

THE WAR BETWEEN THE TWO KINGDOMS

**CHRISTIANITY
VERSUS
DEVIL AND HIS AGENTS**

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Chapter

1

INTRODUCTION

We have believed about world without end. It is indeed world without end because man's spirit is eternal, but one thing is certain, that is, the physical elements of the universe shall pass away.

The coming of Christ into the world was the actual beginning to the end (Heb.9: 26). From Adam to Noah were of many generations and each of it was many times bigger than the present one because life span was longer. Though a big world, it was destroyed, but not the end.

From Noah to Abraham was also a span of many generations because people had filled the surface of the earth. And from Abraham to the coming of Christ on earth is recorded to be forty-two generations (Matt. 1:17). The promise of God was that at the fullness of time He would send a Saviour. Note that when the fullness of time came God actually sent Christ to save us from sin and its condemnable consequences (Gal. 4:4). For this reason Christ had appeared at the end of the world to take away sin (Heb. 9:26). From Christ till now is more than two thousand years. This appears to mean that God is slack in his promises but He is not. Remember a day with God is like a thousand years to man. We are enjoying the long-suffering of God as children. But the end is very much at hand (2 Peter 3:9-10).

In Matthew chapter 24 Jesus himself had revealed those things that would happen at the end. He said there would be wars and pestilence in the world. Nevertheless there had been wars before Christ was born. But after Christ, there had been two remarkable wars, which were called world wars, and there had been cases of plague and incurable diseases. He said false Christ shall arise and will deceive many. Those who preach the gospel of righteousness would be hated of all men and some may be killed. This is fulfilled from the death of Christ till date. The gospel is now being preached in every nation as a witness. We know that there is no part of the world that Christ had not been preached. Whether the message was given by false Christ or not, there will be no excuse because access to the Bible is a testimony against the people, the Bible being the witness. The love which Christianity seeks to establish is well known in the world. We know it through the nature of present day international law and justice.

In Daniel chapter 9, it is revealed that it will take seventy weeks to make an end of sin in the world. That, from the law to rebuild Jerusalem to the birth of Christ, the prince will be sixty-nine weeks. This showed that Christ would come at the end. Remember that Jerusalem is a mystery, not the earthly one but the home of God on earth. It is the body of Christ where the Holy Spirit dwells. The promise of the end of sin is fulfilled in Christ's redemption work. The new covenant is established and it is confirmed in his people in righteousness. There is devil who himself is a prince. He is gathering his people against the SANCTUARY OF GOD to make it desolate. It will be desolate when the church or the

body of Christ is overthrown in the world. Here is the wisdom of the saints.

Is the Kingdom of God Here on Earth —Now?

People's view about the end is based on the understanding that Biblical prophecies are literal, and that they talk about real events that would take place in the physical. That prophets of old and those who first trusted God believed and stood on God's promise because of those events that actually took place following the prophecy. Interpreting prophecies with spiritual events to them means making the prophecy meaningless especially to those who first trusted God. They hold the view that the kingdom of God will be established when Jesus Christ would come back to earth and sit on his throne as an everlasting king in Israel. That prophets of old prophesied of real worldly events and not spiritual things which they did not foresee. What we should know is that: prophecies indeed are literal and the events literal as a lesson for the generation to come. In this present generation of Christ, everything is spiritualized. God is a spirit and those who worship him will worship him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). The word of God is spiritualised (John 6:63), the kingdom of God is spiritualised, (Luke 17:20-21), Christ as king and high priest is spiritualised (Heb. 8:1-4, Heb. 12:22-23) etc. it is the generation of faith. We walk by faith, no longer by sight.

It was because of the unknown future that prophets of old sought for interpretation from God (Daniel 8:15-17). The new heaven and new earth is not a continuation of the present ones, which are condemned already. Note that:

- (a) Heaven and earth will pass away and new ones will come into being (2Peter 3:10-14).
- (b) Flesh and blood will not inherit the kingdom of God neither would corruption inherit incorruption. That is, the body of man will be changed from mortal (flesh and blood) to an immortal spiritual body before he can be in the new earth. 1Cor. 15:44, 50-54. The new earth is spiritual, not carnal.

We should consider the nature of God's judgement and the separation of the good from the evil. In the new heaven and new earth, God does not want to have memory of the past corrupt world. The evil will be cast into the lake of fire and the good will be with Christ, completely separated from the condemned. The advent of the new earth is the end of sin. The New Kingdom is where peace will reign where the lions, wolves and the goats will feed on herbs together (Isa. 65:25). Christ said, his kingdom will be established and He will sit on His throne on his Second Coming. The kingdom of God on present earth has to do with those whose names are written in the book of life. Since it is the kingdom of the living, those whose names are written in the book of life are said to have received it in the present already with the hope of the future glory.

The Beauty of Christ to Nations

No one has seen God except as revealed by Christ. God is love (1John 4:8). Love is not only a nature but the being of God. This nature is alien to the world. It is the nature of the heavenly. It does not agree or associate or receive evil, it is always separate from it. God wants us to be in union with him through his nature. He has given us His Being through

His word, that we might be sanctified. Love is our sanctification.

He brought His word that we might become His image. The word is God, the word is love. Love is kind, gentle, meek, lowly, humble, temperate, long-suffering, etc. Love does not enslave, it does not despise or discriminate, it is full of mercy and truth, it does not pretend, its way is truth. Love is the spirit of liberty and freedom, the absence of strife, hatred and oppression.

Love is our mark of perfection, it is our holiness, sanctification and redemption. It is our power of salvation, the High Way to Heaven (John 13:34). Love cares, it provides, it overlooks, it forgives, it considers the welfare of its enemy. It is our ability to overcome the world. It is our redemption. Love is the realm of God (1Cor. 1:30).

Our ability to walk righteously is love. Its fruits are known as fruits of the spirit (Gal. 5:22,23). Love is the seed of Father God. Love enables us to walk as the righteousness of God in the world. 1John 3:9.

It is our pillar of defence, the ability to overcome judgement. It is the power to overcome oppression, slander, false witnesses and scandals. Love is a miracle worker. It makes us do what is impossible with the natural man. It puts us into God's collective will as co-labourers. It gives us the spirit of oneness and makes us walk in His realm. Our faith is built on His love. We walk in His power and ability because we are in Him and He in us. Our ability and confidence in Him is love. We can do all things through His love. Love is

the seed of God in us. It is our oneness with him. It brings out potentials, which are known as spiritual gifts. It enables us use our potentials in the highest order. It leads to inventions that usher us into the highest civilization.

Love creates peace, meekness, gentleness, kindness, mercy, etc. It guarantees effective co-operation and division of labour. It produces good policies; it designs good programmes and produces the ability to do what is right. It is the secret of good governance.

Empires failed because they were not built upon love. They were founded upon oppression, war and barbarism. People were held through coercion, they were gathered together and made subjects through military force. The empires were built upon sorrow, pains and travail. It was the survival of the fittest. They could not remain because the people were held in strife. Nations rose and soon they were taken away by strife and war.

They were destroyed because they were built upon selfishness instead of love. Selfishness is a destroyer. It clamours for its own, it cries and fights for its share. It envies, steals, oppresses, robs, etc. It leads to war and eventually, destruction. Selfishness is the realm of failure, retrogression, and anarchy. It does not allow potentials to appear. It retards collective ability and division of labour, it is the image of devil.

Past civilization could not endure because the international community stood on strife, wars, oppression, robbery and alienation. Christ brought the love that has led us

into a better civilization. Though individuals have not accepted him, he really has changed the course of history.

The international community has accepted his love as the principle of international relationship. They have acknowledged freedom to life and liberty for the weak. This has created a better civilization than in the past. It has given room for invention, which leads to a reduction in man's physical burden. We communicate in seconds around the world, we move in the air, land and sea beyond the speed of sound. It has put an end to colonialism, invasions and barbarism

If we accept to walk in the Jesus' kind of love, it is certain that we will see a higher civilization on earth. But this is utopian because the nations have rejected Christ. One thing is certain; if the international community is standing on the love of Christ as the foundation of the principle of non-interference, then this is the highest civilization we can get because Christ will now be reigning at the world level. If the nations would receive Christ, we will see a higher one, if not, the end is at hand.

Understanding the Word "Believe"

The Jews asked Jesus, "What shall we do that we might work the works of God? Jesus answered and said unto them. This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent" (John 6:28-29). From the scripture God is emphatic that His redemption plan for man is centered on believing in Jesus. His declaration in Matt. 17:5 and John 3:16 reveals that the only way to please God is to believe in

him. He came with the righteousness of God in man's flesh for us to see God through him, so that we might know him.

The word "believe" is an action word. It demands action, beyond hearing and assenting to the word. By acting, we show we have believed. Faith without corresponding action is no faith. One cannot act on something he does not know. We need to hear and be convinced before we act. (Rom.10: 14-15). If a command or instruction is not clear, action may not be justified (Rom.10: 1-3).

Believe means you have believed about your redemption from sin. You have believed about his substitutional sacrifice on your behalf. He died that you should live, he received the curse of the cross that yours should be taken away, he was afflicted that you should be healed, he was made sin that you should be righteous before God, he was condemned that you should be free. Believe means you have accepted the fact that as far as he has substituted himself for you in his sacrifice you are now free, justified and righteous before God. Your past sins are gone and you are to maintain this gift of justification by living the life of Christ the rest of your life (2Cor. 5:15). Your justification will hold only if you repent and walk in the Jesus' kind of love. Those who hear about the truth, who understand the will of God but are unable to act or practice, or live according to the word are described as unbelievers, disobedient, stiff-necked and rebellious. They will be judged as having rejected the work of salvation on their behalf. Acting, practicing, doing and living in his kind of love means confessing him as Lord and Saviour. To take Jesus as Lord and Saviour means humbling oneself to him such that he dictates what you should like, the decisions you

should take, what you should do and how to do it, and that you solely rely on him for your needs, care and protection. You confess of what he has made you to become. You no longer live of your own, but he is your wisdom, and understanding and power. Your life is now his life (1Cor. 1:30).

The war between the two Kingdoms

The high treason of Adam had brought great calamity to man. The world is condemned, awaiting final destruction. Satan is god and prince of the condemned world. Problems are everywhere and man is born into trouble. There are many battles to fight, many problems to overcome, both physical and spiritual (Job 5:7). There are wars, conflicts, riots, violence and treachery, sicknesses, diseases, poverty and physical death. These problems seem to be painful and frustrating but are no comparison to the great calamity and doom that is awaiting man. If he fails to win the hot spiritual battle that is before him then the lake of fire is his lot. Many think of this as a religious war or national or international conflict.

It is the battle between God and devil over the sons of men. It has to do with life or death, the battle between light and darkness, righteousness and unrighteousness, between godliness and ungodliness. God wants to establish His kingdom on earth within the multitude of men that are condemned. God sent Christ to fulfil His dream for man's redemption work and that when the work is fully accomplished, Satan will be dethroned and God will divide the humans that are held by him and Christ will have a part for Him (Isa.53: 12, Col.1: 13, John 10:29). The kingdom of devil is the world that is condemned already. It is the

kingdom of the spiritually dead, the home of the unrighteous, ignorant and the ungodly. The lake of fire is their final eternal home (Rev.20: 15, 21:8).

The kingdom of God is for the living, of those born again through the word of God. It is kingdom of the righteous where righteousness reigns. The more the righteous, the more the people of God and the more the unrighteous, the more are those for the kingdom of devil.

Life and Death: The war depends on two spiritual forces known as life and death. They are spiritual phenomena. Life is the Spiritual nature of God which was predestinated for man. It is called spirit life, everlasting life, eternal life, divine nature etc. Our life in the flesh is known as human life. Eternal life is God's own life. It produces fruits of its own kind in the flesh of those who have it: Peace, Rest, Joy, Love, Righteousness, Kindness, Goodness, Mercy, Gentleness, Temperance, Long-suffering, Faith etc. It is the life which the word of God tries to establish. Those who have it are for the new heaven and the new earth.

Separation from God means union with devil, it is alienation from life, it means death. Devil is death, and union with devil is the partaking of death. Only partakers of eternal life are God's children. It is destroyed through sin in the flesh. At the resurrection of the dead, an immortal body will be given to the living who shall be with God in eternity. Satan has hindered man from knowing about this life, making him see life in the flesh as an end. He is blinded and would not accept it. He sees it as foolishness, the work of devil is to

hinder man from understanding the nature of God's own life so that he will not obtain it, and be free from the fire.

Light and Darkness: The living word is the word of life, the direction given to man to follow. It is the light brought by God to fallen and unrighteous man to see and walk by it. This light is the truth about God and about sons of God on earth. Those without the light of the word are blind (John 3: 18-21). They are in darkness, in spiritual darkness, the worst kind of darkness (John 1:4-5, John 1:1-3). Darkness means ignorance, this is the realm of Satan.

Christ Jesus came as the second Adam (1Cor.15: 45). He was a model of sons of God. He is the light of the world for us to walk in his steps, in his life, in his being, in his love nature and in his character, conduct and behaviour.

God has given direction to those who love him. The word has specified the conduct which is justified. It is the way to the Father. The word is the light that shows the way to the Father. It gives man the understanding about God. The spoken word describes God if He were a man, what manner of love He has and the way He walks. The word is Love; and this is the Father's nature which is now given to men to re-establish their fellowship with Him (Ps.119: 105).

The spoken word was not enough because man is sense ruled. He walks by sight. Jesus came as the living way. He showed the life of the Father. He is the Father's word to the world. The world is ignorant of this life because Satan has blinded them. The work of devil is to hinder man from knowing the truth about God. He has presented an evil way to

lead man to condemnation and eternal destruction. This destruction is worst than death through sword because it is eternal. This is the realm of darkness.

Righteousness and Unrighteousness: Righteousness means uprightness. It is the life that makes an individual stand in the father's presence without fear. It makes man stand before Satan as master. It is a love nature, bearing fruits of its own kind in the individual, making him to walk as the image of God. Its fruits are peace, love, joy, kindness, gentleness, goodness, temperance, faith etc. God wants us to be united with Him by partaking with Him of His divine nature so that His nature and being could be manifested and publicized in the individual, and we shall be co-labourers with Him to reveal his glory for the joy and welfare of humanity.

Righteousness is our union with Him. It is the root of miracles and divine manifestations. It is the only acceptable proof of His presence in us. It is the mark of His people (1John 2:29, Heb.1: 8). It is the ability given to us to create Joy and welfare for others.

Unrighteousness is sin. It hinders man from standing before God without fear or sense of unworthiness. The unrighteous cannot please Him. They are children of devil. The work of Satan is to make man unrighteous so that he will not have access to God, to prevent him from knowing Him so that man will not overthrow him and his government. As long as man is unrighteous, he has no legal standing with God and cannot be adopted as son to reign over Satan. The unrighteous is a slave of Satan, and the enemy of God.

The Anointed Man Of God

He is a man commissioned by God for special divine service. Christ was 'anointed' and his special duties were stated in Luke 4:18 as in Isa. 61:1-3. He is called the "anointed one". Paul was anointed because he was given special commission as in Acts 26:18. The anointing was to open the eyes of men: i.e. to let people know the truth about God so that they would escape the danger of eternal damnation.

It was to deliver man from the power of darkness i.e. from spiritual death, sicknesses and diseases, demons, satanic influence etc. and to restore peace, rest and joy.

Jesus was commissioned for the Jews, but through him salvation came to the gentiles (Rom 15:8, Matt.15: 24). Paul was commissioned for the gentiles (Gal. 2:7). Anointing is necessary when there is total darkness where the truth about God is completely unknown. The spiritual eyes of the individual must therefore be opened to enable him cope with the task of revealing spiritual truth. The disciples gave eyewitness account of what they saw, but Paul gave revelation knowledge. This is the difference.

The anointing that is common to every believer which empowers him to serve in the priesthood of Christ is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit (1John 2:20, 27).

A man of God is God's own spokesman. He is a representative of God on earth. He shows people the way, the truth and the life of God. He is the image of God, and of Christ. He is a teacher and preacher of the word of righteousness. They are those who face persecutions. Because the word they preach is contrary to the being of man. So the

man of God is the one that is hated without a cause. The world will accept only the life that conforms to their being (1John 4:5-6). God's life is seen as foolishness, weakness, and loss of hope. Honour will not be given to an anointed man of God during his service on earth.

The crowd followed Jesus not because they believed he was Son of God but because they saw a prophet that could heal and provide free food (John 5:18, 34, 41-43, John 6:26). Jesus refused their honour. They were to make him king after feeding five thousand men but he departed from them. (John 6: 15). God commanded, all should honour him (John 5:23), that judgment at the last day is committed unto him. To honour Christ is to believe in him, to live according to his word so as to escape his judgement. His word is to reprove the world of sin, and was hated, despised, abused, afflicted, persecuted and killed (John 7:7. Matt.10: 17-22). So Believers of Christ will never to be honoured in this world of sin.

His disciples suffered the same persecutions. Paul was flogged, beaten, imprisoned, stoned, persecuted by his kinsmen and by the heathen. He suffered much hunger, much fasting, perils of cold and nakedness (2Cor. 11:23-27). He did not enjoy the praises of men. A child of God has no desire for praises. They have learnt to make themselves nothing before men. When God works wonders through them, the honour is for God who did it. They are not boastful, proud, arrogant, and noisy. There is no beauty that the world would desire for them. Only those who desire for the truth of God can understand and embrace them (James 4:6). An anointed man of God is not a partaker of the wealth of the world, because his ministry is not for money.

The Two Witnesses of God

The Al-mighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus is invisible. He is to be known in the world through His two witnesses. They proceeded out of Him and came forth as the evidence of Him, to make the world know of His existence. One is known as the **WORD** of God and the other the **SPIRIT** of God. They agree in one and testify of the same thing, about God Al-mighty. God bears witness of Himself and swear by none greater than Him (Heb. 6:13-18). But the word and the Spirit bear record of God (1John 5:7). They are the revelation of God in the universe. Then Christ came to earth with the Holy Spirit (Rev. 3:14). Christ was the one that was Lord over Israel. He was the Holy one of Israel, the Lion of the tribe of Judea. He was the God behind the Angel which led Israel, the Lord of David. He is the Word of God, the faithful (Rev. 3:14, Rev. 19).

The Holy Spirit is a personality. He is the spirit of the prophets, the spirit that spoke through the prophets. He revealed the mind of God to Israel. God sent both the Word and the spirit to earth to bring salvation to mankind. They are the two Olive trees that give life (Zech 4:11-14). They are described as the anointed ones (Rev. 11:4 Isa. 55:4, John 3:16-18, John 3:34). They bear witness of God's salvation on earth. Christ came with blood and water 1John 5:6. The blood, the water and the spirit are now the evidence of God's salvation on earth (1John 5:8, Col. 1:19, 2:9).

In their days on earth, they had power over the forces of nature. They could kill and make alive. They had the power to seal up heaven that it should not rain. Since the world hated God, their testimonies about God gave them torment. The

word of God is Christ Jesus of Nazareth who was born of Virgin Mary (Lk. 2:9-10, Matt 1:20-23). The Holy Spirit is a spirit but he is described as a person. Note the pronoun "He" in John 14:26. He is seen through the instrument he walks with. He came through the body of Jesus (John 16:13-14). Jesus told the disciples they had seen the spirit of God because he had been with them. He promised the spirit would now be in them (John 14:17). The Holy Spirit is the teacher, the guide, the comforter, He is the one that reveals the truth about God to people's minds (John 14:26, 1Cor. 2:10). He bears testimony of Christ that he is the true son of God (Matt. 3:17).

Jesus was killed by the Jews and for three days and three nights, both the Word and Spirit of God were absent on earth. But Christ resurrected by the power of the Holy Spirit and the world wondered at it. They ascended to heaven (1John 5:7), but still testify of God on earth (1John 5:8). The spirit has come back now with us. Those who accept their testimonies are to be changed to the glory of God, to walk, in his name and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Note the following scriptures: Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people" (Isa. 55:4).

