

Excellency *Of* Wisdom

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OF
WISDOM**

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Introduction: The Prophetic Place Of Wisdom

There is an eternal purpose in the heart of God that is being effected today. This purpose has been concealed until now. The time for the revelation of this mystery is now and God is bringing His programme on earth to an end.

Every revolution in human history, has always been a product of one form of ideology or the other. This time around, a revolution is about to hit the earth, not through an ideology but through the arrival of a new breed of people,

...a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations...And ye shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you; and my people shall never be ashamed.
Joel 2:2,26

Since creation, the wisdom of God has always been visited upon the earth through human vessels. The Bible is rich in examples of feats of exploits and conquests through the manifestation of the wisdom of God by such vessels.

Each time these human vessels operated on the wisdom of God, there was always a lifting, a shooting up, and a rising to glory. Every shooting up into prominence of God's people has always been on the platform of wisdom.

Amidst the degradation and frustration of his time; Abraham, by this wisdom, knew what to do and ended up making it. Isaac too, following God's wisdom, sowed while others were eating up their seeds, and became an object of envy to the heathen. He made it. He was lifted from poverty and penury to the position of the wealthiest man in his generation.

Jacob, manifesting God's wisdom through an unusual insight, learnt how to breed cattle according to his needs. His too was a success story. Joseph was promoted from the dark dungeon of Egypt's prison to the throne. All these feats were accomplished through the exercise of wisdom.

It is absolutely clear from the foregoing that every personal or social revolution is traceable to a peculiar insight or a strange idea called a revelation. Truly, we live in a world that is ruled by IDEAS; profound and profitable ideas make the kings of the earth.

Behold, a new wave is coming unto the planet earth. The trumpet is sounding; the sound is certain. The wisdom of God in all its infinite variety is visiting the earth. This time, it is not going into the hands of a chosen few, but the church of Jesus is going to be the custodian of its divine provision.

This is God's eternal purpose: to make His church reign on earth through the operation and manifestation of the manifold wisdom of God (Ephesians 3:8–11). The core ingredients of this manifestation will be promotion, honour and long life for the church. God has purposed it and He will do it.

**For the Lord of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it?
and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?**

Isaiah 14:27

Of the glory of His church, the Word says;

**Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God...all my springs
are in thee**

Psalms 87:3,7

God will manifest this glory through the instrumentality of wisdom; not of the world, but of divinity, God's creation tool (Proverbs 3:19) in which is found the ingredients of length of days, riches and honour, pleasantness, peace and happiness (Proverbs 3:13–24).

**Who are the candidates in His church for this outpouring of glory?
The meek; the teachable in spirit. Jesus Himself, the Wisdom of
God, said; I am meek and lowly in heart.**

Matthew 11:29

The meek will receive wisdom and through it, inherit the earth.

The time of wisdom is the time of glory; the reason being that wisdom and wealth always go together. The God who owns heaven and earth is at the same time the only wise God. King Solomon, the wealthiest king ever on earth is also the wisest king that ever lived. If the wisdom of God is here with the church, then the glory of God is come unto her. The unending riches of Christ wealth which no human being could have searched out; wealth which no human being could have known; wealth which even Solomon in all his glory knew not, is going to be manifested by the church! The heathen will marvel, principalities and powers will be amazed. This is God's plan for the hour.

Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given,

that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God... To the intent that NOW unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God.
Ephesians 3:8–10

To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was granted graciously entrusted: to proclaim to the Gentiles the unending riches of Christ which no human being could have searched out. Also to enlighten all men and make plain to them what is the plan of the mystery kept hidden through the ages and concealed until NOW in God....That through the church, the complicated, many-sided wisdom of God in all its infinite variety and innumerable aspects might now be made known to the angelic rulers and authorities.
Ephesians 3:8–10 (Amplified)

The Holy Spirit is going to do the releasing of this end time explosives on God's people for:

Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.
1 Corinthians 2:9–10

This deposit of wisdom in us remains as time-bombs! Here are the prophetic lines for its explosion. This "complicated, many-sided wisdom of God in all its infinite variety, and immeasurable aspects" is now to be released as explosives through the Church!

The earth will tremble; a new wave of supernatural inventions is in stock. The Josephs and Daniels of the end time are here! Enlist now; it's a new day! The word NOW in Ephesians 3:10, signifies a timing scheme. It connotes a programme of time-schedule. Thank God the fullness of that timing is NOW!

The Holy Spirit is handicapped to carry out this function without the use of the mind of God's people because, the life of God is directly linked to the mental ability of man.

Thus, the Holy Spirit, as powerful and mighty as He is, cannot Himself undertake the work of the mind; He only operates through it. And that is the purpose of this book: to awaken God's people to the limitless possibilities God has invested in their minds; to teach them to release their minds to the wisdom of God. This is the only way to attain that position of glory which God has reserved for His people this end time.

I pray that the Holy Spirit, the distributor of God's wisdom, will open your minds as you read, to receive your portion of that wisdom.

Chapter 1:

Adam: The Pattern Man

Adam, the king of Eden, represents the totality of God's intention for creating man.

God's earth was filled with treasures. The garden of Eden in which He put man was a reservoir of wealth and abundance. It was a kingdom and God placed a king over it to reign. The king was Adam. No king reigns without wisdom. This is what the word of God tells us in **Proverbs 8:15**:

By me (wisdom) kings reign and princes decree justice This proves that God must have deposited His wisdom in Adam to enable him reign in his kingdom. Adam had the wisdom of God. He was created in the image of the only wise God.

God's Dream For Man

If we may ask, "Hello God, the Almighty, the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth; what is Your purpose for creating Adam? What was Your dream for the man You created?" This is what the answer would be:

...Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over...every living thing that moveth upon the earth
Genesis 1:28

Thus, Adam had a responsibility to carry out in the garden of Eden. He was to dress it and keep it. All the resources needed for the task were at his disposal. All the treasures were there. He needed wisdom to carry out his task. He needed wisdom to be able to distinguish between the trees that were there, between those to feed the eyes and those to feed the stomach. He also needed wisdom to make food from the trees which were good for food. The task of the man God made was great.

It takes the wisdom of God to fathom out the deep things of God, but Adam did so with ease.

Truly, God and man were in communion, in relationship and in deep touch

one with another, and perhaps, in companionship, for he that walketh with the wise shall be wise (Proverbs 13:20). With the wisdom of God in him, the ways of God were laid bare before him and he was able to walk in the reality of them. He could exercise dominion and authority on earth. He was a king and the earth was his domain. He reigned in it by the wisdom of God deposited in him at creation, and managed the largest zoo in the history of mankind, unhurt!

Restoration Of God's Dream For Man

Such was the magnitude of God's purpose and intention, and man's dominion, until he fell and lost it all. But then came Jesus to RESTORE the DOMINION more abundantly!

In **1 Corinthians 1:24**, we are told that Christ is:

...the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

Jesus Christ is the wisdom of God. The responsibility was enormous, but the wisdom in him was greater, and through it, he could relate with the animals, distinguish between all the precious stones and put them to use.

God entrusted man to dress, to adorn, and to beautify what He had made. All the animals were brought to him for naming. He named all of them and whatever name he gave them was accepted by God! It must take a man full of wisdom and understanding to give names to all the animals in the world today.

God trusted man to keep what He created and to continue His work of creation. With the wisdom of God in him, he created things out of God's creation. Adam was asleep when a rib was taken out of him to form a woman. He wasn't aware of what transpired, but as soon as he saw Eve, the wisdom of God in him told him, "She is your bone and your flesh," and he repeated:

This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of man.

Genesis 2:23

And if at new birth, Jesus, the Wisdom of God comes to live on the inside of the believer, then we may say; "If You, Lord, are the Lord and you change not, your purpose and intention must remain the same unchangeable! For, You are the eternal constant and man the variable!"

This means that as a believer, you can now manifest the wisdom of God on

earth, even as Adam did, and much more! You can create your way of glory, honour and dignity. However, this is only possible if you invoke that which is in you to action, by opening it to receive light and illumination from above.

Chapter 2: The Triune Nature Of Man

Man is essentially a spirit being. He is a spirit who has a soul and lives in a body. **1 Thessalonians 5:23** tells us this:

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The three parts are distinct in their various functions yet, interrelated.

The Spirit

The spirit of man is what is referred to as the man. That is the real man. It is the life force that keeps the body and the soul alive. A man is only said to be dead when the spirit leaves the body. The spirit is the life in man. This is the breath of God that came into man at creation to make him a living soul. Without it, neither the soul nor the body can function.

However, the spirit cannot function independently. It only gives life to the other parts of man. It expresses itself through the soul and the body. It cannot think, but it makes the mind to think. It cannot walk, but it sends signals to the legs through the mind to walk.

The outward or external part of triune man, the body, must be made to take instructions from the spirit and the redeemed mind. If left unchecked, it can overstep its boundaries and put the "real" man, the spirit of the man, in a fix.

Along this line, many people, especially in developing countries, yield to the innate desire to have as many children as possible to prove their fertility. They take upon themselves the command to multiply and replenish the earth: straining the potential mechanics of the body. Man must exercise restraint if he is to live a fulfilled life.

The Soul

The soul is the part that becomes the most comprehensive part of man. It is made up of the mind where you have the reasoning faculty of man and the centre of decision which is the will. The emotions and desires of man are also traced to the soul.

The mind is the intellect of man. It is also referred to as the brain. The creative ability in man cannot be understood and fully appreciated without a deep insight of the human system. Every action taken by the body is dictated by the brain.

The push that the regenerated man requires for mental aggressiveness is contained in the book of beginnings, **Genesis 1:28**, which says:

And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Unredeemed minds have held the baton far too long; it's time for the born-again children of God to take charge and take over. This is not the time to allow mental paralysis; this is the time to forge ahead, make discoveries and recover lost time. This is our time.

Doctors agree that the brain of man is loaded with extra-ordinary insights for productivity. This is the same with all races. No race has a brain different from others. This means that all human beings, irrespective of race, have the same kind of brain. What is more, not only are the colours the same, every brain has equal number of cells!

The Body

The body of man is the dwelling place for both his spirit and his soul (mind). It is also referred to as the temple of the Holy Spirit. The body of man is his link with the external, physical world. These three distinct parts of man are interrelated. One cannot operate without the other.

With the spirit, man contracts the spirit realm. Whatever he receives is communicated to the mind for analysis and possible acceptance or rejection. Whatever decision the mind takes is then communicated to the body for corresponding action.

