijah was a man who exalted himself above the word of God for Israel's throne: David the King, had sworn an oath by the Lord, a gesture God viewed as binding in their time, to make Solomon king; yet Adonijah contrary to that word exalted himself to be king in place of David his father. Unfortunately for him, there is only one judgment for anything exalted above the word of God: it must come down.

"...casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God..." II Cor. 10:5



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Any man, woman, leader who exalts himself above the purpose and will of God is one person heading for a speedy sudden crash.

SELFISH ADVANCEMENT

Adonijah was a man who took advantage of the prevailing weakness on ground to advance his selfish course.

Aside going against the will of God for Israel's throne at the time, Adonijah was a selfish opportunist. David was sick and no longer strong enough to perform all his kingly duties, and the response of Adonijah to such political weakness was to promote himself as the next king of Israel. He had by his actions declared David unfit to rule the nation of Israel and projected himself as the worthy king of Israel. By his campaign he demoted the influence of David his father and promoted himself as the man of the moment. Note: any leader who buys credit for himself by demoting and demeaning others or their efforts is a glaring danger. Any man who preys on the weakness of others in order to make himself relevant is a bottled calamity.

FUN-FARE AHEAD OF WELFARE

Adonijah was a man who put fun fare ahead of the welfare of others. When you take a close look at the things that Adonijah did you would see how he exalted fun fare. When Adonijah discovered that David was too weak to rule, he did not take to helping the people of Israel, to make their lives better. Rather his first action was to prepare horses and chariots for himself and set 50 men to run ahead of him – Fun fare!

“Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself saying, I will be king: and he prepared him chariots and horsemen, and 50 men to run before him.” 1 Kgs.1:5

The second thing he did, to show his interest in the throne of Isreal was to call a party, eating and making merry, even before he received the crown – Fun fare!



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“And Adonijah slew sheep and Oxen and fat cattle by the stone of Zeholeth, which is by Enrogel, and called all his brethren the king’s sons, and all the men of Judah the King’s servants:” 1 Kgs 1:9.

The next thing we hear about Adonijah is that his camp was in chaos. While he was busy having fun everywhere, some persons were busy crowning Solomon King over Israel. The news that Solomon had been made king by David threw his camp into chaos.

“And all the guests that were with Adonijah were afraid, and rose up and went every man his way,” 1 Kgs 1:49.

Whenever fun fare is given priority ahead of the people’s welfare, the end will definitely be chaos. When a leader prioritizes his pleasures above the people’s welfare, he leaves a long trail of poverty for his people.

YOUR APPOINTMENT IS ANOTHER’S DISAPPOINTMENT

The story so far shows clearly how Adonijah wanted the throne so badly but it was given to Solomon; undeniably to the disappointment of Adonijah his brother. Life plays out in this form on many occasions. Many persons scramble for a position, one gets it and the others get to rue their near misses. One is appointed, others are disappointed. Even Jesus’ manifestation was for the rising (appointment/promotion) of some and for the falling (disappointment/demotion) of others. Your success today may be someone’s heartache; be wise who you share success tales with.

FLASH BACK

A leader with foresight and insight provides a safe harbor for his people’s dreams and aspirations.

Any man who preys on the weakness of others in order to make himself relevant is a bottled calamity.

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QUOTE FOUR

WHEN THE BATTLE LASTS
AWHILE, THE GLORY
COMES IN STYLE

“Now there was long war between, the house of Saul and the house of David: but David waxed stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul waxed weaker and weaker” II Sam. 3:1

David and Saul were like cats and dogs; they never saw eye to eye. Saul made the assassination of David one of his prime kingdom agenda. He would pursue David to any extent. He was ready to tear down any city in Israel that harboured David. He murdered the priests of God in Tob because they helped David. Saul went the extra mile in the war against David. He fought David with the entire might of Israel’s military. David became a fugitive in his country and ran from place to place trying to stay alive.

However, it is interesting to see what the bible says about the fight between Saul and David in the anchor scripture above. The long war, fighting, bickering, conflict, etc made David stronger and stronger while Saul grew weaker and weaker.

Take note that Saul had the advantage to himself – he was the incumbent king of Israel; he had the entire military on his side, he had allies in the cities of Israel etc. From man’s point of view, Saul had the upper hand. Yet unknown to everyone, while Saul pursued David he expended energy, resources and grew weaker by the day without knowing it. On the contrary, David who started off running alone, attracted a bunch of fugitives who joined up with him in adversity, to strengthen his position and

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become the core of his military might afterwards. And the question is how did such a long war make David stronger but weakened Saul?

Before we delve into that, it is very interesting to note how our anchor scripture is written by the Holy Spirit. The scripture starts off by mentioning the name and house of Saul first; but after the colon in the scripture, the scripture continues by mentioning David first. It seems like when the battle started Saul had the whole advantage and David was on the run, but after some events the table was turned in David's favour and gave him the advantage he never had. There are times when you may find yourself at a disadvantaged position, it's not the end of the road. With faith, God can still make the cards turn in your favour. The turn around for David was sudden, and God is still a specialist in making miracles come suddenly. David's case was sudden and he was a fugitive who, suddenly, the whole of Israel turned to for kingship after the death of Saul; and yours can still be that way, if you keep faith with God. God could roll away that challenge, so that you wake up and see it no more.