"For I have not spoken of myself, but the Father which sent me, He gave me commandment what I should say and what I should speak" (John 12:49). "Believest thou not that I am in the Father and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you, I speak not of myself; but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works" (John 14:10). He came forth from the Father (John 10:28, John 8:42). "But the comforter which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he

shall teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you” (John 14:26).

“But when the comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the spirit of truth, which proceeded from the Father, he shall testify of me” (John 15:26).

“Howbeit, when he, the spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself but whatsoever he shall hear that shall he speak, and he will show you things to come (John 16: 13). He shall glorify me, for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you” (John 16:14). All things the Father hath are mine, therefore said I that he shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you (John 16:15). “But God hath revealed them unto us by his spirit, for the spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God” (1Cor. 2:10). “Even so the things of God knoweth no man but the spirit of God” (1Cor. 2:11^B)

Chapter

2

HOW SATAN RULES THE WORLD

How Satan Deceives the Human Race

The hope of man in the world is peace, joy and rest. Unfortunately, these are not of human products but the attributes of divine nature. The fall of man from the beginning of creation alienated him from God’s nature (eternal life), making him partaker of satanic nature. He is slave of devil, with the problems of failure, want, sickness, diseases, etc. Now unrighteous, in the hands of a cruel ruler. Except God’s own righteousness is given back to man, he has no hope for escape (Isa. 32:17, Isa. 54:14).

Man’s redemption came through God’s promise to re-establish him in his actual righteousness. Man is to be redeemed from that corrupt nature of devil and be restored to his original being as it was from the foundation of the world.

The gift of righteousness through agape love would unite man with God through partaking with Him of His divine nature (2Pet. 1:4).

When we become partakers with Christ of his nature, then the ability of the Father becomes our ability (Mark 16:16-18, John 14:12). The fruit of our fellowship with Him is peace, rest and joy.

Man's understanding has been distorted and his hope vain as he believes that he can prosper in unrighteousness. Satan knows what God has done to uplift man to the position of strength, might and power above his own, so he introduced another gospel which tries to show that it is indeed an impossible thing for man to be righteous in the world. The consequence of this doctrine is that in spite of man's salvation, the world is still in darkness through doubt and unbelief.

Man has accepted that he is ever unrighteous (Rom. 1:18, Act 17:30-31, 1 Cor. 6:9). Since man does not believe that Christ had come to make him good, the doctrine of repentance is turned to the confession of daily sins and justification of sinful life. Satan has established this belief by manifesting powers and miracles through unrighteous church leaders, to show that the unrighteous also can be used by God, thereby reducing the fears man has for his condemnation (Rom. 3:17).

The Hypocrite

The hypocrite hears the word and knows the will of God towards him but does not act. He is a mental assent believer. He is not a faith believer but in pretence, he lives among those who live by the word. Since he does not act on the word, he is an unbeliever. The word is God and we are in union with Him through the word. We know him through the word, but the hypocrite does not know Him. He is child of devil (Matt. 23:13-28).

The mental assent believer knows the word, but does not act. He knows God in the senses, and his hope for the kingdom is unreal. The vain hoper could appear good through

church activities but inwardly, he has no love of God. He is one of those who honour God with his lips, with the heart far away from Him (Matt. 15:8-9).

Through knowledge of the word, the hypocrite knows that judgment awaits him. He knows that only righteous people can escape it, and he is afraid of it. He knows, if God is to perform what he has spoken, he might not escape the lake of fire. So, he has to defend himself by denying the truth. He argues against the truth about the word of God, and he passes this doubt to others. He is a hindrance to the salvation of others.

The Fallen Man

The natural man knows nothing about the spirit of God because his mind is blinded by the adversary. They appear as foolishness to him (1Cor. 2:14).

He has lost his authority in God, his wisdom, knowledge and understanding, his ability and power. He is sick. Satan has made him see himself lower than the beasts. He worships all kinds of beasts, trees, land, sea, heavenly bodies and things created for him.

He could worship even the works of his hands, e.g. carved wood and stones, pictures, his inventions etc. He is vain in his imaginations. He calls on familiar spirits for help e.g. ancestors, spirits of the dead, all kinds of unknown gods. He eats and drinks all kinds of things as source of solution to his problems. He is sick mentally. His life discredits God as master creator and it grieved His heart that He had made man.

God is a spirit and cannot be likened to any thing. It is an abomination to liken God to any earthly thing (Deut. 4:15-19). The fallen man worship things taken as symbol of God. He is spiritually dead.

God wants us to be like Him by partaking with Him of His nature. He had commanded, we should all walk in His being. Our service to Him is to present our bodies as instruments of righteousness as living sacrifice to Him (Rom. 12:1-2). Inability to do it would lead to total and everlasting rejection by God (Rom.1: 18-32). That though fallen, God still wants us back with his perfect nature to be rulers of creation as sons of God.

The Sin of Man

The invisible God needed a companion with a body through whom He would reveal Himself to the world. Man was created as the image of the invisible God. He was to represent God as instrument of dominion, to rule over all things except God. He was to reveal the glory of God to all creation. His throne was in Eden, the garden of God on earth, to reign over the universe. Eden means the place where God crowned man with glory to reveal His fulness. Everything was available in Eden for man's use except the tree that makes somebody a god. It was the tree of rebellion.

God gave him everything he needed. He gave him even the tree of life. The tree of knowledge of good and evil was forbidden to him. He should keep away from it. This was the obedience required of him. But Satan tempted Eve and taught her about rebellion. He taught her that she can be a god and she believed devil, and disobeyed God. She despised God,

wanting to be a god herself. Adam saw his wife and rebelled against God also, and fell from his throne. God drove him out of His garden and he became prisoner of Satan. Man was no longer the image and representative of the invisible God, but an image of Satan, his new father (John 8:44).

Adam begot the human race with this lost glory (Rom. 5:12, 14, 17). And made us united with Satan through his rebellion, partaking with devil of satanic nature. Man is not only a sinner but sin itself, a partaker of death. Every unsaved man is an image of devil, a crown of pride, arrogance and rebellion. He sees himself as one to be honoured or worshipped. He is not a servant but the head of himself and of others. He is a god. A god is one that is subject to none except by coercion.

He thinks of himself first in all things. He wants to own everything including things of others. He desires the fall of others that he might reign. He weakens them to have the advantage to rule. Man is satanic, wicked and evil. He has lost the ability to care for others except for himself. He rejoices only in his riches. He does not bother about the needs of the weak and poor. He wants the fall of others that he may rise (Jer 22, Prov. 20:14). He has his riches at the expense of others. He is fallen before God. By his wealth he is lifted up with pride. The noise of music and rejoicing are heard in his home when others mourn for being oppressed. He gives to wine because he has lost his wisdom and understanding and moral obligations. (Isa. 28:1-10, 56:11, James 5:1-5).

He does not pay a fair wage to those who labour for him. His desire is to widen his house and enlarge his chambers

(Jer. 22:13-14). He cheats because of advantage. He boasts and rejoices in his craftiness saying I have made it. "It is nought, it is nought saith the buyer, but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth (Prov. 20:14, James 4:13-16). Lust, covetousness, and envy, have made him void of understanding. His understanding is that of drunkards. He is a friend of mammon (Matt. 6:24). Through oppression, he has his riches. He despises wisdom, knowledge and understanding (James 5:1-6). The Father said, the profit of the earth is for all (Eccl. 5:9). That when goods increase, they are increased for those who eat them, the joy of the owner is the beholding of it (Eccl. 5:11). Man does not accept this and he does not agree that acquisition of wealth at the expense of others is to his destruction. Oppression, violence, and perversion of judgement and Justice are his ways daily as the image of devil. He is condemned before Father God.

Lucifer's Rebellion

Lucifer was in heaven and led the angels for the praises of God. God gave him the throne of rulership because he led all the angels of God, but he rebelled even as Adam rebelled against God at the Garden of Eden. Man was created as son to have dominion over all the works of God. He was to work it out through obedience but he failed. Jesus, the son of man, who is of God, is now sitting on man's throne of dominion as it was predestinated before the world began.

In his days of beauty, Lucifer was called "son of the morning" (Isa. 14:12). He was in the Eden of God because he was a ruler. He was brighter than the sun, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. Every precious stone was used to adorn his throne. He had the ability to create musical instruments for the

praises of God. He was the anointed cherub that covereth, the one ordained to reveal the beauty and glory of the invisible God. When those in heaven saw him they had seen God.

Due to the position God gave to him, the magnificence of his throne as one representing God, and the way those in heaven saw him as God's glory, Lucifer began to perceive himself that he was God, and that there was none beside him. He was lifted up with pride. Isaiah the prophet revealed how he rebelled against God (Isa. 14:13-14). The expression "I will," means desire to be recognized the way Lucifer perceives himself to be. "I will ascend into heaven," means the desire to be the one recognized as God in heaven. "I will exalt my throne above the stars of heaven", means, I wish I am seen as the one above all including God. "I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation in the sides of the north" that is, the desire to be worshipped as the one sitting before the congregation in the temple. "I will ascend above the heights of the clouds". This means, I am above all in the world, besides me, there is none else. "I will be like the Most High". I desire to be recognized as the Most High.

The prince of Tyrus had the same perception as Lucifer. Ezekiel the prophet said, "Thus saith the Lord; because thine heart is lifted up, and thou has said I am a God, I sit in the seat of God in the midst of the seas, yet thou art a man and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God" (Ezek. 28:1). This is the same with Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon. Because of pride, boastfulness and rebellious mind, they were dethroned.

Devil's Counterfeit Power (THE UNVEILED MYSTERIES BY BRO. MORIS KOFI ODUBO) (The Hidden Truth))

Satan has the ability to cause fire, storm, war, rain etc. He has his own hell where his fire burns. Offenders of his government are sometimes cast into his hell. These are people under him or his agents who disobey and Satan punishes them with his burning. The effect may appear in their flesh, as one burning in a fire. This may be interpreted as God's punishment for the wicked.

Satan can cause physical fire to burn material objects. He can burn a whole market within minutes. He connects the market with electrically inflammable invisible wires and when it is ignited the fire starts and spreads faster than expected. He has aeroplanes fitted with firebombs and these could run into a target area to cause fire. These fire planes could aim at a human target and when he is hit, physical fire is not seen, but the victim is blackened beyond recognition. Satan could use fire from thunder and lightening against a person. In this, he will first stock the victim's spirit with large stones. And when the lightening is directed to the person its fire will set the stones ablaze to burn the victim to death (Job 1:12-19)

(Culled from the Hidden Truth: By Bro. M.K. Odubo)

Satan can use thousands of flying machines and spacecrafts to trigger a violent wind. He possesses people with wicked spirits and gives them deadly weapons, and moves one against the other to cause a devastating war for man's destruction, creating sorrow, and robbing him of peace.

Initiation into Satanic Power

This could be done through:

- 1 Sacrifices of blood, feasts, gifts etc for special power.
- 2 Prolong fasting for supernatural powers.
- 3 Laying of hands of a false prophet or devil's priest or wizard as symbol of empowerment for special operations.
- 4 Anointing with olive oil or by some other mixtures for the indwelling of the spirit of God. We no longer receive the spirit of God by anointing oil but through repentance and baptism. This anointing is of the old covenant and not of the new. Bringing the old into the new, makes devil take advantage.
- 5 Devilish traditional ritual ceremonies and initiations.
- 6 Accepting a symbolic object as source of protection or power e.g. images, carved objects, idols, holy mud, holy water, holy handkerchief, oils, scents, etc.
- 7 Joining a secret society or cult. Societies and cult exist in two ways, one is physically manifested but the other is spiritual. The first is an association or a group of people who are initiated to a common bond designed to fight and protect self-interest through wicked and barbaric means. The second type constitutes a group of people who are possessed by the prince of the air for dirty works directly with the prince ruling them. This second set may be initiated unknowingly through the ignorance of things done or through their desire for power. It could come through any of the method as stated above.

Satanic Devices

The life of man in the flesh is a product of spiritual influences. Man does not know God again because Satan has blinded him

and is ruling him through satanic devices e.g. bonds (Luke 13:16).

1. A bond is any foreign thing found in the human spirit which is not part of God's creation (Lk. 13:16). They are things that are planted or poured into the human spirit to create sicknesses, diseases and failures in life. The common ones in every unrenewed person are:

- (i) A hot iron having three faces with devil's name on each face: this is the covering that is cast on man's heart to hinder him from things of God (1Tim. 4:2).
- (ii) Serpent-like antenna sunk on man's head with the head right in man's heart and the tail coming out of the head. It ranges from two to eight between individuals depending on what Satan wants to use him for. Dreamers have about five and Satan's prophets between, seven and eight.
- (iii) A tail that looks like that of a wolf. This is the ridiculous appearance of man in spirit which stands as abomination in the sight of God. These are the signs of spiritual death (devil) in man.

2. Bonds of Poverty:

Satan puts on the human a garment made of pieces of old clothes sewn together. The picture looks like a large masquerade covered with cloths or like the domestic fowl with out- stretched feathers.

3. Drunkenness:

Several alcoholic bottles are tied around the neck, and some internally, in various parts of the body.

4. Mermaid Wedding:

The woman's spirit puts the full attire of a lady adorned for the so-called Christian wedding, with the veil, hand gloves, rings etc. The wedded man wears a

white silvery cassock worn by catholic priests with a big cross on the neck. At the lower abdomen of the wedded woman are nearly all kinds of fishes without fin.

5. Witch Appearance:

The human spirit is decorated with pieces of cloth tied around the head, wrist and ankle joints. Some pieces of cloth sewn together of about three to four layers is worn around the waist down to knee level. The whole picture looks like a damsel adorned for an "African Iria" dance. A black cloth like women's underwear from the Chest downward covers the witch demon.

6. Bonds of Fornication:

A bond that looks like serpent but with many branches is fixed on the man's forehead. When a woman sees the man, her spirit is strongly attracted to him and unusual relationship follows. For a woman, Satan puts something that looks like teargas in the female organ which creates itching and uncontrollable desire for sex.

7. Glass Crates:

Many kinds of thick and high glass crates are used to imprison human spirits.

8. Every sacrificial items used on a victim is to trigger problems and pains. It ranges from those normally demanded by priests in Juju shrines to those demanded by deceitful prayer houses and occultic Pentecostal church leaders.

(Culled from the Hidden Truth: By Bro. M.K. Odubo)

Symbolism and Satanic Power

Man sinned and became flesh (Gen. 6:3). He lost contact with spiritual things of God and the nature that enabled him walk as a spirit and as God's companion. Because of this condition, God visited Israel in the fleshly realm and they saw His glory with their eyes. He made them see spiritual things by signs, by sight, not by faith. For example, God revealed his power through staff, girdle, holy oil, water, leaves, trumpets, songs etc. He revealed his glory through angels, fire, smoke, cloud, earthquake, wind, firmament etc. God did these to enable man contact him in the flesh. He gave them ordinances that were carnal because they were related to fleshly things e.g. blood sacrifices, washing with water, perfume, holy anointing oil, incense etc. these were introduced to keep man in the flesh until the time of reformation when God would convert man to Himself through a new covenant to enable him walk by faith as spirit being (Heb. 9:10, Gal. 3:23-25). After Christ has come and completed his redemption work the believers of Christ are to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7). Since the carnal man does not know the truth about the new creation, devil being a master counterfeiter is now using things of the Old covenant between God and Israel and the ordinances contained in the law to deceive man. When man calls on God using these carnal devices, the devil answers to create the impression that God is answering the prayer. There is now a new mode of devil worship in the name of the Al-mighty God. This is the reason for drink offering or libation, use of holy water, holy oils, holy candles, incense, holy perfumes, holy mud, holy staff, rings, cloths and handkerchiefs, fruits, bread, feasts, crosses etc. and blood sacrifices. When these are used in prayers, the demons respond instead of God.

When sacrifices are made in the name of God, the demons respond instead of God in the same way they walk with the wizards. Sacrifices take different forms: sacrifice of blood of any kind, feasts as solution to problems, money and material gifts in exchange for solution to ones problem, filling a form with passport and payment as fees for membership of church or a cult, burning one's goods and properties as restitution etc. Ritual ceremonies such as encaging pigeons and other beasts and releasing them as sign of freedom is directly to the glory of Satan. Man's freedom or salvation cannot be symbolized in this way. It is satanic requirement for authority over an area.

Music and spiritual songs intended to invite the spirit of God for special power and operations could eventually lead to some spiritual manifestations and miraculous power from devil instead of God. Since the understanding of man is perverted, Satan would respond to his ignorance to do things that will help hold him to the end.

Wrong prayers could lead to some miraculous manifestations which is not from God, hence Christ warned against idle words. Prayers such as "Holy Ghost fire, consume James" may lead to the death of the person and the one who offered the prayer may think it is God. Satan capitalizes on man's ignorance and rules him on the bases of his rebellious actions against the doctrine of Christ.

Demonic Operations**(1) Prophecy:**

Satan has effective devices and efficient communication network worldwide. All devil's camps all over the world are linked together through these devices. They are also linked with his human agents. A man may go to a devil's priest who lives hundreds of kilometers away and the priest might know before the man arrives. Through the man's utterances and preparation for the journey, the demons who inflicted him will send the message to the prince ruling the priest and it will in turn speak to the priest through his serpent-like antennas telling him in detail about the person. On arrival, the priest can call the man by name, tell him where he comes from, his problems or mission. This is enough to confound the man. Agents of devil prophesy through familiar spirits and through devices engrafted into their spirits.

(2.) Forced Marriage and Divorce:

A lady in need of a husband could go to a devil's priest or a wizard or a false prophet to request for assistance or power to marry a particular man or to snatch another woman's husband. When this happens, the agent would demand for sacrificial items. These items could be anything that would be presented to the demons as a token for their action. These sacrificial items might be poured on a particular place. By this sacrifice, the demons will now act. Those under the priest in their numbers will possess both the man and his wife, and the woman who wants to marry him. They will take control of the members of their bodies and act through them, so that when the man sees the lady, she

is as beautiful as an angel even if she is ugly. Without resistance the man will stop his car and pick the lady for marriage. It is not the human beings doing what they do but the two sets of demons negotiating through members of their bodies. The man and the lady have agreed to marry through demonic influence. And when the man sees his former wife, the two will disagree and hate themselves without cause and separation follows. It is not their making but two sets of demons acting through them. They are separated through Satan's influence. The woman that is put away might go to another priest and Satan will still reveal this secret to her. She will then offer her own sacrifice and series of problems will follow concerning the man's life. Only true Christians who are conformed to the image of Christ are free from demonic manipulations.

(3) Communal influence:

Every community is ruled by a prince demon who works with the chief or king. This prince in association with high demons possess other humans and make them priests, diviners, and powerful men and women. In traditional societies in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America, the powerful devilish men are the honourable men who form the assembly of the ruling class, with greater authority. Therefore the laws and customs depend on what the prince of the land says. This is the reason for human sacrifice and many abominable and extremely wicked traditions and customs. The opinions of demons are sought through oracles or through devilish priests. This is the case in almost every difficult matter. The characteristics of a community depends on the character of the demons

ruling them and the ways they are manipulated. Satan possesses the people and rules them to his advantage.

(4) **Blood Money and Devil's Wealth.**

Satan owns the world and the vast stock of wealth in it. He stole it from Adam and made it his own. He gives this wealth to those he likes (Lk. 4:6). Those who need free wealth from devil must do something to please him. Normally, Satan would require the individual to show some wickedness to God or some kinds of stupid behaviour that makes somebody look like an Idiot or mentally derailed. These are intended to grieve the heart of God. For example, Satan may ask the individual to consent to the death of a beloved, like a son or daughter or father or mother or sister or a relation or friend who is of much help to him. It is devil that kills, but he will demand that you ask him to kill. Satan may ask the individual to accept a short life span or an incomplete body in exchange for money. You may commit a crime and you will have it. This is the meaning of "If you worship me, I will give it to you" (Luke 4:7)

Satan may blind the minds of those who transact business with them. He could steal money direct from banks, or from market areas, or from private and public treasuries and will hand them over to those who worship him. This is the work of a particular demon known as Queen of the Coast.

(5) **Accidents:**

Satan can shoot a missile directly on a moving vehicle. A familiar spirit can appear on the road to deceive the driver. Satan can plant an underground device along the road and when the target vehicle comes, it will

trigger an event that will cause accident. The driver may be attacked and instantly he loses consciousness.