The mind of man is the central control valve of the human being. The spirit cannot relate with the body without an approval from the mind, neither

can the body relate with the spirit without passing through the mind.

For maximum productivity, a man is expected to develop in these three dimensions of life. He is supposed to develop his spirit, his mind or brain, and his body. Growth is necessary in the three realms of existence. The spirit is developed through mental processing of ideas. The body is developed through bodily exercises.

In all realms, the level to which you exercise determines the output. You cannot get more from the spirit realm than your spirit is able to contain. You cannot get more than your mind is able to analyse and sort out, neither can you do more than your body can take per time.

As you grow more in the Spirit, you are able to wield more power. As you make more use of your mind, you are able to produce more. The same goes for the body.

Jesus Our Human Example

Jesus is our perfect example. He was born of the Holy Spirit as the Saviour of mankind in the flesh. Because He was in the flesh and all three dimensions of man were complete in Him, He needed to grow in the three realms of life. He developed His mind by reasoning in the scriptures.

This was why at the age of twelve, He was able to discuss intelligently with the doctors of law in the temple. Old grey-haired men marvelled at the wisdom and understanding He portrayed.

And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

Luke 2:47

Jesus also developed His body through physical exercise and hard work in the carpenter's shed. **Luke 2:40** tells us:

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

And in **Luke 2:52**, we read:

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and man.

In verse 40, the growth of His spirit man is linked with the mind — the seat of wisdom; while in verse 52, His physical growth is linked with the mind. Every realm of existence is linked with the mind. The spirit cannot function effectively without the mind, neither can the body perform excellently without the mind. "And the child increased." "And the child grew."

There is no increase nor growth without the mind.

Thinking Is Of God

There was a time when some Christians were advocating that the ability to reason, was of the devil. The doctrine spread abroad that to think was unspiritual and that Christians were supposed to operate only in the spirit realm. They called the use of the mind "sense knowledge" and that it should be done away with. If the ability to use the mind is unspiritual, then Jesus must be the least spiritual man who ever lived!

The ability to think is of God and should be utilized by the Christian. It is interesting to note that no word gets to your spirit except through the mind. You can't hear with your spirit but with your mind. What your ear hears goes straight to the brain (the mind), for interpretation and analysis before it is absorbed by your spirit. It is like the digestive process.

Your ears receive it, your mind digests it and your spirit absorbs it. This is what develops your spirit. It goes therefore, that, if your mind is dead, dormant or sleepy, your spirit also will be the same.

Jesus made it through actively engaging His mind. It is evident that most of His escapes from the hands of those who sought His life were direct products of the use of His mind. He would never have accomplished His mission without His mind in action.

When a man becomes born again, it is not only his spirit that comes alive. He becomes a completely new creature.

...If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature;...all things are become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17

His spirit, soul and body come alive. He receives Jesus as His Lord and Saviour, therefore, the Spirit of Jesus gets into him. He also receives the mind and the body of Christ. This means he receives in him the potential to be like Jesus in all spheres of existence.

The believer at new birth is a recreated being. A being with all the potentials of God in him. For him to excel in life there has to be an active exploration of all the potentials deposited in him.

Spiritual Mindedness

The active exploration of the vast potentials in man leads us to the subject of spiritual mindedness;

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Romans 8:6

The extent to which a man absorbs and retains for communion, the word of God in his mind, determines the speed with which he becomes spiritually minded. The word holds promises of the life that now is, and the life to come. Such spiritual mindedness, the Bible says, is profitable unto all things (1 Timothy 4:8).

Your mind must be tuned to the wave length of the spirit. The spirit is sound, but the mind needs renewal, possible by a constant touch with the word and prayer. In this way, the totality of a man becomes transformed rather than conformed to this world; and when this happens, a man is able to walk in the spirit, discerning the good, the acceptable, and perfect will of God on a daily basis.

Chapter 3:

The Scope Of The Natural Mind

Man is a creature to be envied. He has been handed the keys to the great resources of the earth. His position is such an enviable one that angels try to find out more about him.

It is a shame to note that, with so much potential in him, man is unaware of his value. In his natural state, he is a gifted being. His brain or mind is a citadel of unsearchable treasures.

God, the Almighty Creator, really wanted to make a showpiece out of him, so He deposited in him a brain — a fountain of untapped resources and left him with the responsibility of exploring the capabilities in him. The first man Adam put this capability to work in the Garden of Eden. Then the fall came, and he was chased out of the garden.

There now occurred a systematic depreciation of the awareness of man to the treasures in him. Man in his fallen state was naked. The glory of God and the spirit of God which used to quicken all his senses to succeed in his task in the garden, left him.

After he lost this covering, his awareness of the massive potentials in him began to depreciate. The animals which used to cringe under his authority now filled him with fear and terror. The ground that used to respond to his slightest touch now became hard and unyielding.

This was the beginning of sweat for him. He had to sweat before his mind could produce anything. He had to go through mental and physical exertion to produce the minutest thing. The brain had to be taxed to produce.

The Product Of The Natural Mind

In this fallen state, however, man still did wonders on earth. He still put his mind to use to make the earth a comfortable habitation. He used his natural brain and it produced. Of course, the level of production cannot be compared with what it was in the days of the garden. All the same, the brain produced.

In Genesis chapter 11, something happened which brought to light the great potentials in the natural mind. Men invented brick and decided to build a city and a tower. This was to have been the greatest tower ever. Its top was to

reach unto heaven. And men began to build. They put their brain to work and saw it was possible.

They began to build and God came down. He knew the potentials He had put in man. The Creator was very much aware of the creature's capabilities. He knew man could do anything he had conceived in his mind to do. He said,

...Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have IMAGINED TO DO.

Genesis 11:6 (Emphasis mine)

Imagination is in the mind. God, in essence, was saying that the natural mind can do anything it has conceived. The Almighty, the creator of man agreed that, even man in his fallen state could do wonders with his mind.

All through history, we see great examples of the products of the natural mind. The ancient pyramids of Egypt; the computer and sophisticated war weapons are all products of the natural mind.

The brain of man is terrific. And you know, the brain of each human being has been decked with the potential to produce marvels on earth. This is however, only possible to the natural man who taxes his brain. The more he taxes his brain, the more it produces. The output of each brain depends on the use to which it is put.

The question now arises, How much can a man tax his brain? How much mental exertion can he force on the brain? There is a limit to which the brain of man can be pushed. Scientists have said that only a very minute percentage of the brain capacity has been put to use by man.

All the wonderful inventions we see around make up only 0.05% of the brain capacity. This sounds unbelievable but it is true. If all we see amounts to only 0.05% of the potentials of the brain, then it means that eyes have not seen, ears have not heard, neither has been conceived in the mind of man, what the brain can produce when put to full use. But is this possible with the natural mind?

The answer is no. It is impossible for the natural mind to attain a full use of the brain. There is a limit to what it can take; there is a limit to which it can be pushed. Even among men who have used within the 0.05% capacity of the brain, we have heard of mental breakdown among them due to excessive mental exertion.

This means that taxing the mind to produce up to 1% of its capacity is dangerous to the body metabolism of the natural man.

The Vanity Of The Natural Mind

In itself, the natural mind is simply reprobate, not by its original creation, but by its lack of retention of the word of God (Romans 1:28). A mind devoid of the word is reprobate; incapable of maximum utilization because of its limitations in understanding "without understanding" (Romans 1:31), and incapable of reaching a reproach-free and dignified latter end.

Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end....thou castedst them down into destruction.

Psalm 73:17– 18

What is more in all its might, it is incapable of comprehending the works of the Lord, for the world by wisdom, has not found God.

The Redeemed Mind

Since the brain cannot be put to full use by the natural man, why then did God deposit so much potentials in it?

It is not possible to the natural man, but it is possible to the supernatural man; the man who has the Spirit of God on the inside of him. The Bible says that "The secret things belong unto God." He has reserved the hidden potentials of the brain for Himself and He doles them out to the believers — those with redeemed minds — as He pleases.

He has reserved the exploitation of the secret potentials in the brain for His children so they could show forth His glory this end-time. These secret potentials are not going to be released to the believers through mental exertion otherwise, they will die prematurely. God is going to release them by His Spirit to His people. He is going to illuminate their spirits and pass on creative ideas and insights onto them.

There will be no sweat. There will be no pressure. There will be no taxing of the brain. The people of God will produce through systematic revelations from God. God has programmed that His people show forth His wisdom this end-time. The secret treasures of the brain are going to be revealed through divine illumination.

The Christians will be the stars of the world. The light from heaven will flood their system to bring to light the hidden things which God has deposited in them from eternity.

If you have not yet hooked up to God, the time has come for you to do so.

The time for inventions by sweat is fast running out. It is time for inventions by illuminations from above. If you have not made a commitment to God by accepting Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, do so now. This is the only way to get hooked on to God. This is the gateway to creativity.

Don't hesitate to hook unto Jesus, who, in His earthly walk, used parables and natural scenery to stir the minds of His disciples to greater effectiveness. Teaching on the sower, He drew a parallel between four categories of hearers. The disciples were perplexed because they too didn't understand. When they demanded a more explicit interpretation, His response was:

...unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God... Luke 8:10

A paradox? No! Jesus knew that in time they will be able to decipher even more complex parables. By speaking in parables, Jesus was sharpening their minds to probe into the supernatural.

If you are ready to accept Jesus today, why don't you say this prayer:

"Lord Jesus, I come to you today, a sinner. I have been going my own way all these years. But now, I want to hook up to your ways. I believe you died for me and rose again. Come into my life today. Cleanse me from my sins and be my Lord and Saviour. Accept me into your beloved. Thank you Jesus."

The Creative Nature

The original man was in a class of his own, a unique celebrity. We are told that God created him in His own image and His very likeness. That is, he was created to be like God, both in character and charisma. That is, man has the nature of God in him, he has God's abilities embedded in his being.

This is what made him unique before the fall. After the fall, God's nature in him, got corrupted and he lost the virtue of excellence. The living man became a "dead man," now merely existing. The glory of God in him had departed — Ichabod was born.

Thank God, after the redemptive work of Christ, man has a new and living access back to his original throne. He can now regain the divine nature.

Whereby are given (gift) unto us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 2

Peter 1:4

That is, man can still carry the divine nature in his being today. This "nature" is the foundation of creativity. It is in God's nature to create anything He desires. When He had the dream of heaven, He created one. When the thought of a world came to Him, He created one. We are told:

**In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
Genesis 1:1**

God's creative forces went into operation to bring His dreams into fulfilment. Whatever He wanted, He brought into existence by the use of His creative abilities. The things we see today are made out of things which do not appear (Hebrews 11:3).

