

The Scribe

"Every Scribe which is instructed into the Kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old" - Matthew 13:52



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THE BEAUTIFUL BRIDE - PART 6

The following message was preached by Brother Amos on Sunday, 9th July, 2006, at Bible Faith Tabernacle, Lagos. In this message, Brother Amos took pains to highlight our great need for reconciliation, which is a most crucial step, in our preparation for rapture. It is an urgent plea to forgive and be forgiven, as this helps us to get in true spiritual shape.

Brothers and sisters, the current development we see in the Middle East, all that stirring going on in the Middle East today, is telling us that our days are limited; they are numbered. We are at the end. And as such, it is home going time. It is a time to get ready. Whatever it takes, let us get ourselves ready. God gives grace to the humble. Remember, a market woman

who has been in the market all day long, when evening time comes, she knows she has to start preparing for home. She will start by packing her wares, because she knows her home is not the market place. She is only there for a while trading. She has a home, and she knows she must go home to rest, for home is her final destination. There, everything she owns, and everything she loves, is waiting. And I am talking of a village setting, or of a country setting, in the days before the world had electricity to generate street lights. Brethren, when she sees that the sun has lost its original strength, she knows it is time to pack up and be on her way home, before it turns yellow and dies. Because once the sun sets, it turns completely yellow, and it will surely slip behind the



horizon, and darkness will take over the land! She therefore needs the evening light of the sun to make her way home. And at the point of the setting sun, when the sun is at its most beauty, for it turns yellow, almost like a giant orange ball, and you can see it in its full bloom, glowing majestically, you can look at the sun at this point in time, and it will not hurt your eyes. Rather, it has a very cool and soothing appeal to it, a very cool and soothing glow. It is simply beautiful! What a spectacular sight it gives! But before you know it, it slips behind the horizon, and when it is gone, darkness takes over completely. It becomes night for the world. And seeing that we are at the evening time, spiritually speaking, and the light of the Day star, which is the light of the "Sun", the Son of God, which bursts forth on the Day of Pentecost, is shining forth again at this evening time, but with a greater brilliance, beauty, and glory; we want to use the evening time light to find our way home, before the "Sun" sets, and he slips behind the horizon, taking the Bride away in rapture, as spiritual darkness takes over the world, engulfing it completely. As such, the heart of every elect Bride

saint must now be calling for home. For over there in glory land, lies everything you have longed for, everything you love, and everything you have lived for, and also laboured for. Seeing that the world is now facing its final hours of evening time, and darkness is fast approaching, there must be something earnestly calling for home, in the heart of every predestinated seed; that is, in every seed of God ordained to be in the Bride of Christ. For home is where we want to be, away from this world of endless toil and daily drudgery; a most unfair and wicked world; a world filled with so much hate, so much evil, so much racism, so much violence, so much immorality, so much crime; a completely bankrupt and utterly corrupt world; a world besieged with so much unrest, and religious intolerance; an apostate and degenerate world, laden with iniquity. We labour so much, and what do we get for it? What do we have to show for it? Nothing but vanity! **"ALL IS VANITY"**! This world is not our home! Saints of God, it is time to get ready. As God's weary pilgrims, it is time to pack our bags, spiritually speaking, and get our lives in order,

because we are going home. The only way is to follow the Blueprint of God's Word, our divine Roadmap. Let us bow our heads in prayer.

We will continue our message, titled, *The Beautiful Bride*. Let us open up to the Book of 2 Corinthians Chapter 5, verses 17-20. It reads: ***"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: OLD THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was IN Christ"***, (Not that God was Christ, for God is not a man; the Jehovah of the Old Testament is not flesh and blood, but a Spirit; the Invisible and Eternal Spirit. But God, Elohim, was IN Christ Jesus His Son. For what purpose? The Bible tells us, for it says that God was in Christ Jesus), ***"Reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; AND HATH COMMITTED UNTO US THE WORD OF RECONCILIATION."***

