

NOVEMBER 2015 THE MIRACLE OF GOD

Introduction

A miracle is an event that would be impossible by natural occurrence, but brought about by supernatural power of God. The common definition of miracle is an event that is an exception to the law of nature. In the scriptures, miracles are usually referred to as signs and wonders.

When a miracle occurs, God demonstrates his power to deliver, to heal or to raise and many other ways that he showcases his power over nature. One has to take note of the following to distinguish miracles from natural phenomena.

- I. It must be an unusual event that can be perceived by others.
- II. It has no natural clarification.
- III. It appears to be the result of an act of God.

As we reflect on the miracle of God this month, may his Spirit direct our hearts and minds in order to grasp the lesson he wants us to learn through it. May his miracles be evident in our life as we continue our Christian journey.

November 1st Sunday 2015

Text: 1 Kings 1:1 – 4

Topic: There is time for everything.

In this passage, there are two great and marvelous works of God in the life of King David that he might have not fathomed them. Right from childhood David was known of his courage, strength and bravery. As a shepherd and warrior he spent most of his time in the wilderness; taking care of his father's flock, at the battle fields or in a cave seeking refuge. Imagine how the strength of a giant like David can be reduced to that of a baby. Imagine David who was exposed to rain and cold weather of the Middle East in his youth, could not be kept warm even under a blanket.

I discovered the secret of the marvelous work of God in the prayers of my children when any of them is asked to pray at bedtime; they often utter words thus: "Oh Lord, help us to sleep like babies and wake-up like giants." The power to do that is in the hands of the Lord.

Secondly, David who lusted after somebody's wife from a far, committed adultery with her and moreover masterminded the murder of the husband. This same David was privileged to have a virgin laid beside him and yet had no regard for her because the passion has gone. If you ask me what happened to him, I have no other option to say it is a mystery of God. As you are going through this devotional guide; pause and think about your life. Are you passing through difficult moments of trials and temptations? Our God is a miracle working God. He is able to cause a turn-around in your life.

Lesson: Do not depend on your strength, your wisdom or wealth but depend on God.

Prayer: Oh Lord, help me to maximize my time to do your will today, so that I may have a glorious tomorrow in Jesus name, Amen.

November 2nd Monday 2015

Text: 1 Kings 1:5 – 14.

Topic: Seek God's approval

One of the greatest mistakes that man often fall in is doing anything without seeking God's will. That is the reason Jesus tried to correct such impression with the parable of a foolish rich man. Although there was a prophet that Adonijah could consult, he thought that was just a waste of time or long process and so made himself king.

Despite the strength Adonijah had, the strategies he put on ground and the favour he got from men, God just brought them to naught. Solomon on the other hand knew that King David vowed that he will succeed him on the throne. Solomon did not struggle or sought for men's approval. He waited upon the Lord because he knew that he is a God of possibility. The Bible says: "Trust in God and his mighty power..." Do you want to succeed in life? Do you want to achieve the purpose of your life? Don't depend on your strength, your wealth or your status in the society. Depend on God, trust him and obey his instruction.

Lesson: In everything you do, seek the will of God and it will go well with you.

Prayer: Oh Lord, help me to seek your approval before I do anything, in Jesus name, Amen.

November 3rd Tuesday 2015

Text: 1 Kings 1:32 – 40

Topic: On the Lord's Side

If God is on your side, victory is certainly yours despite hurdles and obstacles. When you begin to compare the momentum Adonijah had with that of Solomon in the passage we read, you may wrongly conclude that Solomon won't make it. But because God is stronger than the strongest: Almighty is his name and anyone on his side is always a winner. And through his mighty deeds in history, an eye witness has this to say: "***Now I know that the Lord is greater than all other gods...***" (Exodus 18:11).

In spite of Adonijah strategies to obtain the throne with chariots, horses and adequate force, he couldn't make it because he wasn't on the Lord's side. Solomon on the other hand who was on God's side was able to make it because the Lord says; "it is not by might or by power..." People of influence in whom Adonijah put his confidence; like Joab the Commander and Abiathar the Priest could not stand the power of the miracle working God. The Lord of Host proved himself above every power and authority. For the fact that he has declared, the ground shook at the person on the mule instead of the one with chariots and horses. What a paradox! Give praise and honour to the awesome God.

As the whole world is shaking with the increase of wickedness, are you on the Lord's side or you are contemplating whether to join the majority? My dear reader, be informed that the person that is on the Lord's side even if he or she is alone is the majority. Be on the Lord's side and he will surely fulfill all his promises concerning you.

Lesson: Don't be carried away by circumstances around you, for the righteous live by faith not by sight.

Prayer: Oh Lord, help me not to be carried away by the opinion of the majority, but to always be on your side, in Jesus name. Amen.