The nature of God in man is the foundation of creativity. The creative forces of God are inherent in His wisdom. We read that,

**The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth and by understanding
hath he established the heavens.
Proverbs 3:17**

Again, in **Psalm 104:24** we read:

**O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made
them all: The earth is full of thy riches.**

Amazing! You mean that the world we see today resulted through wisdom? Not power nor might? Not strength or vigour? This is terrific! This is awesome!

Wisdom can, therefore, be said to be the key to a world of fulfilment. God's dream could not find fulfilment without the operation of this weapon called wisdom! Speaking about the degree of wisdom in Divinity, Paul said,

**O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of
God! how unsearchable are His judgements, and his ways past
finding out!
Romans 11:33**

God's worlds are put together by wisdom; no wonder the world we live in today is also the world of the wise. The wise rule here while the fools are perpetually under tribute. The mind of man is the biggest bank on earth. The ability to put the mind into functional use is the holder of man's destiny. The impeccable deposit is in man to make living exciting.

Access To Divine Nature

New Birth: This is the fundamental access to the divine nature — the nature of God. Jesus said to Nicodemus,

**Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
John 3:3**

To see this nature, it is imperative that one be born again. The word says,

**All have sinned and come short (lost) of the glory of God.
Romans 3:23**

That sin nature has to be dealt away with before the lost glory can be restored. The life (nature) of God is received at new birth to be developed subsequently by the recipient.

**For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have
everlasting life.
John 3:16**

Whosoever has the Son has life and whosoever has not the Son of God has not life.

It should be noted that what died in man after the fall was the "divine nature" or life; the natural life took over. Remember, God had warned him: "The day you eat of that tree (the tree of the knowledge of good and evil) you will surely die."

This makes it abundantly clear that since man was still breathing and could still move his arms and legs, think and talk, hear and understand; then something other than human life was lost. It was the original life (designed for man) — the life of God, the Divine Nature.

Quite a multitude on this earth are merely existing, not living. The acceptance of Christ, which makes an end of the rule of sin, is the only access to life — Divine Nature. No Christ, no Life! Christ is the genesis of living. It is this nature that is called "The New Man." The word says,

**And that ye put on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.
Ephesians 4:24**

Again, Apostle Paul says,

**And have put on the new man which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.
Colossians 3:10**

The new man has to be put on. We have him but we have to put him on. He was the one that died in Eden whom Jesus brought back to life at resurrection. It is the divine nature lost by man in the first Adam, now restored in the second Adam. Jesus said,

**These signs shall follow them that believe, In my name they shall...
Mark 16:16**

Signs speak of amazing wonders! This is what new birth offers. It brings man to a new realm of living.

Revelation: Key To The Creative Nature

The entrance of the word by revelation reveals this divine nature in man. Apostle Peter says,

**Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises:
That by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having
escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.
2 Peter 1:4**

The above reference unfolds the place of the word as the impartation of the divine nature. The Apostle Paul speaking also on this wise said,

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the

**Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.
2 Corinthians 3:18**

"Glass," in the above verse of scripture stands for the word of God as illustrated in James 1:23: For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass.

We can, therefore, conclude that to be changed into the same image (the divine nature), the word must gain entrance into a man.

God's word is a carrier of His life — the divine nature. Jesus said,

**It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and, and they are life.
John 6:63**

It is the word of God that offers or imparts the life of God. The psalmist said,

The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple. Psalms 119:130

The entrance of the word affects the reasoning faculty of man positively. It brings him to a level of excellence in reasoning. It evolves creative reasoning. This is because creativity is inherent in divine nature which the word imparts. Yes, It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the words He has spoken are Spirit, carrying life.

Chapter 4: Wisdom: Your Instrument For Creativity

In chapter one of Genesis, we are told, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." In the beginning, when nothing was in existence, God went into action. He created. The word "create" means to bring into existence, to cause to be. God wanted to bring heaven and earth into existence so, He created them.

Do you know that heaven is referred to as the throne of God and the earth as His footstool? **Isaiah 66:1** declares:

Thus saith the Lord, the heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool...

This means that God never had a throne until He created one. He never had a footstool until He created it. He didn't just wish them into existence. The word "create" is not a dormant word. It is an active, dynamic word that has to do with action. God wanted a throne. He desired and got it by creating it.

You also have a throne reserved for you. But wishful thinking does not create thrones, neither does desiring. If you want a throne, you have to go into action and create it. Nothing happens by wishing. The Bible says in **Proverbs 13:4**;

For the soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat

Nothing comes into being through desire. Everything is made to happen. Everything that is today was made to be.

In the beginning, God created....

How did He create? What force went into action that brought about creation? **Proverbs 3:19** tells us the power behind creation:

The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding

hath He established the heavens

Also, in **Psalm 104:24**, we are told:

Oh Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all.

Wisdom is God's instrument for creating all things. It is the force behind creation. It is true that God spoke words at creation, but these words were backed by wisdom. They were words which had been approved from His wisdom bank. This was why the words produced the desired results.

Notice that the word of God does not tell us, "In anointing, thou hast made them all." It does not say "In much prayers hast thou made them all." Rather, it says, "In wisdom hast Thou made them all." Everything God created was created in wisdom. By wisdom He created the earth and the heavens; and by understanding,

He has kept them running till date. The globe has not dropped through any mechanical error. The earth is rotating, yet you don't see houses or human beings rolling along. The wisdom behind creation is so sound and solid that the devil, as wicked as he is, has not succeeded in pushing the earth out of its orbit.

Through wisdom, God did not create everything on the same day. He created everything in an orderly manner. He created food for the animals before bringing them to be. He did not create the fish before water. When the fish came into existence, water was waiting for them.

"Wisdom is the principal thing." God's throne was created through wisdom. Wisdom took Joseph to his throne. It is time for you to occupy your throne, and only wisdom will get you there.

Wisdom, however, is of the mind. The mind is the seat of wisdom. Understanding also is of the mind. How then did God create the universe? He created all things by the active use of His mind.

Wisdom is God's instrument for creativity. Your creative ability is tied to wisdom and wisdom resides in the mind.

If Jesus Christ is your Lord and Saviour, then you have that creative ability in you. Jesus was the principal architect of creation. He is the word of God and He is the wisdom of God.

The Bible tells us "By him all things were made, and without him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:3). Jesus was the one who made things happen at creation. He is the wisdom of God: He conceived the heavens and the

earth. He is the word of God: the word spoken by God came to be. The word came to implement the mind of God, His wisdom.

Creating Your World

This same Jesus has said unto the believer,...as my Father has sent me, even so send I you" (John 20:21).

This means that we are co-architects with Him in the realm of creativity. We are called to join in the mystery of making things happen. This is creativity and it can only happen through divine enabling.

It does not matter how shapeless your life is. It does not matter how empty it is. You can give it the shape you want. You can make it full. We came to this world to give shape to it. You are the principal initiator of your destiny, and wisdom is the instrument you need. The forces of creativity reside in wisdom.

As the Father has sent Jesus, so He also has sent you. The wisdom of God is designed to be personified in you. It is the essence of creativity placed inside of man.

What then is wisdom? Wisdom is knowing which way to go. It is knowing how to handle situations and make them produce your desired result. Wisdom is knowing the way to make it in life. Man has access to two types of wisdom. There is the earthly wisdom and the heavenly wisdom.

This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.
James 3:15-17

The earthly wisdom is the wisdom of men while the heavenly wisdom is the wisdom of God. The wisdom of men is wicked and devilish. It pulls down rather than raise men. Anyone who rises to a certain level on earthly wisdom ends up crashing down sooner or later. This wisdom is full of strife, envy, and confusion. It has no future for anyone who operates it.

The wisdom which is of God is void of confusion and guarantees escape from evil. It is pure. It is light and hides no darkness in it. It guarantees the lifting of men and the sustenance of that lifting. It is from above and whatever

is from above is above all. It comes from God.

The wisdom you need for excellence is with God. If wisdom is knowing which way to go and it comes from God, then the wisdom that will take you to the top can be defined as laying hold on the ways of God. The ways of God are higher ways. He says that His ways are higher than our ways and His thoughts than our thoughts.

Ordinary ways lead to ordinary ends while higher ways lead to higher ends. The wisdom that will produce involves giving up the ordinary ways of men and going for the higher ways of God. This is the importance of heaven's ideas to the earth. The wisdom that is from above is not kept above. It is made available for earthly use.

Get hold of this wisdom and mould your destiny. You are not created to live an ordinary life. You are not created to follow the ordinary ways. You are created to live an extra-ordinary life through active use of heaven's wisdom on earth.

The Creative Nature

Man is a product of creativity and must be creative. Since he was made by a creative God, and like begets like, he must experience creativity as the order of his life. For instance, the Jews, whom the Bible calls the natural branches (Romans 11:21) a relatively small community of people, have, in our world today, carved out for themselves an enviable name in most fields of human endeavour — science and technology, trade and business etc.

It is quite a puzzle what the Jews have made out of themselves, a people with simple natural connection to God. Does this phenomenal fact have any spiritual undertone, or is it just a product of sheer industry and self-help?

I believe there is a genetic link here. You will recall that the offspring of the first Adam were men of exploits. In Genesis 11:1–9, ordinary men were out on a seemingly impossible mission — to build a city and a tower whose top will reach the heavens. God affirmed to the ability of these natural men to achieve their objective.

...and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.
Genesis 11:6

The genetic connection between that generation and the fallen king of Eden, Adam, must have played a vital role in the level of mental prowess demonstrated by these natural men. Remember, Adam was imbued with an

extra-ordinary mental capability, such as, for example, the naming of all the animals in the garden.

In a similar demonstration of natural ability, Noah came out to build, perhaps, the largest ocean liner that housed the most comprehensive zoo since the day of Adam (Genesis 6:13–22). Yet, the vessel would not sink! It's simply amazing, when the level of education (if any) at that time is taken into consideration.

The Holy Spirit — The Spirit Of Excellence

But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding. **Job 32:8**

**But there is (a vital force) a Spirit (of intelligence) in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives men understanding.
Job 32:8 (Amplified)**

Further more in **Ephesians 4:4–6**;

**There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all
One Spirit; the Holy Spirit; one Baptism: the Baptism in the Holy Spirit; in you all; same Holy Spirit in all believers.**

This is talking about the spirit of excellence, with a ministry to: unfold mysteries (1 John 2:27), deepen understanding (John 16), dissolve hard sentences (Daniel 4), and remind of the facts (John 16).