If you looked closely, you would notice that the change in the order by which the names in our anchor scripture were mentioned came after the colon in that scripture. Normally, the words after a colon would explain the preceding words before the colon. That means that there were some explainable events that brought that sudden change. Before that scripture, Saul had died like 3 chapters back in 1 Sam 30. That was an explainable event that a man can explain to have put David in a position to lay claim to the throne of Israel. Nevertheless, God was at the backstage directing all the explainable events. Sometimes, your miracle may not come like a wonder from the moon or sound like a furry fancy fairy tale, but your ability and discernment to see the finger of God behind your breakthroughs is what keeps you appreciative of the wonders of God. There are times that God



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decides that your miracle comes in explainable packages, it does not make it less a miracle.

Thirdly, the bible records “Now, there was long war between the house of Saul and the house of David...” Literally, you don’t get to see all the members of the houses of Saul and David sharing the same resentments that existed between the two. The pursuit of the death of David was a personal assignment Saul gave himself, yet Jonathan the Son of Saul did not share his Father’s resentment for David; rather he loved David. Nevertheless, the Spirit of God was here saying that the battle was between the house of Saul and the House of David. That goes to say that as long as God was concerned, whatever Saul or David did while the war lasted, they also did it on behalf of the generation that would come after them. They represented their various houses by the actions they took; and obviously that affected the outcome of the generation that followed them. Hear this, what you do today and at the critical moments of your life might be in representation for the generation that will follow you. David might have understood that his actions during the war may affect his later generation that he severally declined every opportunity to kill Saul. From scriptures the import of their actions are glaring: when God judged Saul, his 3 sons went down with him. Afterwards, his grandson and only surviving heir was beheaded by the people of Israel who tried to turn the kingdom over to David. On the other hand when God promoted David to the throne, he also promoted his sons to the throne and swore that David will never lack a son to sit on the throne.

That is very instructive. The actions we take today become the platform for our children to achieve greatness or they could become a clog in the wheels of their success. I pray that the actions you take today will be remembered by God to move your children higher beyond their abilities.

Also, worthy of note is this glorious piece where the bible says,

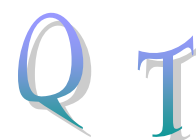


QUOTES AND TALES

“but David waxed stronger and stronger and the house of Saul waxed weaker and weaker.”

Expectedly, a long war between two warring factions would, most times, weaken both factions. A war that stretches for long between two parties would sap the warring factions of man power, resources, ammunition, food, money etc. Losing any of those could be weakening. However, in this situation, what we see here is that the long war weakened only one party and increased the strength of the other. This could only happen when one party is recording slow but gradual victory. Victory is slow because the war has been stretched and gradual because the victory is progressive. In such a scenario, when one party is weakened the other could gain strength. In other words the strength of the weakened party is gradually transferred to the victor i.e. the strength of the enemy is transferred to the victor. That means that whatever was to the enemy’s advantage is transferred to the victor, thereby weakening the vanquished and strengthening the victor. For example, for any progress made in the war, the victor gains more resources recovered from the enemy, food, ammunition, land, equipment, maybe more soldiers forced to join the his army and many more. All these proceeds of war go to strengthen the position of the victor and serve as motivation for his followers.

So, in the light of the above explanation and the connection to the scripture in view; we can sufficiently say that there was a quiet and subtle transfer of strength from the house of Saul to the house of David. So, David grew stronger and stronger while Saul grew weaker and weaker. In other words, while the war lasted God was busy transferring the strengths of the house of Saul to the house of David, so that Saul grew weak while David grew strong. Saul’s example, is the portion of any man who stretches his hand to harm someone who has made God his refuge. And I pray for you that God will turn the tables against



QUOTES AND TALES

those opposing of your destiny, turn their advantage to your side, you will grow stronger while they grow weaker, in Jesus name.

Now, how did this long war bring glory to David and his house as we have seen in the scripture?

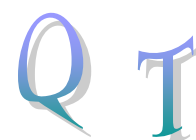
GOD HAD HIM COVERED:

The first thing you find that brought David victory is that he was fighting a battle that God had his back covered. God was on David's side all through the battle. God had earlier rejected Saul as King and chosen David as Saul's replacement. So as the battle for the throne of Israel was raging, God was on the side of David making him win the war. That is one sure way to win battles in life: *"If God be for us, who can be against us?" Rom 8:31.*

No battle can swallow you when you have God on your side. No challenge can keep you down when you have God for an ally; no man can hold you to a ransom when God is supporting you. With God on your side you can afford to lay aside your burdens, be who God wants you to be and avoid hissing in regrets through life.

LET GOD HAVE HIS WAY

The second thing that made David come out stronger from the long war was that he was in a fight that he allowed God to have his way. As the war lasted David persevered in allowing God sort out the war for him. Twice he had the opportunity to eliminate Saul, who was on a hunt for him, but he declined those opportunities to kill Saul. One reason he always gave for declining those opportunities to kill Saul was that Saul is the Lord's anointed. He left the death of Saul in the hands of God. He once said that maybe God will take Saul into battle and have him die there, but he won't lay his hands on the Lord's anointed.



QUOTES AND TALES

When you allow God have his way in your affairs, he will make things happen for you that you wouldn't ordinarily make happen for yourself. When you allow God have his way, he makes your challenges increase your platform of strength. When you allow God have his way he makes you stronger than those who hate and oppose you. When you allow God have his way he makes a way for you where there apparently is no way; he makes the crooked paths of life straight for you.

Psalm 114:1-4 says,

“When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language; Judah was his sanctuary; and Israel was his dominion. The sea saw it and fled: Jordan was driven back.”

That is a vivid example of what happens when God is fully in charge; Israel was sanctuary (his dwelling place) and Judah was his dominion [where he exercises authority and power]. The aftermath of that reality was simply inevitable – the sea [natural things gave way for them].