”(Now this is where I am going, for the Word of God says): **“NOW THEN WE ARE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST, AS THOUGH GOD DID BESEECH YOU BY US: WE PRAY YOU IN CHRIST'S STEAD, BE YE RECONCILED TO GOD.”** This is reconciliation time, saints of God, for that is what the Grace Age is about: Reconciliation between God and men. Church, there is need for reconciliation tonight. We need to reconcile with God, and with our fellow brothers and sisters. It is time to throw overboard the dead weight of envy and jealousy; the dead weight of malice and bitterness and backbiting; the dead weight of evil resentment and gossip which people carry around concerning their brethren, making themselves tale bearers. That will not make for the beautiful Bride. The time is far spent. We must therefore be unreservedly receptive to the voice of the Spirit, for the beautiful Bride will not come out of the blues. There is a period of washing and purifying that we must all go through, for the Spirit of God will use His Word to work upon an element of people that are yielded to truth. And unless and until you are ready to

submit to the absolute rulership of truth, you will not be ready for the rapture, and you will be left behind, because there is no other way to be ready. You must have a heart that is totally yielded, totally submitted to the rulership of the truth of Jesus, which is the truth of the Scriptures, because there is no other way. Otherwise, like I said, you will not be ready, and you will not be part of the beautiful Bride! We must wake up to the fact that whoever will make up a part of this Beautiful Bride, will have to make himself or herself ready; because the obligation or responsibility for getting ready is placed upon you by the Word of God. God only supplies us all the materials we need, for He makes truth, not creeds, and not dogma, or traditions of men, available to us, for it is God that supplies all the materials. But the obligation for getting ready rests squarely on you and me. That is precisely why, in the Book of Revelation Chapter 19, verse 7, Jesus in his divine prophetic revelation to John on the Isle of Patmos declared: ***“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath MADE***

HERSELF READY.” His wife hath made **HERSELF READY**. It is the woman that makes herself ready, and the Bride of Christ will make herself ready. That lets us see, for it presupposes, that a revelation has been opened up to her, the complete revelational image of Jesus Christ, that she may know exactly what she is to be like, what image she is to exemplify. And that is the precise spiritual state which she must attain, for Christ to come for her as his Bride. He is taking no other type of Bride. None other is accepted, for it is written in Ephesians Chapter 5, verse 27, ***That he*** (Jesus the Christ) ***might present the Bride to himself A GLORIOUS CHURCH, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but THAT SHE SHOULD BE HOLY AND WITHOUT BLEMISH.*** Thus saith the infallible Word of God! That is precisely the objective for the Ephesian fivefold ministry, of Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers, as ordained in Ephesians Chapter 4, verses 11-13, for they lift up the perfect mirror of the perfect revelation of Jesus Christ before the universal Bride, ***Till we all come in the***

UNITY OF THE FAITH, and UNITY IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD, unto a perfect man, unto the measure or completeness, of the full stature of Jesus Christ!

That is the Word of God! Therefore, she sees that mirror of Christ that has been lifted up before her, and she has a genuine longing and desire to be just like him, to be in the state that is acceptable to Jesus Christ. It is that desire, that passion she has for Jesus Christ; it is that love she has for Jesus Christ our Bridegroom, which motivates her and keeps her on course, and that is what makes her submit totally to the rulership of the Word of God: Because the love of God constrains every saint of God to live for the Lord! And many times we want to go our own way, but because of the love of Christ burning in our hearts, it constrains us. It does not force or coerce us. It simply constrains us. It is the gentle wooing work of the Holy Spirit, which makes us willing, wanting to do his will. By it we are convicted, that we may fall in line with His perfect will, and so be united with Him in heart. But you can also resist the Spirit. Brothers

and sisters, the bottom-line is that we have been given the ministry of reconciliation. And Apostle Paul says: ***“Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.”*** Likewise I beg you: Be reconciled to God. Remember the woman in the parable of the Lost Piece of Silver, in Luke Chapter 15, verses 8-9. The Bible records: ***“Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.”*** Because she knows she must get every jewel in place, every attribute of the Spirit she has been invested with, must adorn her soul, in order to get her ready for the return of her husband! Remember it is a parable, and by it, Jesus hides a truth of the kingdom, for by the means of parables, Jesus buries deep truths of the kingdom! It therefore gives us a hidden mystery of God, a secret hidden

from the foundation of the world. Do not forget that! Hence, this woman, lighting her candle, and using the revelation of the truth that has been unveiled to her at this evening time, she swept her house clean, which is her life, overturning everything that is in the way, straightening out her life, that she may be in divine shape, gaining back every divine attribute of the Spirit! Brothers and sisters, she did not stop till every last attribute had been restored back to her, every last gem of truth and attribute of the Spirit, that she may stand in his perfect image, radiating his majestic beauty! And what a celebration when she was fully restored as like the first church, which is the early church! What a revival! And what a public announcement she made of her find! And what a public display the Bride will have, when she gets in perfect shape for the rapture! I say that because this woman speaks of the end time Bride, for a woman types the church! This is restoration time, my brethren! The purpose for which God sent Elijah has to be achieved. Because the end objective of restoration, or the essence of restoration, is perfection!