The ingredients of the excellency of this Spirit is clearly listed in Isaiah 11:2 as the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

Chapter 5: Some Amazing Inventions Of The Natural Mind

The words "mind" and "brain" are generally used interchangeably. They both represent the intellect of man. This is a wealth of treasure with which God has endowed man. The brain of man is terrific. The potentials embedded in its depth are beyond the wildest human imagination.

Advancement in every sphere of life points to the fact that the natural man has a rich depth of treasure inside him. His mind is loaded. When we talk about the natural man, we mean the man without the redemptive force of God in him. The man who is still in his Adamic, fallen state, the man who has not received Jesus, (the wisdom and the power of God), into his life.

This is the natural man. He has a natural mind. A reprobate mind, a mind which in its fallen state has to be baptized with toil and sweat before it is made to produce. But, it still produces, in spite of the labour involved. It has by reason of exercise been able to invent outstanding things.

A look around the world today, shows the extent to which unregenerated man, with a reprobate brain, has been able to tax his brain and come up with extraordinary innovations.

The brain, in spite of cultural and racial differences, is identical in terms of size, content and structural make up in all human beings. It is the central arsenal of the human sensory system. In addition to receiving and conveying messages to all parts of the body, it also performs such higher neural functions as memory, imagination, thought, and the ability to create.

In this chapter, we are going to highlight some products of the natural mind. You might want to ask "why?" Are we trying to prove that man can do without Jesus, since he has been able to set landmarks in history by taxing his brain?

The answer is a resounding NO! We only want to establish the fact that, if an unsaved, unregenerated mind could bring about such innovative creations, how much more can a mind in which the Spirit of the Most High dwells!

If the natural mind can do good, then the supernatural mind of Jesus Christ should excel. If the reprobate mind can produce outstanding results, then the redeemed mind should produce "outstandingly" excellent results!

Perhaps it should be added that the mind, whether redeemed or not,

requires to be challenged or spurred into productivity. Many believers who have lived unproductive lives have done so because there has been no challenge thrown to their minds to tackle.

God is the embodiment of wisdom. In fact, Proverbs 8:23 makes us understand that right from the foundation of the earth, wisdom had been with Him. But God, although carrying the fullness of wisdom on His person, did not rest on His oars expecting the world to spring into being. He saw a need to create a world with men that He could commune with, He put His wisdom into play and produced the world we live in today.

Regenerate man does not require a pressing circumstance before he creates. The world says, "Necessity is the mother of invention." All he requires is a healthy challenge. Having received insight from the Spirit of God, he can develop great machines, build sophisticated houses, design ultra-modern bridges, etc; not necessarily because a necessity is placed on him, but because it has been impressed upon his spirit. Ultimately, his inventions would meet unforeseen needs.

This chapter is set to spur believers, the redeemed of the Lord, on to the mark of excellence. It is meant to push the saint to attaining his position as the creative son of the greatest Creator of all times — the Almighty God. Read on and let your mind be spurred unto greater achievements in Jesus' name.

Communication

The communication world has revealed the extent to which development has eaten into the business world. Electronic message is changing business in the world at large. Within ten years, postal delivery and telephone services have been supplemented by electronic alternatives which enable high speed, reliable communications within and without, among organizations.

Automatic Teller Machine

The human mind has been able to manufacture an automatic teller machine to get information about banking accounts using a voice response system to order products or services, thus communicating, not with people, but with computers. The human factor has been eliminated altogether and automated systems now conduct necessary information exchange. Although these well-designed systems have minimized human intervention, human judgement and action when appropriate, have not been sacrificed.

The Flying Computer

Computer is virtually taking over from human beings in every sphere. The latest in this line is the flying computer. Man has been able to come with a computerized airplane. By this, we mean an airplane which flies itself.

Recent innovations on the Airbus Azio have made it possible for it to do without flight engineers. The aircraft which is fully automated is a passenger aircraft with two engines. In addition to the fact that the noise is drastically minimized, this aircraft, in essence, flies itself!

Egg Nutrition

Who would think that by feeding chicken with a combination of sea kelp, rice bran, alfalfa meal and vitamin E, the resultant egg meal would be so nutritionally high that it would cost 60% more than normal eggs! It was noticed that the fear of killer cholesterol stopped a number of Americans from eating fried eggs, and this egg was developed.

Petroleum Technology

Would you believe that only 30% of world oil deposits is tapped? The remaining 70% requires advanced technology in the form of enhanced oil recovery schemes. Impossible as it may seem, it is a brain in a black skin, Nigeria's Ekwere Peters, who has developed a system to locate and determine the amount of oil in rocks!

A petroleum engineer by profession, Peters adapted the X-ray system (imaging technology — anatomy of the human body without surgery) to carry out petroleum functions. He also came up with special drilling fluids best suited for drilling oil wells that are over 18,000 feet deep, with temperature above 300 degrees Fahrenheit. For easy management, he went further to devise a computer programme for predicting the properties of the drilling fluids. Peters has earned over one million dollars from research grants and contracts in the United States of America alone. An associate professor of petroleum engineering at the University of Texas in America, Peters hails from Akwa Ibom State of Nigeria.

Arms And Ammunition

1991 heralded the entrance of the scud missile. Belonging to the Soviet ASS-1 generation of missiles, the scud-B was first displayed in 1962. The scud-A series from which the scud-B came, was first launched in 1957. However, the scud-B missiles used by Iraq during the 1991 war is said to have been modified to travel farther than its original 600-650 kilometres. The Al-Hussein and Al-Abbass, as they are named, may be old technology, but they are performing noteworthy feats.

The scud-B missile is an improvement on the free flying rockets used during the World War II because it is guided. It is guided in flight, and hits its target with extreme accuracy.

The Tomohawk missile computer is the most advanced high tech. weapon around. It is an SS missile built by General Dynamics, for the U.S. Navy. This missile contains a pre-programmed road map to the target. It can alter its route along the way to adjust for variation in terrain. It cruises at very low altitudes, therefore, it can elude being detected by a radar. It zeros in on both fixed and moving objects. It has been described as a killer riding on a computer.

However lethal they are, the human mind has been able to come up with interceptor missiles which are able to destroy oncoming enemy missiles in mid-air.

One of such missiles is the Patriot. The Strategic Defence Initiative in the United States of America, which develops and deploys weapons to fend off tactical missiles such as Soviet-built scuds, has developed anti-ballistic missiles like ERIS: Exocrot-miospheric Reentry Vehicle Interceptor developed by Lockheed; HEDI: the High Endo-atmospheric Defensive Interceptor, built by McDonnell Douglas.

These missiles use high-speed nonnuclear rockets to destroy ballistic missiles on impact. ERIS attacks enemy warheads while in orbit and HEDI follows after missiles once they re-enter the earth's atmosphere.

To counter the Soviet nuclear arsenal, the United States is pressing ahead with a new concept called Brilliant Pebbles. This is being developed by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. Brilliant Pebbles is nonnuclear, space-based rocket to be used in detecting, tracking and destroying enemy missiles soon after being launched.

These and lots more are examples of what the natural human being has been able to create. What is more? The depth of creativity in the brain has just been scratched around the surface. Experts say that everything man has invented till date forms a minimal 0.05% of the brain capacity. This is mind — boggling. This is unbelievable but it is true. The inventions of man so far are

great, but the brain says, "You have not seen anything yet!"

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The Natural Mind: Searching For Solace

In creating religions and attempting to reach God through diverse means, man has gone farther away from Him than he expected. Searching for peace in a troubled world has led many to embrace religions of the east. Others delve into the occults searching for power and control over the affairs of life.

Confucianism

One of such religions that has sprung up over the years is Confucianism. This word literally means the followers of the teaching of Confucius. Confucius lived between 551–479 B.C. and was of humble origin. He trained disciples who collected, edited and interpreted pre-Confucian works. They also compiled the sayings of Mencius and Confucius and produced the great learning and doctrine of the mean.

Confucius traced the source of sovereign authority to heaven. He saw man as good and traced the evil to environment, education, a lack of forethought and wrong judgement of life's values.

Asked how a man can become good, Confucius taught that the mind could be transformed by the study of the principles underlying human history, and following the examples of "wise" men.

The cult of Confucianism consisted of the worship of heaven and earth, the ceremony to Confucius, and ancestor worship. Confucianism combines politics, ethics and education with the spirit of reverence and assimilative capacity: it adjusts its beliefs based upon diverse influences. For instance, in the Han period, Confucianism also assimilated the belief in a personal god. Stemming from China, this world religion has become accepted by the Japanese.

Taoism

Taoism, on the other hand, became a religion between 206 B.C. and 020 A.D. As a philosophy, it sought the unity of organisms. As a religion, it desired power over nature and over man by adjustment with the Tao through magic. What is the Tao? It is believed to be the basic cosmic energy which informs all. It is said to be the physical concept of the way heaven relates to earth, transfigured and deepened by the mystic trance.

The mystic path consists of a period of isolation, detachment from the world of things; abstinence leads to a vision and finally followed by a union with the Tao.

Before the disciple could qualify for full membership in the Taoist community, he had to enter a new life. This conversion is called "The renewing of the heart." The disciple listens to the soul emptying his spirit to take hold of "reality." "The union with the Tao is not obtained except by emptiness. It is this emptiness which is the renewing of the heart."

The Taoist's "Holy Writ" consists of sayings from various sources and deals with the Tao, ethics and government. It is mystic poetry with the admixture of common sense.

Hinduism

Going further into the religions of man, I wish to discuss next, Hinduism. John Clark Archer describes it...as a frame of mind — a mental attitude within its own peculiar setting, socially divisive, if theologically non-creedal, unused to common worship in a congregational...or formal way..."

The word dharma represents the "law" of life and the destiny which shapes the Hindu's end. Everything, from the Hindus' scriptures, his ritual, his thoughts and conduct are guided and dominated by it. "Works" provided in the priestly view, the first way of salvation for mankind. However, a short while later, "works" was replaced by "Knowledge", not a scientific knowledge, but one of meditation.

They believe that while "the absolute cannot be known, the magic of esoteric wisdom devoted to the quest of it is more powerful than the magic of the sacrifice. There is evidence to show that the migrant people had a theory of order from whence might have come the concept of a moral universe and the notion of a holy god who functioned as the cosmic — moral order.

A search for a means of elongating eye of earth and an assurance of immortality may have led to the theory of transmigration. It is the theory of

many births in the longer span of any Hindu's life, "the soul was subject to rebirth...a round in which not only men but all other creatures were involved."

