

**November 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday 2015**

**Text: 1 Kings 4:29 – 43**

**Topic: The awesomeness of Divine wisdom**

When I was a child, I thought knowledge, wisdom and ability are meant for specific people. Whenever someone did something incredibly great, I thought then that no one else can do such. That could be the thought of Solomon right from the beginning he was installed as the King in Israel.

He thought that his father did great things; the population increased and moreover they were surrounded by many powerful nations. By the grace of God, see Solomon though initially inexperienced youth, was loaded with wisdom, knowledge and abilities beyond human imagination. During his time, he had no equal.

Jeremiah 29:11 says; *“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”* The Almighty Jehovah was having the same thought for the people of the past, present and future because he is a generous and impartial God. David was able to get the glimpse of the wonderful work of God in creating man when he says: *“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.”* The Challenges you are facing or circumstances around you shouldn't belittle you because God is with you and so you are more than conqueror in Jesus name.

**Lesson:** You are unique and special; created for a purpose.

**Prayer:** Oh Lord, thank you for making me what I am today. Help me to reflect your glory in my daily living, in Jesus name, Amen.

**November 9<sup>th</sup> Monday 2015**

**Text: 1 Kings 5:1 – 18**

**Topic: Peace for the righteous**

The invisible hand of the Almighty God was and is always evident in the life of His obedient children, and this could be the reason why King Solomon enjoyed peace in his days. You can only have peace when you identify with the prince of peace. The Bible says when the way of a man pleases the Lord; He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him (Proverbs 16:7).

Solomon obeyed the Lord to build the temple and God gave him all that was necessary for the completion of the work. The truth is God will not give an assignment without releasing His power to bring it to pass. What He did in the past, He will equally do it again and again in our times and the future generation.

The question here is, are you an obedient child of God? Does your way please the Lord? When your obedience is complete, you will see the hand of God at work in your generation. Do not look at your economy or qualification or competence. The Bible says; *“But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.”* (1 Corinthians 1:27). Therefore, as a vessel in the hands of the Lord, you are equal to the task.

**Lesson:** Life is about giving and taking. You can confidently withdraw what you have deposited.

**Prayer:** Oh Lord, God Almighty, give us peace that surpasses all human understanding in Jesus name, Amen.

**November 10<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 2015**

**Text: 1 Kings 8:1 – 13**

**Topic: The Presence of God**

It will be surprising to hear that the Almighty God was captured by a man made god in the day of Dagon. It was actually a human foolishness in display because God does not live in house built with human hands. The Ark of the Covenant is too small to be the house of God but his presence can go with the ark. The ark left its rightful place and in Solomon's time it was returned to the newly built temple.

The only prophecy that will stand the test of time is the one that proceed out of the mouth of God. Many people did proclaim so many things concerning the future which never come to pass. This is what the scripture says: *“Who has spoken and it came to pass, unless the Lord has commanded it?”* (Lamentation 3:37). God promised King David of what his son after him will do. As God declared, it came to pass that the temple was completed by King Solomon and the ark brought into its rightful place. His mighty power is still the same yesterday today and forever. All God's promises concerning you shall come to pass in Jesus name; only trust him and he will do it for you.

**Lesson:** One day in the presence of the Lord is better than many days elsewhere.

**Prayer:** Thank you Oh Lord for your presence in my life. May I never allow your presence to depart from me in Jesus name, Amen.

**November 11<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2015**

**Text: 1 Kings 8:14 – 21**

**Topic: The covenant keeping God**

It can only be said that God's power in display brought Solomon into the place of honor and fulfillment of the prophecy made to King David his father. He did not take the glory to himself because he knew it was God's power that worked in him both to will and to do according to His perfect will.

The truth is if the battle were to be to the strong or the race to the swift, king Solomon will not have climbed the throne of his father, talk more of accomplishing anything tangible. God's word cannot return unto Him void; it must accomplish the purpose for which it was sent out for. And it happened exactly as he has said.

It is important for you to know that, if God has told you or your father anything concerning you, your family or generation, He will surely bring it to pass. God's limitless power is still at work to fulfill all that concerns us. Celebrate His mighty acts in your life and in the life of others around you.