To let God have his way is to believe God's word steadfastly. Value God's word above all else. Place God's word as the scale to weigh every action. When you let God have his way, he will let good find its way to you; your family, business, career, and everything that concerns you.

FIGHT THE FIGHT OF FAITH

This also made David come out stronger from the long war. David was fighting a fight of faith. He was fighting because of his faith in the word of God spoken over his life by the Prophet Samuel.

The fight of faith is a fight or contention that you engage in because of God's word that you believe in. So when you stand off opposition to defend and establish God's will, you are fighting the fight of faith. When you resist satanic strongholds to affirm God's word, you are fighting the fight of faith. When you resist satanic



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and human temptations for the sake of God and his word, you are fighting the fight of faith. When you fight the challenges that press you to disbelieve God, you are fighting the fight of faith.

David was engaged in a long war with the house of Saul because of a word that God spoke through the Prophet, Samuel. David fought for his life so that the will of God might stand. According to Apostle Paul, the fight of faith is a good fight.

1Tim. 6:12 “Fight the good fight of faith...”

That means, David was doing something God commanded and sees as good. David was insisting on the word of God despite the many odds against him. He held on to the word of God, tenaciously, despite his challenges.

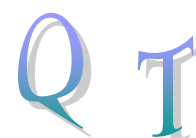
Nobody who stands unshaken in the word of God will God allow to be put to shame. Stand strong on the word of God and God will surely reward you in ways you may never imagine.

FIGHT FROM VICTORY

Finally, another reason David came out stronger from the long war because he was fighting from victory. God had spoken to Samuel and concluded the matter about who was to be king over Israel – God had rejected Saul and chosen David as King, even before the long war started. That means, David had won the contest, even before the tussle for the throne of Israel began. Thus, David was already victorious before the battle began. David knew this.

Just as it was for David, when you understand that Jesus has already won every battle on your behalf, then you can be sure you are fighting from victory against the challenges of life. When your faith is fixed on the victory assured for you in Christ, then you can have that victory as evidence.

All that David needed to do was just to stay alive and keep believing God for the fulfilment of his word; and God came




QUOTES AND TALES

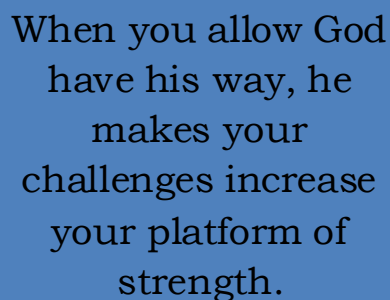
through for him. Be like David, refuse to quit, refuse to give up, refuse to die; keep believing that God will come through for you. I assure you, he will come through for you.

The bible says in Mark 9:23 *“Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.”* These are the words of our Lord and Master; if you can keep believing, your miracle will show up right in your face.

FLASH BACK



No battle can
swallow you
when you
have God on
your side



When you allow God
have his way, he
makes your
challenges increase
your platform of
strength.

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QUOTES AND TALES

QUOTE FIVE

WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE A
WAY, LOOK INWARDS,
YOU CAN CREATE ONE.

“And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward: but lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.” Exodus 14:15-16

One of the greatest true life tales in the bible is the story of the exodus of Israel from Egypt. The might of God was on full steam, Egypt had no option but to let Israel leave their land, being afraid that every one of them [Egyptians] might die.

After leaving Egypt, Israel met a sea blockade of the Red Sea, interrupting their journey to the promise land. Meanwhile, Pharaoh and the armies of Egypt were hotly on the heels of the departed Israelites and were quickly closing in on them at the Red sea where Israel had stopped for lack of a passage route. The people of Israel were terrified, alarmed and their courage torn to shreds by the sight of the approaching Egyptian army. The exodus party was momentarily disrupted by the predicament that stared them in the face. They were hemmed in; there was no escape route. It looked like at the moment death was imminent and destruction was inevitable.

However, thanks be to God for courageous Moses. When there was no way to go, Moses had encouraging words to speak to the



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alarmed Israelites. What Moses did in this tale is quite instructive and inspiring for anyone who can't see a way through.

REMAIN CONFIDENT

When mayhem brewed, Moses' courage never waned; he was still brimming with confidence. The people fretted, but Moses never broke a sweat for the obviously approaching calamity. He encouraged the people saying:

"...Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will show to you today: for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, ye shall see them no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace." Ex.14:13-14

That was the sound and strength of Moses's confidence in finding a way out. Moses may have had no clue as to how the situation will be sorted out, which made him cry to God (see verse 15), but he had confidence that the same God that brought them out of Egypt will take them through the prevalent situation. And I want to announce to you that you may be in a situation and can't see a way out, the same God who has kept you alive till this moment will come through for you.

There are many times when challenges seem to puncture our courage and drive to move forward; such times when the future seems bleak and hope looks foolish. Moses was there, and we can take a lead from him. When challenges run wild and drive you towards fear, worry, complaints, murmuring, etc look inside, you can still make a choice to be calm.

Notice that Moses was not confident because he already knew what to do. On the contrary, it was after his burst of confidence in verses 13 and 14 that God showed up in verse 15 to tell him what to do. That means, God had not showed him how to surmount the problem, but after his display of courage in the face of danger, God arrived with an answer.



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Let your courage precede the answer that you seek. The bible says, “*cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward*” Heb. 10:35.

God rewards confidence in him. Your confidence today can deliver your answer for tomorrow. Confidence in God is a major foundation for a life of results. Confidence in God sets you up for results and a lack of it gives you no credit; lack of confidence is one route to mediocrity.