Worthy of note is the fact that Hinduism is not founded by a man, but a legion, their figures as shady as "cloud-messengers." Its scriptures is the dharma-shastras. No councils ever sat to formulate it. It is made up of the "revealed" and the "remembered" (men's own words passed on orally).

What differentiates Hinduism from other religions is the caste. This is division of the Hindu dharma into groups, communities and classes of men, based on such criteria as skin, colour, and conditions of birth (wealthy or poor).

One of Hinduism's "six demons patrons of schools" of thought is the Yoga of Patanjali. It rested upon the realm of the soul into which individuals might gain access by an isolation from nature.

Buddhism

The predominant emphasis in Buddhism is the renunciation of the world and the normal life of man living in a Family. Buddha, founder of Buddhism, recognized no being above himself.

In words ascribed to him, he says: "I am all-wise;...I am the holy one in the world; I am the highest teacher." He accepted the concept of a world of being which are ever passing from one stage of existence to another; some higher, some lower. Summarized by August Karl Reisharueras "birth and death and again rebirth and death" would go on indefinitely unless the Karma energy, the blind will to be is stopped.

Buddha discovered most of what he taught his followers one day as he sat under a tree in deep meditation. He claims that a light arose on his inside which ended his search which became known as the "Enlightenment."

Chapter 6: The Spiritual Dimension Of Wisdom

We have already established that the mind is the seat of wisdom. It is the seat of understanding. It is in the mind that issues are analysed and broken down into absorbable bits for corresponding action.

We have also established that at redemption, the spirit of God carries out a quickening process also in the mind. The Holy Spirit that saves the spirit at redemption also redeems the mind from corruption. The quickening that takes place makes the mind to become a living mind. It is the Spirit that gives life. If the mind is alive, then it must have a spirit. **Ephesians 4:23** confirms this:

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind

Your mind has a spirit. This is the spirit which is able to receive illumination from above because it is linked with the spirit of the Almighty God. **Job 32:8** says:

There is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding

The Amplified Bible renders it as "a vital force." There is, therefore, a spiritual dimension to wisdom. The wisdom of God is not received through mental exertion. It does not come by tasking your brain to produce. It comes by illumination; it is received by revelation from the Most High, the only wise God.

The entrance of the wisdom of God into your mind brings light which drives away darkness from every issue confronting you. What you receive from books and the tasking of your brain are facts. Facts have no control over darkness. It is only light which comes from God that is able to lord it over darkness.

When this light comes from above, your eyes are opened; and with the resultant illumination, you are able to see your way clearly.

The Apostle Paul, while praying for the church in Ephesians said,

That God...may give unto you, the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him, the eyes of your understanding being

**enlightened, that ye may know the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints
Ephesians 1:17–18**

You need a healthy mind; an enlightened and illuminated understanding in order to locate your inheritance in God. To enter and possess your inheritance you need the spirit of wisdom and revelation. You need this divine revelation to be able to know the things that are yours for the taking.

There is that vital force in you. There is that potential on the inside of you. When you open it up to inspiration, there is a charging. When you connect that system to God, there is a charging that produces excellence. You will come under the power of heaven–sent ideas which, when put to work, will cause you to rise from the realm of the ordinary to the extra–ordinary.

There is a vital force in the redeemed man. You are not expected to live an ordinary life with this force in you. There is a force that produces excellence in every realm of life.

There is a force in you that should cause a shining forth, proclaiming the glorious gospel of Jesus.

If you must shine forth, you must receive illumination, you must receive wisdom from above for it is only wisdom that makes the face of the wise man to shine. If you must receive this wisdom, your mind must be actively alive, open and resourceful, having the ability to receive, to analyse and break into absorbable bits, which is what takes place at salvation.

Examples Of Excellence Through Wisdom

Joshua, the servant of Moses, was a man who had the Spirit of God in him. He had been the minister of Moses almost all his life. When Moses was about to die and asked for a leader for the people, God told him about Joshua.

**Take thee Joshua, the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit and lay thine hand upon him.
Numbers 27:18**

Joshua already had the spirit, but he needed a higher release of the spirit to enable him carry out his new and higher function.

The Holy Spirit was not yet at work on earth, so Moses had to lay hands

on him so he could receive the spirit of wisdom.

**And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him.
Deuteronomy 34:9**

Joshua became filled with the spirit of wisdom after Moses laid hands on him. He needed the spirit of wisdom to ascend and retain his throne as leader of Israel. He had to be filled in order to be fulfilled in his mission. With the spirit of wisdom in him, his mission was fulfilled: the children of Israel hearkened unto him. There is no nation more rebellious than the nation of Israel, yet they listened to Joshua. They obeyed him and his leadership was fulfilled.

There is a spiritual dimension to wisdom. You don't force the issues of life through physical strength. Wisdom is not a product of mental exertion. It is an issue of the Spirit. There is a need for this understanding among believers today. You need to open up to the spirit of wisdom and revelation and let the wisdom of God flow through you and manifest. This is what you need this end-time. This is the gateway to fulfilment.

The wisdom that will produce must come from God. The wisdom that will cause a shining forth must come from above.

Noah found grace in the sight of God and God released to him wisdom. He built the largest ship ever which housed the most comprehensive zoo in history. He received it from the Lord and acted accordingly and today he is down in history as the one who kept the human race and all animals from extinction.

Think of Daniel. There was no way he could have known the king's dream, not to mention the interpretation, even if they had slept on the same bed. But the Spirit of God which searches all things, even the deep things of God, brought both the dream and its interpretation out.

It takes the Spirit of God to trace the actual rig that hits the oil. The Spirit searches out the deep things and releases them to men. Daniel was able to do what the wise men of Babylon could not do because he was a man **"in whom is the spirit of the holy gods"** (Daniel 4:8). Wisdom is not by power. It is not by might, it is by the Spirit of God working on the inside of you. This was the Spirit at work in Daniel and the three Hebrew boys that made them to be ten times better in all matters of wisdom and understanding than their contemporaries.

The spirit of wisdom is an excellent spirit. It produces excellence. This is the ability to excel, to get to the top, to stay above. Daniel had no choice but to excel because he became the president of the presidents.

Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents because an excellent spirit was in him...

Daniel 6:3

Looking at the equipment designed by man during the Gulf War, I told myself that the brains which designed all the complicated gadgets are unsaved brains. They don't have the Spirit of God in them. They are unredeemed, reprobate minds. They are dead minds, because they don't have the spirit of the living God, the quickener, on the inside of them.

If unsaved minds could do all these, how much more would you who have the spirit of God working in you. You should excel. The best of the natural man's output should not match your own.

Stop sitting down at your desk thinking that that project is impossible. Nothing is impossible with God; and if the Spirit of God is at work in you, then nothing should be impossible with you. Impossibility is of the devil. When you have the Spirit of God in you, you transcend the realm of impossibility to that of marvellous possibility. You are able to pierce through the thickest darkness to create a way.

An excellent spirit took Daniel to the throne. The same will take you to yours. It took Joseph from the dark dungeon of Egypt's prison to the throne room of Pharaoh.

How could Joseph, a man with no formal education, be able to design a means of preserving grain for seven years in far away ancient Egypt without the Spirit of God working in him? Hear it from Pharaoh's mouth:

...Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is....there is none so discreet and wise as thou art; Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled...

Genesis 41:38–40 Our Saviour laid an example for us to follow. He was always connected to the source of power. He was always full of wisdom from above.

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom...

Luke 2:40

And Jesus increased in wisdom...

Luke 2:52

As Jesus grew, His wisdom increased. We can, therefore, say that when He grew into the fullness of manhood and started His mission on earth, He also grew into the fullness of the wisdom of God. He manifested the wisdom of God in its fullness. He always knew what to do, where to go and when to step out. He was never stranded. The enemies were many, the traps set for Him were numerous but He escaped them all with ease.

A day came and His enemies thought to get Him to contravene governmental laws. They asked Him, "You say you have come to free us from bondage. Now, do we pay tax to Caesar or not?" Jesus looked up and the light came. It was a trap. The way out was laid bare. He answered after showing them the inscription on a coin, "Pay unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto God what is His." His enemies were silenced.

A woman caught in adultery was brought to Him. He was asked, "Master, the law of Moses says anyone caught in adultery should be put to death. This woman was caught in the act. Now what do you say about it. Do we stone her to death or not?"

The Master looked up and the light came. He wrote down with His fingers on the sand. Then He said, **"He that is without sin among you should cast the first stone."** The enemies sneaked away. They were beaten hands down.

This is Jesus manifesting the wisdom of God on earth. No one could tie Him down. No enemy was too strong for Him. No situation was too difficult for Him.

The Holy Spirit at work in the disciples enabled them to make a landmark in history. They were unlearned and ignorant men. They were illiterates. Yes. But we are still studying them today. Where did they get their wisdom from?

Peter's message on the day of Pentecost was not ordinary. It came straight from heaven. Stephen's exposition in Acts Chapter 7 was not learnt from any school. It came from above. This was the spirit of God in them at work.

Don't allow your education become a trap. Lay it aside and open up to receive the spirit of excellence from above. Open up and engage in the active, exciting process of shining forth in the kingdom. Great heights are obtainable in the kingdom. Great heights which the eyes have not seen; the ears have not heard, and the mind has not conceived. Open up; enlarge your thought pattern, and receive illumination by inspiration from heaven.

God is able to do far more than you are able to ask or think. So let your mind open up; not in daydreaming, but in covenant dream and insight, looking forward to a tomorrow that puts you in charge.

Wisdom is spiritual and it comes from God. It is our right to possess. So open up and receive it and avoid undue mental pressures and exertion. Receive

it and begin to use it to press into your inheritance in God. Receive it and let it cause a shining forth of the glorious gospel of Christ Jesus through you.

Chapter 7: The Gift In You At Salvation

Salvation has beauty to offer man. It adds colour, genuine colour to life. It orders man's steps aright and places him where he belongs. At salvation, everything in man changes. Salvation affects man at the three levels of existence — spirit, soul and body. New life is ignited into the totality of man.

The spirit, the mind and the body receive new life. The life force of God is released into these three spheres with the entrance of Jesus into the heart of man at salvation. The believer is expected to be and to act like Jesus. He had a three dimensional growth. With His spirit, He related with God. With His mind (the seat of wisdom), He sorted out issues and had a solution to every challenge. With His body, He carried out the dictates of His mind. This is your model. You should do likewise.