(6) **Sicknesses and Diseases:**

Satan can imprison the human spirit in thick glass crates or containers to create mental problems. Demons may possess a person and use his sense organs in such a way that he may not be able to give account of what he does, he may be mad (Luke 8: 30). The human spirit could be hanged, chained, buried, wrapped with mat or cloth and given to a serpent to swallow, etc. these would result to series of problems to the individual. All kinds of bonds or objects may be poured into the human spirit and these will operate to create sickness and diseases. When something is done against someone in spirit, the effect will manifest in the body as a known sickness in the world.

(Culled from The Hidden Truth: by Bro. M.K.Odubo)

Lying Wonders

Christians are indeed people of signs and wonders (John 14:12, Mark 16:17-18) "Behold, I and the children whom the Lord hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the Lord of hosts, which dwelleth in Mount Zion" (Isa. 8:18). But, the truth manifestations of God in them is not of wonders, but of righteousness.

Satan is endowed with powers, signs, wonders and miracle. He uses them to counterfeit. God's own to deceive the world to himself against the will of God. Those who believe in his power believe in his doctrines also. The doctrine of devil is unrighteousness and its effect is hypocrisy. Devil is unrighteous, including his agents. But as a powerful

prince, he manifests his powers in his unrighteous agents to create the impression that the unrighteous can be used by God.

The scripture said the representatives of Satan would preach Christ also. They will appear as Godly men but are children of devil (Matt. 7:15-16). Paul called them false apostles, deceitful workers and ministers of devil who appear as apostles of Christ. This is Satan as an angel of God to deceive humanity (2Cor. 11:13-15). We have been warned against believing every spirit because many false prophets and miracle workers have been brought into the world by devil to deceive and destroy our eternal salvation (1John 4:1).

God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, and the reconciled ones are the Ambassadors of Christ to reconcile others to God (2Cor. 5:18-20). They are Ambassadors of God because they are partakers with Him of his divine nature (2Pet.1: 4), eternal life. They are the actual righteousness of God in the world. Every partaker of divine nature is free from sin. Righteousness is the proof of God in the individual (1John 2:29). By their fruits, ye shall know them. The fruits of God are in their speech, character, conduct, behaviour, general way of life, and in their ability.

Devil is a spirit and we know him as the opposite of God. He is synonymous with sin, unrighteousness, evil and wickedness. His people are partakers with him of his being.

“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When

he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own; for he is a liar, and father of it” (John 8:44).

The first manifestation of nature of devil in man is lying, hatred, and revenge. Satan knows the law of God, and his work is to deceive. He presents a gospel that looks like the gospel of Christ but it is not and uses magical powers to persuade. A snake coming out of somebody's mouth as deliverance is not deliverance but magic. The miracle worker is an agent of devil, and you will know him through his unrighteousness.

A Christian is a repented person with gift of the Holy Spirit. He is a partaker of divine nature, and walks as the righteousness of God. Every man calling on God in unrighteousness is an unbeliever, no matter the rank in a church.

Unrighteousness in the churches is the proof of rulership of devil. Lying, deceit, hatred, fornication, covetousness, idolatry, pride, etc, which are fruits of devil, are openly demonstrated. Unrepented Bishops, Pastors, teachers, prophets, evangelists etc. are the instruments of defilement where fruits of devil are manifested and passed to others. (Rom. 1:29-32, 2Tim.3: 2-5, Gal.5: 19-21).

Note that every miracle worker, tongue speaker, prophet, apostle, evangelist etc who is a liar, fornicator, thief etc, is an agent of devil.

Temptation

Temptation is when a circumstance is created by devil to test your faith whether you will be able to apply the word of God to overcome or succumb to Satan's suggested alternatives. His suggestions come in the form of solution to uncertainty. He starts with the word "IF" e.g. if you steal what will happen? Will God reject you because you stole to save yourself from want?

A test of the love of God to see whether the believer is tutored enough to know the will of God and whether he is strong enough to stand by it.

A scene that can entice or incite or lure or attract or provoke one to act contrary to God's will e.g. fair speech, attractive events, pleasure, corrupt reward.

Temptation is for children of God only: Temptation is not sin but when we fall and do what is contrary, it becomes sin.

Sources of Temptation:

- a. Dreams and visions: – intended to make man misunderstand, misinterpret, and to act foolishly based on such dream or vision.
- b. False prophecies: - False vision and fake promises, prophecies about future disappointments or frustrations, or possible death.
- c. False teaching: – as in 2 Tim. 2:17-18 by a fascinating personality difficult to resist.
Remember Satan misquoted God to Eve (Gen. 3:1-4). Satan tempted Christ by reminding him of the scripture. Only knowledge, wisdom and understanding can help the individual to escape

- d. Devils attacks: - such as body affliction, attack on business, etc and suggesting way for solution. He creates sicknesses and presents a healer.
- e. Enticement to precarious positions and unusual opportunities e.g. Jesus was tempted with the opportunity for political privilege (John 6: 15). i.e. He was to be made king. He was tempted with riches. Satan promised him with the glory of the whole world.
- f. Desires of the flesh: - e.g. Strong desire for Food could lead to abuse of power. (James 1:13-15). Satan wanted Jesus to abuse his power (Luke 4:3-4, 9-12). Strong desire for money and worldly wealth could make somebody forsake God.
- g. Friends and kinsmen, and family members. By keeping away from their evil ways you become an enemy (Matt. 10:34-36).
- h. Mankind: - human Violence, evil conversation, intimidation etc
- i. Public media: evil displayed in the public media to impart into us the knowledge of it. Religious programmes with satanic messages, and devilish miraculous power, drama of how to fight, rob and kill.

Materialism: The Great Mammon

The desire for material things is the reason for man's failure to overcome the world. We know, he was created for joy, for power and for prosperity, but sin actually turned the eternal purpose of creation upside down. The world is now in the hands of devil and man is to labour and sweat before he eats. As one with lost glory, being evil and corrupt, with nature of devil, wicked and self-centered. Man has nothing to do than to clamour, fight and kill for his interest.

He sees himself in terms of material possessions. He sees his relationship with others in terms of their wealth. Those who have, feel higher, because what they have is of higher value. This gives rise to pride, boastfulness, arrogance, despising etc. Every man needs wealth to change his status to exercise power and authority. This clamour for wealth, pride and honour is sin (Prov. 21:4, 1 John 2:15-16, Rom. 12:16).

“Take heed and beware of covetousness’ for a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth”(Lk. 12:15). A child of God is one whose mind is dead from insatiable desire for things of the world.

The Father knows our needs and had made provisions from the cradle. He has also given us the wisdom and the ability to meet with our needs (1 Tim. 5:8, 1 Tim. 6:7-8). The issue of want is settled and our desire for joy and welfare is no longer for ourselves but for others. This attitude defines charity. If wealth increases, the increase belongs to the people that will use then, not for the owner. The part that belongs to him is the part he actually makes use of, otherwise it is just the memory that they belong to you (Eccl. 5:11). No one can drive ten cars at the same time. If the excess is not used for the joy and welfare of others, it makes the owner wicked, selfish, and evil. It shows the absence of love. With God, we get more than we need. The excess belongs to the needy, the less privileged, the poor, the fatherless, widows, strangers etc. (Eccl. 5:13-16, James 4:13-17, Prov. 62:10, 2 Cor. 8:14-15). The one in stock under you is God’s own property under your management and care.

Christians have their own gifts and ministrations. Union with God is not necessarily abundant financial blessing. This doctrine is that of the anti-Christ, the doctrine of mammon (devil). Prosperity in God is not necessarily financial fulfillment (Matt. 6:24, 1 Tim. 6:9-10) but righteousness, godliness, faith, peace, rest, joy, meekness, goodness etc. (1 Tim. 6:11, 3John 2-4) It is the wisdom of God that leads to constructive inventions (1 Cor. 2:6-13, Prov. 8:12, John 14:12). It is the prosperity of a recreated spirit in the things of the spirit of God, which can bring peace, rest and joy to humanity.

Wealth acquired at the expense of others is evil (Prov. 23:4, Prov. 28:20,22).

“He that hasted to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him”
(Proverb. 28: 22).

Our labour is for God and when material blessings increase, God said we should not be afraid of it. He will use us to help others. It is the work of God to use us. (Ps. 49:16, Rom. 12:11, 1 Tim 6:17-19). Those in the new life are co-labourers with God.

The honour given to wealthy men among churches is an indication that the leaders are worshipping mammon. Prophecies are now for money, and titles for gain. The Church is now a business for money (James 2:1-9).

Many think they could bribe God to become millionaires, and they fall victim of those who dupe them in their lust (Prov. 28:22, Isa. 33:1).

The doctrine makes the hearers lust after money and not after the truth making the word of God of none effect. It is Lucifer's device to make men receive the power to own the glory of the world (Luke 4:6).

The Mother of Harlots (Rev. 17:1-18)

The beast is seen as carrying a woman whose name is "MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH". That she is arrayed in expensive cloths and precious ornament. She is beautiful and fascinating with a golden Cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of fornication. (Rev. 17:4-5). The kings and inhabitants of the earth are made drunk with the wine of her fornication (Rev. 17:2). She is responsible for the killing of the saints as well as our Lord Jesus.

She is devil who is now manifested as a character. Our duty is to understand the character which the beast represents. The name of the woman is "MYSTERY". Babylon means a city or a kingdom. It means the evil world. Mother of harlots means the one that gives birth to harlots and abominations of the earth. Fornication means idolatry, that is allegiance to devil. We are to be married with God, and when we worship idols, our fornication with devil is adultery. It is the worship of mammon. The mother of harlots is worldliness characterized by immorality, love of money and materialism. This is the root of all evil (1 Tim. 6:10). The golden cup in the woman's hand is a symbol of prosperity. But her cup of

prosperity is full of abomination and filthiness of fornication and devil worship. The riches are corrupt because they are acquired through loyalty to devil (Luke 4:6-7). The cup means fellowship with Satan through robbery, prostitution, oppression, sorcery and abomination. These devilish riches are given to kings and inhabitants of the earth because they have worshipped devil. They have acquired these wealth through ungodliness, idolatry and sorcery. Through enticing words they justify their claim of having supernatural knowledge in commerce, in economics and in science making others dependent on them. They charm by words and deceitful laws that put them at advantage.

The spirit of this wealth is very destructive to the world but will later be overthrown. It will be burnt with fire and all the kings and merchants who benefited so much from it will cry, when they see the smoke of its destruction.

Titles as Worldliness

A title is a word in front of a person's name showing who he is and how he should be addressed, e.g. Rev. Dr Matthew. A Christian is a brother or sister in Christ. This brotherhood includes Jesus himself (Heb. 2:11-14, Isaiah 8:18, Rom. 8:29, 2 Peter 3:15). As brethren, with individual duties, they could be addressed as such for easy reference e.g. Pastor, evangelist, apostle etc., But not in a manner that suggests it is a title.

These are offices and have never been used as titles by great men of God in the scripture. Followers of Christ were never addressed as Apostle John, Apostle Peter, Apostle Paul, evangelist Philip etc.

They were used as references after the name were mentioned, e.g. Paul an apostle of Christ, Philip the evangelist,

James a servant of God, Peter an apostle of Jesus Christ, a certain prophet name Agabus (Act 21:8,10, Col. 1:1, James. 1:1, Rom. 1:1, 2 Cor. 1:1, 1 Pet. 1:1, 2 Pet 1:1). Note the difference between “Apostle Paul” and “Paul, the Apostle of Christ”. Though to be identified by our duties, we are still brothers not different from one another (Rom. 12:3-5, Phil 2:3-13).

Duties are called spiritual gifts, manifestations of the Holy Spirit. These gifts are manifested the believers who are in the form of Christ, without the desire for honour from men. The giving of flattering titles is evil (Job 32:21-22).

It is a strange thing for a man to bear names that are exclusively reserved for God, e.g. Reverend (Ps. 111:9) pre-eminent (Col. 1:18) Jesus is the Chief High Priest. The kingdom of God is different from that of the world. Bringing our position in the world to the body of Christ, is evidence of walking in the flesh, e.g. Chief Reverend, Doctor, Engineer Aaron. It is simply brother Aaron. Titles such as Father Michael, Admiral John, General Andrew etc. have no place in the new thing.

Priesthood and Women Ordination

A priesthood is the seat of government of God on earth or of the assembly whose primary function is the ministration of the word, the daily sacrifices and purification, and the judgment of individual matters.

A Priest is one that is made to minister on the holy things as the head.

Ordination is the process by which one is called and anointed to work as a priest. Ordination before the law was that of heads of every family who automatically was a priest, since they did the work of a priest for their family members (Job 1:5). Melchizedec was a king and a priest. It was a kingly priesthood because he was righteous. Ordination under the Levitical priesthood was formal, based on laid down guidelines. The High Priest must be a descendant of Aaron, but the priesthood was for every Levite. The high priest was anointed with the Holy Anointing oil (Lev. 20:10-12, Ex. 29:7). He wore ordination gown with a cap written “HOLINESS TO GOD”. He was the middleman between God and the people.

The Levites were divided according to their ancestors and were assigned with specific functions.

1. The house of Aaron ministered on the holy things. The High Priests were chosen from among them.
2. Singers and musicians who sing and prophecy with harps, Psalteries and cymbals (1Chro. 25:1-7).
3. Administrators of the sanctuary, gate keepers and door keepers (porters)
4. Treasurers of all dedicated things (1Chro. 25:20-28).
5. Government of cities, officers and judges.

These services were committed to males between 30 and 50 years.

Jesus’ priesthood is different from that of the law. He is the High Priest and yet not a Levite. Every believer is a co-labourer with Christ and is to work in the priesthood office and to partake of the holy things of the house of God e.g. the word, the Holy Spirit and all spiritual gifts. Sanctification,

consecration and ordination is through repentance, baptism and gift of the holy spirit.

Functions of individual Christians are determined by gifts of the Holy Spirit e.g. Apostles, Pastors, teachers administrators, evangelists, prophets, miracle workers, healers, gift of help, speaking in tongue, interpreters of tongues and discerners of prophecy (1Cor. 12:4-10).

Jesus' priesthood is committed to the apostles and to a council of elders who work as apostles, bishops, deacons and pastors. Women were not elders, but to minister to the congregation and to the apostles. They are called servants of the church Rom. 16:1. The apostles are called servants of God (Titus 1:1, Rom. 10:15, 1Cor. 12:29). The law of creation forbids women to be head (Gen. 3:16, 1Cor. 14:34, 1Cor. 11:7, 1Tim. 2:12, Gen. 2:28, Eph. 5:22). Women are weaker vessels (1Peter 3:7), Eve was deceived (1Tim. 2:14).

They are not permitted to speak in the church. The word "speak" in 1Cor. 14:34 means to preach, to teach, to counsel and to address men with power and authority. It means, "keep quiet" in matters concerning to leadership. Nevertheless women are partakers of the services of the priesthood and of the same holy things in the way the levites were given functions to work in the Levitical priesthood. They are entitled to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, to speak the word of testimony, word of prophecy (Acts 21:8-9), the word of tongue (1Cor. 11:5). But they cannot be Apostles, Bishops, pastors or head of a church.

Mary Magdalene was sent but to minister to the apostles. She was not appointed an evangelist or a preacher to

the gentiles. Christianity started on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles. We know the role of the apostles. No woman was made an apostle. Christ appearing to Mary does not mean anointing for leadership. She was sent to minister to the apostles and not to sinners.

The law was a shadow of things to come. Women leadership in the old covenant was a sign of a fallen people because of sin where God was no longer with them. In such cases little children defeated Israel and women ruled them (Isaiah 3:12).

In the book of Judges 4 and 5 the children of Israel sinned against God and He handed them over to the king of Canaan to be slaves. In those days, Deborah, a prophetess judged Israel because the people had no fellowship with God. It was an unusual condition. Women leadership in the modern church shows a fallen church without God in the hands of Satan. Women are commanded not to usurp authority according to the law of creation (Gen. 3:16, 1Cor. 14:34, 37, 1Tim. 2:12). They are commanded to be under subjection. God is the head of Christ, and Christ is the head of man, and man is the head of the woman. Man is the image and glory of God while the woman is the image and glory of the man (1Cor. 11:3, 7). Man cannot be the head of Christ, and so is woman and man.

Chapter 3

DELIVERANCE FROM DEVIL

Deliverance:

Deliverance means to deliver man from the hands of the enemy devil by force, through the power of God. Devil is a spirit and the problem of man is spiritual, therefore deliverance is spiritual. The flesh is merely to be taught to live godly life, but without deliverance this is impossible. If man's spirit is delivered, the body can easily respond to the inward desire for God's own life. Man's spirit is to be healed and reawakened by God. Without deliverance man's repentance cannot endure or yield fruit.

Man is to be delivered from: -

- i. Demons that make use of both his body and sense organs. For example he has to be delivered from the witch demon, mar-maid spirit, and all other kinds of demons that are ruling him (Eph. 2:2, Mark 1:34).
- ii. He should be delivered from all kinds of bonds or spiritual things which the devil has put in him to cause sicknesses and abnormality in his being, e.g. the hot iron, his satanic prophetic or communication devices, his bond of fornication, poverty, drunkenness etc.

- iii. He should be delivered from wherever he is chained, strangled, pinned, hung, imprisoned, buried, confined etc. either in the air, on land, or underground, in the sea, in shrines or in satanic high places, etc.
- iv. He should be free from spiritual affiliations with cult or secret societies as a member. The mark of membership must be removed.
- v. You pray to break every hindrance the enemy has created in the man's life. For example Satan's hindrance in his business or place of work. If his working tools have been taken over by devil through the sacrifices of others, God should restore all to the man and put them in the appropriate place. It is the man's spirit we are praying for, not the flesh or body. When spiritual freedom has taken place, the effect will be felt in the body because everything that happens in spirit is reflected in the body.

Now wherever the man's spirit is held in the world, you pray he should be free. He should be loosed from every bond holding him and from all prisons and confinements. It is you that will say those things you want to happen, which you want God to do. e.g. 'In the name of Jesus, wherever this man is buried, let the ground open, and let him come out'. Pray that every bond in his body be loosed out of him. Command every demon holding him to be loosed out. Pronounce it bound and be cast to abyss (deep) (Luke 8:31). Say that every devilish thing inside him come out. You say for example, 'In the name of Jesus I command you demons in this body, come out, remain bound and be cast into abyss'. etc. In deliverance, you speak the mind of God, and what you say is what He will do.

The word of God in our lips will bring healing to the sick. You are a superman in Christ.

Note that it is God that delivers through the lips of His righteous ones (1Peter 3:12). God does not answer the prayers of sinners except on account of grace, so fake Christians and unrighteous men will not save any through deceitful deliverance devices.

Deliverance is done by prayers and not by any other means, not even through sacrifice or devilish exercises. And for the desired result to come out, it must satisfy God's rule. The individual must accept he has a problem and must acknowledge that only God is capable of saving him. He must desire freedom from devil to be with God. He must be willing to accept God's instructions about life i.e. the word of God. He must be willing to accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

The one praying for others deliverance must be a child of God, with the armour of God in him (Eph. 6:12-18). He must have the power of attorney to use the name of Jesus. He must understand about the use of God's spiritual weapons and not to rely on carnal devices e.g. the name of Jesus, the blood of Jesus, the water that follows the blood, fire from heaven (not Holy Ghost fire) (2 King 1:10, Lk. 9:54-56), and the power of the Holy Spirit. He must be a believer and man of faith and not a doubter.

Anything besides deliverance from God might end up with Satan as the principal actor. Satan has anointed many false prophets with the impression that they can deliver, but are not, and through them he is holding the people the more.

Spiritual Warfare

The war between Satan and God is who should occupy and dominate man's heart. The aim of the devil is to keep man under his dominion to be condemned along with him. But that of God is to bring the thoughts of man to the obedience of Christ (2Cor. 10:4-5).