FOLLOW GOD’S WORD

“*And the Lord said to Moses...*” Ex. 14:15

That phrase is what you see littered from Exodus through Deuteronomy. It was the life style of Moses. Moses was that man that would meet every challenge with the word of God. While the people cried and complained, Moses was listening for God’s voice.

That challenge before you will not respond to your worries and your fears, it will definitely respond to the word of God. Jesus asks,

“*Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?*” Matt. 6:27. [NIV]

The answer is definitely no one. The situation will not be made better by your worrying. Look for God’s word! Every issue has an answer in the word of God. Look for God’s word! When life’s challenges cast a dark shadow over your life, look for God’s word. It has a way of shining light on the issue so you can see where the knot is tied. Psalms 119:105 says,

“*Thy word is lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*”

That means, no matter how dark and gloomy a case has become, God’s word is still dependable to provide illumination on how to go about the matter. No matter the area of life, business, career, academics, family, health, ministry, sports, a decision to be made



QUOTES AND TALES

etc, God's word can shock you with a ready answer on the way forward.

ADDRESS THAT WORRY

“And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? Speak unto the children of Isreal, that they go forward:” Ex. 14:15

Worry is a negative emotion, and it has the capacity to wear out productivity or positive results.

The first thing that God told Moses to do was to speak to the worrying Israelites. Before Moses would find a way for Israel to pass through, God instructed him to first address the voices of worry that were risen around him.

In the midst of trials and challenges, never allow worry to raise its voice in your mind. It has the capacity to stifle your faith and drain you of spiritual energy. When worry speaks it erects walls of limitations in your mind. So, the first thing to do is to speak God's word back to the voice of worry

WHAT DO YOU HAVE?

“And the Lord said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, a rod.” Exodus 4:2

“But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it.” Exodus 14:16

Israel was in disarray after meeting the dilemma of the Red Sea and the approaching Egyptian Army. It is interesting to note how God solved the puzzle. God didn't need to look too far. He resorted to what was available to create what was desirable. God did not need to be extravagant in his approach in order to create the expected extra-ordinary. He simply asked for the staff/rod of Moses.

Many times the answer to your question, confusion, and puzzle is right beside you. You may have ignored that simple but effective



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answer that you seek. I pray today, that God will open your eyes of understanding so you can see that which you have, that can answer your questions. The breakthrough you seek may simply be in what you have to do or refrain from doing. If you pause a moment and look inside, you may well find the answer you have been looking for.

Now, notice this, when Elisha was met by the widow in Shunem, he asked her two questions:

“And Elisha said unto her, what shall I do for thee? What hast thou in the house?...” 2Kings 4:2;

From the two questions, we can deduce that Elisha was trying to tell the woman that what he can do for her is tied to what she has in her house. That is how God works, the miracle you are expecting is tied to something God has deposited in you. See this:

*“Now unto him who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the **power** that worketh **in us**”* Ephesians 3:20.

God exceeding your expectations and making that impossibility possible is tied to the power he has already deposited in you. You don't need to look too far, you only need to look too deep within you, the answer is there.

Also, it looks like God was trying to show through Elisha's questions that no matter how decimated a person is, there is still something he/she has that God can work with. According to God's perspective, everybody has something useful that can be used to produce a desired result. When God spoke to Moses about going to Egypt to deliver Israel, Moses had nothing but his shepherd's staff, yet that was more than enough to accomplish his God given assignment. Never underestimate whatever gift you have; you may never know how far God can take you on the wings of that seemingly small or simple gift. That seeming little gift may be the key to unlocking the doors you have been



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knocking on for so long. Appreciate that gift, nurture it, build it up and trust God to breath on it to produce.

When Jesus was faced with a crowd of Jews to be fed, the most negligible meal, a little boy's launch of 5 loaves of bread and two fishes, was all he needed to make the world marvel. From that same crowd that needed food, Jesus looked inside and found a solution. Look inside you, you may find a way out to that dilemma.

I can say again that from God's perspective everybody has something profitable. The parable of the talents illustrates that truth vividly. Hear what the master of the servants said:

*"For everyone that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance, **but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.**"* Matthew 25:29

The question is how can you take something from someone who does not have anything? But that is what God is saying. The master in that parable said that the person who says he has nothing will eventually lose what he has. That means that the person who says he has nothing is obviously neglecting or ignoring something that God has given him. That scripture is trying to show us that from God's perspective, everybody has something that God has put inside of them; nobody was created empty of profit yielding grace or ability. However, if one ignores or neglects what he has, the opportunity of using that same gift may be lost to someone else who would find it useful.

DISAPPOINT YOUR WORRIES

"And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? Speak thou unto the children of Isreal, that they go forward:"
Exodus 14:15

God at this point speaks to Moses. The Israelites were harassed with fear and torn apart by dismay. There were all forms of alarm



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around Moses. Some persons were already saying that it was a wrong idea to have followed Moses in the first place. Nevertheless, God is awesome in how he shows Moses what to do in the midst of so much worries. God speaks to Moses, after addressing his worry, to disappoint the worry by telling the Israelites to go forward despite their challenges. That means after you have told your worry what God says, believe that what you said will become your reality; forget the challenge and get forward with your life.

The voices of worry were all around Moses. The plan of the enemy was to make Moses as alarmed as the voices of fear around him. God's plan for Moses was to disappoint his worries and go forward. God wanted Moses to forget the challenge and engage in positive actions.

Worrying will not take you to your expected end, it will only bring retardation; but faith in God will take you to that desired end. So, disappoint your worries, engage in positive actions. That way you can maintain continuous progress.