Rather than follow this model, however, most believers are experiencing a lopsided growth. Their eyes have been opened to the redemption of the spirit and that of the body. But their eyes are still closed to the truth that they have been redeemed also in the mind. Their minds are asleep and as a result they have no proof of their redemption.

God is saying, "I have touched your spirit, your body has partaken of My blessings, now I want your mind to come alive too so I can deck you with the glories of heaven by unleashing My creative forces upon you."

It is time for believers to wake up. "Wake up, thou that sleepest, and rise from thy slumber" the Lord is saying. The ball is in your court. Wake up. Press the button you need and design your destiny. God does not want His people to move around like horses or mules without understanding. You have understanding. Your redeemed mind is able to reason and sort out issues. You have the mind of the Son of God.

**...But we have the mind of Christ.
1 Corinthians 2:16**

The mind of excellence is in you. With this mind of Christ in you, you should be able to handle all issues of life.

It is time to balance our growth, letting God's life affect our spirit, mind and body. There is a hidden treasure; a rich deposit in us, which needs to find expression and this is in the mind. The mind is a gift from God.

**For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.
2 Timothy 1:7**

Every gift has to be put into use before one can see the results. It is the active utilization of gifts that make them produce. God has given you a gift. He will not take it back. For, the gifts and calling of God are without repentance (Romans 11:29).

God gives and He doesn't take back. It is left for you to go into action or go to sleep. Great possibilities exist in the covenant and only the productive utilization of your mind will take you there.

The Abrahamic covenant has limitless possibilities. You can go as high as you are able. There is no limit to your greatness in the covenant. Isaac waxed great and went on to become very great until the heathen envied him. You can become greater, but this depends on how far you are able to see. God said to Abraham:

**...Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward. For all the land thou seest, to thee will I give it...
Genesis 13:14**

The Abrahamic covenant is based on how far your eyes can see. Your eyes are the determinant of how great you can become in the covenant. Your height is not determined by your location. You could be east, west, south or north; anywhere you are, your greatness depends on the strength of your vision. Your eyes are your covenant rockets for your shooting up to great heights.

Your mind is your covenant eye. Abraham could not have seen the whole of Canaan with his physical eyes. He saw them with his mind's eye. The clearer you see, the faster you move in the race of life for the realization of covenant blessings. The mind is your covenant asset for prominence, excellence, greatness, royalty and wealth.

The covenant promises can only find fulfilment with the proper utilization of your mind. Greatness is impossible outside of reasoning. Deuteronomy 28:1 says: "If thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord, to observe and to do all his commandments..."

The word "observe" means to see with the eyes of the mind. When you see with the eyes of the mind and you do what you see, the result is your "being set on high above all nations of the earth." Seeing with the mind's eye is grasping

the understanding of the truth.

When you are explaining an issue of some difficulty and at a point your audience exclaims "I see, I see!" What does it mean? It means he has grasped the understanding of the subject matter. **Joshua 1:8–10** also unveils this truth:

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do...thou shalt make thy way prosperous and thou shalt have good success.

The word "meditate" means, to ponder upon, to think through. This process must be reasoned out in your mind. The law must be reasoned out in your mind before you can walk by it and make your way prosperous and have good success. Reasoning in the ways of God leads to greatness. –

Understand that God is not opposed to the use of the mind in our covenant journey. He is the one who calls us to reason with Him. He said,

**Come now and let us reason together...
Isaiah 1:18**

The mind is where matters are weighed. It is the seat of understanding and wisdom. It is where solutions are found to difficult situations. God has said that every trouble that comes your way has a solution. There is always a way out. The way out is a product of the mind.

Every supernatural intervention in life is dependent on how open your mind is to receive heaven's ideas. You use your mind to know the way and your body steps out to effect it, then signs and wonders follow you. Until you know your way out, you cannot step out and if you do not step out, signs and wonders cannot follow you.

Your mind is the asset to locating yourself in complex situations of life. There is a call to reasoning in the body of Christ today. Every believer should engage in reasoning. This is reasoning monitored in the word of God. As long as your reasoning is in line with the word, you are ready to secure favour from Him.

The Lord gives an assignment and leaves you to analyse it, sort yourself out and get the job done. When He gave out the talents in Matthew chapter 25, He didn't tell His servants what to do. He didn't even tell them if they were to do anything with them or not. But the two servants who reasoned out what to

do to produce results received enormous rewards while the third servant, who refused to use his mind but hid his talent, was condemned.

Look at Isaac. There was famine in the land of the Philistines where he was sojourning. He heard there was food in Egypt and decided to go there. But God told him not to go. The same God who told him not to go did not tell him what he was to do while remaining in the land of the Philistines. I am sure he must have thought at first that God wanted to kill him.

In the heat of the famine, Isaac reasoned out a way to sow his seed. He knew the word of God said sowing must precede reaping so, while others were busy eating up their seed, he sowed his. He sowed and he reaped a hundred-fold. He became so rich that the Philistines who mocked him while he sowed now envied him.

Abraham's covenant of greatness cannot be fulfilled in your life without the active, productive, and resourceful use of the mind. Prayer will not help you. Fasting will not help either. Use your mind. Divine intervention is only possible when you follow God's ways.

There is only one way you can get to know the ways of God — through the mind. God passes through the mind to order your steps in life. He has given you a sound mind. It is His gift to you. He will not take it back. The use of that sound mind is your responsibility, so use it and let the greatness of the Abrahamic covenant, and the glory of the gospel of Jesus Christ shine forth through you.

Chapter 8: Stir Up That Gift!

One of the greatest wonders of the earth is lying dormant on your inside. It is waiting to be galvanized into action. It is waiting to be stirred up. It cannot stir up itself. God cannot do it for you. The wonders of God are lying idle in your depth. Launch out and cause them to come forth. They have been waiting for you. God has been waiting too. It is time for you to act.

Stir up that gift. That gift of a sound mind is on the inside of you waiting to be stirred into action. If you want to attain that covenant height of greatness that God has for you, this gift needs to be stirred up. A piece of chalk dropped in a glass of water will remain at the bottom until it is stirred.

When it is stirred, it forms a chalk solution. Stir up your sound mind and release the creative excellence in you.

How do you stir up your mind to produce? There are various ways by which your mind can be stirred into action.

The Word

The Bible is made up of hidden treasures and until your mind's eyes are opened, you cannot see beyond the letters into the wonders. When reading the word, your prayer should always be:

Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law

Psalm 119:18

You need to be able to see before you can possess. Nothing is appropriated in the kingdom without first being seen. Seeing it and having it is a covenant law which cannot be broken.

Until you see beyond the letters in the word, you cannot behold them. Until you see it, it cannot stir your mind. The word that will stir your mind is the word that you have seen.

The word of God, the one you have seen is the rod that stirs your mind into action, it is what ensures a proper mixing of that rich deposit in you. Wisdom,

sound wisdom, comes through the word of God. **Psalm 119:98** says;

Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me

The word contains God's commandments. The word that proceeds from the mouth of God is what makes for wisdom. The word of God made Timothy wise. The Apostle Paul told him in **2 Timothy 3:15**,

And that from a child, thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

The word of God, is what stirs the wisdom deposit on your inside to produce. The word is the rod. There is no stirring up to form a proper solution without a rod. The man of wisdom must bear the rod. The man who will be wise must feed on the rod.

**The Lord's voice crieth unto the city and the man of wisdom shall see thy name: hear ye the rod.
Micah 6:9**

**Feed thy people with thy rod.
Micah 7:14**

Every gift of God is stirred up by the word of God which is the rod. The rod stirs up your mind to action. The wonders of God embedded in the word of God stirs up your mind to produce. Hearing the word is feeding on it. Studying the word is also feeding on it. But not all hearing, not all studying leads to the unveiling of the treasures behind the letter.

How then do we feed on the word to get result? How do we lay hold of the gold in the gold mine? This brings us to our second point:

Meditation

Food is not eaten to increase the size of the stomach. The ultimate of eating is not for the stomach to be full. You eat food to release essential body nutrients and fluids into your system. The food that will nourish the body must

produce body nutrients. And the food that will produce these nutrients must pass through the digestive process.

This same goes for the word of God which is the food of the spirit. You can only extract the treasures in it by meditating on it. Meditation is the process of digestion which leads to absorption and assimilation of the word. Meditation is reasoning in the scriptures.

People have attended great meetings. They have listened to the most renowned preachers. Every time they come out of meetings, you hear them sing and shout for joy. Visit them the next day and it is all gone. The joy has gone. The excitement is over.

Why? The substance, the *raison d'etre* of the word did not get into them. Listen, beloved, at the end of the day, if you don't retain the substance of the word in you, you have no means of sustenance. The excitement of hearing the revelation will go and if you don't have the substance, you may go with it.

The Ethiopian eunuch read and read but the word did him no good because he lacked an understanding of it. The nobility of the Berean Christians was revealed through their daily search and reasoning in the scriptures after listening to great messages.

Meditation is thinking through. Pondering on the word is the gateway to a refreshing from above. You cannot get juice out of an orange without squeezing it. Squeeze out the word of God and get it into your system for it is the entrance of the word into you that brings light, not the reading, not the hearing. The word has to be broken down and analysed before it can be absorbed.

There can be no careless glancing over scriptures. Each section under consideration must be thoroughly digested. **Proverbs 24:32** says:

Then I saw, and considered it well; I looked upon it, and received instruction

The instruction many require for living cannot be acquired by scanning the letters, words, phrases, clauses, sentences and paragraphs of scripture. There must be a digging deeper. As the word penetrates, the mind receives illumination and the body is directed on what steps to take.

The word of God that will produce in your life must necessarily pass through this process. No one can do it for you. You have to do the eating, you have to digest it to get the nutrients. It is time to accept your individuality and step into your responsibility.

The Importance Of The Night Season

I will bless the Lord, who hath given me a counsel; my reins also instruct me in the night season

Psalm 16:7

Day unto day uttereth speech and night unto night sheweth knowledge

Psalm 19:2

The night time, contrary to popular opinion, is not for sleeping. It is the time the enemy goes about planting tares in your vineyard! If the enemy is busy at night, why should you be sleeping? Reasoning in the word is almost always impossible during the day. There is a stillness that goes with reading which is only available in the night. It is the best time to receive instructions from God. It is the best time for proper analysis of events.

This is when you reason with God on the basis of His Word, applying it to the real life situation you are confronted with that you get results.

Great men of old used the night season to their advantage. I have read about an unbeliever, one of the most productive men of our times, saying that his best periods for cracking hard nuts is between the hours of 2 and 5:00 a.m. If an unbeliever could use these hours to his advantage, how much more should you in whom the Spirit of God dwells?