**Lesson:** The Lord will fight your battle. Just stand still and see His mighty acts.

**Prayer:** Thank you oh Lord, in spite of who I am, you remain faithful. Increase my faith and give me the grace to fulfill the purpose of my existence in Jesus name, Amen.

**November 12<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2015**

**Text: 1 Kings 8:22 – 30**

**Topic: God's dwelling place**

Solomon in his prayer expresses the supremacy of God who is greater than any other being in heaven above and on earth below, there is none like him. Yet with the power, authority and splendor, God doesn't regard this as basis to relegate his creation. Rather God cares and loves his creation. He maintains good relationship with his creation by being faithful to his promises as he established it especially with David thus; *"You shall never fail to have a man to sit before me on the throne of Israel."* (1 Kings 8:25). His covenant is fulfilled in the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ as the King of kings. The Bible says: *He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom...from that time on and forever.* (Isaiah 9:7).

God incarnate; Jesus Christ is the assurance of the willingness of God to dwell among his people. Jesus confirmed that during his earthly ministry when he enjoined his followers to abide in him and him also in them. This is possible in the manifestation of God's glory among his people; *"The Lord is in his Holy Temple..."* (Habakkuk 2:20). More importantly his presence in us in the person of the Holy Spirit; *"Behold I stand at the door of your heart..."* (Revelation 3:20). Again the word of God says: *"Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?"* (1 Corinthians 3:16).

If Solomon's knowledge of God is peripheral because he was not privileged like you and me to have the complete word of God and that created fear if God would dwell in his earthly built temple; what is your fear? Do you believe in the word of God? Do you believe God lives in you and you are in him? It's mysterious though; so worship in truth and in spirit because he doesn't accept anything less than that.

**Lesson:** Your body is the temple of the living God where His spirit resides.

**Prayer:** Oh Lord, sanctify me so that you may be comfortable as you dwell in me in Jesus name, Amen.

### **November 13<sup>th</sup> Friday 2015**

**Text: 1 Kings 8:54 – 61**

**Topic: The heart of a leader**

Solomon felt the touch of God as he worshipped him. He didn't want to enjoy God's blessings alone. He was fully assured that God has blessed him and was willing to share it with the Congregation.

The most wonderful blessing human beings could have is the presence of God. That is the reason Solomon is saying when he turned towards the people to bless them; ***"The Lord our God be with us, as he was with our fathers. May he not leave us nor forsake us."*** (1 Kings 8:57). Solomon realized the source of prosperity, security and good health is the Lord. He learnt that secret from his father David. David affirms this in one of his psalms:

*"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

*He makes me lie down in green pastures.*

*He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.*

*He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.* (Psalms 23:1 – 3).

In his further proof of God intimacy with his people and his ability to protect them, David adds: *"Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep."* (Psalms 121:4). What an amazing privilege you have as a child of God! As Moses encouraged Joshua that God will go with him and that he will not leave nor forsake him (Deuteronomy 31:6) and Jesus says; *"And behold, I am with you always to the end of the ages.* (Matthew 28:20).

**Lesson:** As a leader, you should have heart for the people; you should always bless and not curse them.

**Prayer:** Oh Lord, turn the hearts of our leaders towards you, that your blessings may flow to us through them in Jesus name, Amen.

### **November 14<sup>th</sup> Saturday 2015**

**Text: 1 Kings 8:62 – 66**

**Topic: Overflowing Thanksgiving**

Personal encounter with the living God pushes further than just worship. There are instances that someone might worship God ordinarily. But when there is a genuine divine encounter, the worshipper experiences a total change and consequently it leads to complete submission and total surrender to the supremacy of God. That is exactly what happened to King Solomon and all Israel in this passage.

If you have ever attended a party where the host has spent a huge amount of money, you will understand what I am about to say. Estimate the kind of abundance of food at a party where ten or more cows were slaughtered. Here in the case of King Solomon and his people, we're not talking of tens or hundreds but thousands. One could easily be tempted to think that it is a waste of resources, but in reality God is

worthy of our sacrifice. There is nothing we can offer to God that would be regarded as too much or over-required. We and our resources belong to him.

Whatever we have in this life or in the life to come belongs to God. We were simply placed as stewards over God's resources. So, when we resolve to make a sacrifice or offering unto the Lord, we are merely returning to the owner what belongs to him and that is a sign of faithfulness and accountability. Do you worship God with your resources?