Come on! Let us therefore wake up! I therefore repeat: **THIS IS RESTOTATION TIME.** And the end objective of the restoration of the Bride is perfection. Hence it is reconciliation time! **"Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God."** Please be reconciled my brethren! But I want you to know this evening, that your reconciliation with God cannot be perfected, without your reconciliation with your fellow brothers and sisters whom you see. Because if you cannot love your fellow brother and sister whom you see, you cannot love God whom you cannot see: He being an invisible Spirit. That is the truth! So, in reality, your love for God is determined by your love for your fellow brothers and sisters. It is! That is the Gospel truth! It is what the Scriptures say. So they are not my words. I repeat: You cannot love God whom you do not see, if you do not love His children whom you see; people who are also made in God's image, and people who are standing firmly for the same Word of life you hold most precious. For love is not just in words!

That is precisely why that early church apostle stated in 1 John Chapter 4, verses 7-8, saying: **"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."** Then in verses 9-10, he sets forth God's love for us, saying: **"In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."** Saint John now used the yardstick of God's love for us, to admonish us unto love, in verses 11-12, saying: **"Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and His love is perfected in us."** He seals the determination of our love for God, in verses 19-21, saying: **"We love Him",** (that is, we love God), **"because He first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his**

brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from Him, That he who loveth God love his brother also." And that is absolutely true! Just how can we love God, and not also love someone who is born of the same God? How can we crucify another seed of God, if we are true seeds ourselves? How can we persecute a brother or sister, for the good things that come their way, or for the blessings they receive, or for their stand for truth, if we are truly seeds? That is utterly impossible, for an elect does not persecute another elect of God! It is tares that persecute seeds! Hence in 1 John Chapter 5, verses 1-2, Saint John plainly declared: **"... and Every one that loveth Him" (God) "that begat, loveth him also that is begotten of him."** Did you hear that? Then he went further, declaring: **"By this we know that we love the children of God",** (HOW?) **"WHEN WE LOVE GOD, AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS."** He said that simply because if we truly love God and His Word, and we truly walk in the light of revealed truth, there is no way we will not

automatically love God's children who are also standing firmly for the revealed faith, for truth is what binds God's children together, being the drawing cord, and the binding cord! Love must flow and will flow, in the true body of elect Bride saints! You cannot but love someone who truly loves the truth! This is the Word of truth! Anything else is not of God.

Church, we have been given the word or message of reconciliation. And now that we have embraced the end time Message, many times on our kingdom journey, we hurt one another. We offend one another because we are mortals. We offend one another, and we also offend God. At times, it is God we offend, not man. And at other times, it is man we offend, not God. When you offend God, you go to God. And when you offend man, you go to man. When the offence is against a man, you go to that man. No, you do not offend "A", and then go to "B": you go to "A", and set right with him. Why? Because you have offended him, thereby breaking the bond of true love and peace; and as such, you must confess your sin, that you may be healed, and that you may

be truly reconciled back with your brother or sister before God. True love for God and for your brother or sister, will make you do that! Let us take for instance, the marital bond between a man and his wife. I am speaking specifically of marriage relationships within the body of believers. The Word of God says in 1 Thessalonians Chapter 4, verses 1-5: ***"Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, THAT YE SHOULD ABSTAIN FROM FORNICATION: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification AND HONOUR; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God."*** One of the main reasons you have your spouse is in order to avoid fornication. It is to give you someone married to you, someone with whom you can rightfully satisfy your physical urge. It is to avoid

fornication, just as the Scriptures declare in 1 Corinthians Chapter 7, verses 1-2: ***"Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. Nevertheless, TO AVOID FORNICATION, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband."*** I repeat: Apart from the divine objective of procreation and companionship, one of the main reasons why God gave us a spouse, is for the sake of fornication. It allows us to come together in that holy conjugal union, to satisfy the desires of our flesh, so that we may be kept from the filth of fornication. Hence we are sternly warned to avoid fornication. That is precisely why, in Hebrews chapter 13, verse 4, it is also written: ***"Marriage is honourable in all, and THE BED UNDEFILED: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge."*** That is a serious matter! Now listen to me. After a couple take their marriage vows of fidelity and faithfulness to one another, as long as they both shall live, and one of them, in secret, kisses another person, or even goes as far as fornicating