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

“But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.” Exodus 14:16

The tone of God's voice is quite instructive. Note the following phrases:

*“But lift thou up **thy rod**”*

*“stretch out **thine hand**”*

*“and **divide it**”*

Notice that the rod that God was asking Moses to raise was “*thy rod*” i.e. Moses' rod, not someone else's rod. The hand to be stretched out is “*thine hand*” i.e. Moses' hand. And the responsibility of dividing the sea, God placed it on Moses. God



QUOTES AND TALES

said to Moses, “*divide it*”. That means God was expecting Moses to divide the Red Sea, instead of Moses expecting God to divide the Red sea for Israel. Simple, God was trying to tell Moses to take responsibility for what happens to him and the Israelites. God was trying to show that Moses has the responsibility or duty of determining what becomes of him and the Israelites by the actions and decisions he embarks on.

Many times we wonder why God has not showed up, but many times God is expecting you to take responsibility with your actions so he can show up on your behalf. That is exactly what happened in the scripture. In verse 21 it says,

“And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the Sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night...”

Immediately Moses assumed responsibility for dividing the Red sea God stepped into action by sending a strong east wind to drive the sea back.

Friend, when you assume responsibility for your life (what should happen to you and what should not) then God will swing into activity to make your expectations a reality. Jesus said,

“Verily verily I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall lose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Matthew 18:18

To bind means to tie or tie up, to truss, i.e. to restrict, put in bondage, to stop etc. That means whatever you take responsibility to stop on earth, God will get into action to stop in heaven. And whatever you take responsibility to lose, free, allow etc on earth God will get into activity to allow in heaven. Notice that earth refers to physical realities while heaven refers to spiritual realities. That means when you take physical responsibility God will put in motion spiritual activities to make your expectations manifest. Taking physical responsibility could mean praying for that expectation, believing God’s word, working



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hard, studying, meeting the right persons, confessing God's word, resisting the devil and all discouragements or distractions etc. When you take the responsibility to go forward, God who is too faithful and cannot fail will swing into action on your behalf.

EXPECT THE BEST

"... and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea" Exodus 14:16b.

Just after God taught Moses to take responsibility, he quickly gave Moses a picture of what to expect afterwards. The picture was a scenario of the Israelites passing through the Red sea on dry ground. Not marshy or swampy ground as one would have expected. But not for God and what he wanted for his people. God wanted the best for Israel. God wanted the best for Israel, so he needed Moses to expect the best from his actions. What God wanted to achieve by telling Moses what he wanted, was that as Moses is lifting his rod and stretching his hand to divide the sea, in his mind he would be seeing the Israelites marching through the Red Sea on dry ground. Thus, he would be expecting that his actions will yield the best results.

God wants the best for you and for me and has communicated that best intention through his word in the bible. God wants you to expect the best from the efforts you are putting in. Never allow the devil sow a seed of doubt, making you ask whether your efforts will ever yield fruit. Never bring your expectation lower than what the word of God says of you. Don't accept that sickness just because it has lasted too long. Don't give up on breaking that habit, just because you are feeling helpless at the moment. Don't accept that lack and cycle of debt because you have been in it for quite a long time. You may have tried before and failed, but try again. Proverbs 24:16 says,

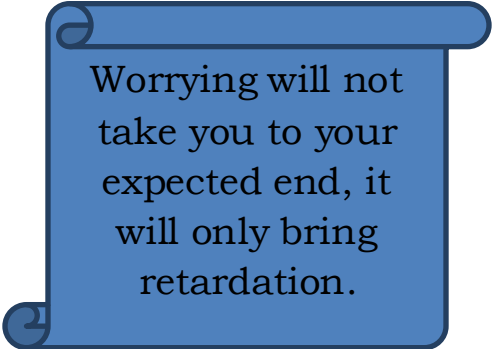
"For the just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again."



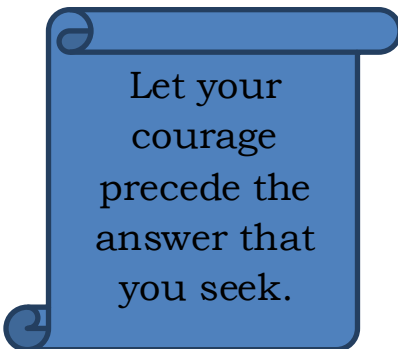
QUOTES AND TALES

Seven is the number of perfection, which means that the seventh fall is the perfect fall, an irreparable fall. A fall with no hope of return. Not for the righteous who believe in Christ and his power to make the impossible very possible. That scripture says that a man who believes will bounce back again. What God expects of you is to expect the best outcome always. Insist on the best until you seize it. Demand the best from every situation and believe you are made for the best. Your past failures should not become a favour to the devil to allow him deny you the best that God wants for you. The truth is, only God has the final say on your past; and in Christ Jesus all old things of your past are indeed passed away, everything is brand new in Christ Jesus. [2 Corinthians 5:20]

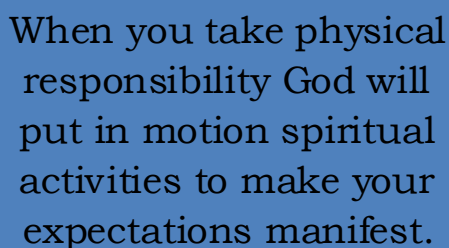
FLASH BACK



Worrying will not take you to your expected end, it will only bring retardation.



Let your courage precede the answer that you seek.



When you take physical responsibility God will put in motion spiritual activities to make your expectations manifest.

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QUOTES AND TALES

QUOTE SIX

TO WAIT IN FAITH IS A TRAIT
THAT MAKES YOU GREAT.