Jesus used to wake up a great while before dawn. The night season is at your disposal. God is not only the God of the day. He is also the God of the night. Make use of the night season and see every obstacle put into its proper place. Enough of sleeping. Sleeping Christians are defeated Christians. Cut off that sleep and lay hold on the reward.

Prayers Of Enquiry

King David, the war marshal, never lost any battle. He was a great soldier with expertise and experience, but he never allowed these past experience to lead him into the next battle field. Before any battle, David always found his way to the enquiry room.

Every move of his was as directed by the Lord when he enquired. After the Amalekites made away with all their possession, he did not run after them in haste. He first went to ask God for direction.

And David inquired at the Lord, saying, shall I pursue after this troop?

1 Samuel 30:8

Every move of his was dictated by God. Even after the death of Saul when it looked like the coast was clear for him to be king, he still went to ask God for direction.

And it came to pass after this, that David enquired of the Lord saying, Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah...Whither shall I go up...

He always asked for clear, specific directions. This is the realm of tapping into God's way. He never lost any battle because he was operating by heaven's strategy. God says if any man lacks wisdom, let him ask. The wisdom you need in order not to lose any battle is with the Lord. There is no other source. Ask of the Lord and He will release it to you. This prayer also demands a deliberate waiting and listening for God's response to your enquiry.

Never embark on any project without having obtained heaven's go-ahead, it is dangerous. The way to triumph is knowing which way to go. This is wisdom. Ask for it from God with all honesty and sincerity of purpose and He will give it to you.

Praying In The Spirit

But ye beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost. Jude 20

One of the ways to face the unknown is by praying in the Spirit, By this, I don't mean speaking empty tongues while you are also engaged in greeting everyone that comes around you! Praying in the Spirit without the active involvement of your mind is an exercise in futility.

When praying in the Spirit, there must be a corresponding subject on your mind. That obstacle which has been the object of your worry must be in your mind as you pray in other tongues and as you pray, your faith begins to be built up to stand against it. More scriptures, eye-openers on that subject, begin to come into your mind and suddenly, you see the situation as it really is, in the

eyes of God.

The illumination comes into your mind because, your spirit which is doing the praying, communicates with the Spirit and searches deep into the subject and to minister to your mind the way out. Learn to pray in the Spirit with a mission on your mind and you will experience a refreshing, an edification, a building up of your faith to stand against all the wiles of the devil.

Praise And Worship

The disciples were worshipping in the upper room when suddenly the inspiration came that Judas was to be replaced. On the day of Pentecost, they were at it again and the Holy Spirit came down in flames and tongues of fire. Paul and Silas were not sent on any mission till the Holy Ghost gave the word. And the word came on it while they were ministering to the Lord in praise and worship.

Examples abound all over scriptures showing that inspiration from the Holy Spirit comes under the atmosphere of praise and worship. Praise and worship always invokes the presence of God; and where the presence of the Lord is, His ways are made manifest.

The kings of Israel and Judah with all their host were stranded in the wilderness without a drop of water for their tongues. They neither knew what to do nor which way to turn. Elisha was sent for, but his inspiration level was at a low ebb. What did he do? He sent for a minstrel, and as the minstrel ministered in songs with his instrument, inspiration came. The word of the Lord came to him and spoke deliverance unto the stranded parties.

You have a responsibility to stir up your mind by exposing it to inspiration from above. Get good music, make melody with your mouth unto the Lord. Sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs from the word unto God; worshipping and exalting His name — and the presence of the Lord, the citadel of inspiration, will descend. When that vital force in your mind is exposed to inspiration, mighty things result.

Sing praise to God with objectivity. Worship Him with a mission. When there is darkness hovering in one corner, worship God with that purpose behind your mind. You are stirring up your soul to receive light. This was what Elisha did. Do the same and you will receive illumination and a solution to your problem.

Concentration

This has to do with having a goal and identifying with it. It calls for a singleness of purpose and pursuit.

The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

Matthew 6:22

You need to have a set goal and focus on it. Have a set vision. This should be deeply embedded in you. It should have your all in all. It should be able to occupy you fully.

Your mind has eyes. This is why we are told that it can be blinded.

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them...

2 Corinthians 4:4

These are the eyes with which you see beyond the physical into the supernatural. You can stir up your mind into action by continually keeping your goal in view — in your mind's eye. The light will be shed on your way for action. If you want light, you need to be single-minded about your goal, allowing for no form of distraction. Focus your mind's eye on one goal. Concentrate on it. The more you look at it, the clearer you will be able to see your way towards accomplishing it.

Identify completely with your goal. Stop moving from place to place, minding other people's businesses. Concentrate on your set goal, and that light you need to be able to make a move will come bursting in.

The Lord's Table

Two of the Lord's disciples were on the way to Emmaus. They were confused and perplexed. The death of Jesus and His rumored resurrection was giving them great concern. They needed the light from above. They needed illumination from heaven. They needed their spiritual eyes to be opened. Jesus came and explained things to them but they were still blind. They went into the house and something magnificent happened (Luke 24:13–32). In verses 30 and 31, we read:

And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it and brake and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him...

Their participation at the Lord's table brought about the illumination they needed. The solution to that problem upsetting you has always been with you. All you need is for your eyes to be opened to see it through divine illumination. You can get this by eating at the Lord's table.

Do not disregard the service of the Holy Communion. It is of utmost importance in the life of a believer. It is an injection of the life force of Jesus into you to stir up your own dormant one. As you partake at the Holy Communion, see it as a toast for the opening of the eyes of your mind for a new walk in great supernatural illuminations of the spirit.

Good Company

In order to positively sharpen your reasoning to enable you obtain your covenant blessing, you need to keep good company. The word of God says in **Proverbs 13:20**:

He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

Good company is necessary if the wisdom deposited in you must be stirred into action. Rub minds with great minds. Rub minds with great covenant thinkers and you will see light continually shed on your path.

Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend
Proverbs 27:17

Iron can only sharpen iron. It cannot sharpen wood. When it comes in contact with wood, they both lose. The wood reduces in size and the iron gets blunt. Do not lay your plans before ungodly men, asking for counsel. This is dangerous to Christian growth and progress.

The Bible is full of evidence of men who got destroyed by relying on counsel from ungodly men. Ammon got destroyed through his friend Jonadab (1 Samuel 13). Rehoboam lost the kingdom of Israel through ungodly advice and retained only the kingdom of Judah (1 Kings 12).

A man who befriends ungodly men and listens to their counsel will be destroyed. The man that will be blessed is the one who does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly (Psalms 1:1–3).

Wood cannot sharpen iron. Look for another sound mind to share ideas with. Make friends with wise men and you will be wise, you will grow from strength to strength, enjoying God's eternal blessings.

Chapter 9: The Time Factor In Creativity

*There will never be another now,
so make the best use of today.
There will never be another you,
so make the best of your life."
(Robert Schuller)*

God is a perfect timer. Everything He has arranged for has its own time. He makes all things beautiful in their own time. Every plan of God has an appointed time.

**For the vision is yet for an appointed time...
Habakkuk 2:3**

Every heaven-sent idea has a time tag. The moment the time for it passes, it becomes unproductive. Going into action on an idea before or after its time will only end up frustrating you.

**To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under
the heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3:1**

A farmer who wants to be successful must watch the times and the seasons. There is a time and season for every seed under heaven. If a seed is not planted in its season, it does not produce. Every God-sent idea is a seed. It, therefore, has its time tagged on it. Failure to execute it in its season will lead to its becoming unproductive.

You can only get the best out of life by being prompt in responding to the dictates of your redeemed mind. This is the way to tap into its vast treasures. Paul, while writing to Timothy in **2 Timothy 4:2** said:

Preach the word, be instant in season and out of season.

The word, "instant" means prompt. For you to succeed in life you have to be

prompt in putting ideas given to you by God into action. Your convenience does not matter. Stop pushing ideas off for another time. When an idea from God is pushed off your mind, you end up killing it.

In July, 1989, the Lord said to me, "Son, arise, get out to Lagos and raise Me a people." I kept on hearing this all day long and by that afternoon, I acted. This was God's timing and within one month, the branch of this ministry kicked off in Lagos. God supplied all the requirements because that was the appointed time for it.

Doing what you have to do at the time appointed for it is wisdom. Action delayed leads to frustration. A beautiful picture of the consequences of delayed action is portrayed in **Songs of Solomon 5:2–7**:

I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night. I have put off my coat; how shall I defile them?

My beloved put in his hand by the hole of the door, and my bowels were moved for him. I rose up to open to my beloved; and my hands dropped with myrrh, and my fingers with sweet smelling myrrh, upon the handles of the lock.

I opened to my beloved; but my beloved had withdrawn himself, and was gone: my soul failed when he spake; I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer. The watchmen that went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me.

Jesus is the one knocking at the door and His voice is an instruction. He is knocking at the door of your mind, giving you an instruction, an idea. You are His beloved. He knocked but at first the beloved refused to act. She delayed. When she finally obeyed, it was too late. Jesus had gone.

The time for that idea to be productive has passed. Her going out to look for Him ended up in her being manhandled by the watchmen. The keepers of the gate took away her veil. Her glory was removed and lost forever. This is what you get when you fail to act promptly.

Timing is very important in God's programme. He is always knocking at your door with one idea or the other. You have to get up and act promptly so He does not leave you alone without ideas. Responding promptly to divine nudgings gets God into action.

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found. Call upon Him while He

is near
Isaiah 55:6

This is one of the keys to obtaining a future for yourself. Whatever God is asking you to do, do it, and that, right early!

Chapter 10: Obstacles To Creativity

That a man is physically blind, is regarded as one of the greatest tragedies of our times. At crusades, shouts and tears of joy follow the miraculous opening of blind eyes.

That God is interested in healing His people, including the restoration of sight to the blind, is portrayed all over the scriptures. It was one of the cardinal missions of Jesus as listed in Luke 4:18. He was so concerned about the opening of the eyes of God's people that only a blind man drew a second touch from Him.

After the first touch, the man could see men walking, as trees. The second touch brought about a clear vision (Mark 8:22–26). There is however a blindness that supercedes this physical blindness. There are people, spirit-filled children of God, who still walk around with their two eyes open, yet blind to the core. These are those the Master's hand is yearning to touch. These are the mentally blind. They are Christians. Yes. But they have nothing to show for their redemption. Physical blindness is bad, but mental blindness is worse because it robs you of your ability to be productive.