with that person, which is gross unfaithfulness; are you telling me that the correct way to make right, is simply to go to God in repentance, asking for forgiveness? Of course not! Yes, you are under obligation to seek God's face sincerely for forgiveness, for you have sinned indeed, having sinned against the body of Christ; but you are also under a divine obligation to go to your husband or to your wife, whichever the case may be, and confess your unfaithfulness, because you have defiled your marital bed, and also done contrary to your marital vow! You have to! You broke your marital vow! You cannot lie blatantly and move on, thinking your denial is okay. You are fooling yourself! It is written: ***“Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge”!*** This is not a game! You should be ashamed of yourself for even flirting with another person, when you are married! And that is precisely why as brothers, we do not get close to sisters, except it is family, or one's spouse or fiancée! The same goes for sisters: You have no reason to be close to any brother, if he is

not your fiancée, or your husband, or your family! Otherwise, the devil will get you! ***“Marriage is honourable in all, and THE BED UNDEFILED...”*** Moreover, when you mistreat, or abuse, or disdain, or neglect your wife, Prophet Malachi has a message for you in Chapter 2, verses 13-15. He proclaims by divine inspiration, stating unambiguously: ***“And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the Lord with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that He regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth it with good will at your hand.”***(But why are they weeping and crying, wondering why God shuts down their business, and blights the work of their hands, and jams their ways? The next verse tells us the story, for it plainly states): ***“Yet ye say, Wherefore? BECAUSE THE LORD HATH BEEN WITNESS BETWEEN THEE AND THE WIFE OF THY YOUTH, AGAINST WHOM THOU HAST DONE ALL THIS TREACHEROUSLY: YET IS SHE THY COMPANION, AND THE WIFE OF THY COVENANT. And did not He make one? Yet had He***

the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That He might seek a godly seed.” (Which is why God has blessed your marriage with offspring, and you are no more two but one! He therefore warns every married man): ***“Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.”*** Thus saith the Lord! This reminds me of a case the prophet once dealt with. A certain woman came to him for prayers. She had been barren for many years, and had been prayed for by many men of God to no avail. She had fasted so much till she could fast no more, so-to-say. By the mercy of God, under discernment, Brother Branham saw that her barrenness was a judgment from God for unconfessed sin. She had been unfaithful, and she kept it from her husband. But God who sees everything, and who judges everything, sealed her womb as a result. The prophet simply told her: ***“You have been unfaithful to your husband. Go and confess your unfaithfulness, and come with your husband, and God will give you that child you so much desire.”*** But she retorted back: ***“That is***

impossible! I cannot tell him, for if I do, that will be the end of my marriage!" Brother Branham simply told her: "Sorry, in that case, I cannot help you. Go!" Then he added, "Even your husband has something to confess to you as well." Knowing she had no other way out, she confessed her sin to her husband, who also confessed that he had also been unfaithful, and they both came to see the prophet. He prayed for them, and they were blessed with an offspring. **"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed."** (James 5:16). This lets us see that sometimes, all we need to do in order to change the sad situation of our lives, may be a simple confession. I therefore repeat: You cannot be unfaithful to your spouse and carry on as if nothing happened: You are only fooling yourself. You will not go unpunished. You must make right with your spouse. Please, let us make hay whilst the sun shines, for the night cometh, when no man can work. Brothers and sisters, we have all done a lot of things wrong in times past, but now that the true light shineth, let us now follow

the right way, and let us do things the right way, and depart from the things of darkness.