Satan uses lying, deceit, intimidation, threat, etc to convert man to himself. He afflicts, manipulates, misinterprets, misguides, threatens and kills. He had reigned down the ages as a monarch until the redemption of man. Now God had brought him to naught through Christ to set free those he is holding. The redeemed are free, with the armour of God, above principalities and powers, and circumstances of devil.

The Armour of God (Eph. 6:12 – 18). These are: - The truth about Christ: the new creation man is conformed to the image of Christ and he walks as he walked so that his ability at crushing the devil automatically becomes his own. We defeat devil in the righteousness of Christ.

- a. The righteousness of God: the saved ones are partakers with God of His divine nature, with His righteousness in them. Satan has no rule over them because they are the righteousness of God in the world. He fears them because when they pray as righteous men, God answers (1Peter 3:12).
- b. Standing in the gospel of peace which is the gospel of Christ: You carry the burden of the gospel to reveal Christ wherever you go. You walk in his kind of love even in persecutions and overcome in weakness, as co-

labourers with Christ in revealing and cultivating the image of the Father into the lives of people in the world.

- c. Faith in God. We believe and rejoice in His promises, of all things He has said in the name of His beloved son Jesus; using His word as the substance of our hope in life, as the evidence of those things we have, even though we have not seen them. We know that what the word of God says is what we are in Christ. We defeat Satan by standing in the promises of God. He cannot rule us because we have our trust in God. We believe what He said is what we have become in Christ. Now we know our sins are cleansed because we have accepted him and we are righteous before him. We refuse to accept Satan's testimony that we are unrighteous. Our sin consciousness has been destroyed and we are healed in our thoughts. When we speak as the Father has said, Satan and his circumstances obey.
- d. Rejoicing in your salvation: It is true that we are sons and daughters of God. Though the future glory is not revealed in us, we know that when he would come we will be like him, and will live with him forever. We have passed from condemnation to life and are worthy to be with the Father. This hope of future glory enables us to keep ourselves away from things of the world, it makes us overcome the world. It makes us pure even as He is pure (1John 3:2-3), to overcome temptations all in the hope of the future glory. Satan cannot change us because of our hope, we are masters of circumstances (1Cor. 13:13).
- e. The word of God: We have become recreated by His word. We have become what He says. His word is our life, beyond the realm of devil. The word has made to us

know that we are healed. It makes us know we are righteous and masters of devil. When we mention the name of Christ (the word of God), Satan and all his demon hosts obey. We have learned to rely on the word of God to defeat him even as Jesus defeated him through the word (Luke 4:4-8).

- f. Praying always and watching on it.

Prayer

Prayer is an expression of one's desire to God in the form of spiritual communication. Children of God pray to God and He answers and those of devil to devil. Communication through prayers depends on fellowship because God is to respond to a son or someone who is assigned with a duty. When children of God say 'our Father in heaven' God is immediately on the scene. But He can answer the prayer of a sinner on the account of grace but not of right or privilege. He is Father of saints and legally, He does not answer the prayer of sinners (1Peter 3:12). If sinners say, "our Father in heaven" Satan is immediately in control.

Prayer means talking to God directly in the name of Jesus, asking Him of what you want. Your request is direct, precise and short. We do not repeat after we have asked Him because He says "He has done it already." For example, if you have pains, you simply tell God you have pains and that He should heal you. If you are hungry, tell God you are hungry and that He should provide for you.

You tell Him of what you want should happen, for God to confirm it. You speak for things to happen or for a situation to change, you decree for something to be established, etc. *for*

example. After you have told God and ask Him to heal you of your pains, it is now your power to say, "In the name of Jesus, let everything causing pains in my body loose out of me". Whatever you bind is bound in heaven and whatever you loose is loosed of God (Matt. 18:19). You are now exercising the ability which God has given you. It is you that will speak the word of faith to make things happen to help yourself and others. You have no ability of your own but the Father behind you confirming your word. You can bind or loose, open or close, you can command to move away, can cancel or establish etc. You can command the demon or mountain to move and God will confirm it. But for your desire to come true, yours must be the same with God's so that what you have uttered is actually His mind. You are His spokesman. We say His will, and because it is His will, He will hasten to perform it (Jer. 1:12). When you speak against His will, He will not answer because you have prayed amiss (James 4: 3).

Who answers Prayers: Prayers are offered either to God or devil and the answer comes from any of these two depending on the way the prayer is offered, no matter who it is directed to. For example when a false prophet prays to God, Satan answers instead of God. This is why he is a deceiver.

Weapons for Prayer: When we put on the armour of God, then we are qualified to use His spiritual weapons. These are:

- a. The Name of Jesus: Because we are co-labourers with Christ, we have been given POWER OF ATTORNEY to act on his behalf to walk in his name. You speak to the Father in his name, you command demons in his name, you decree in his name etc. The name in the lips of the

believer is to produce the same miracles which Christ did while on earth (John 1:12).

- b. The Blood of Jesus: The blood is heavenly but is poured down and preserved for us. Since it is from God, Satan's authority, including demons are paralyzed when they come into contact with it. We overcome Satan by the power of the blood (Rev. 12:11). We say with our lips that the blood should pour on a demon or on his weapon and what we say is what has happened. We don't sprinkle because the blood is made in such abundance that it covers the world. It is only to demand that it be poured on some one on a giving situation. When this happens, devil's power over us is broken.
- c. The water that follows the Blood. This is preserved along with the blood and it is equally as powerful as the blood but of different use. It is for our peace and strength. It can reduce high temperature and sleeplessness (1John 5:6, John 19:34).
- d. Heavenly Fire: When God was with man in the flesh this fire was manifested to burn sacrifices and material things. It could burn human beings when the anger of God was kindled (Num. 11:1-3). The same fire burned Sodom and Gomorrah. Elijah used it to burn the captains of fifty (2 Kings 1:9-14). These were physical manifestations. Disciples of Jesus asked him to use this fire to burn a Samaritan village as Elijah did. Christ rebuked them because he did not come to destroy human lives but to save them (Luke 9:54-56). After the finished work of Christ, we are now children of God to walk with Him and worship Him in spirit. We are not to walk by sight but by faith. We use this fire as faith men and burn spiritual things. We call on it to descend from heaven and burn

weapons of the enemy, and we know it is done the way we have said.

This is real fire that burns. It is not the same as the sign of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, which looks like tongues of fire. Calling on Holy Ghost fire to consume a human being is ignorance propagated by devil the deceiver of the world (Acts 2:3).

- e. The power of the Holy Spirit: Every miraculous manifestation through our utterance is from the Holy Spirit. He is our defence and comforter. He heals, recreates damaged organs, and empowers us for high testimonies. When we speak in the Name of God's beloved son He performs what we say and the Father is glorified (1John 4:4). We ask Him to take control of all things about our lives and about our battle with Satan, and about every thing we say.

God's Law concerning Prayer: Faith in God: Mark 11:23-24.

One's union with God must be understood because God is to manifest or reveal Himself through you, such that when you say what He wants, He answers instantly. He does not accept doubt, we should know He has promised, and He is able. He is faithful and just, He does not lie, what He says is what He does. He does not fail. God wants us to have unconditional trust in Him and in His words. The law of prayer demands that the things you desire, when you ask, believe you have them already, though not seen in the present, and you will receive.

It must be according to His will. Those things we ask must be based on needs, and not out of lust or envy or

covetousness. They must be things that are necessary in the prevailing circumstance (James 4: 3). We must approach Him through Christ Jesus and speak to Him in his name (John 16: 23-24). We must wear the armour of God as co-labourers with power of attorney to walk in the name of Jesus Christ (1Peter 3:12, Eph. 6: 11-18). We are the righteousness of God in the world.

Prayer as work of Faith: Every effective prayer is a prayer of faith. Faith means the belief that what we say has happened the way we have spoken because the Father has promised He will do it. The believer does not need evidence of the senses before believing that the prayer is answered. The only evidence he has is the word of God. Faith is blind to all but the word of God. You have used the word of God as the substance of your hope in the things you have spoken. The ability to use the word as the evidence of things not yet seen is faith.

Unbelievers struggle to have faith but not the believer. The believer is a believer of the Word. Faith comes through hearing and acting on the word. You act on the word to enter into a new realization and new life, new consciousness and new realities.

The mightiest enemy to our prayer life is sense knowledge. The senses through knowledge of world events and traditions have a lot of evidence which have exalted themselves against what God has said. They are always speaking through our minds saying it is not possible. They create fear and make the mouth to confess of lack of strength, lack of ability and impending failure. They raise arguments against the word of God creating doubts. The greatest weapon

against sense knowledge is the word of God (Heb. 4:12, 2Cor.10: 4-5).

Through the word, we know what we are in Christ. Through the word we know we have prevailed. We stand in what He has spoken about us and rejoice in His words because we believe our case is settled. What He says is what has come to be. This is the reality of the union between God and the recreated man. The recreated human spirit is born out of the word of God (James 1: 18). We walk in the truth of the recreated spirit. The word is the life and authority of the recreated spirit. Our union with the word has overthrown reasons and arguments based on our knowledge of the world. When our senses show their limitations and remind us of failure then the living word of God which we have accepted as our being, appears to combat with our reasoning, to bring them under subjection. We realize our battle is not with the circumstance we see, but with devil who rules our feelings and brings fear to us. We know we are his masters. We remember what God has said, and know what He has said about us. "By his stripes we are healed" (Isa. 53:5).

Faith is blind to the senses but the word of God. We can stand boldly in the presence of God through the word and say "Our Father". We speak His mind because our desires are His. What we say will contact Him, being the author of our lives, who has made us ambassadors. Because it is His will, when we say what He desires, our voice will reach Him the author of the word and He will answer. The words coming out of our lips can bring healing to others, it can cast out demons, pull down his strong-holds, destroy devil's armour and bring deliverance to people. We are the agents of God in the world.

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's prayer is a sermon but could be recited as prayer by those not yet redeemed from sin, who desire for the kingdom of God. The unrenewed man can use it as prayer but not the new man in Christ.

The disciples used the Lord's Prayer before the death of Christ and not after Pentecost when they became born again. When they became Christians, they spoke as Christ spoke and prayed as he prayed. They became the image of Christ. They commanded circumstances in the name of Jesus.

This sermon is for sinners and religionist. That God in heaven is not only God, but also Father to us. He has promised and we should desire for His kingdom. That the sinner should repent and walk in love and allow God to take care of him.

It is for the spiritually dead man and not for the new creation. For example, the expressions contained in it have no place for the man who is now the image of Christ. e.g. "Thy kingdom come," but for the new man, the kingdom is come already and he is a citizen.

"Forgive us our sins as we forgive others their sins against us." A Christian is one whose sins are not only forgiven but they are remitted. He is free from sin and now a servant of righteousness (Rom. 6:18). In reciting the Lord's prayer the mind is filled with the memory of sin and unworthiness. This is for religious people who are yet to be redeemed from sin and not for the perfect man.

The Psalms

Each Psalm in the Bible is a sermon and not a model prayer. They reveal the mind of God in given situations. They show God's counsel and judgement. They give us the frame of mind we should have as people with the right spirit. The Psalms give us knowledge, understanding and wisdom of how to deal with every situation we find ourselves. For example, Psalm 51 sounds a model prayer, but is not. It gives the sinner the understanding of what God desires from us. It said God is delighted in a repented heart only. That repentance is what God requires from the sinner and not sacrifices and burnt offerings. Psalm 23 is an understanding of our relationship with Him. It shows our confidence in God. Reciting the books of Psalms as a means of warding off devil is lack of understanding. It makes you appear foolish before Satan who sees you as an ignorant man under him.

Use of Effigies and Prayer Aids:

Before the new creation was made through the death and resurrection of Christ, man was sense-ruled walking in the flesh through signs. He did not understand spiritual things (I Cor. 2:14, Gal. 3: 23-25) God had to walk with him by sight through signs. So the prophet had to work with a staff or girdle, and heals with oils, water, leaves etc.

Now that the new creation had been born, we have been converted to walk in spirit and to act by faith of the word and not by sight (2Cor. 5:7, Rom. 8:6-7). Carnal things like images, carvings, crosses, pictures, staff, banana, pawpaw, olive oil, candles, handkerchiefs etc. have no place in the new thing. This makes us understand how devil holds humanity

through ignorance and rules them through these carnal things as idol worshippers.

Prayers of Children of God

God's children are ambassadors and co-labourers with God on earth. They are working together for the salvation of mankind. Prayer is not only a means of communication but an assertion of one's authority and privileges in Christ. That is, exercising ability to defend oneself and others from the adversary. Prayer therefore, is (1) an expression of one's desires and needs and those of others asking God to give what we want and (2) asserting our desires for the things which God desired saying it should happen the way He has said. We are His spokesmen not only on the word but in prayers also. Prayer is a formal request asking God to take a particular action for the benefit of someone or mankind or for your service to Him. We ask that He should provide for the poor, and should save them from danger. We decree concerning those things God had desired should happen. Whatever we bind is bound in heaven and whatever we loose is loosed by Him. His desire is to bring the enemy to naught and to send him to hell (Isa. 14: 15). We command demons to be cast out, we bind them with our lips and order them to descend to abyss (hell). We command their chains and bonds to be loosed, we speak saying someone should be healed, we ask the Father to give them His Holy Spirit. Every effective prayer is known as prayer of faith.

Jesus is man of faith because He had faith in His words. He has made us be like him to have faith in the words that come out of our lips. He has made us co-labourers with him with duties, guidelines, procedures, instructions,

assurance and promises. When we say what we desire according to His will our voice will contact Him who has promised and the answer will come because God will respond. Prayer is based on fellowship and fellowship depends on purpose and the purpose in turn determines both the prayer and the answer. When we speak according to God's will He answers. In the same way, when agents of Satan speak according to Satan's will he answers instantly.

Devilish Prayers

Every prayer which is not according to God's will may attract Satan to the scene. As co-labourers with God, He has given us our scheme of work and frame of mind. He has defined what kind of spirit we have. He has made His plans known to us and we are to achieve his plans. Every prayer that is against his will is against Him and any that is against God is of devil. The most important is to know His will. If a Christian prays a wrong prayer, Satan may take advantage of it and will accuse him at the end. Hence Jesus warned against careless and idle words (Matt 12: 36).

Every prayer that gives Satan the opportunity to act against someone, against God's will is a wrong prayer. The prayer will contact the author of rebellion and he will confirm it by making it come true. Prayers which bring Satan into play, fall into one of these categories: -

1. Reading a Psalm with the hope that it will heal a person or bring wealth.
2. Praying with the effigies, and images with the belief that God is to act through them. e.g. Statue or picture of God or Christ or angel or any other god, crosses, the

Bible at hand, chaplets, staff, water, olive oil, ordination dress, handkerchiefs etc. Now, real faith had come through the redemption work of Christ, we are to walk by faith, not by sight. Those who use these are ignorant of the new faith, Satan takes advantage of it and rule them through spiritualism, occultism and idol worship. In the foundation of Christianity when God was to convert those under the law to the faith, He did advertise His power through shadows of Peter and Paul's handkerchief and aprons. These were special things God did to appeal to sense -ruled men under the law to the new thing, and when they become new creation, this will not be their practice of life. For example, Paul will not turn what God did to an industry of handkerchief by producing and sanctifying them for people or Peter advertising and giving out his shadow as power of contact. They happened only at given instances and were not repeated in other places.

3. Expressing Satanic Desires e.g. returning evil to sender, praying that somebody should die etc. Satan may act immediately because you have prayed according to his will. This is the desire of devil. (John 8:44) when you pray that evil should return to sender, the demons may carry the weapon back to the person that sent them and do harm to the person. It means the demons would now act according to your instructions as your messengers. So, instead of you to destroy them, you become an agent of devil.
4. The use of special words designed to induce magical powers e.g. speaking in strange and unexplained tongues, mentioning the name of Jesus or the blood of Jesus in specified number of times. The use of magic

words to place somebody under spell is called Sorcery: i.e. powers from evil spirits. Witchcraft means the art of bewitching people through acts, utterances and prayers, intended to kill or afflict or revenge by spiritual means. e.g. "Holy Ghost fire consume them." When it is referred to somebody.

5. Praying as a ritual act e.g. praying and walking round a building or moving round a person. Holding hands and dancing with unclear utterances (1Kings 18:26-27).
6. Praying and prophesying saying one's neighbour is the cause of one's problem, one's father or mother or close relation is a witch, one is to die soon unless a spiritual work is done etc. This is called prognostication (Isa. 47:13).

The nature of devil is revealed in his sermon and this is demonstrated through diviners, juju priests, occultists, magicians, sorcerers, wizards, false prophets etc. when things are done in the way these groups do their things Satan is immediately at the scene manifesting.

Satanic Manoeuvres: Devil's manipulations through false prophets include;

1. Encouraging idolatry through worshipping of images, and objects believed to be power of contact with God. e.g. Pictures, statues, water, olive oil, rings, etc.
2. cleverly initiating people to witchcraft through prayers and utterances that make them kill or cast spell on people e.g. praying, sending evil to somebody,
3. Initiation to spiritualism through magical displays e.g. touching and falling with the impression that the Holy Spirit is at work, making somebody vomit out an object or animals.

4. Initiation into divination e.g. prolong fastings and prayers and anointing services designed to make people see visions or dream dreams. It gives rise to the increase of false prophets. Spiritual gifts come through repentance and it is the Holy Spirit that decides.
5. False deliverance e.g. going to sleep in a church house or cemetery for a number of days for deliverance; ritual display, holding hands in a circle dancing, singing, praying and prophesying; eating and drinking some kinds of food, oil or water in the name of deliverance; reading some Psalms and bathing and rubbing of things as deliverance. Symbolic exercises such as washing with holy water, burying and bringing out from the ground; confining in and coming out from a coffin, carrying a load and running without looking back, etc these are devilish practices that help to bond man more with Satan. They are not deliverance from God.

Chapter

4

THE ANTI-CHRIST

Satan in Disguise

The description of the beast in Revelation 13:1-2 is that of Satan. His name is blasphemy and his identity is unrighteousness. He is the god, and father of the unregenerated souls, the political head of the nations. He is the prince and ruler of the world. He rules through kings who dance to his tune.

He is represented by diviners, consulter of familiar spirits, magicians, visioners and dreamers, false prophets and false teachers. Their work is to sustain Satan's government, with power of devil in disguise as gift of God.

The distribution of church denominations through unrepented souls is a manifestation of the faces of devil: The divisions into orthodox, white garment, prayer houses, and Pentecostal churches all represent some faces of the devil. The sign of devil is unrighteousness. They condemn one another, but are the same people. A Christian does not belong to any denomination because he worships God in Spirit and in truth. The church that is not ordained by God, and the

occultists, the native doctor and his shrine, the armed robbers and other criminals etc are all different faces of devil. They do the same thing in disguise. Unrighteousness is the evidence of union with devil. By their fruits ye shall know them (Matt 7:20). The unrighteous, from the juju shrines to the biggest church are the same. They are children of devil (1John 3:10).

The Anti-Christ

An anti-Christ is somebody who appears as disciple of Christ but shows the life of devil in his speech, character, conduct and behaviour (1 John 2:18-19). He parades as minister of Christ, but is lustful, wicked, proud, malicious, arrogant, etc. The wonders he is able to perform is taken as the proof of God in him. (John 5:43-44. 1 John 4:5-6). Fear, reverence, devotion, honour, praises and human worship are given to him. His work is to overthrow the work of redemption in people's minds to the glory of devil.

He sits in the church as one next to God but opposes all that is God's i.e. His doctrine is the opposite of love, peace, goodness, righteousness, long-suffering, kindness, etc. (1Thess 2:4). And with deception he makes money out of his position (1Thess 2:10, 2 Pet. 2:3). He promises his followers liberty from devils, but he himself is servant of sin. He deceives through lies, he kills morale and destroys the weak, he shows bad examples. We are warned to be careful with those who justify themselves and receive honour and praises from men. "*For that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God*" (Lk. 16:15). They rob and extort through lies and treachery, and protect themselves with security agents. Here is wisdom, try the spirit before following.

The anti-Christ is not a person who is ignorant of Christ. They are those who know Christ as Satan knew him and blaspheme. (1 John 2:18-19). They have the knowledge of Christ but in practice and moral precept they are always in the opposite direction.

