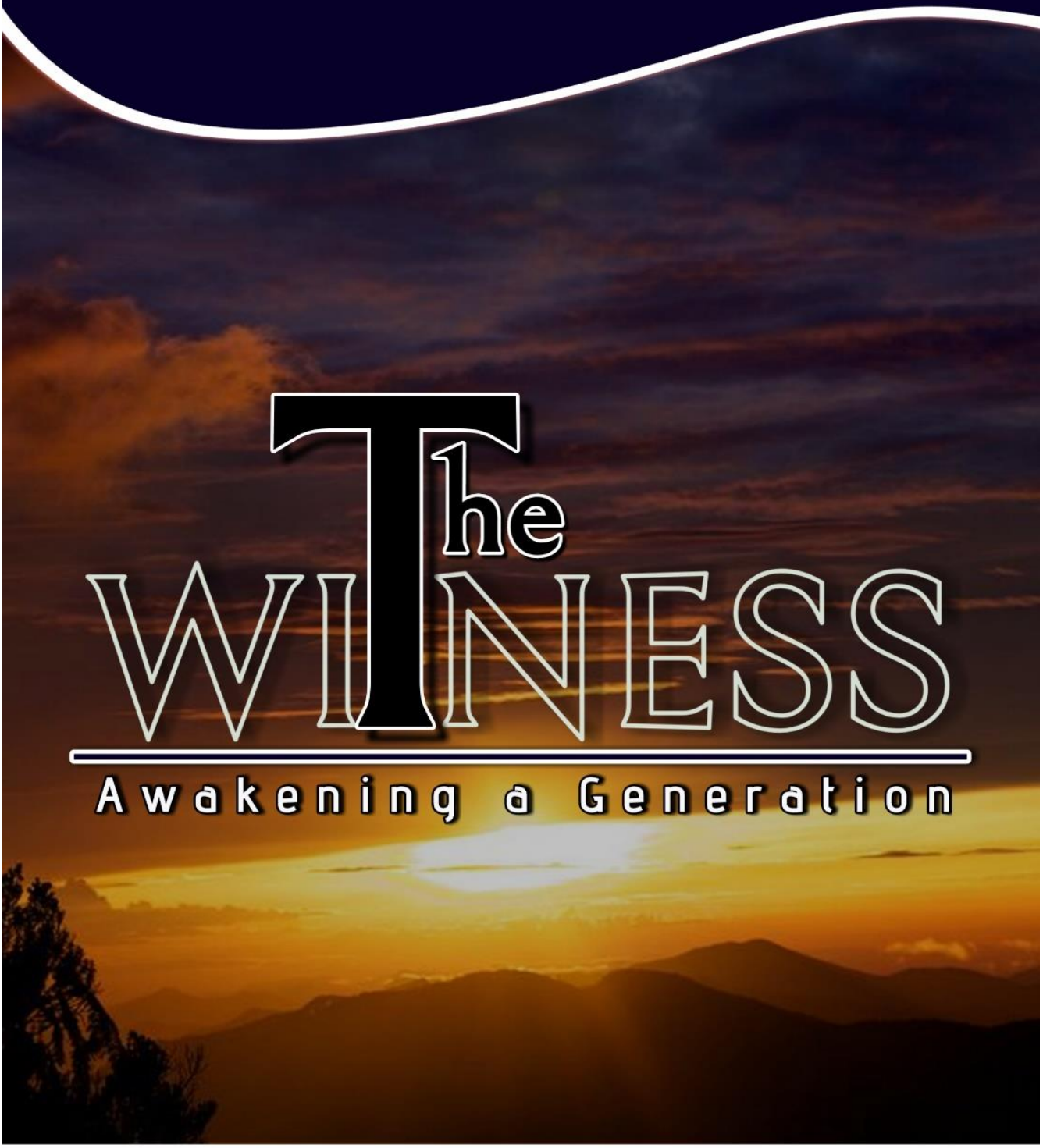
Akolade Mayor L.

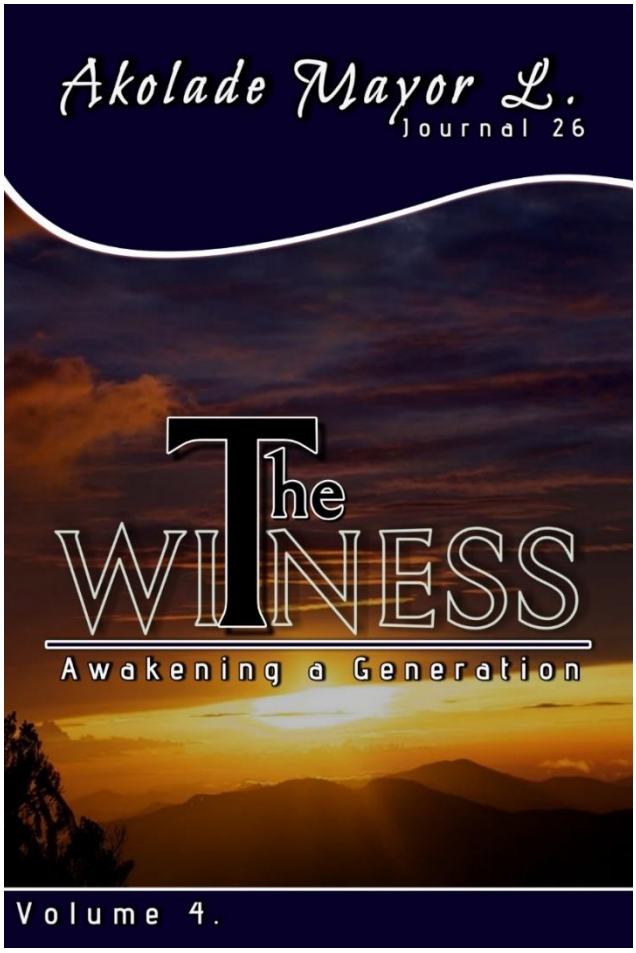
Journal 26



The WITNESS

Awakening a Generation

Volume 4.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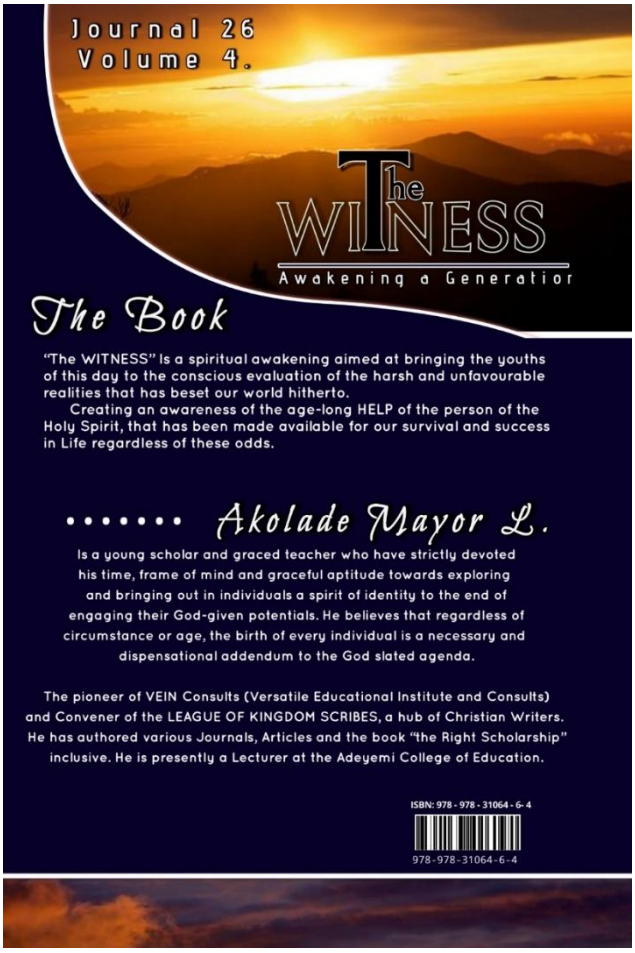
Journal 26
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The WITNESS
Awakening a Generation
The Book
"The WITNESS" Is a spiritual awakening aimed at bringing the youths of this day to the conscious evaluation of the harsh and unfavourable realities that has beset our world hitherto.
Creating an awareness of the age-long HELP of the person of the Holy Spirit, that has been made available for our survival and success in Life regardless of these odds.
Akolade Mayor L.
Is a young scholar and graced teacher who have strictly devoted his time, frame of mind and graceful aptitude towards exploring and bringing out in individuals a spirit of identity to the end of engaging their God-given potentials. He believes that regardless of circumstance or age, the birth of every individual is a necessary and dispensational addendum to the God slated agenda.
The pioneer of VEIN Consults (Versatile Educational Institute and Consults) and Convener of the LEAGUE OF KINGDOM SCRIBES, a hub of Christian Writers. He has authored various Journals, Articles and the book "the Right Scholarship" inclusive. He is presently a Lecturer at the Adeyemi College of Education.
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DEDICATION

Job 32: 8

"There is a Spirit in Man, and the Inspiration of the Almighty giveth him Understanding".

To the utmost glory of my God and Father. For the cause of that which is good and appropriate. *To all that be willing to know.*
The secondary dedication goes to my family: *my Father, my Mother, my Younger brother,* and all my wonderful daughters. Whom God has circumstantially used to affect, shape, and teach my life the required instructions needed for realism in Him.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge my Mentor that is the summary of a larger responsibility in my life: Mr. E.O. ESHO. My younger brother; Lawal Korede O. My brother from another mother; Adebayo Segun and his father; Rev. Luke Adebayo, The Odanike Family.
And the many more whom I may perhaps be allowed to thank anonymously, will recognize this piece as a product of their influence in one way or the other.