Let us take another example of things that need addressing, since we are talking of reconciliation. If a ministering brother wrongly knocks the ministry of another brother, he is under obligation to go to that brother, and make right. But if it was done from the pulpit, he is under a divine obligation, not only to come before that same pulpit to make right before the people, in making right, he must also sincerely apologise openly to the brother concerned. Because he not only offended the church by such conduct, he offended that brother more than anybody else! Because it was his ministry that was rubbished! And until this is done, it is impossible for things to go smoothly. That cloud will always hang over things, and the hearts of God's people will be defiled by what has gone on. Writing a letter will not do, except it is impossible or difficult for the erring brother to come in person. He will have to come in person, seeing he had the boldness to do it in person from the pulpit, when he knocked the brother. This is

the right way, for there is a right way, and there is a wrong way. We want to follow the right way, as the Bride of Christ. This brings me to the situation we had in this church for many years. I do not say this to bring down my brother, or to speak ill of my brother, for I know he loves me, and he loves the Lord and His Word, and is standing firmly for this Continuity light. Moreover, he is a great blessing and support to my ministry, and to the cause of Christ. Furthermore, he is my brother-in-law; he is family. But this forms an integral part of my testimony, the testimony of how my pastoral ministry started, for it also started in adversity. I say this humbly, to the glory of God, in order to give you a good example of reconciliation. But it also forms an integral part of the reality my ministry experienced, when it started in July 2001. When this assembly started in Year 1991 in my apartment, up there where Brother Victor Cole-Showers, our Assistant Pastor, now lives, we had no pastor as at that time, except four brothers who were merely standing in the gap: Brother Edward Olobayo, Brother Godwin Abiama, Brother Bola Omooba, and myself. We called ourselves

“Exhorting Brethren”. Brother Godwin later left us to follow Richard Gan's ministry, leaving just three of us at the helm of this assembly. Later, a ministering brother from Bible Believers Fellowship came to join us, Brother Simeon Akinlua, and we became four again, standing in the gap over this assembly. All through those years, ten years to be exact, we prayed and fasted earnestly, as a fully-fledged body of believers, not only for divine visitation, but also that God would give us a pastor. We realised as it is written, that **“No man taketh this honour unto himself.”** Consequently, we utilized most public holidays to wait on the Lord as a church, with fasting, mainly for these two main reasons. Personally, I did not see myself as pastor, for I did not think I had the temperament of one, and hence, never once prayed that the Lord would make me the pastor of this assembly. Rather, in my closet, I always prayed that the Lord would anoint Brother Simeon or Brother Edward, as pastor. However, according to God's ordination and grace, and not of my doing, all through those years, I was not just the one whom

the Lord used to introduce the Continuity light Raymond Jackson bore to this assembly, I was also the one whom the Lord used to take the Continuity truths he bore, and break it down for the church, using my Bible and my own examples, in order to establish the church in the truth. And that does not in any way take away from the immense labour and positive effect the other three ministering brethren had on the local body of saints, for no man can do everything! But I am giving my testimony, and hence, I am referring strictly to my input. Moreover, for a number of years, church was held in my apartment, and as such, I was responsible for the care of the church, as her anchor man, from the very beginning; not by reason of choice, but by reason of the situation we found ourselves in, circumstances beyond our control; having to separate ourselves from all the unbelief in the Branham Movement, and having nowhere else to go! It is the grace of God, for the Lord used the circumstances we faced at that time, to bring this gathering into being. Like I said, I have stated all that, in order to show you my precise input in this

local assembly, under God, in all those years; although I later turned over the care of the assembly to Brother Edward, and he then became the anchor man, until I took over as pastor. And in all those years, most of you had one dream or the other, which you related to me, pointing to the fact that I am the pastor of the church. But I never took it on, until the Lord gave me a dream, late in 1995. I think it was in the month of November, 1995. I have related it many times before, but for the sake of this message, I will relate it again. In that dream, we were in the church, and a meeting was set. We were all waiting for the minister to come, and I was sitting on the bench at the very back of the church. It looked like one of the Exhorting Brethren would take up the service, but none did. Yet, the church was fully set, waiting for the preacher to come. Suddenly, through the rear window, I saw a white man dressed in a black suit, appear at the back of the church. I cannot remember if he beckoned to me or not, but I stood up and went to him. He gave me a certificate, and he also told me to go and do the preaching. I took the certificate, went back to my seat to take my Bible, and