They testify about Christ but by conduct they blaspheme against him. Christ is the word of God, the righteousness of God, the image of God in the human. He came as man, and in the flesh he overcame sin for us to follow. Those who know Christ should confess not only of their knowledge of him but of their fellowship with him as one having the life Christ brought from above. They should prove it by showing it in their lives in the flesh (Rom. 8:1-3, 1 John 4:1-3), as one having the righteousness that is brought to us in the flesh by Jesus Christ. You believe by faith that you have it because he has made it for us; therefore, you are to make it real by acting on the word

You testify by conduct that Jesus really had broken the power of sin in the flesh and that you are partaker with Christ of this victory. Those who do not believe in this are called unbelievers. They do not believe that the sin issue is resolved. The Christians under this category are hypocrites who hold the truth in unrighteousness. They are blasphemers who teach that though Christ came into the world, his life is like ours and that Christ did not actually make us righteous. That perfection and righteousness are unattainable; that they are things impossible with men. That is to say that the truth about Christ is a mere farce and his work of salvation is a fable. He works to disprove the works of Christ.

The anti-Christ are preachers of the gospel of Christ, but evil, corruption and abominations are portrayed as the truth. Every body is to decide his destiny, either heaven or hell. There is no excuse for any man.

LUCIFER

When devil is mentioned, our minds go to Lucifer because he is the head of evil. Lucifer was in heaven next to the throne of God, but now he is devil. He has lost his glory because God has rejected him. He has been driven down from heaven to hell. Lucifer and the fallen angels are now known as devils or evil spirits.

Devil: Lucifer was condemned because he was covetous: He desired to sit on the throne of God. He desired to own the world which did not belong to him. He wanted all things. Even now, he wants to be at the head to reign over all. (Isa. 14:13-14). Because of covetousness, he oppresses, he steals, he kills, he lies, he deceives, he is violent and wicked (Isa. 14:4-6, John 10:10). Lucifer was created beautiful, and endowed with wisdom. He was described as the covering cherub. He was anointed and crowned as ruler of angels. He was given the throne of a king adorned with all types of precious metals and stones. He was given dominion, power and authority over the angels in heaven. He had the ability to make musical instruments for the praise of God (Ezek 28:1-15).

He was to reveal the invisible God to the angels, to manifest His glory to them. He was a symbol of God's beauty, goodness, power and might. Because of the position given to

him, Lucifer began to see himself as God, desiring to be worshipped as God. Pride made him despised God who created him and made him to represent Him. Because of this he was dethroned and rejected (Ezek. 28:17). But his influence still dominates others. He appears fascinating as one still in authority, and some angels owe allegiance to him.

Though fallen, he is now the owner of the world. By his wisdom, he makes laws that make him have ascendancy over others. He is described as wiser than Daniel (Ezek. 28:3). He has the power of vision, with wisdom and understanding of things unknown, making people to have confidence in him. People rely on him for wisdom and understanding. By his power and counsel he enslaves and takes over people's wealth. He weakens nations, he gives them confusion, he brings them down and rejoices in their fall. He has dominion over all except the new creation (Ezek. 28:2-5, Isa. 14:12). He does not allow his prisoners go out. He rules with anger. He makes fruitful places to be desolate. He shakes kingdoms and makes the earth to tremble (Isa. 14:6). He is known as Devil or Death. His desire is to sit as head of all things, he is the crown of lust and pride.

Devil as a Character

As the opponent of God Almighty, he imposes his rules over man against the will of God. He oppresses and smote people in wrath with continual strokes, and rules with anger (Isa.14: 4-12) with dominion over everything in the world (Lk. 4:6, Job 9:24). He shakes kingdoms, he destroys the cities in it. He does not allow those under him to escape.

He does not open his prison yard (Isa. 14:16-17). He rules without mercy.

He owns the world for himself and not for another. He gives to whomsoever he wills. He is now a victim of multitude of iniquities because of the traffic of his merchandise. They have filled him with violence (Ezek. 28:16). By his wisdom, he took the world from Adam, and with his understanding he owns his riches. He is now head of things of the world.

Rev 18:2 said, "A strong voice saying Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit and a cage of every unclean and hateful birds".

Babylon was a figure of the world, the seat of the government of the world under Nebuchadnezzar. God made the world to be under him. But God judged Babylon and condemned it.

The world is fallen as Babylon was fallen because what it did is what is found with the nations. "For all nations have drunk the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies" (Rev. 18:3).

Satan, by his wisdom has taken over the riches of the world e.g. gold, silver, precious metals, ornaments, forest products, beasts, human beings etc. He has robbed man of these things and has introduced a criminal way of rationing. He gives to those who walk in his selfish and wicked principles. If you do not do what he says, you lose even the one you have. By this kings and great men and merchants

have chosen his way as worshippers of mammon (Rev. 18:12-13, Ezek. 27:3-25, Lk. 16:9,13).

They rob, oppress, extort, kill, steal and deceive to make gain. They acquire riches at the expense of others and live in pleasure. They desire to seat on others, with charm. They show that they have supernatural wisdom, knowledge and power for wealth, as having supreme knowledge in commerce, economics, politics etc, making themselves attractive and fascinating. They advocate laws that put them at advantage. By their sorcery they win the confidence of others to depend on them. The wealth of others now flow to them. They trust only in their riches and wisdom and not God. They are the enemies of God. "For thou has trusted in thy wickedness. Thou hath said, none seeth me. Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and thou has said in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me" (Isa. 47:10-15). Those who have this covetous and wicked character are the full image of devil in human form.

The Trinity of Devil

Satan as god of the world (2Cor. 4:4) is an impersonator of God. As god, his triune nature is manifested in the Dragon, the beast and the false prophet (Rev. 16:13-14). The dragon is devil in his true color, the beast and the false prophet are his deceitful postures. They walk together just as the word and spirit of God walk together. The beast speaks through the false prophet. The false prophet is the symbol of all false prophets in the world. They all work by the power of the beast who in turn is empowered by the dragon.

The dragon can perform unspeakable miracles through idolaters, occultists and magicians calling on devil in his raw form. But the beast disguises himself as the spirit of God and could manifest his power through several kinds of ways. He is the spirit behind false prophets since the time of Old. The beast is dangerous to man's salvation because of his ability to disguise himself as Christ and as the spirit of God.

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and I saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads, and ten horns, and upon his horns, ten crowns, and upon his head the names of blasphemy. And the beast, which I saw, was like unto a leopard and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of lion, and the dragon gave him his power and his seat and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death, and his deadly wound was healed, and all the world wondered after the beast" (Rev. 13:1-3). This wounded head is a counterfeit of Christ that was and was not and now is, who was killed and now is alive.

This beast had manifested as Christ with signs and wonders to deceive the whole world. It had been of old and had walked with religious but evil people. He was behind the killing of the old prophets of God as well as Jesus of Nazareth (Rev. 11:7).

The false prophet is the fulness of devil in the human. As image of Satan he has power to perform miracles. He devices lying wonders, magic and miracles and could give testimonies of things that do not happen. He uses lies and deception to receive honour and glory. The beast is behind

him, and could perform real wonders also (2Cor. 11:13-15, Rev. 16:13-14).

The Reprobate Mind: The Rejected Man

The mind becomes reprobate if for a long time it had been exposed to the word of God and having known that the word is from God and that it is true, he refuses to change his ways to walk by the word of God. He has the knowledge of the truth in his mind but walk in unrighteousness. And because he holds the truth in unrighteousness God had found him unprincipled, unrepentable, unprofitable, immoral and has rejected him for the rest of his life. God has withdrawn from him, everything he had provided for man's salvation i.e. the convicting power of the word, and the Holy Spirit. Only in righteousness shall we be approved.

Because he is rejected of God, and withdrawn from all that is necessary for his salvation, the mind is now hardened, dead to the conscience to commit abominable things, even though he worships God on the outward in hypocrisy (Titus 1:16).

God gives reprobate mind by withdrawing from the individual His word and spirit and the understanding he has about sin. The reprobate mind is blind to God. He is given out to Satan to own him, and he rules his mind and life and conduct (Rom. 1:18-32, Titus 1:16).

God first gave to Israel reprobate mind because they refuse to keep His commandments for the glory of God to be revealed in them (Rom. 1:18, 21-32). The reprobate cannot know God any more, they are doomed for destruction.

God Hardened Pharaoh's Heart

God knew Pharaoh had made himself God and would challenge him. He knew Pharaoh would not allow Israel go, not even by a mighty hand (Ex.3: 19-20). He did not obey or fear any. He saw himself above all. His pride, arrogance and wickedness did not allow him recognize the Al-mighty. In view of this, God said he would harden Pharaoh's heart until he will realize there is one greater than him. Since Pharaoh is such a being that should be destroyed, God would use him to show his power in dealing with the wicked.

When Moses met with Pharaoh, he told him the God of Israel had asked him to let Israel go. Pharaoh replied with arrogance and boastfulness. He said, "Who is the Lord that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord neither will I let Israel go" (Ex. 5:2). God brought plagues to Egypt and when Pharaoh saw that God was more powerful than him, he confessed (Ex. 9: 27). But God rejected his acknowledgement and confession because he challenged Him in a very blasphemous way.

God said, "For this purpose have I raised thee up that I might show my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth" (Rom. 9:17, Ex. 9:16). Israel went to Egypt by the foreknowledge of God (Gen. 15:13-14), and was received by a loving king. But When God brought them out, He delivered them from the hand of a wicked one. Deliverance becomes an issue when people are in bondage. The judgement of the oppressor has been passed already. When his evil day comes, God will destroy him without mercy. God resists the proud and show mercy to the humble. The proud, the wicked and boastful are to be

destroyed without mercy also. The lowly, the meek, the humble, kind, gentle and merciful, though tempted to go astray, God will provide an escape route because He will be merciful unto them. God knew Pharaoh was very wicked before he raised him up to be king. He wanted his wickedness to be fully manifested before his destruction.

The king of Assyria defied the God of Israel. He said, “who are they among all the gods of the countries that have delivered their country out of mine hand, that the Lord should deliver Jerusalem out of mine hand” (2 King 18:35). He saw himself higher than God the creator and was destroyed without mercy.

Sometimes the proud, the boastful and the arrogant do prosper, they seat in authority and have dominion over the people. Their families are safe from oppression. The noise of music is heard in their homes (Prov. 21:6-16). In their reign, they oppress the poor and the righteous and rob them of their means of living. They rejoice in their abundance and boast in their wickedness as if nothing is going to happen to them. They have in mind that no one can do them anything. These are people God has condemned already. He allows them to ascend unto the throne of leadership so that their evil may be known and God will be justified of their destruction. He reserves the wicked for the evil day. He allows them to walk wickedly, but the triumphing of the wicked is for a short time. (Job 20:5) God reserves them unto destruction that His name be known, and be exalted (Prov. 16:4, 21:30). The rise and fall of the wicked is for the testimony of God as the ultimate judge and defender of the oppressed. When the wicked falls both his goods and household perish as that of Pharaoh (Job 20:19-29).

The king of Tyrus was the image of Lucifer in his desires. He was a symbol of pride. Tyrus was situated in a good position as an entry port beside the sea. Through his wisdom and wantonness and traffic he possessed the riches of the nations round about him. His estate became beautiful and was lifted up with pride. He said, “I am a god. I sit in the seat of God in the midst of the sea”. By the multitude of his merchandise and traffic, he was filled with violence and God made his destruction to come in one day. (Ezek. 27:1-36, 28:1-19). Pride and covetousness made the king of Tyrus not only a sinner but sin itself. These are the characters of devil. Because of covetousness, he engaged in activities that weakened nations and caused them to be broken up. When nations fall he is enriched because they now depend on him. Yet he justified himself saying he had no fault. He rejoiced in the fall of others. But God would bring the nations he has deceived, which he has robbed to rise against him and his glory will disappear in one day (Hos.12, Daniel 8:23-25, Ezek 26). This is the judgement of the oppressor who uses his power, wisdom and craftiness to acquire wealth at the expense of others.

Satanic Empowerment

1. **Human Blood:** The blood of Christ is preserved in the world as source of power for man. It is for our deliverance, and strength. Blood means life, and it is source of power. The blood of Jesus is a spiritual thing. Devil and his instruments cannot withstand its presence. Satan as a master counterfeiter has also created his own blood bank for the empowerment of his agents. His own is made of human blood derived from wars, accidents and natural disasters. These are

not actual blood from bodies of victims but are shadow of it, they are spiritual. The blood of Christ shed on Calvary cross was small but is enlarged and could serve the whole world. Satan causes wars and accidents and the image of the blood shed is enlarged into rivers and pools of blood. Satan forces his agents to drink of this blood to give them power to work more wickedly. The more a man drinks of it the more Satan will manifest his power through the individual. (Culled from THE HIDDEN TRUTH by M.K. Odubo).

2. Satan gives power when one engages in wicked works as a devils servant: Those who walk more wickedly are given more power to represent devil. One may be asked to kill more souls before enjoying some special privileges. One may sign for the death of a beloved or allow himself to be damaged or agree to be something more than a fool, and he will be given some special power. These are meant to grief the heart of God who created man in his image and likeness. When man allows himself to be ridiculed or to appear before God as mad as a fool then Satan is happy because it would grieve the mind of God.
3. One could be empowered through unusual Body Discipline and strange Act. e.g.
 - a. Sleeping in cemeteries.
 - b. Separating oneself from normal life as a Nazarite e.g. leaving hairs and beards uncut, living in isolated areas for spiritual reasons. These were done under the law when man was sense ruled but is abolished by the coming of faith through Christ.

- c. Prolong fasting ranging from three days to one full year etc., engaging in such feastings without repentance may lead to anointing by devil.

Chapter

5

PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS EPH. 6.

Principalities and Powers

Man is obliged to go through unfortunate circumstances because he is a victim of spiritual forces beyond his control. He is in the hands of a spiritual enemy who oppresses him and imposes on him ungodly, wicked and abnormal rules and traditions which makes it almost impossible for him to live a normal life. The saved man is not spared also because he would undergo travails and sufferings by way of temptations until the end of his life. He is to endure all to overcome temptations before he will be saved.

In his epistle to the Ephesians, Paul disclosed this enemy and the extent of his power to enable us know the battle we fight and the army we will overcome before entering into the kingdom. He said, “we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, and powers, and the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Eph 6:12. What are these principalities and powers and rulers, and wickedness in high places? This is one of the mystery which Satan has hindered man from knowing except God. Since we are co-labourers with God, He has revealed

these hidden things to us to enable us fight and overcome by faith in Christ.

Principalities: Principality means a kingdom or an area which is under the rulership of a prince. The kingdom or geographical location is owned and ruled by the prince or king. The word ‘principalities’ is an overview of the kingdoms with their rulers who are in direct battle against God and His family. They are made up of hosts of devils, demons, foul spirits and their human agents. These kingdoms and princes are spiritual but have dominion over the earthly human inhabitants. The kingdoms of Persia and Greccia and their princes are striking examples (Daniel 10:13, 20). Satan divides the world into kingdoms and in each a demon prince holds sway. These kingdoms are subdivided into communities, settlements and enclaves with each under a prince of a lower rank. This is almost in line with the pattern in the world. The character and behaviour of the people in a geographical area depends on the character of the demon prince ruling the area. They are assigned to these kingdoms and communities by Lucifer. They work directly with priests and earthly kings through whom they enforce their laws and traditions making them devilish societies. Priests, magicians, consulter of familiar spirits, Soothe Sayers, etc are mostly the agents and middlemen between the spiritual prince and the human kings (Daniel 2: 2, Ex 7:11). For example, almost every village in traditional Africa is ruled by a chief who is under the influence of a land god or god of the air or of the sea, or under the dominion of some kind of gods. The traditions and way of life in these communities are direct manifestations of Satan’s way of doing things and are insult to God. Therefore, the duty

of the family of God on earth is to break these devilish traditions to liberate the people to live normal Godly life.

Powers of Darkness: Power is used in terms of thrones of authority and political dominion. It is the power, the authority, and the ability to rule and to enforce satanic laws. Political pluralism is a shadow of the powers which Satan wields on earth as a result of the fall of man and the eventual loss of the dominion given to him by God (Gen. 1:28). The kingdom of God is now established with a new throne of power beside the powers of the condemned world.

The powers that are in the world are therefore:

- (1) The authority and power of Christ and his agents.
- (2) The authority and powers of devil who rule the kingdoms of the world (Col. 1:13).
- (3) The authority and powers of earthly kings and national governments which was ordained by God but now are under the influence of devil (Rom. 13:1-7, Titus 3:1).

Satan's legal authority to own and rule the world is stated in the famous temptation of Christ in the book of Luke and in Job (Luke 4:6, Job 9:24). Adam gave his rulership position to Satan by reason of his fall. As long as man is fallen and subject of Satan, every thing belonging to him is for devil. Devil's authority and power to hold humanity and to rule people according to his laws is called powers of darkness. His governmental agents which include demons and their priests, wizards and wicked human kings are known as rulers of the darkness of the world (Eph. 6:12).

High Places: High Places are places of sacrifices and spiritual services, they are places of religious observances (1Samuel 9:12, 1Kings 3:2 Deut. 12:2). They were built on hills and under shed trees. Satan and false prophets have their kind of high places (1King 14:23, Ezek. 16:24). All kinds of sacrifices including human sacrifices and spiritual exercises were done for the destruction of human beings. They are described as spiritual wickedness in high places (Eph. 6:12). The high places of the modern world are the society headquarters, cult centres, juju shrines, prayer houses, Pentecostal churches run by occultic leaders etc. When things are done in these places, Satan is loosed to do his wicked works on mankind. Those who go on astral journeys sometimes end up in spiritual camps and warehouses. These are spiritual high places run by the prince of the power of the air (the witch demon) (Eph. 2:2).

Composition of the Spirits in the Worlds

God: God is a spirit (John 4:24). He is the Father of all spirits (Heb. 12:9). He is the God of the spirits of all flesh (Num. 16:22), the creator of all things, the Al-mighty God.

The Holy Spirit: Among the number of spirits on earth, the Holy Spirit is the only different spirit. He is known as the spirit of God because He proceeded out of God (John 15:20). But he is a personality. God manifests Himself and His powers through him. He makes the word of God real to us, with power. He worked with Christ (the Word) to bring creation into being (Gen. 1:2). He still came with the Word (Christ) to establish the new creation. No body has seen his shape even as we have not seen the Father. John the Baptist saw him as a dove, but he appeared to Israel in the temple as a cloud. Bro. Odubo saw him as dew (see The Hidden Truth: by

Odubo). These were manifestations of his glory (1King 8:10-11 Matt 3:16).

Jesus Christ:

Christ became Jesus when he took on flesh and blood as man in the world. He had been with the Al-mighty God from everlasting (Micah 5:2). He is one amongst the three in the Godhead. Before he came into the world, he was described as the Word of God. The desires of God are expressed through him. When he speaks the mind of God it happens. He is God. The Al-mighty God is the author of all things. He is the center of all wisdom, knowledge and understanding. He has the world in His heart. He conceives, designs and plans, He perceives, and frames and create things in His heart, and the Holy Spirit and Christ bring His desires into being in the outward (Gen. 1:3, Col. 1:15-19, Heb. 1:2). Christ represents the Father and speaks on His behalf. He has the spirit of a son, but walks with the spirit of the Father and makes His will come true (John 14:10-11). He makes what is in the Father's mind to appear for us to see through him. He is the image and visible appearance of the invisible God (Col. 1:15).

Man: Man was created as the image and likeness of God. God is a spirit, and man was created a spirit being also. He is a three fold being of body, soul and spirit. The soul and spirit were breathed out of God. He was created as ruler of the works of God (Ps. 8:6), but he sinned and fell short of the glory of God, Christ Jesus came as a substitute and carried his burdens and responsibilities on his behalf.

Devil: Devil is used to mean the overall body of evil spirits and their instruments. Lucifer who is now Satan is the head

and king of all. He is called the angel of the Abyss. His Hebrew name is Abaddon, and his Greek name Apollyon. He was known as the Day Star, son of the morning (Isa. 14:12-15). He is full of wisdom and now leader of evil. He is now the god of the world. He is known as the wicked one, he is Death, the Deceiver of the world. His power and authority and wisdom are in the hands of demons which are categorized as devils, and foul spirits (Rev. 18:2). These are the spirits of God's own creation but Satan has converted them for his use.