“But 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.” Isaiah 40:31

Before this verse of the scripture the prophet Isaiah had been declaring, by the inspiration of God’s Spirit, the greatness of God; the great and mighty things that God can make happen. Suddenly, the prophet turns towards men. The first set of men he spoke about are the category of men who rely entirely on their ability and will eventually fail; while the second group is the group we are interested in.

The group consists of those who are not controlled by their environment nor circumstances surrounding their lives. The environment is subject to their will and decision. The bible introduces this set of men with the word ‘But’. That means contrary to what happened to others in the previous verse, something different is about to be said about these people. They may be in the same bad economic state of a country yet they are financially buoyant; in the same location where nothing works for others, yet they are expanding output without limits; in the same business like others, but with extra-ordinary profit margins; the same environmental challenges with others, but having more outstanding results. The bible shows clearly that uncommon occurrences, supernatural surprises and extra-ordinary



QUOTES AND TALES

experiences are the attendant features of this set of people. Now, it is common knowledge that when people run they will naturally get weary; when someone has walked a very long distance, e.g. in a desert, he may eventually faint if he finds no water. And, it is not normal for birds to soar on strong winds to such heights as the eagle; only the eagle, king among birds, can do that. That is simply saying that these people transcend the ordinary to live in the extra-ordinary; they mock the natural by their supernatural results and their lives are positively beyond the norms of the time. That, I can really relate with, as true GREATNESS. I believe that Greatness is living above your limitations and generating output not common with your time. If what you are doing is common to every other person then there may be nothing really great about it. But great people do the ordinary, extra-ordinarily. However, the greatness that will truly last is that which is founded on the Great God; for it takes the Great God to forge a Great man:

“So Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the Lord.” 2Chron. 27:6

One thing is dominant in the attitude of these people that Isaiah the Prophet spoke about; they know how to absorb the greatness of God by learning how to WAIT in FAITH. When you consider the varying meanings of the word ‘wait’ and the differing renditions of that scripture by the various bible translations available, you would find the following implications:

Wait means:

1. To remain inactive or in a state of repose, until something expected happens – These kind of persons will do nothing without consulting God. God’s mind must be sought before they proceed on any venture. The mastery of this skill was the strong pillar of David’s greatness; and the lack of it was Saul’s demise. Little wonder Moses would say to God:



QUOTES AND TALES

“If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence” Ex. 33:15.

Moses would prefer to be inactive or in a state of repose until the expected presence of God arrives. Today, Moses, who single-handedly broke the slave culture of Egypt and brought Israel out to be a great nation, is one of the greatest men that ever lived. Heaven, Israel, history and even Egypt will always salute his courage; but that came because he mastered how to wait on the Lord.

2. To be available or in readiness – These set of persons are constantly available when required by God. They are not only available, they are equally ready to follow God’s directive to the letter. They are not only available but also ready to be used of God. And a man used of God is a man useful to his generation.
3. To remain neglected for a time – This sounds hard! But these persons are ready to be neglected and to neglect their personal desires, passion, agenda, and goals just to see that God’s will is done. The words of Paul: *“But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.” Phil. 3:7;* is succinct, clear and captures the true passion of a man who waits on God.
4. To postpone or delay something – These men are ready to go through momentary delays with God for their time of full manifestation. Besides, waiting on God is not wasting in grudge. God will certainly show up for those who wait on him. The bible urges:

“That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.” Heb. 6:12.



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Faith will become ineffective in the absence of patience. Patience is the sickle in the hand of Faith that reaps the promises of God. In other words, it is patient faith that reaps the promises of God. Those who hope on God are patient with God.

5. To look forward to eagerly – This is simply hope and trust. So many other versions of the bible render that scripture as

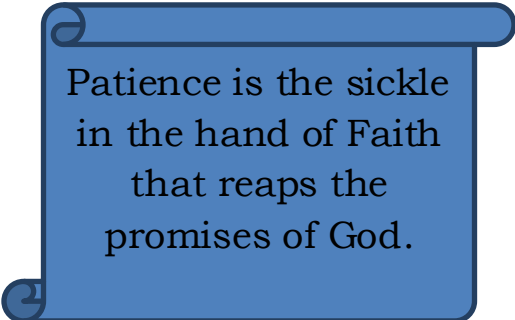
“...those that hope on the Lord...” or *“...those that trust in God...”*

That means these persons put their entire hope and trust in God. Their eyes are constantly on the Lord. Will God ever disappoint anyone who puts his or her trust on Him? No way. That kind of person by trusting God has signed in for great things; and will be established in greatness.

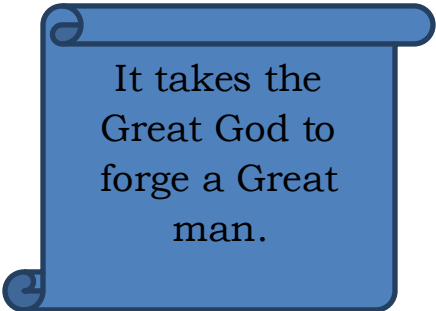
“They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed but abideth forever.”

What more can we say; the bible does not mince words about the uncommon that are possible with you when you wait on God. Always know that your wait is a way to receive greatness from a great God.

FLASH BACK:



Patience is the sickle
in the hand of Faith
that reaps the
promises of God.



It takes the
Great God to
forge a Great
man.

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QUOTES AND TALES

QUOTE SEVEN

GOD'S WORD WILL NOT
WEAR OUT; NEITHER
WILL IT COME TO
WASTE

“For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it to bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” Isaiah 55:10-11

This tale is about God and his people Israel. God speaks through the prophet Isaiah trying to call them closer to himself and he makes this profound promise that is meant also for every one of us, even today.