November 4th Wednesday 2015

Text: 1 Kings 2:1 – 4

Topic: Taking Over

“There is a time for everything...a time to be born and a time to die...” (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2). Life is one of those things that has time frame. Everything about life is a mystery; nobody could fathom how it begins or comes to an end. David only predicted that time has come when he was about to end his life, but he didn't know exactly when will it be. That is the reason he needed to put his house in order especially the throne.

He enjoined Solomon to explore his potentials. Since we are created in the image of God, we are loaded with potentials. When God says to Jeremiah; “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart...” (Jeremiah 1:5), it implies that each one of us is sent into this world with great potentials and with a mission to accomplish. As soon as you discover those potentials and utilize them, you will make impact. More importantly you will fulfill the purpose of your existence.

As you read through this devotion guide, do you know that you are sent into this world for a mission? Ask God to reveal to you the purpose of your existence and pursue it, failure to do that you will live a meaningless life. So when David said to Solomon; “...show yourself a man, and observe what the Lord requires; he is simply saying don't waste your life my son rather discover what God requires of you.

Lesson: Be faithful in handling whatever God has entrusted in your care.

Prayer: Lord, help me to discover the purpose of my life and pursue it diligently in Jesus name, amen.

November 5th Thursday 2015

Text: 1 Kings 3:1 – 15

Topic: An open cheque

Dream is one of those platforms which God uses to communicate or reveal his plans for his servants. When you study dream very well, you will discover that it is one of the great mysteries of God. Unfortunately many people often missed the opportunity to grasp the will of God for their lives because they have relegated the revelation of God in dreams.

Many great men and women of the Bible received messages from God through dreams. Joseph was a good example who couldn't have fulfilled the purpose of his life if he had relegated dreams. What do you think would have happened to Solomon if he had considered this very revelation as mere dream? Solomon rather fathomed the plan of God and responded in accordance to his will.

Today, God also gives us open cheque as he did to Solomon. The Bible says: *“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be*

opened to you,” (Matthew 7:7). And again it says: “You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it, (John 14:14). On such occasions, be wise like Solomon. The Bible says; “But seeks first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:33).

Lesson: Take advantage of every opportunity to avoid ‘had I known’.

Prayer: Oh Lord, help me to be sensitive to your revelation so that I may not miss it when it comes, in Jesus name, Amen.

November 6th Friday 2015

Text: 1 Kings 3:16 – 28

Topic: Wisdom at work

Wisdom is one of the ways God performs miracles in the life of individual or group. Have you ever done something that you marveled at the end, to the point you even doubt if really you were the one that did that particular thing? Yes, you may apply wisdom or experience and you may try alternatives, but you can’t predict the result at the beginning. It is only God that knows the end from the beginning.

Two things happened in this story that we can intuit that it is a miracle of God. Initially, when the King applied wisdom to the issue before him, he never ascertained that one of the women will vehemently refute the sharing of the living baby. Secondly, when the other woman refused the sharing of the baby, she never knew that her child will be restored back to her.

The Bible says; *“How much better to get wisdom than gold, to choose understanding rather than silver!” (Proverbs 16:16).* Wisdom is a gift from God, when we apply it to a given situation, the outcome is amazing. Anything that goes beyond human comprehension is a miracle. It is hidden in the firmament of the king of kings. The unmovable mover; who was, is and will continue to be. He is the only one that can work out miracle in your life to restore that which the enemy has stolen from you.

Lesson: Utilize the talent God gave you and do great exploit for Him.

Prayer: Oh Lord, give me wisdom to make right choices and judge accurately in Jesus name, Amen.

November 7th Saturday 2015

Text: 1 Kings 4:20 – 28

Topic: The secret of success

I can see the secret behind the success of King Solomon. Initial he was complaining that he was just a child and the people were vast. To be precise Solomon was stating his incompetence to rule the Israelites. But when he invited the all-powerful; the King of kings and the Lord of lords; then all things become possible.

When Solomon was loaded with authority from above, he did not rule over Israel alone but over other kingdoms in accordance with the word of God that says: “The Lord will set you high above other nations.” (Deut. 28:1). And Apostle Paul confirms the secret of success when he wrote to the Philippian’s Church thus: “I can do everything through him who gives me strength.” (Philippians 4:13).

Do you have a difficult task at hand that needed to be accomplished? Have you been entrusted with a responsibility that is too demanding and you are even considering that you are not equal to the task? That is exactly how Solomon rated his ability at initial state of his rule. But when he was connected to the most powerful, he was able to make impact in the life of people of his generation. He was also distinguished among the kings of his time. Likewise you can do the same. Listen to the voice of the Lord to you today: *“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”* (John 15:5). Harken to this voice, invite him in and you will be productive.

Lesson: Remain connected to the source of your life so that you will be fruitful.

Prayer: Oh Lord, help me to remain connected to you. Take away any blockage between you and me in Jesus name, Amen.