COMPOSITION OF DEMONS: (Culled from the 'Hidden Truth' by Bro. Moris Kofi Odubo).

Demons can be classified as higher and lower demons, they are graded into hierarchy. They can also be classified as demons of the air, land and sea. They can be classified as devils, foul spirits and unclean beasts.

- a. Higher and Lower Demons.
High demons are demonic princes which are in rulership position of kingdoms. They are the high ranked principalities and powers (Daniel 10:13, 20). The lower demons are those of different ranks and grades under a prince. These demons are many times more in number than the human beings in the world.
- b. Devils, foul spirits and unclean beasts.
Devils refer to the fallen angels that were cast out of heaven (2Peter 2:4, Jude 6). The glory of God has left them and their appearance have changed. They have three pairs of outstretched wings at the back, black in appearance with very long toe and fingernails. They have long ears with big eyes resembling that of the

owl. Their bodies are without apparel but no male or female organs.

Foul spirits could be animals or human beings whose spirits have been changed and severely polluted and used by Satan for the destruction of man. The animals include serpents, wolves, giraffes, gorillas, octopus and those written in Leviticus 11. They have characteristics and behaviour different from normal animals. Some false prophets, diehard armed robbers and other hardened criminals are foul spirits.

Disembodied spirits, as spirits of devil, are called unclean spirits. They are spirits of animals and those of almost all kinds of creatures such as birds, fishes, insects and strange beasts. Some have human appearance.

The gorilla demon can spin a human viciously to produce madness or dizziness and other severe sicknesses. There is one that looks like a giraffe normally found in women's womb. When demons have sex with it through the woman, the giraffe gets pregnant and the woman in turn shows features of pregnancy. When the giraffe delivers in spirit, the woman's pregnancy disappears. The wolf and serpent and other animals in the human constitute the counterfeit powers of false prophets. They account for the touching and falling and wriggling fits, and noisy prayers. The wolf, serpent, gorilla, dragon, octopus etc are the power base of Satan. There is no masquerade danced in the traditional world that is not a resemblance of one demon or the other.

Demons of the Air: The most important of this is the witchcraft demon. Others have the appearance of human

beings but hardly beyond one and a half feet tall. They are faster than the speed of sound.

The witchcraft demon does not operate on its own except through the human spirit. It anchors itself around the chest below the armpit by an arm-like belt of two inches wide and one inch thick and levels with the skin without a trace of any joint. The demon, like a tremendous dragonfly with two large wings is at the back of the human. Projecting from the demon at the back is an iron-like rod like the shaft of an helicopter which pierce through the back of the human right into the chest. The witch demon virtually owns the human spirit which it has possessed. When it flies the shaft-like iron that holds the wings turns causing incurable painful effect from the back to the chest. The human being has dizziness in the physical when this operation is going on. In some cases, those who have been in this service for long carry three or four mysterious ladders at the back. At rest a black cloth, like the underwear of a woman carefully covers the wings and the demon is unseen. The human wears an attire made of pieces of clothes woven in layers around the waist to knee level. It resembles the attire of an African dance known as Iria-dance. His appearance is an abomination in the sight of God.

Water Demons: Some of these water demons are blond women with fish trunk and large tails. Some are short (3ft tall) but very fat with human features. This is the principal that runs training centres where girls are trained on acts of seduction. It rules one of the earliest and biggest Pentecostal church in Nigeria. It is the reason many members of that church including the Pastors are unable to overcome fornication. Others are the dragons which resembles crocodile

but ten times bigger. Some are half-man, half horse. Some have big inflated balloon-like head with tiny trunk and legs. Others are like camel with human head holding a long spear. Notable among them is the one like a blond woman with human features with a snake coiling around its neck and the snake's head above its own. This is described as "queen of the coast".

The queen of the coast lives below the shorelines of seas, oceans and rivers or lakes. It moves in a pipe of over a hundred feet long and three feet diameter. The end of this pipe is inland terminating into an entrance of an underground tunnel of two chambers. The first chamber is guarded by numerous smaller serpents but the second contains power packed reddish serpents of great size. At the centre of this second chamber is this demon who dangles a serpent over its neck. This demon has the power to organize large scale stealing mainly from banks, markets and private homes for those who worship it. Human souls offered as sacrifice in exchange for money are normally adorned with white handkerchiefs in their hands dancing to entertain this demon. Its victim in the physical is either mental or imbecile. Some of its agents are ardent anti-Christ working for the devil as church leaders. The big reddish serpents could swallow human spirits to occasion death or series of problems.

Land Demons: *Some are pure skeleton very powerful in action. It walks with native doctors and false prophets. Some, the body is horse-like but the head is human with spear in his hand. others are half man and half bull. Some have cylindrical heads with openings from which fire gushes out. These scare children to prolong and uncontrollable cries. There is one*

group that has massive human appearance of about 30ft or more in height always with an axe-like weapon. These are described as killer demons and can cause stroke or instant death. Many have the resemblance of all kinds of beasts and creatures. Majority of masquerades played in the world have resemblance of one demon or the other.

The wolf, dragon and serpent together with the witch demon are among the power base as mentioned in Ephesians (Eph. 6:12).

(Culled from The Hidden Truth: by Bro. Moris Kofi Odubo).

The Worlds Heb 1:2

These worlds are:

- (1) The heaven of heavens, the home of God
- (2) The heavens, the stellar heavens
- (3) The earth i.e. the land and seas
- (4) The deep or abyss i.e. where hell is located.

They can also be classified as the first world, the second world and third world. The first world is the heaven of heavens, the home of God. The second world is the heavens and the earth, the home and domain of man. These include the Sun, the Moon and Stars, which were made because of the earth and were under the domain of man. The third world is the foundation of the earth, which extends to the bottomless pit. As a result of the fall of man the second and third worlds are under the dominion of devil. The heaven of God, and the abyss, and the third world are purely spiritual, but the earth is both physical and spiritual.

The Unseen Worlds

The world was framed by God before it was brought into existence. Every thing we see which exist in the world are present in spirit (Eccl. 1:9-10). Those that cannot be seen in the world any more are still present in the spirit. The first heaven, the third world, and hell are purely spiritual. But the earth is both physical and spiritual. There was Abraham's bosom known as paradise or third heaven where God kept the Old Testament Saints because they had no eternal life. But after the finished work of Christ and gift of eternal life, the saints were translated into the heaven of God.

The earth and everything in it are in a spiritual state. The earth in spirit is not a sphere as in the physical but a round platform whose foundation is water. Below the waters is the bottomless pit. Within the cross section of it are layers of different kinds of rocks as seen in the physical. On the surface of it are seas, land, rivers, forests etc as seen in the physical. Every thing has the form of it in spirit. These are the spiritual things Satan uses against the spirit of man. One's spirit can be tied on a tree or buried in the ground, but spiritual. Sacrificial items that are used by devil's agents are symbolic, meaning asking the demons to use similar things in the way it is demonstrated.

(Culled from The Hidden Truth: by Bro. Moris Kofi Odubo)

Devil's Camps

Demons live in beautiful settlements in the air, land and sea. Human interference are not allowed. Demons desire human worship and as spirits some dwell in human beings. Some are found in cemeteries, juju shrines and fake churches.

Their camps are always littered with flags of every nation with a big bell at the center. All devils' camps, air, land and sea, and the entire world are linked with invisible wire network and can communicate among themselves within seconds. When sacrifices are offered to a particular demon to inflict a human, the items will be multiplied in the spirit and used against the victim. This may result to sickness and eventual death. When sacrifice is done to heal the victim, the demon that receives the sacrifice will meet with the demon that inflicts the person, to remove what he has put and once it is done, healing occur. By this means the demons have the ability to deceive all human in the world.

Land settlements are mostly located in thick jungles or bushes. They are heavily fortified and guarded with numerous demons located around the entire surroundings and along the route to the camps. It is normally fenced with a gate, and inside it are big warehouses and structures resembling glass houses. At the center is a big bell, communication devices in form of a network are linked to other settlements in the air, land and sea.

Water settlements are below the seabed or water floor. There are well-tarred high ways and beautiful pattern of settlements and houses that are too beautiful to be described. It has access to the earth surface through tunnels that descends with steps and with a cover that looks like NITEL underground work on major roads.

(Culled from The Hidden Truth: by Bro. Moris Kofi Odubo)

Characteristics of Spiritual Things

Spiritual objects though in the resemblance of the physical have properties different from visible things. Their sizes, shapes and functions can be altered on command. Therefore, a big tree or a house or a whole community can be reduced to such a small size that can enter a small bottle. A human spirit can be reduced to a size that can remain in a small container. In it, the man is there as full size, yet in a small container. By this means, a big tree can be invoked into an individual. Things like pipes, engines, cutlasses, iron, houses, clay, trees, arrows, animals and all kinds of things as used or demanded for sacrifice by evil workers are normally used against victims in this way. Spiritual things can also be enlarged, they can be multiplied into many. They can be opened and be closed on command. Hence a human body or a tree can be commanded to open and after things are deposited inside it, will now be commanded to close. The demons have the power to do this. But children of God have more power than the devil. If a child of God says, for example, 'in the name of Jesus let Satan's prison be opened', it will be opened and whoever is in it will come out. By his authority he can command the ground to open or the sea to dry, and it will be so (Mark 11:23-24). When he decrees, God will confirm it (Job 22: 28).

Properties of the Human Spirit

The human spirit is the real man that was breathed out of God. It does not die, it does not grow old, it is eternal. It was made as image and likeness of God but is fallen from his glory. The human spirit can appear in many places at the same time when commanded to be so. If he is called or invited by a sorcerer, he will appear at the scene while in its human body

also. It does not go out of the body. The day it moves out of it, the person will eventually die or lose consciousness. The one that goes out is a projection. The projected one can be hanged or buried or buffeted or treated with some kinds of punishments. Many kinds of things may be done to one person in different places at the same time, and all may affect him in a way that is difficult to understand. It may result to some kinds of known or unknown sicknesses. Whatever is done to any of his appearance, the real human spirit that is in the human body will feel the full impact of what is done. Since the spirit is connected to the body, the effect will begin to appear in the body also. The spirit does not die, devil wants to see how much of what he has done has affected the body. If the body becomes too weak to carry the spirit, the spirit moves out and the person dies. No matter the way the spirit is cut into pieces or twisted, the real spirit in the human does not die. When it moves out of the body, it would either go to heaven or hell and all other appearances will not be seen again.

Spiritual Wickedness in High Places

These are places of devil worship, satanic cruelty and devilish sacrifices: e.g.

- (1) The chambers of wizards and evil workers.
- (2) Juju shrines, cult and society houses.
- (3) The home of the consulter of familiar spirits, charmers, sorcerers, necromancers etc.
- (4) False prophets and their prayer houses, fake Pentecostal churches and their evil prayers, and sacrifices, and anointings etc.

These have different modes of operations but with the same demonic actions. All these agents have in them the

demons of the air, land and sea, and have command over many demons. They receive messages through serpent-like antennas. These devices have their heads in their hearts and the tail projecting out of their heads. These antennas range from two to eight depending on their duties, work and rank. They can prophesy through these devices.

The prayer of a false prophet, though calling on God and Christ, is the same as the prayer of the juju priest who calls on his prince. The demons respond to their call in the same way. For example, a native doctor who is a professional massager and a false preacher could have serpents coiled around their hands. They could be possessed with the same kinds of demons with different appearances. Their power to heal or push somebody down is in the serpent on their hands.

When they do their works against a victim, the demons in the given direction could shoot the victim's spirit with any kind of weapon, or cut it or butcher it or hang it etc. as the case may be. The spirit could be imprisoned in a glass crate or in a coffin or any kind of container. It could be wrapped with mat or with bales of clothes and buried in the ground.

Satan's Deadly Weapons

Satan's deadly weapons include:

- (1) All kinds of flying machines, balloons, jet planes helicopters, saucers, etc.
- (2) Moving vessels like cars, heavy trucks, trains, carts, etc.
- (3) All kinds of arrows, machine guns, tankers, armoured vehicles, missiles etc.
- (4) Glass crates, tanks, coffins, pipes of different kinds etc.

- (5) Pots of fire, pits of fire, jet planes with fire bombs etc.
- (6) All types of ammunitions that can be found in the world and those yet to be made by man.
- (7) All kinds of spiritual objects and devices, e.g. manila ropes, spear, trees, handcuffs.
- (8) Man, beasts, unclean and hateful birds.
- (9) Demons and devils.

(Culled from the Hidden Truth by Bro. Moris Kofi Odubo).

The Beast

The prophetic name of Satan is the Beast. He is the deceiver of the world (Rev. 12:9). God's message to man is clear and those who live in the truth of the word can understand. A summary of the mystery of the gospel of Christ in the book of Revelation is:

- a. That man is evil and has come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23).
- b. God has wrought a redemption work to save man from sin and to uplift him to his former glory as predestinated from the beginning of creation.
- c. The enemy Satan would do everything possible to hinder man from knowing what God has done to save him. This will be done through false doctrines; false prophecies, visions and dreams; lying signs and wonders; deceptions, some organized union to fight those that are good, persecution, intimidation etc.
- d. By these means Satan will gather the world with him to live in unrighteousness as rebellious children.
- e. At the end, God will destroy Satan and all that live in unrighteousness.

- f. The activities, events, and doctrines that shall be organized to deceive and hinder man from the truth are called tribulation. The absence of children of God and the Holy Spirit in the world is called desolation.
- g. At the end God will gather those who believe in Christ unto Christ in a new heaven and new earth, and the unbelievers into the lake of fire that burns forever.

The Beast: Rev. 13: The beast is a spirit and cannot mislead somebody except through human instruments. As a spirit, it can dwell in millions of human temples all over the world. It will seat on peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues and rule the world by this means. It is the opposite of the Holy Spirit and walks with false prophets.

The beast came out of the sea. The water means people, multitudes, nations, kingdoms and tongues (Rev. 17:15). It has 7 heads, 10 horns and 10 crowns: His dominion is in the hands of seven princes; who are highly exalted above the kings of the earth. The crowns are royal crowns as power to rule. The kings may not be the elected governors and presidents of the nations, but those whom he will ordain with power, and wonders to rule the human race with him. They represent Satan in his fight against the truth, in his bid to hinder man from knowing God.

The beast with seven heads is a counterfeit of God (Rev. 4:5). It looks like a leopard, but with the feet of a bear and the mouth of a lion: His appearance is deceitful and difficult to identify. Those to represent him may not be the same in appearance but will work to achieve the same objective i.e. to hinder man from knowing God. The beast is

not a particular person but a spirit manifesting as a collective personality, as an institutionalized framework of collective consciousness rooted in unrighteousness and unholiness. The false prophet is the fulness of devil in human form. The beast is cunning, powerful and destructive.

The dragon gave the beast his power, his seat and great authority. This is a deceitful exercise to legitimize the authority of the beast by the devil. All instruments of Satan are the same. They recognize the spirit of the false prophet as the supreme God, and ascribe to him great esteem, power and might, and riches and honour.

They worshipped the dragon and the beast saying; “who is like unto the beast?” Who is able to make war with him? The whole world will be on the side of devil, giving honour and glory, fear, reverence and devotion to devil. And any one that is against the beast or who challenges him may be killed by devil or by the followers. The dragon and the beast have a name: and the name on their foreheads is blasphemy (Rev. 13:1).

“And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemy ... And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle and them that dwell in heaven”(Rev.13: 5).

What is Blasphemy: Blasphemy means speaking evil against God. This could take many ways.

1. Abusing God’s holy name by saying things that portray God as evil, wicked and unrighteous.

2. Denying the power of God saying He cannot save, or heal or provide, and at the same time praising devil as one that can do it.
3. Appearing as God's spokesman but committing sins to show that God's anointed are sinners.
4. Openly teaching things contrary to the gospel. For instance, openly saying no man can be righteous in the world. That is to say that man should forget about the issues of righteousness because God has done nothing to actually set man free from sin.
5. Showing satanic powers and accrediting it to God. For example invoking pregnancy through sacrifice and familiar spirits, vomiting out snakes, birds etc as signs of deliverance from God. Making followers rich through spiritualism and saying it is God's blessing etc.
6. Showing that the spirit of God is violent, wicked, fierce, hurtful etc. and that it can hurt and torment as it enters the human body e.g. Touching and falling under anointing.
7. saying one is anointed when you are not, and doing things that make people disbelieve God.
8. To accredit the manifestation of the Holy Spirit to devil to scare people from God. This is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit (Matt. 12:24).

The Mark Of The Beast: "And he causeth all both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads" (Rev. 13:16). Remember the use of the word 'IN' instead of 'ON'. The mark is the same as name or number (Rev. 13:16-17). As God has his name written in his children so is Satan to have his name in his

people (Rev. 22:4). The name of God here is the name of Christ who is living in us. His name is the Word of God (Rev. 19: 11-13). On the other hand, those who have the mark of the Beast have partaken with the beast of his name. His name is blasphemy (Rev. 13: 1). Satan caused the people to receive his mark. He deceived them through signs, wonders, and intimidation. The mark is put in their right hand or in their foreheads.

Right Hand means authority. They receive the authority of devil to walk as apostles of Christ with miraculous power but are instruments of devil. They rule the minds of people against the truth about God.

Forehead means the Personality of the individual, the character and behaviour of the person. As the heart is for the spirit and the reins (kidney) for the secret life of the individual so is the forehead for the character and behaviour of the individual (Jer. 3:3, Ezek 3:9, Ex. 28:38, Rev. 22:4, Jer. 17:10). Satan will write his name in the individual to be the fullness of his personality for a perpetual union with him. This name is "**BLASPHEMY**" (Rev. 13:1, 5, 6). The blasphemer is one who is in direct battle against man's salvation. His work is to scare people and keep them away from God so that they might not be saved. God will not forgive him because the lives of the lost ones are upon his head.

The number 666 is symbolic. It is used to mean the "sign" of the fullness of devil in man. The mark is written **IN** the individual, not **ON** the outward as physical sign. When you create an occasion for humanity to lose their chances of salvation, God will require their blood from you. Your sin

will not be forgiven. That means an everlasting union with devil. It is union with Satan to walk in the fullness of devil as blasphemer. (Rev. 16:13). The saints are united with God in His fullness (John 14: 23. Col.2: 9-10). The beast and the false prophet will first be cast into the lake of fire (Rev. 20:10). The false prophet will be cast into it alive because he is the most dangerous aspect of Satan to man's salvation.

See the warning: - "If any man have an ear, let him hear. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: He that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints" (Rev. 13:9-10). Those who receive the mark or name of the beast are completely rejected of God. God has allowed them to be with devil forever and to suffer with him in the lake of fire.

Satan knows the law and standards of God. God is love i.e. Agape love or charity is His personality. This is the real interpretation of the heart and being of God (1John 4:8). God desire that His children must share with him His nature (Gen. 1:26, Rom. 8:29). It is His identity, and name. Satan must do something to make it hard for this love nature to be rooted in man. The multiplication of churches and denominations is to achieve this purpose. These are good grounds to make people to blaspheme. He creates hatred among different groups and blaspheme against one another in ignorance. This may lead to blasphemy that cannot be forgiven (Matt.12:31). Phileo love is the very nature and personality of devil. It is selfish and most destructive, and the root of wars, strife, envying, covetousness, evil etc. Agape love is open, and is manifested in righteousness. When love is reduced to membership, Agape dies and the people become

perpetually united with Satan. When people see one another as enemies, they will never know God.

Churches whose membership is shown through badges, emblems, peculiar dressing etc as sign of fellowship with God are the most dangerous. It is obvious that one cannot buy or sell or attain some position except he belongs to a sect or a cult. People take side with their members even in a matter they are wrong provided the membership sign is shown. This is the most deceitful part of Satan's manifestation, which is difficult to know. When the Vice Chancellor of a University is a member of a church, the admissions, and hostel accommodation, go to the members of his church only without realizing that he is doing evil.