ABSTRACT

"The WITNESS" Journal 26; Volume
Is a spiritual awakening aimed at bringing the youths of this day to the conscious evaluation of the harsh and unfavourable realities that has beset our world hitherto. Creating an awareness of the age-long HELP of the person of the Holy Spirit that has been made available f or our survival and success in Life regardless of these odds.
FOCUS: Teens, Youths, Young-Adults.
OBJECTIVE: Re-awakening and Orientational Empowerment

This Journal is a selective collection of various writings and teachings of mine at one time or the
other over the past 1 year (2019-2020), such which
had its first, second and third edition as Journal
23, 24 & 25. It is for me a medium of Acknowledging the grace of God upon me as well as propagating the possibilities in the Kingdom of God, especially for a Scribe as myself. These life producing insights has in one way or the other in their different sphere of posting, oriented and re-oriented individuals as it appeals to them. The effort to put them together in this journal is to help aggregate the widely spread knowledge into a single piece for individual consumption and consistent reference.

It is tagged "the WITNESS" because these writings have had their templates in my recent discovery of the unlimited Help System available to man's weakness and inability to help himself. This Help System is found in the person of the Holy Spirit, such that no one can have any excuse for living a failed life, for God did not live us without a WITNESS of HIMSELF.

INTRODUCTION

Some things in life, as sincere and truthful as they are, are not a product of rigid human intentional composition. Some of these things are birthed in the place of utmost sub-consciousness, in the realm of leisure, moments of supposed intentionality, atmosphere of needful rest. These things, as much dependent they seem on things that are deliberate, they flow out of the sub-conscious moment of deliberateness. Only a few has come to recognise the presence of the unintended during the intended.

These 'unintended things' are at most times the communication of the sincerity of our hearts, the truth that some of us fight, the reality that we try to subdue or bury, the very essence of our humanity that having discovered is threatened by the things we have known differently. And at most times, the greatest threat to these 'Truths' is that they become too true to be believed.

"The WITNESS" This Journal is in its uniqueness is tagged "The WITNESS" because the advent of the supposed covid-19 pandemic has in its right taught us that there are very few things that matters inlife; and of these few things, purpose, relevance and progress are inclusive. The pandemic that had the world at a standstill has caused us to re-think what we use as a yardstick for progress and purpose.

Academics or Career being one of the strongholds with which people measure their success and purpose on earth has been

threatened and held at a standstill, and at such many are unable to define their lives beyond the grip of this orientation.
This is why the Lord in this season and time would have us re-orient the world with an emphasis to a rising generation of the True essence of life, which can best be given by the person of the Holy Ghost. We proffer the HOLY SPIRIT as the True WITNESS in the affairs of Man and a necessity personality for fulfillment of purpose. The words contained in this journal may sound unbelievable. Some, compared to your years of experience may seem deceitful. Regardless of what they seem, and beyond the ability that "words" have to communicate the truth in them, I ask that you look deeply beyond the letters, listen not to the pronunciation but the truth, pay attention not to the grammatical composition but to the intentional sincerity of a heart, beckoning to your sense of conviction.

WHY? Because there is no absolute truth of life. Everything is a precursor of one thing or the other, and they also have their antecedents in other affairs of life. The things we have come to know today, are products of generally accepted perceptions, and heightened opinions of respected individuals. Not because they are wrong or right, but because they are products of experiences that guides the inexperienced.

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HELP; Is an Office.

Give me a Reason why you should be HELPED, and I will tell you that is the very Reason that all forces and phenomena of life has not to Help you.

The system of this world purports that only those who would dance to its tune, and engage the transaction of gradual degradation of the soul should be permitted to be helped. It is a depraved philosophy of the fallen Man to regard you as important above anything or anyone else. WHAT THEN IS HELP? HELP! Is an Office; A jurisdictional competence of the Spirit of Him that made and makes something out of nothing, that the something that became may not be of the efforts of anything that be, but of the very substance of an Intangible utterance of the "I am".

So that all that 'IS or BE' may of itself speak of a Him that has been.

HELP IS THE OFFICE that the Spirit of God chooses to occupy to show as many that would receive Him, That Man is by default a dependent Spirit. That Man would wear himself out if he chooses to neglect that there is a God that rules in the affairs of Man.

You would agree that a teacher do not just teach, but occupies an office such that when reckoned with, the student's success is probably guaranteed. The question is not whether or not we need 'God in our Lives', because time will tell soonest how much of Him we need, the question is when will we accept that we need Him. Help is not a reciprocated favour from your deeds to Men. Help is an office you walk 'with and into', to trade your weakness and Ego to be Helped.

HOLYGHOST HELP ME! That is just the simple words you need to utter. It is you stepping down from your prominence and prowess of how well you can be in-charge and submitting under the Mighty Hand of God. If you can gamble and guess with your life all this while with little or nothing to show for it. Try gambling this once again with this GOD, it would not HURT.

Help is a System designed for the advantage of those who acknowledges how well they do not know how to do it, they may be seen as weak, but that is the very Revelation of their strength, that they know they cannot at all times be in the forefront of their lives. That life is too expensive to live with the few they make (in knowledge and money). So that they subscribe to the currency of a civilization far higher than theirs. A civilization of a Monarch that is resident within them. He alone has the resources to carry the cost budget for your standard of living.

DEATH; Not the seizure of Breath in Man.

Death is not the seizure of breath in a man. The reality of 'Death' starts with every ounce of ignorance. Such ignorance is not of mere Earthly knowledge that manifests as academic or intellectual prowess, or awareness that comes as a result of gathered facts through informative means.. For of such many are Knowledgeable.

But of the Kingdom side (Light or Darkness) where we are by default going to spend eternity…

Having Heard and seen the death toll rise in various countries of the world, my grief is not of their Death, but their heart stance before Death. Many of them have not had the privilege of tasting life even when they were alive. My grief is not because they were killed by a virus, but my grief is whether they knew God, whether they believe in Christ, whether they had a hope for the afterlife, Herein lies my grief.

Every man is going to spend eternity, the question is not will we, the question is which side of eternity? Either amongst the unbelievers whose lot the scriptures says is with their father the devil or with God and the saints.

Death starts with ignorance of the mechanism that governs the affairs of this world. If an advanced government such as Italy can of its incapacity cry out to the world that they are no longer in control of a threatening disease, and out of their supposed pride, confess that the world should help out in prayers. Then we must know that there is more than it meets the eyes.

Death is a bypass, a gateway, a portal, a transport to the realm of eternal consciousness. It doesn't matter what means a man dies, or what was the cause of his death, once he crosses through the portal of absence from this Earth, he marks his presence in a realm beyond man.

The challenge in the crossing is not of whether a man was good or bad, but whether he chose life or death. Everyone chooses life or death daily, not by what they do, or how well they thread this realm, but of how valid the kind of choice they made.

There is a curriculum of light or darkness a man can study that can guarantees his or her length of days on Earth, ensures safety above any form of pestilence and peace from all appearances of evil.

This is not a fleeting or ephemeral comfort proposed by a system or society that can lockdown at a greater threat, nor is it a religious phenomenon practiced to pick a side of worship. No, this is Life.

Oh! I sympathize deeply with them that are Dead and affected.

Oh! I sympathize in my humanity for them that are bereaved. I sympathize.

But we all can subscribe to Life. We can all become afraid of nothing. We can register in the health insurance of Heaven. A medical system with no threat. This is not because of the situation now, but because of the much worse things to Come.

A System Called: HELP

Have you ever been in a situation of dealing with any gadgets or appliances, such that the very instrument that you need to introduce and use to make the gadget work, is the very thing that causes its perpetual damage? So the gadget works for a while and goes back into being faulty, it is repaired and works for a while, and it is being faulty. Should you try to remove the instrument that seem to make it faulty, then it stops working. Should you leave it, it works for a while and becomes fault. What then is to be done?

You leave the instrument in the gadget, but introduce a mechanism that both "accommodates and facilitates." A mechanism, that would accommodate the instrument that causes it to work, and at the same time facilitates the gadget to work, when it wants to develop a fault. This system is called HELP.

The Human composition is wired in such a way that the very instrument that validates and permits our existence on Earth, is the same instrument that places a Limitation on our full potential as a Spirit Being. This instrument is our FLESH (encompassed as our Body). Many of us have continually fallen victim of one sin or the order, one act of transgression against our supposed resolutions not to do them, different instance of wrong choices, wrong decisions, wrong orientation, that has and is hitherto gearing and driving our life is such a state that is defined as "Confused". And is almost looking as if as far man is concerned, Mistake is inevitable. Socio-intellectual ignorance also contributes to this assertion by saying: 'To err is Human'. As True as this may seem, it is not the Total Truth.

Do not forget that, something was introduced to both accommodate the instrument and facilitate the functioning of the gadget.

Same way it is in the affairs of the spirit. There is a System of Help, such that when we talk about Him, we think we are trying to be too spiritual and without Him, there is almost nothing we can do of ourselves. This system of Help is: THE HOLYGHOST.

THE PRICE OF LIVING IN THE FLESH IS TOO COSTLY FOR ANY MAN.

It is the Holy Ghost that both accommodates our wrong choices, our negligence, ignorance, childishness and constant rebellion. Yet Facilitates Help to us by strengthening us with might on our inner Man. All we need do is to admit our weakness and helplessness without Him. Being sincere and deliberate of how much of nothing we can achieve if He refrains from Helping us.

This is not to say that we are not Christians, we are. It is not to say we are not prayerful or full of power, indeed we are. But there are many times in our lives that we are not sure what Truth is, what Truth to believe in. Times when we have applied principles and laws of spiritual possibilities, varieties of what we know should work by the word. But nothing is showing forth. It is in these times that we should acknowledge that indeed we need Help, we need the Holy Ghost to Just step in.

PRAYERS:

1. Lord! Regardless of my Competence or Negligence, HELP ME.
2. I acknowledge my Helplessness, HolyGhost! Help Me.

DECIPHERING; the sPiRit of mAnIpUlAtIoN

The conversation in verse 5 took place in Heaven between God and the Devil. With emphasis on the words '***...and he will surely curse You to your face***.' In verse 9, Job's wife uttered the same thing the devil uttered before God, saying; "***Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die***!"