God decides to tell us how his word works and starts with a simile. A simile is a figure of speech that expresses a resemblance between things of different kinds usually with the use of ‘like’ or ‘as’. [Advanced English Dictionary]

God uses a simile to draw comparison between his word and the rain and snow. That means the way you see God describe the rain and the snow is the same way that his word works.

AS THE RAIN COMETH DOWN:

When it rains, it comes from up to down. The rain does not stop half way in the atmosphere and not touch the ground, it comes down to the earth. The rain does not start and get stuck in the atmosphere, it comes down to water the earth.



QUOTES AND TALES

God is trying to say to you that his word concerning your life will not be kept hanging in the atmosphere of expectation, it will come down (cometh down) to manifestation. The intention of the devil for you is that your expectation will linger for ever, to hold back the answer to your prayers; but God's word for you today is that no matter what the devil does, his word for you 'cometh down' to manifestation. When Daniel prayed while under the Persian rule, God sent an answer, but the prince of Persia (a demon spirit) resisted his answer for 21 days. However, because every word of God 'cometh down' God sent reinforcements by the hand of Michael, the arch angel. Daniel got his answer delivered to him. I pray that any power resisting your answer, expectation, miracle, destiny, etc. will be overwhelmed by angelic reinforcements and assistance to your life, which will bring down your answer, in Jesus name.

AND THE SNOW FROM HEAVEN

The bible says that the snow comes from heaven, and of course down to the earth. The same way, every word of God comes from heaven.

First of all, you understand that heaven is above the earth and scripture says that he that is from above is above all.

“He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.” John 3:31

That means every word of God is already above everything challenging your life. Every word of God comes from above to rule over any earthly circumstance in your life, which is contrary to the will of God. God's word concerning your life is over and above any challenge, opposition, difficulties, etc. that you are going through. Magnify God's over that situation and see the word come to manifestation.



QUOTES AND TALES

You may be pondering at this moment, on a sickness that has ailed you for long; but there is word from God that is above that disease: it says,

“...and with his stripes we are healed.” Isaiah 53:9.

Also *1Peter 2:24*,

“...by whose stripes ye were healed.”

Magnify God’s word and it will create the world you expect. Hebrews 11:3 says,

*“Through faith we understand that the **worlds** were framed by the **word of God...**”*

You may have gotten worried in your search for answers to a wall of opposition, a circumstance that has stalled or marred your business, career, family, joy, peace, academics, ministry, spiritual growth etc. but there is a word of God above that niggling circumstance: it says,

“The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee... in all that thou settest thine hand unto;” Deuteronomy 28:8

Embrace God’s word and you’ll find grace to help in the areas of you are in need.

Again, heaven is God’s dwelling place, free from the earth’s corruption and with an environment full of the supernatural experiences. So, the word of God that comes from heaven does not come to patronize your earthly experiences, it comes to with the environment and experiences of heaven to prevail over the affairs of your life. So by the word of God you have angelic assistance because angels live in heaven from where the word comes from. By the word of God you have divine intervention, because divinity resides in heaven from where the word proceeds from. By the word of God you have miracles and supernatural occurrences because those embody the atmosphere that the



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brings with it. I pray today that you will receive heavenly and supernatural experiences by the word of God you are hearing today, in Jesus name!

AND RETURNETH NOT THITHER

The word of God once it has gone out does not return to God at all. It remains in the domain of man to produce and to prosper in the area it is sent to. It remains so as to establish and sustain what it has started. It remains to ensure that whatever God has began by speaking a word, he completes until the very last day when Jesus comes to take us home. Paul told the church in Philippi,

“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:”
Philippians 1:6.

Every good work of God is began by the word of God, and it returneth not thither so that God can perform it until the day of Christ Jesus. This shows me that whatever good thing God brings to my life, he does not intend that it will happen for a season, he brings it so it can become my continuous experience. So the breakthrough, the favour, protection, the blessings etc that God has ever brought my way, they are to become my continuous experience. The word that created them *returneth not thither*. The Holy Spirit speaking through Solomon says,

“I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.” Ecclesiastes 3:14

Thus, the word of God does not give up on you when it has been sent to you. Even if the enemy has stolen the word meant for you, the day you become aware of the word and begin to appropriate it, the word will return and manifest in your life. By this, even when the word of God is not fulfilled in your time for whatever reason, the word is handed down to your children to benefit from



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it. It will not come to them as a promise to fight for, it will come to them as an inheritance to walk into. See the following scriptures:

“Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours...” Deuteronomy 11:24.

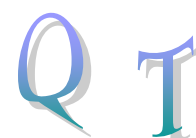
“Every place that the sole of your feet shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.” Joshua 1:3.

Notice that in the two scriptures above, God made the same promise to both Moses and Joshua. God had made that promise to Moses but it was not completely fulfilled because Moses did not lead the Israel into Canaan, nor did he embark on much land conquests with Israel. And because the word *‘returneth not thither’* the promise was made again to Joshua so that the word can prosper in the thing in which it was sent.

And if you look closer you will notice that the manner in which the second promise came is different from how the first came. In the first promise God said to Moses that any place that your feet treads on *‘shall be yours’*. And to Joshua the promise is that anyplace that the soles of your feet shall tread on *‘that have I given unto you’*. For Moses it was a promise waiting to be fulfilled, but for the Joshua it was reality already settled waiting for him to arrive. For the first generation it was expectation, but when it came to the later generation it came as an inheritance already given that they only need to walk into. Thus, the Word of God does not retire; when the fathers miss it, the children will receive it as an inevitable inheritance.