The blindness that overtakes those with the mark of the beast is so strong that none of them will change. God has given them reprobate mind. They are doom for everlasting destruction. Unrighteousness is so institutionalized that one cannot buy or sell or attain any position except he is part of it. Satan is trying to legitimize lying, deceit and unrighteousness in the hands of his instruments. The so-called men of God in the world are at war, each of them seeing the other as devil as if they are not the same. Note that the Anti-Christ will arise from within the so-called Christians, not any other way (1John 2:18-19). Here is wisdom, ***No Sinner is a Christian.***

Receiving the Mark: The mark of the beast is known as sign or mark or name and his name is Blasphemy. It will become part of the individual's life on earth. Those who accept the image of the beast will be transformed to the

image of the beast to work as blasphemers. The mark can be received in many ways.

Those who worship the image of the beast will automatically receive his mark or name (Blasphemy). The image of the beast can take the form of an idol through which the spirit of the beast will speak blasphemously. It is not really the idol that will speak but those who acknowledge it will automatically receive its spirit and will begin to speak as the beast gives them utterance. The mission of the beast is to deceive man, therefore the idol will be made in the name of God. It will be taken to mean the sign of God's power e.g. holy oil. Those who drink it or are anointed with it will prophesy or speak new tongues or utter things. This is taken to mean the manifestation of the Holy Spirit. Those accused of evil or witchcraft, for example, when they drink it, may confess the evil believed to have been done by them. This is established in Nigeria as a tradition among the churches. Those who refused to accept it or honour it are condemned. The condemnation takes the following ways: -

- i. They may not be allowed to buy or sell because they are considered as taboo or enemies or witches since it is interpreted that they have feared the oil of God.
- ii. They may be ostracized since they are seen as enemies who are responsible for the failure of society and of individuals.
- iii. They may be killed by some means.

Those who hold on the testimonies of Christ who do not believe in this devilish device are greatly persecuted and some are killed. The Christians yet to be perfected, and the hypocrites and unbelieving have

accepted the new form of idolatry. It is religious war that has to do with imposition. This example given is just one dimension of it. Other kinds of religious dominance with more various consequences may emerge to cover the whole world.

It is also a possibility that Satan may stir up men to create a human being. This will not be done through natural process and would live and speak as a man with flesh and blood. Since he is not made through natural process, God will not put in him a spirit of His own. He will have a strange spirit and beast will live in him, the man is Satan himself with power to perform wonders and the world may believe Christ has returned in human flesh to rule the world. The world may be seen as a family, with him as the head. He may appear as one that has come to deliver man from evil circumstances, who is to bring peace and prosperity, He will make those who do not honour or worship him to be killed. He may give the understanding that those who kill them are doing God's work to rid society of evil men. By this, the hypocrites and unbelievers of Christ will worship him as God. Every Christian who is not really the image of Christ may be carried away by the wonders and may worship him.

The prophetic Name of Satan: Blasphemy: Satan had desired to be as God and his concern is to be recognized as supreme. He wants man to worship him, and not another. Since God the Father is real in man's mind he cannot eliminate this knowledge in man's thought except he is deceived. His duty is to change man's understanding to make him vain in his approach to God. Satan uses deceit to achieve his aims. He knows God is against those who do evil and does not answer

their prayers (1Peter 3:12). To deceive man, when sinners pray to God, Satan answers the prayers to make God appear as having answered the prayer. By this, those who call on God in unrighteousness are able to perform miracles by his power. This is the most dangerous aspect of Satan to man's Salvation through Christ. He has made God appear as one that is united with sin and the author of evil. This posture of Satan is symbolized as "the false prophet" (Rev. 19:20). Besides the beast and the dragon, the fullness of devil in the human is the false prophet. This image of Satan as counterfeits of God to make God appear as evil is called "Blasphemy" (Rev. 13:1-10). The trinity of Satan as counterfeit of God is in (Rev. 16:13-14). They agree in one, and their mission is to deceive man. The false prophet is the fullness of Satan as blasphemer of Christ and God. The dragon is devil in his natural colour. The beast is a counterfeit of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 13).

In Revelation 13: the beast that ascended up from the sea is the spirit of the false prophet that appears within the people of the world (Rev. 17:15). The dragon gave him his power means he walks in the fulness of devil (dragon) (Rev. 20:2). One of his head appear to have been wounded but was healed. This is the image of the false Christ (Rev. 13:3). The beast causes the world to worship Satan (dragon) who gave him the power, as well as the false prophet because of the miracles he performs. Since he appears in the name of God, he has to speak and behave in a way that makes God appear unrighteous. By this he deceives and leads the unsaved man into captivity of Satan. He has the power to persecute and to kill physically the saints and people of God. He does it through has human instruments. (Rev. 13:7, 2Thess. 2:5-12, Rev. 6:9-11).

Another beast came out of the land. This is another face of Satan, which is the dragon itself. His desire is to make the world recognize the false prophet as the image of God. Since the world know the dragon as devil, his recognition of the false christ as image of God, enables him deceive both small and great to worship the spirit of the false prophet (the beast). He deceives the world to make an image to the beast. This is idolatry in God's name. It is an idol through which Satan speaks, and he causes those who do not worship the image to be killed. By the fierceness of his advertisement, campaign, threat, intimidation and terrorism he causes all unsaved men and women, boys and girls to worship Satan in disguise of God. He makes the world look like a family under God with a new law and a new life as God's kingdom on earth. He discriminates against those who do not recognize the false christ both in business and in every aspect of life. By this means, those without the truth about God are converted to the image of the false prophet, as blasphemers (Rev. 13:11-18). His defiling power against God is Blasphemy and this is found in man alone, not in other creatures. He makes unrighteousness appear as good. He is an enemy of God because he labours to eliminate God in the world. His agents are those married with Satan with his marks and name in them. The mystery of the beast is already at work though it is yet to be fully revealed. For instance, prophets are handing communities over to God in the name of deliverance with olive oil. When people drink such oil, Satan speaks through them and they confess things. Those who refuse to drink are condemned or ostracized or beaten to death. Satan takes advantage of the old covenant which is abolished and imposed

a fake religion to the people with the threat of death if any one should refuse.

Hell

Hell is sometimes called Shoel, Hades, Pit or Lowest deep (Abyss). It is the abode of the fallen angels, an awaiting place for the wicked and ungodly until the age to come when they will be cast into the Lake of Fire (Rev. 20:13-15). It was prepared for Lucifer and his angels, but now the place of disembodied spirits of the ungodly human. The place where the wicked is cut off from God until the final judgement day (Isa. 14:15, Job 9:17, 2Peter 2:4).

Hell is a designated place for the wicked until the day of the Lord. The Lake of Fire is the final home and place of eternal destruction (Rev. 20:13-15). Angels and man's spirit are eternal, and the evil spirit is an eternal criminal. God needs to separate them so as to ensure peace, rest and joy for the good and obedient ones. These are the rewards of obedience. If they are not separated they will demoralize the new creation, and the new heaven and the new earth (Job 21:30).

Hell is located at the bottomless pit at the sides of the pit below the earth. It is spiritual. The foundation of the earth is water and below it is the bottomless pit which is void and without form. Physically, the earth is closed, but spiritually it is opened. Man may learn, but cannot find out what God has made. He can only see its spiritual appearance if God opens his eyes you see or through faith in the word of God (Ps. 24:2, 2Peter 3:5).

Hell is spiritual while grave is physical. Hell is for disembodied spirits but grave is for the earthly bodies. The body turns to dust and rots away in the grave. The spirit is eternal and it is reserved in hell. There are no activities in the grave, there is no consciousness or remembrance of things (Ps. 6:5). Man puts the body of man into the grave, but God takes the wicked man's spirit to hell. Hell is a place of activities. Man's spirit and soul in hell are in direct contact with those in hell. They communicate and perform duties being ruled by a government. Satan is the king of hell (Rev. 9:11). There is no righteousness in hell, it is a place of wickedness and spiritual torment. When Nebuchadnezzar died, hell beneath was moved to welcome him with great surprise and mockery (Isa. 14:9-10, Ezek. 32:21).

Hell is for the present age. Only disembodied spirits are there. In the age to come, they will be sent to the lake of fire with their complete resurrected bodies. The lake of fire is a place of eternal and final destruction. Sinners will resurrect with their corrupt bodies subject to pains, and their bodies, souls and spirits will be cast into the lake of fire (Rev. 20:13-15). Lucifer is the king of the bottomless pit (hell) but he has no power over anyone in the fire of destruction because he himself will cry in his torment.

Hell is sometimes used for the future eternal torment because condemnation in hell is irreversible and the end is the lake of fire (Matt. 25:41, Matt. 18:8). It is the beginning of everlasting punishment (Matt. 25:46). Hell is a temporary place of abode, but going into it leads to eternal destruction by fire because they are reserved for such punishment (Mark 9:43).

Hell is described as a place of torment where the inhabitants are in flames (Luke 16:23-24). This is the flame and fire of suffering. There is no actual fire in hell but lake of fire. Consider a person in a flame of fire having chance to discuss with somebody afar off. The word fire means a condition of torment. This spiritual torment in hell is known as the fire of judgement where all kinds of wicked and unbearable things happen such that you are considered as burning in the flames of their torment. There is no God's burning fire in hell in the literal sense, but in the lake of fire (Rev. 19:20, 20:10-15). Christ went to hell after his death on the cross, but not the lake of fire (Eph. 4:9-10, Ps. 88:6). In the age to come, hell itself will be cast into the lake of fire, and Satan and his Kingdom will be destroyed with eternal burning (Rev. 20:14).

Chapter

6

SIGNS OF THE END

Signs of the End

Matthew chapter 24 talked about the signs and state of Jerusalem in the end. Remember that those things Christ spoke about have been, and Jerusalem had been trodden down many times. These have created doubts and confusion in the minds of men. Each event goes with expectation that has not come true. We need the spiritual understanding of what is written in the scripture to help clear the doubts that in every heart.

The end is summarized with the warning: Take heed that no man deceive you, for many shall come in my name saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many (Matt 24:4-5). The coming of our Lord Jesus is the beginning to the end of the old world and the beginning of the new creation (Heb. 9:26; Heb. 1:1-2).

This transition will terminate at the day of the Lord (Daniel 9:24-27). From Noah to Moses was the time of preparation for the coming of Christ and was called the time of ignorance (Acts 17:30).

The redemption works of Christ brought in the church or body of Christ as the kingdom of God where righteousness reigns. This is the home of God on earth in the present (Heb.12; 22-24).

The appearance of the kingdom of God on earth is a threat to devil, and has declared war against it. The war is spiritual. Since the world is divided into two spiritual families, the war is on how each will expand and subdue the other.

The righteous ones all belong to Christ and the unrighteous ones to devil. The war is to convert people to righteousness or unrighteousness. The more the righteous ones, the larger the kingdom of God and the more the unrighteous, the larger the kingdom of devil.

In the end children of God will decrease while evil and unrighteous men which form the kingdom of devil will increase and wax stronger.

A time will come when children of God will all be taken out of the world, including the Holy Spirit. When the church is taken away, God will have no dwelling place again on earth. (Matt. 24:15, Rom.11: 25, Luke 21:24).

Absence of children of God in the world is called desolation. Those who call on God and Christ in unrighteousness will remain to face the abominations of Satan – a situation called abomination of desolation (Matt 24:15).

The expansion of the kingdom of devil depends on the work of Satan as a counterfeit of God Almighty. He knows that

every man's desire is God. Therefore he will present a part of his kingdom as a counterfeit of the kingdom of Christ to deceive those who desire to be with Christ and take them over. The outcome will be a world filled with evil through numerous false Christ, teachers, prophets, evangelists all in the name of God (1Tim. 4:1, 2Pet. 2:1-3).

The mystery of iniquity is already at work because the kingdom of Christ is symbolized as the ability to perform wonders and has led to the commercialization of the supposed power (2Pet. 2:2, Rev.17, 18).

False Christ shall appear: “*The end will not come until the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition: who opposeth and exalted himself above all that is called God’ so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God”* (2Thess. 2:3-4).

There are thousands of gurus, and spiritual fathers and masters in the world, all working with the same spirit. You know them by their mission. Christ came to establish righteousness and truth (John 14:16-17), to bring love, joy, peace, rest etc. But devil's duty primarily is to establish hatred, lying, deceit, revenge, want and evil. We know them by their fruits. Unrighteousness is devil not withstanding miracles and wonders.

The man of sin as revealed in the scripture may not say: ‘I am God’, but by his conduct he desires for God's honour. Such titles as Father, Reverend, Holy One, Pre-eminence, General Overseer, King of Kings, Master etc. which spiritually are not applicable to man is a clue that the

man of sin is almost being revealed (Matt. 23:10, Psalm 111:9, Col. 1:18).

People stand in awe and bow down before them (Ex.20: 5, John 10:34-35, Ps 96:5). *“And for this cause, God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie so that they might be damned who believe not the truth but hath pleasure in unrighteousness” (1Thess. 2:9-12).* They are people who cannot repent and are doomed forever. No sinner is a Christian. “By their fruits ye shall know them” (Matt. 7:20).

The Fall of Jerusalem

Jerusalem means the capital city of the kingdom of God on earth. It is the place where God has caused His Holy name to dwell. It is in this city that the temple of God is built. The temple of God is only one in the world. It is in this temple that sacrifices are legitimately offered. In the new creation, the Holy Place is the body of Christ, the church. The Holy Spirit is in the body of the believers because every believer is a member of the body of Christ.

Jerusalem of the Middle East, which is of the earth, is of the law, which is earthly and it is abolished. A lot of disturbances and wars happened in Jerusalem since the return from the captivity of Babylon. This city had been trodden down many times since the ascension of Christ. Each event goes with expectation that is not true. Before Christ came, this city had always been in destruction and rebuilding.

The most anti-religious event happened between 169-168 B.C when Anthiocus IV (Epiphanes) took over the city

and ruled. He sacrificed pigs on the altar, and prohibited Jewish sacrifices, circumcision and observance of the Sabbath. He issued a decree that any Jew found possessing a copy of the Holy Scripture should be killed. By this decree, many Jews were killed. On the outward, this may have been taken to be the desolation that was spoken by Daniel (Daniel 9:27).

In 165BC Judas Maccabaeus, delivered Jerusalem from the wicked reign, an event that had always been celebrated as Hanukkah or Feast of Lights. After this, a lot of other disturbances followed. Once, a Jewish ruler rose up (Alexander Janaeus) and took over and ruled the city. By this time, there had been a lot of strife and division and because of this Alexander crucified about 800 Jews.

We know that Jerusalem was under the Roman Empire at the time of Christ. After the death of Christ, the disciples were persecuted, and Paul was taken to Rome, other grievous events followed. The Roman Armies besieged Jerusalem for 143 days. About 600,000 Jews were killed and many more taken into captivity.

A false messiah arose, Bar Cochba and made attempt to deliver the city but was crushed down and the city was levelled to the ground, even the foundation was plowed up. Two years later, the Romans began to rebuild the city with a new name. In this new city, all Jews were strictly excluded for two centuries. This was the case with the reign of Constantine.

After the Romans, in 614 AD a Persian general under king Chosroes II seized the city and killed 60,000 Christians

and about 35,000 taken into slavery. By 68 the first Dome of the Rock had been erected. Mohammed had risen as prophet. Islam had been established. Now it is Israel against Palestine, but we should know that the disturbances of present Jerusalem is not related to the new creation.

Jerusalem: The City of God.

People's view about Jerusalem is based on the belief that biblical prophecies are literal, and that they talk about events which actually took place on earth. Therefore, Jerusalem on earth is nothing more than the capital city of Israel and Palestine in the Middle East. What we must know is that the Old was a shadow of things to come, and prophecies, though were fulfilled in the flesh, the lessons were for a future generation that should be called The People of God.

God promised Israel, when they had possessed the Promised Land, He would choose a place among the tribes of Israel on earth and would put His name there. It shall be holy and He will be there among the people (Deut. 12:5:14). So after the invasion and defeat of the inhabitants of Canaan, Jerusalem was seen as chosen by God as His holy place. And subsequent upon this, the temple of God was built there.

Now the holy place of God is His place of abode. It is His dwelling place on earth. God was believed to dwell in the temple at Jerusalem. Therefore Jerusalem was called the City of God. Since God's name was put there, it was called the Holy City (Isa. 48:2). From the Pauline revelation, the spiritual significance of Jerusalem had been unveiled (Gal. 4:22-31). We must differentiate between things that exist in the world as an outcome of natural event from those things we

believe exist based on God's promise. That Agar was a bondwoman and Abraham had a son with her in the flesh. He was born in sin out of worldly tradition. But Sarah was free and a legal wife and her son was born out of promise. These two were used as illustration for the old covenant and the new covenants. Agar and her son represented the Law of Moses, which was made at Mount Sinai and seated in Jerusalem of the Israel and Palestine. But Sarah and Israel represent the dispensation of grace, which came through promise and is established in the Jerusalem which is from above. We now have two kinds of Jerusalem. One is of bondage and the other of freedom where righteousness reigns.

Jerusalem, which is earthly, was a shadow of good thing to come, because God does not dwell in a place or temple that is built with human hands. Acts 7:48. God is in heaven. His dwelling place is heaven but He lives in every holy place in the universe (Eccl. 5:2, 1Chro. 16:29, Ps 47:8). He speaks in His holy place and reveal His goodness Ps. 93:5. Note the expression "I will dwell in them, and walk in them, and I will be their God and they shall be my people" (2 Cor. 6:16). The body of man is now the temple of God (1Cor. 3:16-17, 6:16-17). The Holy Spirit is in the body of every believer of Christ.

A City is a conglomeration of buildings. Christians are the abode of God because He is in each of them (John 14:21, 23). Now, Christians all over the world are a conglomerate known as the body of Christ or the church. The home of God on earth is now the church or the body of Christ where His glory is revealed. He ordained this body as His home on earth so that His glory will fill the whole earth. This is the

Jerusalem, which is from above where His defence is the wall surrounding it. God reigns in the world through the church and through members of the body of Christ. The church is the New Jerusalem which is from above where the believer belongs to, we know His kingdom is established and his abode is on earth. His dwelling place is now in the world, where glory is revealed. His home is a mystery (Heb. 12:22-23, Daniel 12:3).

God created man and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. He poured out His life and soul into man so that He can rule the earth through man (Prov. 8:3-4, 4-18, 30). The abode of God on earth was thrown down by Adams rebellion, but God would rebuild it. The bringing down from heaven of the church of Christ is the freedom of man from Satan's captivity. The new walls of defence are God's care for man who has regained his purity through the gospel of Christ. The benefits of Christ are for man's everlasting defence and peace.

The bride of the lamb is called New Jerusalem (Rev. 21:9-10), because Christ is now married with the church (Eph. 5:23-32). The Saints are those who partake in this marriage and the gown they put on for the feast is the righteousness of God (Rev. 19:7-8). This is the mystery of the kingdom of God on earth. As long as the saints are still present in the world, the home of God is believed to exist among men. But a time will come when the patience of God will be over. He will allow the world to overthrow the church on earth and it will be gone. When the church is gone, it means, the Jerusalem, which is from above, has been trodden down on earth. It has been trodden down of the Gentiles. All the saints may have been killed (Rev. 6:9-11). This is the desolation, which Daniel spoke concerning the end of sacrifices, because those who offer the sacrifices of righteousness are all gone (Daniel 9:24-

27, Lk. 21:24, Rom. 11:25). The fulness of the gentiles means the fulness of man's evil and the fulness of the time allowed by God for the gentiles (sinners) to live on earth. It means the end of the world.

The desolation of Jerusalem on earth will lead to what is called the abomination of desolation or great tribulation. Every evil will be freely committed. But Christ said the days would be shortened. On the very last day, the saints will receive immortal bodies and will be with Christ in a real world, which will be seen with the eyes. It is a new heaven and new earth where there will be no need of sun or moon but the glory of God and of Christ will give light and there will be no night. This is the true appearance of the New Jerusalem as a central location at the end (Rev. 21:22-27).