The question to ask is this, How does a wife see her husband in a predicament, and the only thing she can focus on is not sympathy for herself, her children or property, but to ask a man about his integrity? How does it relate?
But she reverberated a sound that was echoing from the scheme of darkness in the realm of the spirit.
Saying to her husband; ***Curse God and Die***! It is a mystery carefully strung and plotted from the pit of hell called; Manipulation. It is a spirit that reverberates a spiritual resonance of the forces of darkness to people around you that make them behave the way they should not. Jesus our saviour was not spared of this spirit. Through Peter, the Devil told Jesus he was not going to die. But Jesus said "*get the behind me Satan.*"
Beware of the spirit of Manipulation that sets out to strip you of the Faith (capacity) to hold onto to God. The funny thing is that, the spirit of Manipulation does not bring words from strangers. It influences Undiscerning persons and loved ones around you. This is in the bid to make you see what 'he; the devil wants'.



The Devil was not concerned about the physical properties of Job, why? Because they were necessary collateral in the bid to test (1) His integrity to God (2) the Testimony of God in Job 1:8. You may not know, but for every man, God has a testimony. He knows your heart and can validate the range of our integrity in Him. This is why the scriptures says that He would not tempt us beyond what we can contain or bear.

Job 2:1-10

1. Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD.
2. And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.
3. And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.
4. And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life.
5. But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face.
6. And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life.
7. So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.
8. And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal; and he sat down among the ashes.
9. Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.
10. But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.

Therefore, when supposed challenges and trials come our way, they come as means for God to give a testimony to the power of darkness of our growth in Him. When you have this foreknowledge, the resonance of Manipulation around you can be silence by the potential of your understanding of what it is you are going through.

The Bible never recorded to us that Job re-married neither was it stated that His wife left him. Hitherto, due to the words of his wife, we have presumed that she left. This is how you would recognize manipulation. The spirit of Manipulation does not allow the instrument of manipulation (the human) to be concerned about what they should be concerned. Judging from the perspective of what a Motherly affection is and should be, one would think Job's wife should cry and weep over her loss, but rather, she was not bothered... Why? This is because the disposition of the spirit of Manipulation is to make it seem as if a man has nothing to lose if all goes wrong. But in the real sense, He does have all to loose.

When you begin to see people talk as if they have nothing to lose, that is a signal. Why? Because everyone has something at stake. Even the anointed would not want his anointing to be tampered with. All men has one thing or the other that they guard Jealously.

I'd leave you with these prayers of mine.

1. Lord! Via your word, give me Perspective (Sight).
2. Lord! Cause my eyes to be open continually.
3. I receive the spirit of discernment to know the heart of men.

In Job 4:12-21, the devil paints a picture of 'visions of the night', and the influence of a spirit (vs 13&15). This is to let us know that the fact that someone had an extraordinary experience of the supernatural to affirm a feeling, is not a yardstick to make it a direction or revelation from God. How do I know? (vs 14) the genuine presence of the Divine does not bring fear. Also, Eliphaz, testified (vs16) that he could not discern its appearance.

Young Lovers of God. Please be careful what you call revelation or direction, DON'T BE SENSUAL.

I said something some time ago, that the Devil can also give you an experience that your five (5) senses can validate in accordance to the desires of a man's Heart.

Job 4:12-21

12. Now a thing was secretly brought to me, and mine ear received a little thereof.
13. In thoughts from the visions of the night, when deep sleep falleth on men,
14. Fear came upon me, and trembling, which made all my bones to shake.
15. Then a spirit passed before my face; the hair of my flesh stood up:
16. It stood still, but I could not discern the form thereof: an image was before mine eyes, there was silence, and I heard a voice, saying,
17. Shall mortal man be more just than God? shall a man be more pure than his maker?
18. Behold, he put no trust in his servants; and his angels he charged with folly:
19. How much less in them that dwell in houses of clay, whose foundation is in the dust, which are crushed before the moth?
20. They are destroyed from morning to evening: they perish for ever without any regarding it.
21. Doth not their excellency which is in them go away? they die, even without wisdom.

Manipulation would present facts to people as if it is the tangible reason to validate what they have heard, seen, or known. BUT IT IS NOT THE TRUTH.

Another thing about the Spirit of Manipulation, why we must avoid being manipulated is that it seeks to frustrate our Identity and Integrity. Just like peter that was used for a while, but Jesus rebuked the devil behind him, how many individuals has lost trust in us, because of us fallen victim of manipulating people.

ETERNAL SALVATION?

Scriptural Perspective on Man's Concept of "Once Saved Forever Saved".

The Debate of whether one believes in Eternal Salvation/Security; the concept of 'once saved forever saved' is something I as a person do not like to talk about because people sometimes hold unto a revelation for the sake of wanting to satisfy their ego of having gotten a revelation.

The same question was asked of me when I wanted to become an executive in NCCF, back then in my service year. My answers to you would not be to take a Stand of whether I believe in the concept or not. It would be to show you and I the scriptural perspective of Salvation, and by the light of God's words on a fragment of what salvation is, we may both come into an understanding that defies sentiments of Spiritual ego, and probably answer if Salvation is Eternal or Not.

There is a misconception that people have, and that is to think Salvation started and ended with Jesus' time frame of birth and death on Earth. Salvation was an Eternal Agenda to get man to the stature of God, and every pros and cons were considered carefully in planning it out. The Lamb was Slain from the foundations of the Earth. As a prototype of tendencies to any derailing or rebellion that the creation to be created; Man. May have. This is why it was a council of Godhead, the Father, the Son and the Spirit that came into a conclusion that: "*Let us make Man in our Image.*"

Do not forget that the aim of salvation is to bring Man to come into the stature of the God (Christ). This is such that God may then reign as a King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Lord over all, and be a microcosm of a bigger possibility in the person of God as a Creator and Lord.

The council of Godhead saw that Man may not understand what it means to be saved (and the concept of what they are to be saved from until they are shown.) Unless a Template is given to them. This is why the first template was Adam. With or without the temptation of the Garden, Salvation would still have happened, it only may not have played out the way it had played out in the days of Jesus.

So, from generation to generation, a trademark was being left to denote and connote what salvation would look like in its set time. From the days of NOAH until, ABRAHAM, MOSES, JOSHUA, All the Judges, the Priests, the Prophets, till John… They were template to explain the

many faces of salvation, and the curriculum embedded in it. How that Man cannot of himself be perfect, or execute justice of living right, how that it takes the intervention of the divine to give balance to the frailties of man. That only them that are helped of the Spirit can to an extent give relevance to their very existence here on Earth. The concept of Salvation is that man recognizes his inability to be whole without the clause of God.

The same way the aim of going to school is to "Become", All that takes place in school is a means to an end, all the discipline, exams, tests, competition etc. The instrument of achieving this (of becoming) is in what we call EDUCATION. This is the same thing Salvation is to us in the Spirit.

SALVATION is an Intention.
REDEMPTION is the action process within salvation.
GRACE Is the instrument through which redemption was achieved and through which Salvation (the intention) will be perfected.
ETERNAL LIFE [being in the stature of God (Christ)] is the AIM

From the birth of Jesus, to his trials, to his death, to his resurrection, was REDEMPTION of Mankind, paying the price once and for all. However, it is the nucleus, the heart of SALVATION. Salvation was achieved and assured of its perfection through the work of Redemption.

WHAT IS TO BE SAVED…? Answer: MAN.

But Man is a tripartite entity. Consisting of the Spirit, Soul and Body.

When Jesus Died and Resurrected, He redeemed the whole world, both unbeliever and believers. But He did not save the whole world. Salvation or Being saved comes by accepting the finished work of Christ. *So as many as believed that Jesus Is the Christ, is born of God (1John 5:1)*, such who believe in their hearts unto righteousness and confesses with their mouths to salvation.

> **Romans 10:9-10**
> **9. That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.**
> **10. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

The Salvation like I said is tripartite, when we confess and accept Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, we are Saved. ***Emphasis: Our SPIRIT Is saved.*** What of our Soul and Our Body? Our soul is daily being saved. This is because the atmosphere, the world is corrupt, so we need a constant renewal of our mind to keep it from being corrupted.

Roman 12:2. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

James 1:21. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and **receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls**.

1 Corinthians 15: 45-54
45. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.
46. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.
47. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.
48. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.
49. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.
50. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.
EMPHASIS:
51. Behold, I shew you a mystery; **We shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed**,
52. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
53. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.
54. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on

One would wonder why the simplicity of the salvation of the Soul. This is because our Soul is the custodian of our consciousness here on Earth. (where our Mind, Emotions, are). When we are raptured or dead, our Soul would no longer be valid. It is needful to note that in the Old testament, the word 'Soul' was interchangeably used with words such as (Heart, Spirit) to mean the same thing. However, they are not the same.

The SALVATION of the BODY IS THE LAST, Dimension of the perfection of the work of salvation.

Now to drive it all home, God Knows that it is possible if we are let alone on this Earth, which is wired into depletion and exhaustion, we would by:

1. Deliberate Rebellion,
2. Ignorance (being veiled of the Devil),
3. The Limitations of the Flesh we are wearing,
4. Attachment to the Affairs of this world.

Go back to rejecting Him. And that we cannot really help ourselves to both believe in Him and live right. So when Salvation was being planned, it was needful that from the time of Man's saving, an entity be introduced into the realm of Man to guarantee their Being Saved, and their Staying Saved, till the day of Harvest. This Entity is the HOLYGHOST.

John 16:8-11
8. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:
9. Of sin, because they believe not on me;
10. Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;
11. Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

We could not have being saved, if we were not convicted, He helped us to get saved. **John 14:16.** And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; The HOLYGHOST was Importantly introduced to help us stay being saved. And His staying is said by Jesus to be forever.

When people want to argue about whether a person believes in Eternal Salvation or not, one of the Major verse they Isolate is:

Hebrews 6:4-6
4. For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,
5. And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,
6. If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

Ephesians 1:13-14
13. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,
14. Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.
Eph. 4:30. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

WHY IS IT IMPOSSIBLE TO RENEW THEM AGAIN UNTO REPENTANCE ? Because.

1. **They have tasted of the Heavenly Gift**, which is Jesus (salvation). (John 4:10, Rom. 6:23, Eph. 2:8)

2. **Have being made partakers of the Holy Ghost.** This is because the Spirit bears witness in our Spirit that we are the sons of God, so everyone who has received the gift can know the sincerity of the truth they have received. So when they with all the conviction both from without and from within them by the Holy Ghost... now choose to deny that Jesus was ever true, they cannot be renewed.