with joy, with a smile on my face, I was walking to the platform to take the meeting. I suddenly thought to myself, I had better stop smiling for joy, lest people think I had been longing for this, when in fact I had not. Then I stopped smiling, and walked quietly to the platform. Then I woke up. I knew right there and then, that I would be the pastor of the church, for that was the exact ministry the local body of saints had been waiting for. But I did not take up the ministry, until July 2001. However, about a year or two prior to 2001, I suddenly had this urge, this great burden, to take up the pastorship of the church. This moved me to visit my brother, Brother Bola, to share my burden with him, knowing he was the one who was used to give me a dream, and it was the first of such dreams, which explicitly or plainly showed, that of the Exhorting Brethren, I was the one the Lord had chosen. When I related my experience to him, he simply counselled me to leave everything to God in prayer. And I say this in love and with respect to my brother, for he is a very lovely brother, and a great blessing and support to my ministry, and to the entire church: But we had been

praying, for nothing less than about eight or nine years at that material time! Nonetheless, I took the counsel, and shrugged off the urge. Today, I know that God was in it all, for that was merely preparatory, leading to the hour that my ministry would really start, for it would set the stage. And as to how it would literally start, Sister Labake Obanubi was given a dream, showing precisely how it would commence, and that is exactly how it happened. In that dream, she heard a voice saying to me: **“Stand up and tell them that I have made you the pastor of this church.”** But I replied, **“No!”** The voice repeated the instruction the second time, saying: **“I say stand up and tell them I have made you the pastor of the church.”** And again I replied in the negative, saying, **“No!”** Then she said that in her dream, it was as if a great power came over me, and I suddenly stood up in front of the church, and told them that the Lord had called me to pastor the assembly. Brothers and sisters, I want you all to know that she did not tell me this dream, until the day it came to pass. After service ended, she immediately ran over to me, and opened up to the

place in her Bible, where she had written the dream the Lord had given her on a piece of paper, showing precisely what had just taken place that morning, which she gave to me. And although I was very troubled in my mind that morning, nonetheless, I knew without any shadow of doubt, that God was in it. And honestly speaking, when it was time for my pastoral ministry to start, I knew it. I just knew that the time had come. I knew! I had no dream, and neither did I see any vision, nor did I hear any audible voice. I just knew way down in my soul. But I was also very apprehensive. I was scared, because I did not know what the reaction of my fellow Exhorting brethren would be, particularly Brother Edward. I say that honestly, and not in any derogatory way. And I had a reason to be apprehensive. An earlier incident incited this fear, and I also want him to understand that I have no ill feelings towards him, only love and respect. Therefore, I say these things only to clear the air, for as children of light, we should be able to look at things sincerely and dispassionately.

Years earlier, when Brother

Edward's brother, a leading false prophet in this country at that time, who made himself The Prophet to this generation in those days, and who made yearly global predictions which were carried in the national Newspapers, suddenly suffered a serious medical condition which limited his physical ability, Brother Edward asked the church to pray for him, and we prayed. On each service day, however, he would come to the pulpit to update the church of his brother's condition, and also to lay out the various steps they were taking as a family, to bring about a reversal of his medical condition. And although we were praying, and we also appreciated his concern, nevertheless, the fact remains that the brethren could only listen to that for a number of times, before they began to grieve in their spirit. And the saints grieved! You did! Not wanting to hurt him in his travails, many of the brethren came to complain to me! The situation amounted to setting his brother over the church, to be looked on in a positive light, even though that was not his intention! Honestly, if it was any other brother of his, and he has other brothers, nobody in the church would have grieved

in this way. But because of the spiritual image his brother has in the country, being a false prophet, Brother Edward might as well have been talking to us about the Pope! And precisely why should the Bride of Christ care for the Pope, a man who is occupying the seat of the Anti-Christ? That is the point! I am only making a point, and you have to see it! All you old timers of this assembly were there! He should have simply informed the church about the unfortunate incident, asked for prayers, and left it at that, and nobody would have been grieved! Because we cannot take on his sentiments, simply because he was one of the Exhorting brothers! And in order to save the day, I had to openly disagree with him for this, openly rebuking him, by simply saying in essence, that it was wrong for him to have set his brother over the church. But he did not understand the point I was making at that time, and I do not know if my brother understands even now, what was meant that day by me saying that. I can only hope he does now! This is what I said precisely from the pulpit that day: ***"The fact that God is using Segun Omoboriowo, will not***