BUT WATERETH THE EARTH

The earth is the realm of man. The word of God comes from above with one mission, to refresh your environment – home, career, business etc.



QUOTES AND TALES

Notice that when you water the earth it becomes soft making it easy for the land to be tilled. The word of God comes to make the difficult things of life easy for you. It gives you a miracle when you've lost hope, energy when you are weak, ideas when you lack strategy, connection when the doors are shut in your face, help when you are in need; and so much more. It makes life softer and not harder for you. The Lord Jesus, being the manifest word of God, says that he is not sent to condemn the word but to save it (John 3:17). In other words, he is not sent to make your matter worse but to give you a solution. The word is sent to refresh you and not to depress you.

Note also that when the earth is watered it becomes more productive. So the word of God comes to expand your productivity. It comes to you so you can profit in destiny. Every word from God that you hear, has the innate capacity to increase your output. I pray that the word you are reading now, will bring increase on every side to you, in Jesus name.

MAKETH IT TO BRING FORTH AND BUD

The word of God does not just water and soften the ground, it also acts as a reactor to trigger harvest. There are grounds (destinies) that are barren, may be by reason of natural circumstances (things that can be seen, understood and explained); or by supernatural circumstances (e.g. curses). However, when the word of God comes to water a life, it '*maketh*' that life; it rearranges that life to begin to produce after the word. It forces down every other thing contrary to it in order to make that life produce fruit. Thus, the word brings down anything that will not allow your destiny produce the evidence that will bring glory to God and when that is done, it makes/creates the evidence/reality that you need.

The word of God is a maker and a creator:



QUOTES AND TALES

John 1:1,3, “*In the beginning was the word, and ... All things were MADE by him...*”

The Word of God is a creator:

Hebrews 11:3, “*Through faith we understand that the worlds were FRAMED (created) by the word of God...*”

So the assignment of the word of God is to make and create what is missing in your life, to bring your dream to reality and give results to your efforts.

I reckon that when the word MAKE is used the maker exerts authority over the made/product. He is at liberty to decide how to make the product. The maker has supreme authority over the made/product. When the word of God ‘*maketh*’ you it arrives with supreme authority to rule over everything and not to be subject to the circumstances around your life. It comes with authority to subdue everything contrary to the word sent into your life.

Also when we talk about making, the maker will readily remove or take out anything that will hinder his desired result. In the same way when the word is making, it arrives with power to remove and vanquish anything that hinders the glory that God wants to bring out from your life. When the word comes to make you it gives no room for the expression of any negative or satanic will. It imposes the will of God leaving no room for satanic expressions. I pray that the word you are reading today will trample every obstacle to the manifestation of the glory of God in your life.

Finally, when you are making, there is already a picture of the finished product in your mind. When you allow the word to make you, it takes you to a predestined future that the word brings with it. Every word God sends to you has a pre-planned destination it is packaged with to deliver you to.



QUOTES AND TALES

SEED TO THE SOWER & BREAD TO THE EATER

This is a simple summation of what God wants to achieve with his word in your life.

First, you will notice that the seed is valuable to the sower while the bread is valuable to the eater. So, the ground that has been watered by the word of God gives to each person what is valuable to him. That is the intention of God concerning the ground of your destiny. God desires to make you through his word, a person who is constantly giving value to his generation; to each person what he needs per time. The word of God comes to make you a carrier and giver of value. I pray that every word of God you have heard will push out every value locked up inside you, in Jesus name.

Notice that the sower and the eater are two different persons with different kinds of needs, yet the same ground supplies both needs at the same time. The intention of the word of God is to make you a solution to varying needs at the same time. To make you competent at varying fronts at the same time, to make you succeed at the various points of life.

Finally, just as seed and bread are both products of the ground, the word of God comes to give the ground of your destiny results for your efforts.

DIVINE INTENTION

The intention of God when giving Israel that scripture through the Prophet Isaiah, was to show them that the reason he sends his word often is so we can profit from it if we believe.

God wants you to see the enormous benefits that can come from his word if only we believe. Jesus says that if we only can believe what God has said then we will see the glory of God and nothing will be impossible for us [John 11:40 & Matthew 17:20].



QUOTES AND TALES

God wants you to stretch your faith, believe every word from him, and doubt nothing that he has said. Solomon said, “*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths*” Proverbs 3:5-6.

Believing is the gateway to Receiving!

FLASH BACK

The word of God is sent to refresh you and not to depress you.

The word of God comes with the environment and experiences of heaven to prevail over the affairs of your life.

Every word from God that you hear, has the innate capacity to increase your output.

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QUOTES AND TALES

BONUS QUOTES

TO STAND TALL YOU MUST
GROW DEEP; IT IS YOUR DEPTH
THAT SUSTAINS YOUR HEIGHT.

ATTRACTION IS A PRODUCT OF
SATISFACTION.

POWER MAKES YOU A TOWER FOR
OTHERS TO SHELTER IN; IT IS A MOWER
TO CLEAN UP YOUR ENVIRONMENT

DOUBT IS A BOUT THAT TAKES
YOU DOWN; DO NOT ENGAGE!

UNDERSTANDING GIVES YOU THE
RIGHT STANDING TO SELL YOUR VIEW
TO BY-STANDERS

WHATEVER DOES NOT GIVE YOU
JOY, MAY EVENTUALLY BREAK
YOUR JAW.

DO NOT TRASH VISION WHERE YOU
CRASHED; RATHER CASH IN ON THE
EXPERIENCE AND BECOME BETTER.

PROGRESSIVE THINKING LEADS
TO PROGRESSIVE LIVING.