3. **Tasted the word of God**; Life through Jesus, knowing what it (Chirst) can do.

4. **Powers of age to Come**, talks about veterans of the Gospel who have had a walk with God to know what possibilities are locked up in Him. ***e.g.*** imagine the likes of Benny Hinn, Papa Adeboye, Kenneth Copeland e.t.c. saying God no longer exists.

If they fall away cannot be renewed. **Why? Seeing that they crucified Christ afresh by denouncing him.**

That is the Way to loose one's salvation. When a person DENOUNCES CHRIST.

You then may want to ask that if a person DENOUNCES CHRIST, can he not be Forgiven? NO HE CANNOT BE FORGIVEN. — WHY? This is because before a person can denounce Christ, it would mean that He had neglected the;

1. Conviction of the Holy Ghost that brought him salvation, silenced the continual promptings of the HolyGhost.
2. Deliberately avoided and suppressed the Voice of the Holy Ghost bearing witness to him that he is the son of God.

3. According to ***1Timothy 4:1-2*** some also deaden their conscience by speaking lies in hypocrisy, having been seduced by spirits and doctrines of devils. These ones whose conscience are seared with hot iron, can also ignore the voice of the spirit.

It is these acts that Apostle Paul referred to when He said when should not Grieve the Holy Ghost, through whom we were Sealed unto Redemption. This was the same thing Jesus Said when he asked us not to blaspheme against the Holy Ghost, for such sin cannot be forgiven.

Luke 12:8-10.
8. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God:
9. But he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God.
10. And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven.

Emphasis on 28
28. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;
29. Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,
30. Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,
31. Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:
32. Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

WHAT IS BLASPHEMY?

From the dictionary
1. Irreverence toward something considered sacred or inviolable.
2. The act of insulting or showing contempt or lack of reverence for any religion's deity or deities.
3. The act of claiming the attributes of a deity.

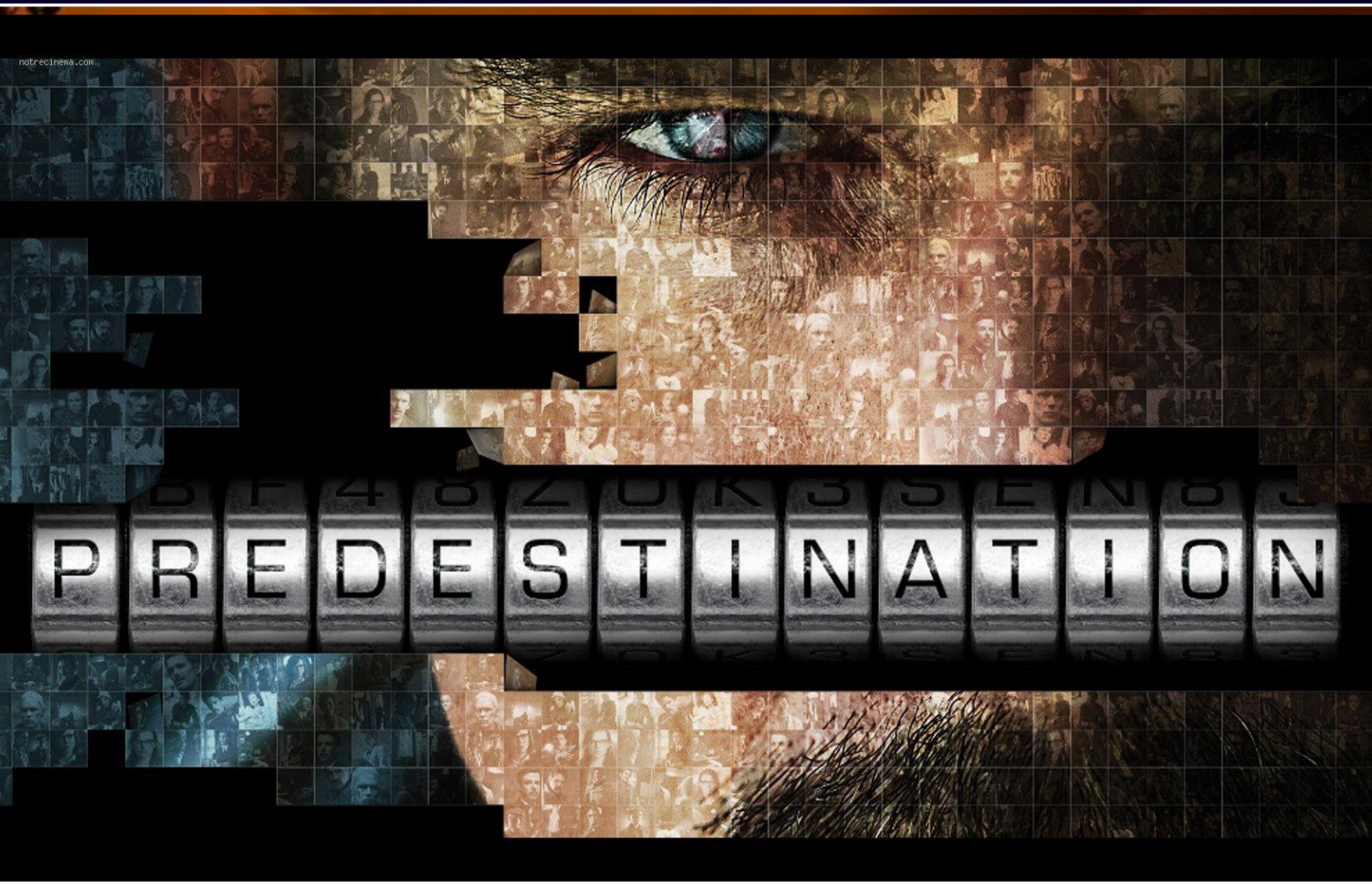
Simply, the scriptures made us know that **Blasphemy is the Sin against the HolyGhost that cannot be forgiven**. When a person shows contempt towards the HolyGhost, a lack of irreverence. (Usually a posture of the heart, whether acted upon or not)

This BLASPHEMY could be as grave as deliberately darkening one's heart with knowledge of the dark world, which can lead to denouncing and loosing salvation OR can be as simple as not revering God, not prioritizing Him and His, words above other things. ***(Rom. 1:28-32)***

The reason the scriptures encourage us not to blaspheme against the Holy Ghost is because, when the day of redemption comes as established by (***Ephesians 1:13&14, 4:30***) the only guarantee we have of having being saved, being raptured to reign with Christ is having the seal of God on us. The caution of not blaspheming against the Holy Ghost is so that we will not deaden our heart, kill our conscience by doing things that would SILENCE the person of the Holy Ghost within us, to an extent that our hearts would now declare that there is not God, or even denounce the person of Jesus.

I believe if a man can renounce is old ways and be saved by confessing with his or her mouth that Jesus is the Lord, and be saved. The only way such persons can be unsaved is when they reverse their confessions of Christ, and denounce anything that has to do with HIM.


CHAPTER 2



PREFACE

There are times in our lives when we feel as if every detail of our life is already mapped out in advance, that human orientation that makes us see ourselves as a preprogrammed figure in a cosmic game of chess being moved from square to square by a supposed irresistible destiny.

The unending question on Faith, Fate, Destiny, Purpose, Success and Failure has led many to continue to probe if we humans have ever truly had a say in what happens to us in life. The thought that everything that happens in life is inevitable and unavoidable is not found wanting amongst many, where some even agree that a supposed force, principle or power that predetermines events does rule throughout the universe. A number of people even hold the belief that a Supreme Being, that we have generally come to know as the Creator God is the sole author and controller of all that happens to man – whether good or bad, great or small, intentional or unintentional.

During the Second World War (WW II), Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Great Britain told the U.S. Congress, "***He must indeed have a blind soul who cannot see that some great purpose and design is being***

worked out here below" (Dec. 26, 1941). And many others throughout the centuries have certainly recognize this fact. But "who or what" is "working out" this "great purpose and design"? Certainly, Logic and Reason would suggest to us that it must be an infinite intelligence. And indeed it is, this intelligence as we see it is God. For the scriptures does agree with our human terminology of regarding God as a "Supreme Being", and if supreme in existence, it would mean that "no one is greater" and at such if phenomena like Faith. Fate, Destiny, Purpose, Success and Failure exist, God has dominion over them. For one who is supreme cannot by definition be subject to anything but himself.

I find it needful and important to explore my understanding of the scriptural perspectives of the concept of "predestination" compared to what it has been overtime, what it has been conceived to be or such as many groups, school of thoughts, scholars, leaders of various movements and theologians have taught. It is also necessary to note that even though there have been different individuals who have spoken about this concept especially such popularly attributed to John Calvin's (Calvinism), we must understand that we encounter the light of God's word from depth to depth and for that reason, I would not be proffering or presenting my scriptural studies and understanding of God's word as the authority on the concept of "predestination" but rather let us both see the light of the word as the scriptures points it out to us.. Also, let us not use doctrinal dispositions to approach this discourse so as not to have a biased or stereotypic hardened perspective to understanding it.

In the history of the Christian church, of all doctrines so hotly debated, few has come close to the debates and discrepancies about the doctrine of predestination. Theologians between the 15th and 16th century have had their turns trying to justifying the truth of this doctrine. And this have left many confused, left some to be neutral (not daring to talk about it), left the laypeople with a lot of unanswered questions such as:

- If predestination is true, what happens to freewill?
- Are we just puppets on a string, doing or acting out what God ordained in eternity past?
- If so, does He also predestine others to go to hell?