Blind minds are worse than blind eyes. The gospel of Jesus is a glorious gospel. It is supposed to produce a shining in the Christian for he is the light of the world. The Christian is supposed to stand out as a city set on the hill. His light is supposed to shine for all to see, bringing praise and glory to God. The Christian is supposed to radiate the glory of God. But why do most Christians not experience a shining? Why do they keep crawling under pity, sympathy and empathy? The reason is not far-fetched.

There was an experience related by the Apostle Paul in **2 Corinthians 4:3–4**. It says,

But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God should shine unto them

If the gospel be hid; if the good news does not sound good or produce good, then it is because the god of this world has blinded their minds.

Satan is the god of this world. He specializes in the blinding ministry. But

he has not as much interest in blinding your physical eyes as he has in blinding your mind.

Why the mind? This is because the mind is the seat of wisdom and creativity. Your creative ability does not reside in your physical eyes but in your mind. So what does the wicked one do? He blocks your mind, then your defeat and destruction is established. If he can block your mind, he has got you. The blockage of the mind is the greatest bondage. When your mind is blocked, your bondage is established and only a lifting of this blockage can guarantee freedom.

The word says that the knowledge of the truth makes for freedom, but if the ability to know the truth is blocked through the blinding of your mind, then your bondage is established. Blind minds are worse than blind eyes.

If you must shine, the blindness of your mind must be lifted because wisdom makes the face of the wise man to shine. Where is the seat of wisdom? The brain, the mind, the soul is the headquarters of wisdom.

If you must shine, the glorious gospel of Christ must gain entrance to your mind. If the mind is closed, the gospel has no entrance. The mind has to be actively alive, open and resourceful; having the ability to receive, to analyse and break into absorbable bits before it produces a shining forth. God has made enough provision for His people to be successful. He has enough for all His children to have absolute fulfilment; a hitch-free life — a life full of testimonies. Satan's blindfolds must be removed. Satan's blockades, erected in your mind must be pulled down like the wall of Jericho to enable you step into your inheritance and possess your possession.

This is of utmost importance this end-time. The church has been dead and trampled upon because, she has lost the use of her senses. For the church to attain the realm of glory God has for her, her senses, her mind must come alive. It must be made to produce effectual and positive results. We are dealing with the obstacles to creativity, not just as an information, but so that you can recognize them when they come your way and take positive steps towards eradicating them.

Accepting The Status Quo

He has looked everywhere, even into the word of God but having not understood it, he concludes there is no way out; he is no match for the challenges of life; he is not lucky. He has pictured defeat, therefore he is defeated.

Accepting the status quo, accepting that low value of yourself is a

creativity killer. Discover your specialty in Christ and recover your destiny. From the day you accepted Jesus, you became a new breed. You rose from the level of the common to that of the special breed.

**But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light
1 Peter 2:9**

You are not a pitiable specimen. You are a peculiar treasure unto God's glory. The whole world cannot be exchanged for your soul. You are God's heart beat. He created you a king. To reign, to show forth His praise and glory by overcoming life's challenges. David said in **Psalms 139**,

I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

The discovery of your specialty is the beginning of your overcoming. This is the redemptive fact that holds your future. You are meant to restore to the world the Edenic lifestyle. This connotes comfort and dominion. You are to give taste to the tasteless system. You are the light that shines in darkness. Shine forth and cause praise to rise unto God.

Mental Torture Of Irreparable Past

He has lost his life; his house and all his belongings got burnt in a fire disaster; his wife and his children were involved in that terrible air crash in which no one survived. He is so tied to the past that he is of no use in the present. He is unable to move forward. He suffers mental paralysis. And, because he is of no use in the present, he destroys his future.

The word of God says:

**Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.
Isaiah 43:18–19**

This is the law for winning the race. Don't be unduly attached to the irreparable past, so you can be valiant in the present to earn a future.

The Plague Of Past Failures

He has failed in business, so taking new steps is impossible to him. He is unhappy. He is weeping. And because he is weeping, his eyes are blurred. He can't see opportunities passing him by. Breakthrough revelations do not immune a man to failure, but prevent him from remaining one. Look at yourself as a man in a wrestling contest, for the Bible says, "we wrestle." A wrestler falls but refuses to be paralysed by the fall. So he gets up with renewed determination not to fall again. Failure is not strange in the covenant race. It is remaining a failure that is contrary to the covenant.

**A just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again.
Proverbs 24:16**

The motto of the overcomer is,

**Rejoice not against me, o my enemies, when I fall, I shall rise again.
Micah 7:8**

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were slaves who did not allow the weight of slavery to weigh them down. They used their minds and rose to the top echelon in a strange land.

If anybody ought to be a failure, it was Joseph. From being his father's darling to slavery then to prison. But he was not weighed down by these. He saw a bright future ahead of him. He became a Prime Minister in a foreign land!

Most of the Pauline epistles were written in prison. He did not allow the mental plague of prison to dampen him. He pressed on. Don't let past failures paralyse you. Press on. There is a weight of glory ahead of you.

The Pride Of Past Achievements

He believes he has arrived. He has reached his goal. There are no more worlds to conquer. No more mines to explore. He therefore relaxes. He stops growing and mental paralysis sets in. There is no more push, he then starts to fall.

God's intention is for the believer to come into the fullness of Christ. We

will not arrive at this ultimate until He appears to take us home.

God has not called you to bless you for yourself. He has called you to make you a blessing. He wants to make nations out of individuals. Know that what is successful today will not be so tomorrow except it is improved upon.

**Arise ye, and depart; for this is not your rest: because it is polluted it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction
Micah 2:10**

Where you are now is good enough only for the now. If you remain in it, it will become polluted and lead to your destruction. Don't let what you call achievement today tie you down. What you call a standard today becomes sub-standard tomorrow.

Comparing Oneself With Others

He looks at his contemporaries and says, "We used to be childhood friends. We were classmates. I was even more brilliant than he was. Now he is a Managing Director. He is only lucky, otherwise he is not that clever." He does not believe that they must have reached their position by a more excellent way. Or he sees his old mates and says, "We used to be school mates. But now, they can't even come near where I am. I must be very brilliant."

Comparison is an enemy of mental development. There are both negative and positive comparisons. The use of others as the yardstick of your drive towards your goal is a slow killer.

**For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.
2 Corinthians 10:12**

According to the scriptures, it is foolishness to compare oneself with others. Don't let the achievements of others or the lack of it set a standard for your own achievements.

Belief In Spells And Enchantments

This is more common in the Third World countries. Almost everything that happens is traced to the devil and his cohorts. Barrenness, sickness, death, failure, are said to be caused by witchcraft, voodoo, enchantments, and so on, has made many Christians to believe more in the power of the devil to kill and destroy than they believe in the power of Jesus to deliver. They trace their failures to men: "That old woman is responsible for my failures and woes." "That man has sworn that I will never have a child since I refused to marry him," etc.

If God can deliver from hell, is it too much for Him to deliver you from men? Your redemption gives you a new beginning. Even if there were curses and enchantments against you, your redemption strikes them off. The effect is erased. You have a new beginning with Jesus.

**Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel.
Numbers 23:23**

When you become born again, you become an Israel of God, a spiritual Israelite; enchantment loses its grip on your destiny. Mental attachment to enchantments paralyzes mental reasoning. When enchantments are used against you, act like Moses and put down your rod. Your rod is the word of God and just as the rod of Moses swallowed up the Egyptian rods, so also will your rod swallow up any enchantment against you. Display your rod in the face of the enemy. Don't just stand and watch.

**No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper, and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment, thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.
Isaiah 54:17**

You are to do the condemning of every tongue which rises against you. Always fight back with your rod — the word of God in your mouth. Curses should not determine what happens to you; you should determine what happens to them. You are light so you are the master of darkness. The strength of darkness is in the absence of light. The thickest darkness flees at the entrance of light. The weakness of darkness is made manifest at the appearance of light. Loose your mind from the mental grip of enchantments. You have power over them. Break loose and live!

Concept Of Unequal Destiny

**For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also glorified.
Romans 8:29–30**

There is one destiny for all that are called. Your calling culminates in glory. You were predestinated to be called, justified and then glorified.

The same God is rich unto all that call upon Him, nationality and race notwithstanding. All have a common destiny in Him.

**Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons.
Acts 10:34**

Don't accept your situation as your destiny. As long as where you are is not glorious, it is not God's destiny for you. Even if it is glorious, glory is in sizes — one exceeds the other.

**But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.
2 Corinthians 3:18**

We are being changed from one realm of glory to the other. Keep on moving from glory to glory until Jesus comes.

These are the seven main blindfolds the devil uses to tie down God's people. Now that you are aware of them, watch out for them and as soon as you notice any of them rearing its ugly head in your life, deal with it immediately.

Chapter 11: After Stirring Up Your Mind, What Next?

Lack of use causes decay, but active use leads to maturity. After your mind is stirred up, the exercise of that mind is what will cause it to expand, to receive and to produce in a higher dimension. The more you put your mind to use, the greater tasks it is able to accomplish. Utilization of the mind is what extracts its values.

**But strong meat belongeth unto them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.
Hebrews 5:14**

Maturity comes by reason of use through the exercise of the senses. It comes as one learns to accept full responsibility for one's life and puts his mind to full use. It comes by reason of use not age; through the exercise of the senses to discern correct choices in life. It is only the challenges of life that lead to the development of that sound mind in you.

The aim of challenges is to get you developed. So escapees never mature. They never grow. Take every challenge as a task that must be done then the senses will be on the alert.

For the Lord's portion is his people; Jacob is his inheritance. He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

As an eagle stirreth her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: So the Lord alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.

**He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock.
Deuteronomy 32:9-13**

The nation of Israel is God's own chosen nation. She occupies a position of

honour and dignity in the world today. But, it was not always so. Before attaining this position of maturity, the Lord had to expose her to challenges. These helped in her development. You have a rich deposit on the inside of you. Use what you have to get what you want. The ability to do this is wisdom. After your mind has been stirred up, use it to bring about an enviable future for yourself.

Prayer

I pray in the name of Jesus that you will begin to manifest the many-sided wisdom of God from day to day. May you never get stuck in your walk with God not knowing what next to do or how to go about it. I command your profiting to begin to show forth now, and may wisdom bring about terrific promotions in your life in the name of Jesus.

Confession

I declare today that WISDOM is my portion as a child of God. I receive it now, because wisdom is justified of His children. According to God's word, wisdom will make my face to shine and I will never know shame or reproach any more in Jesus' mighty name. Amen.