Man's Behaviour at the End

The mystery of Satan as an enemy in battle against God is the mystery of man himself as the instrument of devil.

There are many things that are hindrances to our knowledge of God and man is instrumental to it (2Tim. 3: 1-7).

Men are lovers of themselves more than God, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, unforgiving, false accusers, without self restraints, fierce, lust, pride and arrogance is the common picture.

The righteous are despised making them look as fools. Eat and drink in unrighteousness, saying no one can be good,

despising the gospel of Christ. They are unable to endure sound doctrine (2Tim. 4:3, 3: 3).

They love pleasure and human honour more than God. Every one calling on God wants to be called an “Anointed man of God” claiming to be commissioned by God for special purposes and with title, to distinguish themselves from others. Pride, self-exaltation and worldliness are the common sights (Job 32:21,22).

People have the form of godliness but they deny the truth about God. Other means are applied to manifest powers in the name of God, preaching, demonstrating powers, but in unrighteousness and evil.

Learning has increased with Bible Schools every where and a lot of Pastors trained, yet man is in the same vicious circle of ignorance and sin. A world without desire for knowledge and wisdom and perfection. They learn but without coming to the knowledge of the truth.

The truth about God is gradually disappearing, instead, false teachers, false evangelists and false prophets working with the spirits of devils are the common sights. Many have departed from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils (1Tim. 4:1). The faith of man through the gospel is in jeopardy. Wealth is now the end of faith. Human beings have filled the churches and prayer houses because of miracles but not after the truth.

Devil and his agents have taken over the gospel promising people salvation when they are servants of sin

(2Pet. 2:18-19). Through deceivable words they make merchandise of followers (2Pet. 2:3, Phil. 3:18-19). They believe gain is godliness (1Tim. 6:5). Church has become a business for gain, praying for a price.

Devil Worship

Things men do which grieve the heart of God, and made Him withdraw from man. Anything that makes Satan be established in his throne as prince and ruler of the world, is devil worship.

Examples:

- a. Idolatry: The worshipping of things created rather than the creator. For example images, objects, etc. To strongly desire for worldly things and to acquire them contrary to God's will.
- b. Having devotion, fear and reverence to devil and relying on him for protection, for wealth and for healing by joining a secret society; sacrificing and praying to the devil, going to devil for blessing, for judgement, e.g. divination.
- c. Serving devil by living in sin. Yielding the members of one's body as instruments of unrighteousness (Rom. 6:16, 19).
- d. Holding the truth in unrighteousness:
This is an evil that is capable of destroying man's eternal salvation. It makes devil reign until the last day. It makes Christ of none effect. It leads to total rejection by God since the individual is seen as having rejected Christ. God gives reprobate mind to those who hold the truth in unrighteousness.

- e. Blasphemy: - Defaming God's name e.g. accusing God of incapability, calling on God but walking in unrighteousness, using divination, and spiritualism, and occultism but saying it is the power of Christ, preaching and saying "no man can be righteous" and making it as God's own message to the world.

Idol Worship: Any thing considered as having divine power which is relied upon beside God, e.g. carved objects, sites, animals, trees, land, the heavenly bodies, wind, human beings, etc.

Worship means to bow down, to honour with fear and reverence, to terribly fear and be under subjection etc.

Why do People Worship Idols? An idol is believed as having the power to give desired blessings. It is considered as possessing the power to avenge for evil done against it. Therefore it is seen as something to be feared and respected.

Why Does God Want us to Worship Him Only? An idol is nothing. The power behind an idol is devil. God is the creator and supreme authority over heaven and earth. Therefore all should worship him. Vengeance belongs to God only (Rom. 12:19). He is the judge and avenger of evil. His final punishment for evil is the lake of fire where both devil and the wicked will be thrown into for an everlasting burning. Therefore all must fear him and not devil. Devil has limited power by measure of what God gave to him at creation. It could only bruise the heel of the new creation and the new creation man is to bruise his head. Though Satan has power,

man has more power than him. His wicked actions are things man can always bear and overcome (Gen. 3:15).

How does God want us to worship Him? We must worship God in spirit and in Truth. It is an abomination to liken God to any earthly thing (Deut. 4:15-19, Rom. 1:21-26). We must appear before God in our recreated spirits through the Holy Spirit. One has to repent to allow the Holy Spirit to be in him. To honour God is to allow His glory to be revealed in us. Refusal to walk in His life would lead to rejection.

Gambling in the Church

Church bazaar or harvest as practiced in present day churches is not the feasts of harvest as commanded by God under the Jewish religion (Ex 23:16, 34, 22, 26).

Judaism and Christianity are not the same. Christianity means the reality of a people that have been liberated from Satan's prison (sin) and made partakers of God's nature (Eternal life), and have become sons and ambassadors of God on earth. They are above carnal ordinances because divine love has been shed abroad in their hearts by the Holy Spirit. The feasts and festivals which were commanded by God were to compel man to love him. They have been abolished with the Leviticus priesthood along with the old covenant (Heb. 7:12).

As sons, everything we have is for the glory of God the Father. We give willingly out of what they have, and not out of what they do not have (Mark 12: 30 2Cor. 8:11-12).

You don't need to beg unbelievers to contribute to your Father's store house. The earth is the Lord's, and the

fullness thereof (Ps. 24:1). God said, if He needed, he would not ask us because He created them (Ps. 50:12). What God needs from unbelievers is repentance (Ps. 51:16-17). When unbelievers gather to hear the word, it is to know about their condemnation and about their salvation through Christ. The use of enticing words is to make their faith and understanding hang in the flesh (1Cor. 2:4-5). They will believe only in giving and receiving blessings. Their understanding distorted to think, they are to win the heart of God through material gifts. Buying a coconut for ₦500, 000.00 in a church Bazaar for example, is deceptive and without reward from God.

The believer is to give as a token of his faith and love of God (Mal. 3:10-11). Giving is part of believing or faith. But It has to be according to God's will. God would not accept public announcement of individual gifts. God delights in secret gifts and rewards openly. It has to be given willingly and not grudgingly because he loves a cheerful giver (2Cor. 9:7). He wants us to give out of what we have and not to borrow (2Cor. 8:11-12). Gifts meant to receive honour from men, have no reward from God.

When Gifts and offerings are made public it makes people give more because men like honour and praises.

Plan to raise more money may go with the use of enticing words to assure the hearer of the abundant blessings that awaits him if only he can give bountifully, if possible give all that he has. The consequences are: -

- a. People give unwillingly. They give more than they budget for.

- b. Some even borrow to give in order to receive blessings from God. God is a money doubler in their eyes. Others borrow to receive praises to satisfy their pride, boastfulness and high-mindedness.
- c. The church leader eventually becomes richer at the expense of his followers.
- d. They see the wealth of their leader, and aspire to open their own churches. The number of churches have therefore multiplied, as business for money. The pronouncement in Isaiah 33:1 is worthy of note.

THE END:

EXPLANATION 1

There are some remarkable events at the end, which we need to consider.

The first resurrection and The Reign of Jesus Christ: Devil will be bound and cast into Abyss for a thousand years. A seal will be put on him so that those who see him will know him. This will remove Satan's ability to impersonate as God to deceive the nations. To be cast into the bottomless pit means his ability to deceive those who desire for Christ will be reduced. This will enable the world know Christ and receive him. It is time of abundant grace (Rev. 20:1-2).

During this period all that were killed for the testimony of Christ, who did not accept or receive the Mark or image of the beast will resurrect and sit with Christ on his throne and reign with him for the thousand years of Satan's banishment. With a spiritual body they will remain with Christ in spirit. This is the first resurrection. Every other dead man will

remain in the grave until the end. This is not the end but a time of abundant grace and a time when those who die in Christ are exalted with him. Those alive will remain and the voice of truth will be preached without interference. Satan will be known as Satan and God will be known as God and the individual is given freedom to choose without being deceived.

When the thousand years are over, Satan will be brought from the bottomless pit. This simply means that God will allow Satan to exercise his power to rule the earth once more without much interference from Him. At this time, the reign of Jesus Christ with the saints is over. God will allow Satan to make war with the living saints and to overcome them, that is, those who hold the testimony of Christ who do not have the mark of the beast will be put to death (Daniel 7:21-23 Rev. 11: 7, 13:7). True Christians with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit will no longer be found in the world, and the Holy Spirit would have no place of abode on earth. The grace of God has ended because the world will remain fully in the hands of devil (Rev. 20:7-9).

Every imperfect Christian will fall away for fear of deprivation and physical death. At this time Satan will manifest himself as God to deceive the nations once more because the voice of truth is gone. He will rule with cruelty and evil will be legalized. Sin will be accepted as God's approved way. Every evil in man's heart will be committed and the world will be horrible. This is the Great Tribulation.

There will be such abominations and atrocities, that have never been since the world began Matt. 24:21. These will

be done in the name of doing service to God and to humanity. People will hunger for the word of God but will never hear.

Those who knew Jesus and his redemption work who in their life were proud, arrogant, imperfect and fearful who acknowledged what he did on their behalf will remember what he told them and they will repent of their weaknesses. But the Holy Spirit is not there because there is no saint to pray and lay hands, these people on their own will reject devil and stand in the truth about Christ. It will be like as old before the redemption and the advent of the Holy Spirit. They will be willing to die or face any consequence that will follow. There faith will be seen as rebellion against Satan and his government. These are the saints at the end. They are the ones that have now satisfied the law of obedience who have overcome their former pride and fears which made them imperfect before God (Rev. 20:9-10).

God will shorten the time of Satan's reign to save the remnants of the saints. Satan will make move to wipe them out from the surface of the earth. This is the war of Gog and Magog, but Christ will then appear to save them. Jesus Christ will appear with signs and voices of trumpets of angels in the air and the dead in Christ who did not take part in the first resurrection will rise with immortal bodies, and the saints that are alive will be changed and be cut up with him in the air. They will now remain with him forever (Daniel 12:2, John 5:29, Matt. 24:28-31).

At this time, there will be great confusion in the world such as has never been. People will be missing, yet population had increased beyond imagination because the sinners have

also resurrected. Strange things will happen and people will desire to die but cannot. This is the fulness of the gentiles, the end of the reign of evil, when God allowed sinners to possess the earth. The earth is now being compassed by the gentiles as the armies of Satan (Rev. 20:9).

By this time, those on earth will see strange signs in the air and will mourn. They will look for hiding places but there will be none. The sun will become darkened, and there will be movements of stars and particles in the air. The moon will be red (blood) and will be too faint to give light. The heavens will be shaken and the hearts of men will melt for fear (Rev. 6:12-17).

EXPLANATION 2

(Daniel 9)

Prophecies concerning the end: Christ appeared in the end of the world (Heb. 9:24). It will take God seventy weeks to remove man's transgression, and bring sin to an end, and to establish everlasting righteousness (Daniel 9:24). From the plan or commandment to rebuild the kingdom of God unto the reign of Christ is sixty-nine weeks. By the last week the kingdom had been rebuilt even in the midst of persecution (verse 25).

Before this time of reign, Christ had come already and had been killed after Sixty-two weeks. This began the new order of things. The old covenant with its temple and ordinances and activities were abolished. The people of Christ will abandon it to establish the new, and this will lead to a war between the redeemed and devil who tries to deceive man with the old covenant. That Satan will move the whole world against the people of the prince. And at the end of this war

God will make his new temple desolate i.e. He will take his people away (verse 26).

Before the desolation, God will first confirm the new covenant with his people for one week which is the last week. Christ will reign at this period with his saints. In the middle of the week he will cease to reign and his people will be taken away because of the overspreading abominations. He will make both the city and the temple (the body of Christ or the Church) desolate until the complete marriage or union between devil and the world, and what was determined as an end of sin will be poured on the desolate (verse 27).

(Daniel 7)

Daniel saw four beasts which means four kingdoms, and the fourth beast was remarkable because of his power. It has ten horns which means ten kings, but three were broken off and a horn grew out of it. It was a wonderful horn. It made war with the saints and prevailed i.e. He killed them (Daniel 7:21). He speaks great words against God and wear out the saints, and think to change times and laws (Daniel 7:25). But his kingdom shall be overthrown and be given to Christ.

(Rev. 16)

Three unclean Spirit come out of the mouth of the dragon and of the beast and of the false prophet. These are spirits of devil which work miracles, which go to the kings of the earth to gather them in battle against the Almighty God. He gathered them in a place called Armageddon. They were to fight against the marriage between Christ and his saints (Rev. 19:7-9). But the beast and the false prophet which perform the miracles to deceive the people were cast alive into the lake of

fire (Rev. 16:13-16, 19:19-20). And his armies were killed by the word of God.

(Rev. 20)

After these, Satan was bound and cast into hell for a thousand years so that he will not deceive the nations through his miracles any more (Rev. 20:1-3). Those who died in the testimonies of Christ as his witnesses would resurrect and be exalted to reign with Christ a thousand years. These have overcome and have been glorified with Christ.

After the thousand years, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison to come and deceive the nations once more with his miracles. He shall gather souls from the four corners of the earth Gog and Magog, the number of which is as the sand of the sea, and will compass the camp or city of the saints, but fire come down from heaven and devour them. The devil will now be cast into the lake of fire where the beast and the false prophet are.

EXPLANATION 3

The Great Tribulation

Ordinarily, tribulation means the normal approved process of suffering which a Christian must pass through before he will be saved. Every one must partake in the suffering of Christ before he will be justified at the end. They include persecutions of all type; deprivation, affliction, imprisonment, false scandal, pressures and attacks from false prophets, and killings of Christians (Acts 14:22, 1Thess. 3:4-5, 2Cor. 1:4-8).

During the one thousand-year reign of Christ with the Saints, men will be hindered from doing the evil they desire to

do which are in their hearts because the voice of truth will be heard. Though Satan is hindered, the mystery of iniquity will be at work and will increase in intensity until the end of the millennium reign of Christ when the man of perdition will be fully revealed (2Thess. 2:7-8). But in the midst of this troublous time, the gospel will be preached to the end of the world (Matt. 24:14). The events that will end the reign of Christ are referred to as: -

- a. A time of falling away i.e. when the fearful, proud boastful and arrogant Christians will compromise with the world (2Thess. 2:3). Because of the extent of iniquity, their love will wax cold (Matt. 24:9-13). They love their lives more than God and would not dare to die for Christ.
- b. When Satan will make war with the Saints and overcome them (Rev. 13:7). To overcome means to kill (Daniel 7:21). It is described as desolation of the sanctuary or city i.e. the church or body of Christ. It is the end of sacrifices of righteousness and offerings to God (Daniel 9:27). This is a part of the normal Christian sufferings. The killings are part of the tribulations that Christians will pass through to overcome. This is not the great tribulation, but the perfecting of the remaining Christians through death (Rev. 14:13). The desolation of the temple will now result to what is called the abomination of desolation (Matt. 24:15, Daniel 12:11) this is the great tribulation.

The Great Tribulation: Are those things that will follow after the desolation of the temple or church. Those who preach the gospel have all been taken out of the way (2Thess. 2:7). The man of sin is now being revealed and the only voice that shall

be heard are those of the false prophets and of the false Christ. Iniquities and abominations will be committed in the name of God. It will be difficult for a new person to be converted to God because he may desire for the truth but will not hear (Amos 8:11-14). It is called “great tribulation” because it is the highest tribulation against the kingdom of God where Satan has gained rule over all and no one again to challenge him. The overcome ones are silenced and only the man of perdition would speak to deceive the world against God with all kinds of evil and abominations which are interpreted as normal processes of life. The temple or the church will now be as in the reign of King Manasseh when the city of Jerusalem was forsaken by God to be taken over by the king of Babylon (2Kings 21:4-12, Jer. 15:1-4).

The overcome ones will remember the warning Christ gave to them in their Christian life. The events of the world will make them know that something is actually wrong, and that those are the things the scripture had said concerning the abomination of desolation as spoken by Daniel. They will now surrender to Christ and be ready to die for him. (Matt. 24:16). They will not desire for anything in the world again (Matt. 24:17-18). God will shorten the time of their perfection because the evil and deceitfulness and his wonders and miracles will be so much that if it were possible they may be overcome again (Matt. 24:21-26).

The End, after this Tribulation: Satan will decide to kill these remnants of overcomers and the end will come. The end is the appearance of Christ in the Air and the resurrection of the dead of those who did not take part in the first resurrection. Some will resurrect to life and some to everlasting contempt (Daniel 12:1-3, John 5:28-29). The saints that are alive and the

resurrected saints will meet Christ in the air and be with him. After this separation, sinners will be left on earth to face the wrath of God.

EXPLANATION 4

Summary of the End: When the work of salvation is complete, Christ will be exalted at the right hand of God the Father, and will reign as Lord and high Priest. Satan will then make war with the seated Christ by trying to destroy his kingdom. He will try to convert his people to himself through intimidation, deceit and miracle (Rev. 16:13). He will fight through the beast and the false prophets. He will cause as many as would not receive the blasphemous mark of the beast to be put to death (Rev. 13:15). He will gather the world against Christ at Armageddon and at the end of this battle the beast and the false prophets will be cast alive into the lake of fire (Rev. 16:16-21, 19:1-21). This might take the form of a religious war because devil would want to deceive the people of Christ through miracles by way of false religion which he would want to impose on them by force. But he will be defeated.

Then those who die in Christ without the mark of the beast who were slain for his testimonies will resurrect and be exalted to reign with Christ for one thousand years.

The rest of the dead will not resurrect and normal life will continue on earth. While the beast and the false prophet are in the lake of fire, Satan or devil or the dragon will be bound in hell in this one thousand years reign of Christ with the saints (Rev. 19:20, 20:10). Satan at this time had been hindered from deceiving the nations with his deceitful

miracles. A seal will be put on his head so that those who see him will know him and escape from his deception. It is a time of abundant grace when God is now confirming his covenant with many. Daniel said, God will confirm the new covenant on many people in this remaining one week (Daniel 9:27).

When the thousand years are over, every evil in the minds of people which could not be committed are now ripened. There will be an overspreading of abominations and the sacrifice of righteousness and offering will cease. The body of Christ or the church or the city will now be desolate (Daniel 9:27). That is to say that Satan had been loosed and has ascended from the bottomless pit to rule for a thousand years. He will make war with the saints and overcome them. Overcoming them means killing them (Daniel 7:21). The proud and fearful Christians will all fall, they will deny the faith and be silenced, but God will allow them to overcome their weakness in the one thousand years of Satan's reign (Matt. 24:2). There will be no preacher, and people will desire to hear the word of God but cannot hear. The word they will hear is the one spoken by the dragon who now tries to deceive the whole world to make them loose memory of God. Devil will now try to change times and laws (Daniel 7:25). But the overcome ones will see the bitterness of Satan and will come down from their pride, arrogance and fears and will now offer up themselves to God willing to die for the sake of God. They will refuse the laws of Satan and will be counted as enemies. These are the remnants of the saints. The days for this will be shortened lest none will be saved (Matt. 24:14-24). This is the great tribulation (Mk. 13:14-23).

Satan will gather the whole world, Gog and Magog to fight against God and the remnants of the saints and suddenly, some remarkable things will happen.

- a. The sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light (Matt. 24:29-30, Lk. 21:25-28, Matt. 13:24-26).
- b. Christ will now appear in the air with the trumpet of his angels with voices, and with earthquakes and the saints that are in the grave will rise and the saints that are alive both will all be caught up with Christ in the air, and will remain with him forever. Sinners will also resurrect with their mortal bodies. The judgment is now complete; the final separation is made (Matt. 24:31, 40, 41, Daniel 12:1-3, John 5:28-29).
- c. The sign of Christ will remain and there will be strange sights in the air, and the earth will mourn for the fear of those things they see. They will look for places to hide but there will be none. They will look for death but there will be no death again.
- d. The powers of the heavens shall be shaken. The stars and every heavenly body will loose balance and will be destroyed with great noise. The stars will fall off and the elements in the heavens will melt with great heat and the earth also shall burn and will be dissolved (2Peter 3:10).
- e. Both Satan and his home hell which is at the side of the pit (Isaiah 14:15), and every one that is not of Christ shall now be in a lake of fire that burns with fire and brimstone (Rev. 20:13-15)