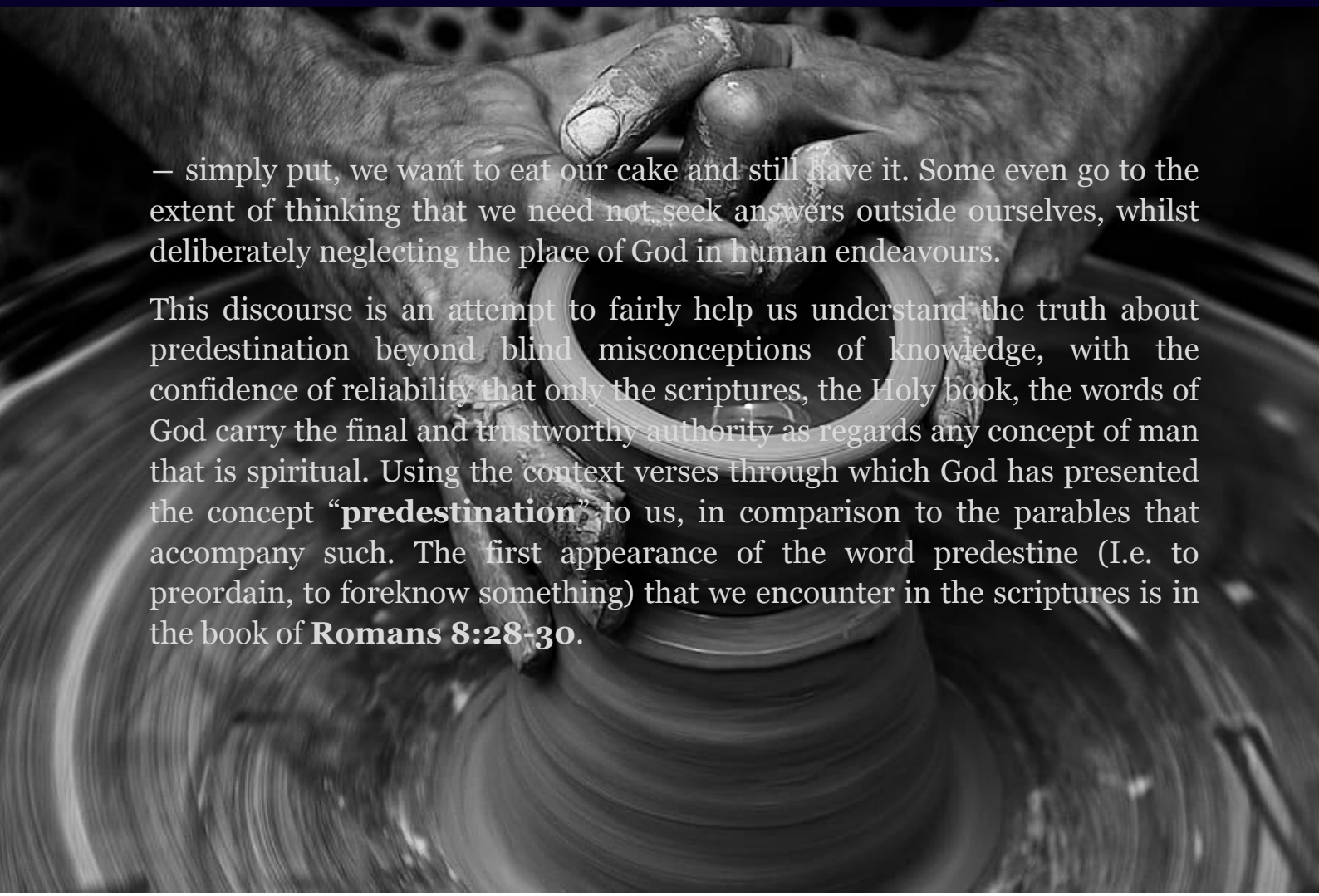
- Why bother with evangelism since whoever is going to be saved will be saved eventually?
- For that matter, if God predestines some people to hell, how can they be guilty of sin, since they are only doing what God predestined them to do?

Without controversy, in the basic of reality, these questions seem difficult, and I may not be giving answers to them all in the course of just one discussion. However, it is important to know that the Bible did spoke about predestination, of which the context of Biblical word used in the New Testament is "**predestined**"; **Romans 8:28-30**, **Ephesians 1:5 & 11**.

To understand the concept of predestination, in accordance to scriptural truth, and to agree with the truth given us by the very words of God, we must dissuade ourselves from the socio-emotional disposition that makes us cast pity on the thought of hell and heaven. What do I mean? In the cause of my study, alongside the evaluation of the questions of different individuals on the concept of predestination, I have come to discover that we humans have cast a blind shadow on the part of us that wants to justify "**not being at fault**" in the equation of "**being saved to heaven or being damned to hell**" by neglecting the fact **of doing what we are supposed to do**.

In the bid to say God does as He wills by choosing who is bad or good, who goes to hell or heaven, we have come to isolate predestination out of the scriptural context with which it was manifested. Many scholars, in their bid to present an opinion about this concept of predestination, isolates it from its scriptural situation and seek to give answers to people's questions about it by juxtaposing the current human disposition and occurrences with what experience of the human history has afforded man. By so doing they indulge emotional, humane and socio-metaphysical signs as a means to explain a scriptural truth. This they do out of an enthusiasm of knowledge seeking to always find an answer to human troubles. But one thing they have continually left out or forgotten is the fact that: "**half-truth is more dangerous and deadlier than ignorance**".

We find it comfortable with our selfish human ego to solely attribute predestination with the blind context of "heaven or hell, human sufferings" all because we want to live our lives the way we want and yet still have a guarantee of a secured future and afterlife regardless of how we have lived it



– simply put, we want to eat our cake and still have it. Some even go to the extent of thinking that we need not seek answers outside ourselves, whilst deliberately neglecting the place of God in human endeavours.

This discourse is an attempt to fairly help us understand the truth about predestination beyond blind misconceptions of knowledge, with the confidence of reliability that only the scriptures, the Holy book, the words of God carry the final and trustworthy authority as regards any concept of man that is spiritual. Using the context verses through which God has presented the concept "**predestination**" to us, in comparison to the parables that accompany such. The first appearance of the word predestine (I.e. to preordain, to foreknow something) that we encounter in the scriptures is in the book of **Romans 8:28-30**.

ALL THINGS WORK FOR GOOD

The conjunction "**And**" appeared here as an additional information to an earlier discussion of Apostle Paul, who from the 15th verse of chapter 8 began to talk to the church in Rome about the concept of spiritual suffering and glory, concluded his statement in vs 27. But gave an additional information based on an inherent knowledge he already had.

I love the choices of words that Apostle Paul used in this verse, these words were explicit in their own sense. He says "And we know" I.e. regardless of what every other persons may think, regardless of whatever the societal disposition may be, regardless of whatever we may be going through (**Rom 8:35-39**), these things are not enough to dissuade us from what 'we know'. And what is this that we know? It is the fact that 'all things', both the good and the bad, the suffering and the smiling, the ease and

*Romans {8:28} And **we know** that **all things** work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called **according to [his] purpose.***
*{8:29} For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate **[to be] conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*
*{8:30} Moreover whom He did **predestinate**, them He also **called**: and whom He called, them he also **justified**: and whom he justified, them he also **glorified**.*

the challenges, even when they may not have been designed to be so, even when the enemy has manipulated them in a way – 'we know' that "all things work together for good to them that love God".

This statement like I said earlier are explicit enough, not everyone can claim that all things work together for their good. Not everyone can accept the fact that the good and the bad work for their good. It is not only because the statement is attractive but it is a statement born out of conviction. Meaning, only those who love God, only those who are sold out, only those who have come to the consciousness of not living for themselves (either to take glory or shame, praise or blame), those who truly love God because He first loved them, who walk not in the love of God by what they expect to get from Him, but by reverence of His person. These are them that truly love God, and only these set of people can agree, admit that all things work together for their good, because they know they love God and as well can testify of His unwavering faithfulness to all. Apostle Paul then ends it on this note that these ones who love God, by accepting God's love for them, basking in the understanding of the supremacy of His love over any challenge or inconvenience they might be facing or going through, only these set of people that have accepted God and what His kingdom stands for are "**the called**" according to purpose.

Let us use a family that practices **Subsistence farming** as an example. A family who lives and farm to fend for themselves, this kind of family, when the father and mother goes to farm and calls out to their children to go along with them, it is a normal experience that the farming so to speak does not seem like an inconvenience to the children, why? Because for them it is an inherent understanding, a knowing that we are doing this for the family, that's where we eat and get our daily needs. And at such, when the work comes, it doesn't becomes demanding to them, nor appear as a disturbance because the essence is known.

In such setting, let us imagine that a far cousin who lives in the city comes around to stay with this farming family and they begin to wake him or her up early every morning to go to farm. The way such cousin would receive the new system of life may be poor and unresponsive, because for him or her, it is not yet a knowing, not yet a practice or a consciousness of life. It would appear to such cousin more like an inconvenience. The same can be related to the last statement of **Romans 8:28** – "***to those who are called according to His purpose***".

As believers, when things happen around us and to us, on the strength of our faith in God, it is supposed to be a knowing within us, an inherent consciousness that no matter what it is, "**all things**" work together for our good: 1. Because we love God 2. Because we are 'the called' in accordance to His purpose. Meaning that so long we have come to believe in God, many things, challenges, favourable endeavor, unpleasant occurrence(s) would come under the guise of "***all things***". And when these comes, those with whom it has not become a knowing, who are not yet equipped with the revelational and experiential knowledge of their experience in and with God can be and are usually frightened, can be

disturbed, can even change their mind and begin to despise their choice of having believed in God. But as for us who have knowledge (both by revelation and experience), for us that ***we know***, we are not moved because regardless of the nature of the "**all things**", that comes before us, we are sure that **the end result is good**.

The called do not just see themselves as human beings, a mere product of God's game in His chessboard, the called have moved from a general conception of humanity to recognizing that they have been chosen, they have been elected for a (His) purpose. And the response of these individuals, these random human beings to the purpose of God who by knowledge have recognized, is what made them "the called". This is a huge contrast to the blind disposition on predestination that makes it always seem as if God is impartial by choosing some people fated for good and some fated for evil.

It is of a truth that God chooses people, and yes, He chose us all right from the foundations of the world, this is why the death of Christ was not for a selected group of persons, but for all. It is our response to Him (His death) and our choice, our ability to agree to walk in His plan and purpose that makes us "the called". The basic difference between '**the called (the elect)**' and they that are random or not categorised as the called is that 'the called' have heeded and agreed to follow God's purpose, while others have not chosen or agreed to live according to His purpose —they are yet still living their lives.

IT DID NOT ALL START WITH "PREDESTINATION"

When we get to verse 29 of Romans' 8th chapter, we then begin to understand the hierarchical progression of the order of predestination. In this verse analyses, we would come to understand the scriptural truth that predestination or the fact of being predestined that we focus on and lay great emphasis upon, in actual reality does not start with being predestined.

{8:29} For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate **[to be] conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

This verse begins with a statement "**For whom He did foreknow**". This reveals to us that before the concept of predestination, there was a scenario of knowing or foreknowing. And to foreknow means to have a knowledge of a thing beforehand (at an earlier or preceding time). This would mean to say that: For whom He (God) had had knowledge of before a preceding Time.

When we look at man on earth and his endeavours, everything he does is validated and made essential within the confines of Time. To locate what man is, what man has done or can be, the factor of Time is an inevitable phenomenon that must be put into consideration. But here, **Romans 8:29**, gives us an insight into the fact that God has a knowledge of us before we begin whatever we do in time. Been keen on the choice words, it is of a truth that

God did have a knowledge of us before we came in time, but you would agree with me that the fact that a person knows about someone or something before time is not enough yardstick to say that person who has that knowledge would also have total control of the situation and how it would play out. Let me paint us an example for clarity.

Imagine a friend of yours tells you he was coming to your house on a Wednesday with his wife and obviously because he has a car, he would probably come in one and to be specific, he says he would be in your house by 3pm parking at your doorstep, with a white cloth on. When you look at these words, it is to a large extent very perfect in description. To you, you have or now have a "foreknowing". I.e. You foreknow that your friend is coming, and in the context of that knowing, you have a full picture of what is coming is expected to be like, what he would be wearing, who he should be coming with, which day and time etc. all this to you is a foreknowing that has come as a result of information.

God's foreknowing is through an intention of creation. Just like a manufacturer would have in his mind what he wants to manufacture and to complement it, would have with him a picture or a drawing in his draft. This is the same way God foreknew you and I, He had and still has a picture of how He wants our life to be, perfect, undisturbed and enjoyed. Not because He is a dictator who seeks to control our life, but beyond the right and control He has over us as our creator, He gives us the freewill to choose to live according to His preplanned draft. This is because He knows we cannot have a better option or offer outside His intention, and that any 'seeming' picture or model outside what we are fashioned for is an aberration.

This is the same as the circumstance of probability that surrounds the coming of your friend. That is, we cannot definitely be sure the very coming of your friend would appear as he has perfectly described it. Your friend may appear in white either 'agbada' or shirt, your friend may appear 3:01pm due to a difference in your time zone and his, he may appear in another car '**if**' his car develops a fault, your friend may not come with his wife '**if**' she has an emergency. All these probabilities may distort the picture of how you foreknew that your friend may appear. Although it is of a fact that these unprecedented circumstances **would not stop** your friend from appearing or coming to you, but they can affect '**how**' he or she would appear and that appearance may distort the picture that you foreknew of his coming.

In this similitude, these unprecedented circumstances is an equivalent of possibilities and probabilities resident in the human order, such as the "**human freewill**" in time (on earth) and the fracture in the series of daily events and occurrences. When God has a perfect picture of how He foreknew (had a knowledge of) what He intends we would look like on earth (in time), but our freewill, and the frailties of the world that we are in are the factors that distorts our lives from being perfect, being undisturbed, enjoyed and playing out the way God would have it.

{8:29} For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate ***[to be] conformed to the image of his Son****, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

The second statement of Romans 8:29, has been misconceived due to our human approach in times when we are hurt and experiencing pain, we try to comfort ourselves focusing on the "predestined" aspect to justify whatever we are going through, yet neglecting the message of the full statement. The message of the full statement is not only that we are predestined, planned or fashioned to experience either pain, hurt, good, pleasure and so on, but that through the picture He had when he foreknew you and I, He predestined (destined us from the beginning, foreordaining us) to be conformed to the image of His Son. Through the revelation of this verse, we can come to see that whatever God has predestined us to be, it is not necessarily a function of whether good or bad, nor a focus on what affects us or not, but about His Son.

Most times, what the enemy does is that, via afflictions through pains, hurts and disappointments, he causes us to focus on predestination as God's threat to our comfort or living well, making us believe that God leaves us almost without choice to the things in our lives. **Predestination is a means to an end**; the end of the image of the Son of God. This means that He designed, fashioned and created us, to be conformed (molded, live life) according to the picture He foreknew and that picture is what is perfect – the Image of the Son. One of the reason God would have our lives patterned after the image of the Son is that, it is through the Son that whatever perfect, good, nice, pleasant and enjoyable life we desire to live without trading our souls or doing away with God can be achieved. Outside the Son is a world corrupt and ruled by a prince, this prince no matter what he offers, his end game is to have us loose an eternity through a pleasure of now. This is why God in His wisdom would not, and has not made anything available for us outside the Image of the Son.

The last statement of verse 29 says, that He might be the "***...Firstborn among many brethren***". This insinuates that the image of the Son is the image set before us to conform into; that we might be brethren in the order of which He (Christ), the son hath lived his life.

The hierarchical progression of predestination

On the hierarchical progression of predestination, after **the foreknowing** stage, next is **the predestined** stage, followed by **the called** stage which I have explained earlier, the next stage is the stage of the justified. The Bible speaks in **Romans 8:30**.

{8:30} Moreover whom He did ***predestinate****, them He also* ***called****: and whom He called, them he also* ***justified****: and whom he justified, them he also* ***glorified****.*

It is a truth that should be of note that "the called" like I pointed out earlier are those who responded to the purpose after a recognition. This is the salvation stage, whereby God through His preachers and ministers constantly call

to reach out to the lost, knowing that He had predestined every one of us living on earth after the image of His son; (that was an intention outside time before man fell). Now in time after the fall, God began to call us to Himself; this call is an age-long call, an election by grace, which started with Noah, for the scriptures said Noah found grace in God's sight (Genesis 6:8). Going down to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, the Judges, the Kings, the Prophets ending with Jesus. God has been using those individuals to call us to God's mercy and repentance mechanism. The end to this call mechanism was with the perfect image of the Son —Jesus. So as many that heed to the call of the son performed and demonstrated through salvation, these lost persons will be **the called**.

When the called comes and then heed, they become the justified; the justified are them that through the provision of the cross via salvation have been made of a new spirit, and through the light of that spirit that they have received, have chosen to walk in the light of their faith. For the scriptures says "the just shall live (exist, survive) by faith (believing)". This means that the stance of being **the Just** or **justified** only stand on the continued existence of Faith (believing). When we stop believing or shift focus on what we have believed, it distorts our conception of predestination, focusing on the things we are going through or the things happening to us.

I don't intend to dwell much on the glorified, knowing fully well that the coverage of our study is on predestination. But for the sake of reference and further study, we should know that the glorified or being glorified does not happen in time per say. It is a product of our conduct of a justified life, how strong, how long and how well we lived by faith and the things we did via the faith we lived by. This would determine the measure of our glorification, and the category of people that would be regarded as "the glorified". More importantly, it is a decision not totally in our realm, but of God, a function of His pleasure.



THE PATTERN OF PREDESTINATION

The second context or scriptures of the bible in which we come to understand predestination is in the book of **Ephesians 1:5 & 11**. In the book of Romans 8, through the spirit of God we were able to see the hierarchal progression of predestination and the pattern through which it was established. Here in Ephesians, to understand the context of chapter 1 verse 5, we need to read through from verse 3, 4 to 5. In verse 5, the predestination (the designing & creation of man) was established here on a pattern:

EPHESIANS 1: 3-5 &10- 11

{1:3} Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly [places] in Christ: {1:4} According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: {1:5} Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

{1:10} That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; [even] in him: {1:11} In Whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will:

Yes, we have come to know that the word predestine means to destine, decree, determine or appoint beforehand, but this decree and determination was unto adoption. And 'Adoption' means to take a child of other parents legally as your own child. The question then that we may want to ask is; who is the '**other parents**' in this context? Or are we not in the first place the children of God? Indeed we are; but the fragment in the Earth order as well as the fault in creation has made it needful that we become adopted.

Everyone born on earth today are creations of God that have been redeemed by the provisional blood of Jesus. But for these ones (God's creations) to become sons and children of God, there must be an adoption process, a legal transfer of parenthood from one person to another. This is so because after God has foreknown you and I in the spirit and intends to create us here on earth to walk and manifest in the pre-planned intention, the law of creation as it stands now and the law of entrance into the earth realm only permits that 'flesh and blood' (every human) can come into this realm through birth. – So God by necessity had to let you and I come into the world through being born here via the womb of a woman. And by the nature of His deposits in our spirits we usually come to know that there is a God in heaven and part of us do wish to do as He had preplanned us to walk in the image of His Son, but there was a contamination to the content (our spirit, God's seed) through the vessel that it came by (the human flesh).

EPHESIANS 2:1-10

{2:1} And you [hath he quickened,] who were dead in trespasses and sins; {2:2} Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: {2:3} Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. {2:4} But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, {2:5} Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) {2:6} And hath raised [us] up together, and made [us] sit together in heavenly [places] in Christ Jesus: {2:7} That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in [his] kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. {2:8} For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God: {2:9} Not of works, lest any man should boast. {2:10} For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Our spirit (inner man) had been contaminated by the fault in the human flesh and at such, we usually by nature follow the desires of the flesh.

The flesh is the dead to God and can in no way in death obey God, yet God would have us live according to His pre-conceived plans, this was why through Christ, an adoption mechanism was put in place that even though through the physical birth and by the introduction of the flesh as a gateway, we were of the world, but by the spirit (the seed of God) and by adoption (the redemptive work of Christ) we become the children of God to walk not according to the flesh again but in accordance to the spirit (the seed of God) that was in us before time. This is why the concluding part of **Ephesians 1:5** said "according to the good pleasure of His will".

For us to better understand the mystery of the redemptive work of Christ and need for adoption, which is a matter of Spiritual legality, I would paint a picture of birth in the human legal system, so we could better understand it, using the American legal system as an example.

In America, one of the legalized system of procreation is SURROGACY – this is an arrangement, often supported by a legal agreement, whereby a woman (the surrogate mother) agrees to become pregnant and give birth to a child for another person(s) who is/are or will become the parent(s) of the child. This parent of the child are usually the ones who give or supplies the spermatozoa and egg, while the surrogate mother simply comes as the carrier who bears the pregnancy for nine months on behalf of the person or couple. This is the same thing God does through the woman womb, and through every parent. Every man and woman are agents of carriage to help carry a godly seed.

Malachi 2:15 establishes that the reason He made man and woman to become one flesh is because He (God) require of them a godly seed. And this is also why in **Psalms 127:3**, the scriptures refer to children as a heritage (an inheritance) from God, and this is a truth that parents in our generation must come to know and accept.

Malachi {2:15} And did not He make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That He might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

Now after the surrogate mother (the carrier) has borne the child for nine months and given birth, by law, she has the right to claim the child as hers, even though she knows the seed wasn't hers. This is why a legal arrangement is usually in place before carrying the pregnancy. This is the same situation we sometimes find ourselves spiritually, whereby the devil knowing fully well we are God's seed but through the necessity of the flesh (the human nature) which was fallen, the devil tries to lay claim to us (**Ephesians 2:3-10**) as his own because we are still in the flesh. But all thanks to the necessity of adoption, when a child of God recognizes this truth via the hearing of the word of God, he has the right, the freewill to then choose. This is why although predestination is patterned after the image of the son, the necessity of choosing via the adoptive and redemptive work of Christ is needful.

Little wonder, when many people are going through various challenges and we tell them of the love of God and the marvelous provision of Christ, a part of them recognizes the truth because they are God's seed, but other rebellious part of them (the flesh) begin to ask questions like; if God loves me, why am I going through this or that. The answer is simple, the seed is perfect and was not intended for suffering, but the container (the flesh) through which it came made the seed go through different sufferings. This is why the devil would have people give a thousand reasons out of their pains and hurts why they would not choose the adoption provision of Christ.

So I encourage you today, if you are reading this and have not truly given your life to Christ or accepted His, I am happy to announce to you that you are God's seed and it is needful of you to bypass the unlawful and illegal claims of the nature of flesh (which is manifested in enmity with God, agreement to the world culture, systems and beliefs) and choose the adoption provision of God, so you can be legally known as a son of God not just as a creation of His, but as a son with the privilege of intimacy and a fellowship with the Godhead. And this adoption provision is simple; all you need do is to believe in your heart that God loves you and gave his only Son (Jesus) to die for you as a sinner and hath raised him up for your justification and you confess with your mouth that the 'risen' Christ is Lord and brethren to us all. Then you are automatically adopted.

INHERITANCE OF THE PREDESTINED

{1:10} That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; [even] in him: {1:11} In Whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will:

The Last context of predestination as found in the scriptures is seen in verse 11 of Ephesians 1, but we would read through from verse 10.

The scriptures establishes that there is a fullness of time where all things would be gathered in Christ – in Him. The "In Him" phrase of the 11th verse, with the first statement revealing that we have an inheritance that is predestined *according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will*. The inheritances spoken of in this context is the same as the inheritance that we have in Christ as a product of the many things His death has afforded us, this is because the inheritance is fashioned with a foreknowing (preplanned intention beforehand after the same Image of the son), but in accordance to the ***purpose of the counsel of His will***.

When a potter begins molding of a cup, jar or pot, most times when we talk of purpose and predestination, we focus on the purpose of the creation of the potter, so if the potter chooses, he or she can make the clay into a cup, a jar, a pot or even a bowl, whichever pleases him or her. But alongside the creation, every potter infuses in his creation an inheritance, this inheritance is not physical, it is abstract and intrinsic. It is what places a demand on the purpose of the creation. What do I mean by this? The potter indeed can choose to make a lump of clay into whatever he or she chooses, but in the process of the making, **the deliberate intention** of the potter also determines **the intensity of his molding**, how careful he is in making the vessel, how hard or soft his hands are on the cycling lump of clay on the wheel would also determine the worth of the vessel –if it would come out as a household vessel for day-in day-out usage or as a jar as expensive as the Ming jars of china. This "virtue of worth" is the inheritance that the potter gives and infuses to his creation and whatever the nature of this inheritance is, it does determines the demands and supposed importance that is placed on the vessel or creation. And of course, this is not to say that to the potter one vessel is more important than the other, their necessity only differs.

We would notice often times that when a potter creates and set them up for sale, it is the consumer orientation that seemingly places a differential importance to one vessel or the other. Yet to the potter He only enjoys the constant expression of his or her creativity. Same is applicable to us as humans, such that I our intrinsic disposition of dominion, we have placed more or less importance on the things God has created, the offices or ministries He has called us to be in, to an extent that the '**orientation of being popular**' has become our yardstick of success or fulfilment of purpose. With God, and to God, we are simply expressions of His creative ability and if we are able to come into this understanding, we would appreciate every one of us for our uniqueness and necessity in the body of Christ.

*2 Timothy 2:20 {2:20} But in a great house there are not only **vessels of gold** and of **silver**, but also **of wood** and **of earth;** and some to honour, and some to dishonour.*

The scriptures in Timothy while speaking of vessels established the potential of the house; "In a great house", which means that the Master of the house tagged 'great' is also a great master (God) in wealth. This would mean that in His greatness He could afford that all the vessels of the house be of gold. Yet due to his purpose (distinct intention) and a specific need or reason (which is the counsel of His will), He regardless of what He could afford made sure that besides the vessels of gold, he had some of silver, some of wood and some of clay (earth), each necessary and important in their own right according to the purpose with which they have been fitted. This is to let us know that in the process of seeking the truth to our purpose in life, we must not be ignorant of the inheritance that have been fitted and fashioned into our making, as this would at most times determine our taste, what we would by nature be inclined to do or despise, things that would come our way, our preferences and so much more.

The same way also as vessels and creations of God that we are, as much as we have been predestined for a purpose, we in Him have obtained an inheritance that places different demands on us according to the purpose of the counsel of His will. This is one cogent aspect of predestination that we need to take to heart; that the inheritance that is predestined with us as humans, as sons, as vessels of God, is also a determinant of **what follows us**, **what demands are placed on our destiny**, **what gets attracted to us**, **what we get attracted to**, **what we by the deposits of the seed naturally do and our distinct paths in fulfilling destiny**, which usually and definitely vary from persons to persons.

This many demands upon our inheritance are daily interpreted in various ways by various persons, but they come uniquely in their own way. For Joseph, it was dreaming and later interpretation, a deposit of inheritance that followed his purpose and journey, for Samson it was strength, for David it was shepherding, the heart for a flock that followed a heart for God's people, for Solomon it was wisdom, and for Daniel it was a spirit of excellence. For some of us it may be an unseen level of intellectual capacity, to some natural meekness and gentility, to some it is good communication skills and so much more. This inheritance we have fashioned into our being is usually not one or limited, it comes to us as we ask the Lord for it, for it has been predestined with us and at such, at specific stages of our lives when they have been designated needful, we walk in them. They form the scope of our choices, whether consciously or unconsciously, they are a push to our intentions.

This is why when we see some people talking in a particular way that seem uncommon and daring and it works for them, or we see people make choices that when others make, it is

detrimental and yet works for them, it is a product of the inheritance that comes with their purpose.

For me, writing, teaching, mediation and administration are some of the many inheritances that comes with the demands of my purpose. And it has worked and has been working for me.

Lastly, I would leave us with one of my favourite scriptures in the book of **Galatians 5:25 & 26**. Especially in the ***Message Translation***.

KJV {5:25} If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. {5:26} Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

MSG 25. Since this is the kind of life we have chosen to, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts, but work out its implications in every detail of our lives.

26. That means we will not compare ourselves with each other as if one were better and another worse. We have far more interesting things to do with our lives.

Each of us is an original.

...EACH OF US IS AN ORIGINAL...

CHAPTER 3

Nuggets

1) Christendom 101... Why are you a Christian? You should know you are not a Christian because of a promise of a better Life? That you could get for yourself through diligence. Be Reminded that; you are a Christian because you believe you were dead and couldn't know who God is or His love for you. However, in your acceptance of His life, you truly became alive and got intimate with a deity called I AM; who has now become all to you.

2) There is a Consciousness of God's presence that all Levites carry with them every Morning as they go about their service to God in the Tabernacle or Temple. This consciousness of "we are separated into God for works of righteousness". This Consciousness would naturally cause a man of the Leviticus tribe to avoid any uncleanness no matter the natural excuse. If you doubt what I say, ask The Priest and the Levite in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:31&32)

3) So you wonder why you still fall victim of Sin, even when you are Now Born again. Oh! You question why things still go wrong morally regardless of your reality in Christ? It is because you have forgotten that you are not just a King who should only dominate, but a "Royal Priesthood" ... The strength of your Kingship is in the service of your Priesthood.

4) You need to Get it together and resume the burning of incense on the altar of burnt offering, where you give up your members (body) a living Sacrifice on the altar of Prayer. Oh Yes! Prayer is the Priesthood service of the New Testament Believer. And this is one aspect of Socio-Physical and Psycho-Physiological purgation that my generation do not like to talk about. They are cool with or religious gymnastics without the Clause of Prayer.

5) "Royal Priesthood" our Dominion mandate, and circumference of influence is equivalent to our servitude in the office of our Priesthood. It is the process of mortifying (putting to death) the FLESH.

6) When a person subjects the Truth of the Scriptures to Cerebral Approach, it is an evidence that him/her is devoid of Celestial Comprehension. The word of God is an Existential Truth that needs not intellectual consent to be or remain as it is.

7) The clause of hearing God, is that every instructions has a responsibility.

8) If you are not a fan of being told what to do, how to or not behave. Then seeking to be led of the Spirit would be to you "a heavy laden"... The Leading of sons are most times strict because they are Kings-in-making.

9) The fact that you do not understand Chinese, does not make Mandarin "Nonsense" or less of a Language... Tongues is a Language for all willing, a Carrier of Spiritual whispers with Zero regard for Reasoning.

10) It takes more than the "day after" a Saturday or a day before a Monday to make SUNDAY what it is... It is a Symbol of Consciousness that constantly reminds us of the REST we have in Christ, that keeps us going after Him.

11) You can never understand one language until you have understood a first language. For in the Cross-reference of Languages do we truly come to the understanding of another.. Any Communication of the Spirit VOID of Scriptural Cross-reference is a leading to death.

12) No Language is understood because we "Just Have UNDERSTANDING" of it, rather, they are best understood in their testimony of our primary Language. Spiritual Languages are Concretised, not by hearing, but by 'A Heart Witness'.

13) No one who ventured out to Know and Hear God, who has not tried approaching Him from the perception of a Man, it is just Natural. But as you Continue in your search for Him, the First principle of Communication you will Learn is 'SILENCE', Not of the mouth/voice, BUT of Reasoning.

14) The Obsession of a True Believer is not Religion; a show of being Spiritual than another... But a walk of Love; an attempt to understand the sacrifice of what made God Man, and Man God.

15) In the principle of association, gradual assimilation is a safety measure, to vet not only the person, but His or her content; Spirit. So what you call pride sometimes is just an attempt to maintain a sanctity of orientation and mindset.

16) You wouldn't appreciate how much "Understanding" God has privileged you until you have met a lot of Unreasonable persons or been unfathomable circumstances... What you Call Normal, is another person's yardstick of being Human. What you call common sense, is another man's opportunity to appear wise.
Emphasis: Don't get too familiar with the workings of the Lord on your inside that you confuse it for Moral standards.
For it is not in and of a Man to be Naturally Good.

17) The First Characteristics of GRACE is not that we are better than those who have refused to believe. But that We who have Believed has beyond all odds Trusted even when there is No Hope, that a Man (Jesus) could save our Dead & Dying Souls.
This is why the Gospel of Grace is not about being better than others, but rather letting others know they can be as better as we have become.

18) The Spirit of a Believer is not ignorant of God's will or leading, it is our consciousness to it that is devoid of alignment. Mind Renewal via the scriptures is not merely the avoidance of bad Thoughts, rather it is a mechanism that affords us the privilege to seek out the Mind of God.

19) Do you know that Pride; is an expression of a LOW-SELF ESTEEM? Our Identity is not in seeking dominion over others, but in living out the graceful office of Sonship which lies in Utmost Submission to God.

20) The Obsession of a True Believe is not Religion; a show of being Spiritual than another... But a walk of Love; an attempt to understand the sacrifice of what made God Man, and Man God.

21) FAVOUR Is not an ideology that seeks how good you and I are or can be, it most times does not need our ability to deliver. Favour Is an Imprint of God's uncommon recommendation of us to be Blessed.

22) Many atimes in our lives, the only evidence that we are Right or Wrong, is not how accepted or rejected our actions is by others. Rather it is by the simplicity of a voice bearing Witness in our Spirit of what has been revealed but not yet seen.

23) There are many attestation of the person of Christ and the possibilities embedded in Him... Only such that is witnessed in our heart is permitted to be our reality.

24) Conviction and Clarity are the after effect of a True Witness. This is why the necessity of Light cannot be undermined in the classification of He who must stand in place of Truth... For you stand Not only for the Known, but also for the Unknown.

25) The ability to Offer and Insist on a perspective that engrafts conviction to the Heart of Men, is the number one essence to which a Witness is required... In the Clause of Spiritual ambassadorship, You and I must offer more than words.

26) What you call "Emotions" is the Conscious Witness that testifies of the state of our Hearts... JOY is one of the many Emotions that testifies that you are STRONG (Mentally and Spiritually); For the Scriptures say the Joy of the Lord is Our Strength.

27) The first sign of Maturity is not Knowledge, but Understanding.
Not that you think you know more than everyone else but that you understand that what you know is a part of a whole, and at such you imbibe the Humility to embrace what you would consider the supposed Ignorance of others.

28) The Spirit of a Believer is not ignorant of God's will or leading, it is our consciousness to it that is devoid of alignment. Mind Renewal via the scriptures is not merely the avoidance of bad Thoughts, rather it is a mechanism that affords us the privilege to seek out the Mind of God.

29) The First Characteristics of GRACE is not that we are better than those who have refused to believe. But that We who have Believed has beyond all odds

Trusted even when there is No Hope, that a Man (Jesus) could save our Dead & Dying Souls.
This is why the Gospel of Grace is not about being better than others, but rather letting others know they can be as better as we have become.

30) If we started our lives, we could have had the wherewithal to live it as we please. The very Air we breathe and do not have a part in its manufacturing is very WITNESS that we are not of or from ourselves.

31) GRACE is not a RIGHT Claimed as being better than others, but that we are RIGHT by admitting the worse tendencies in and of ourselves such that our boast is not that we are perfect, but that we have been made perfect by pleading guilty to the highest system of Justice.

32) That Voice you suppose as a Conscience to your Heart, Inspiration to your Mind, and the Sense of Knowing what is Right or Wrong that is so strong within is the very Witness God has For and Against you and I.
Such that In the Long Run, No one will deny having ever heard from him, or Had contact with Him.
That the Counsel of God as JUST may be True.

33) The Mystery of Help is such that Witnesses to our Hearts how far we cannot do a thing unless by the Spirit of God.

34) It is not a sign of weakness to ask God for Help, it is a sign of Helplessness. For when you see it as a weakness, that means you still have an hidden strength somewhere to fall back to.

35) Change is a phenomenon of life that is best understood by the situation that surrounds a Man, it is relative to external factors. Transformation on the other hand is from Within. It is a Spiritual reconfiguration, an evidence that guarantees the permanence and longevity of what comes around a man.

36) Time is an essential commodity in Witnessing. Time is the phenomenon that situates, establishes and gives insight that something or someone was, now exists, and can be more than who they are or have been.

37) Truth is not a theory to dictate if what is being said agrees with what has happened. No!

38) Truth Is the unwavering Witness of God's standard that seeks to accommodate the good excuses Man has to be bad.

39) The difference between JESUS and the likes of Socrates or Plato and other philosophers is that they had witnesses limited by flesh, with varying testimonies over generation which made them irreplicable.

40) JESUS on the other hand, had a WITNESS such as himself not limited by flesh or Testimony, but by individual Conviction.

41) The limitation of communication is not in words themselves, but in the "choices of words used". This is why UTTERANCE is a Witness, not to the fact that we know, but that we also understand and are able to communicate what is known beyond and above controversy.

42) The Cloud of WITNESS is not necessarily a gathering of a group of people. It is the TESTAMENT of Creation bearing Witness to the choices of fulfilment that lies between who you were meant to be and what you chose to live out to be in Time.

43) There is really no yardstick to categorize someone as being BAD and some as being GOOD. Everyone is a reflection of the level of his or her UNDERSTANDING and the limitations of their EXPOSURE.

44) God does not need Time to change a Man's Life, All He Uses is an Opportunity. He lives outside time, and all that is in time does not usually agree with Him, so He seeks windows of Opportunity by the alignment of Occurrences.

45) At Every point in our lives, whether we recognise it or not, God brings people, around us that looks like "who you want to be and where you want to go". You are responsible for how much of God you know or do not want to know.

46) There is a level of SPEED in Life and Destiny called WAITING, The Mystery of Stillness that has no reckoning for who had set out first. (1 King's 18:46 And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel).

47) Always thank God you got this far, BUT Think about where you'd be, if you knew any better than you know now.

48) The Burden of Spiritual Truths is that when you discover them, you cannot deny they exists... For it leaves a witness in your Heart always.

49) One of the many things that highlights and emphasizes God, His relevance and Supremacy in our lives, is; the haunting consciousness of a Need, and a helplessness to be helped by a greater person or force.

50) The First step to prayer is a Heart posture that admits the need to be helped. There are many things that are possible by the strength, diligence and consistence of a Man, time definitely would make sure the efforts pay off. But there are very few Lasting things that would guarantee the safety of a Man's soul and at the same time prosper him, without HELP from the Father of all Spirits.

51) I have come to discover that the Explanation many people need in their lives to things and situation around them is not necessarily words, or a high-sounding display of intellectual competence... The Explanation they simply need is; GROWTH. When we grow or experience growth, in any form (mental, physical, numerical, Spiritual etc.) There are some things you will know by experiential Exposure.

52) In any relationship, talking goes a long way in avoiding Misconceptions, Assumptions, Conflicts, Over/Under-expectations etc. If we could just talk things out. We would understand what it means to follow peace with all men. Even with God, beyond the "enthusiasm and religiousity of prayer points"... When Last did you talk things out to your Father. It is more friendly talk to a Father, than "praying to a God".

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He bagged his Bachelor of Arts at the prestigious University of Ibadan, Ibadan. The pioneer of VEIN Consults (Versatile Invaders' Consults) and Convener of the LEAGUE OF KINGDOM SCRIBES, a hub of Christian Writers. Though a timid personality, his strength lies in Teaching of the word, where timidity has no hold. He is fondly called; Versatile Saint. Author of the Right Scholarship. Writer of various Kingdom Journals and Articles.

He is a Theatre Artist by career, and currently a Lecturer at the Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo State. A Directing Major, Scenic designer amongst other competencies.

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CONTACT

Versatile Eductional Institute and Consults
www.veinconsults.blogspot.com
veinconsults@gmail.com
www.Kingdomscribes.wordpress.com
+2347068872610, +2348106424451



The Experiential Knowledge
SCRIBAL COLLEGE: Academy For Scribes
www.Academyforscribes.wordpress.com
Kingdomscribes01@gmail.com
+2347068872610, +2348106424451

LEAGUE OF KINGDOM SCRIBES

www.Kingdomscribes.wordpress.com

Kingdomscribes01@gmail.com

+2347068872610, +2348106424451

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