make God take on the sentiments of the Omoboriowo family. And the fact that He is also using Edward Olobayo, will not make God take on the sentiments of the Olobayo family." For God is God! In other words: We have to leave family sentiments out, and look at things strictly from a spiritual perspective, considering the effect something will have on the body of saints, because as ministering brothers, family sentiments or family considerations, cannot overtake church considerations! Period! Because when we cry, we still see! We should know what is right to set over the church! That is: We must know what is right to set or place before the church, and what is not right to set or place before the church! We should all be able to see that! That was the issue! However, when my brother mounted the podium after my remarks, which he should have taken in love, and for which he ought to have simply apologised to the church, this was his reply to me; amongst other things he said: ***"So, you want to be the pastor? You want to be the pastor?"*** But ask me: What had all that got to do with wanting to become the

pastor of the church? Did I not also have the responsibility to do something in order to save the day, as a fellow ministering brother? So, how could my brother jump from "A" to "Z"? And if in that day, when in order to soothe the pain of the brethren, I gave my brother a loving rebuke, and he took it as a desire to become the pastor, now that the Lord was moving me in reality to take over the pastorship of Bible Faith Tabernacle, how could I expect him to think otherwise? Exactly! In all fairness, I had every reason to feel that my brother would only think that I was being ambitious, and that I was usurping authority! I had every reason to be scared, and I was scared! That is the truth! Hence the reason I was afraid to tell him what I was going to do that Sunday morning, for it was not because I had no respect for him, and neither was it because I wanted to keep anything from him. I just did not have the courage to tell him, for I was scared, on account of his reaction in the past, over an unrelated matter! But I knew I had to do the will of God, regardless of anyone's reaction. And I say thathumbly, and

sincerely, and in love. That Sunday morning, on getting to church, I arranged for my message to be taped. And as I said before, I say again: It was honestly not my intention to hide from my fellow Exhorting brothers, what I was going to do that morning. I just did not have the courage, particularly when I also considered the counsel I had been given a year or two before then, by Brother Bola. Unfortunately for me, Brother Edward was not in service that morning. But I drove to his home, him also being my brother-in-law, and a very loving brother-in-law at that, who would do anything for the family. He came down to greet me, and I informed him that I had something I wanted him to listen to, and that it was on the audio tape I had given to his wife for him. He asked me what it was, but I told him I did not have the courage to tell him, but that he would get it on the tape. It was to let him know that I meant no offence, for it was not done to sleight him. I just did not have the courage. That Sunday morning, after the worship service, just before I took my message, I stood before the church, and simply informed the church, that the Lord had

asked me to pastor the church. In confirmation of this move, I pointed to the fact that most of you had had dreams to that effect, over the years, indicating that I was going to be the pastor of the church. It was therefore an answer to the ceaseless prayers of the church for ten good years! Having made this declaration, I took my message, and the church was dismissed. So, having given Brother Edward the tape of my declaration after the Sundaychurch service, I did not hear from my brother until the next Tuesday evening, during the mid-week church service. Now I have to be honest. I say this strictly in order to lay out the facts of the birth of my ministry. After the worship service on that Tuesday, my brother came on the pulpit, and seriously tore down the declaration I had made about my ministry, accusing me of so many things, which were all untrue! He even accused me of breaking a full church, simply because I stood against Vincent Ehindero, a false prophet, a man whose prophecies to the church had failed woefully, and for which reason, the church broke in three! He indicated that I was usurping ministry

authority, and he ended by saying: ***“Pastor indeed. We shall see. We shall see. Pastor indeed.”*** When he finished, I climbed the podium, and said words to this effect: ***“The things that my brother has accused me of today are most untrue. I have not been creating disaffection among the Exhorting brethren. I was the one that stood against Brother Godwin, when he sought to make the church follow Richard Gan along with Brother Jackson. I was also the one that stood against Tunji Taiwo and one Brother Frank, in defence of the truth; all things which I did under God. And when Vincent Ehindero, the false prophet from Egbe, came with his load of trouble, and Brother Edward travelled to Ibadan to seek the face of God for divine intervention, I was forced to face a false prophet alone! Moreover, over the years, almost all of you have had dreams, and you have come to me with your dreams, that I am the pastor of this church. It is either that it was God dealing with you in all those dreams, or you were being dealt with by the devil: Because we are now faced with the***

fulfilment of the dreams!” And having rebuffed these allegations, I sat down. Sadness came over the entire church. You are all witnesses to these things. The church was split in two directions, and a damper was put on an event that we should have all celebrated, an event that the whole church had earnestly prayed for, and longed for, for a whole decade! Even my mum was mad at me, without finding out the facts, for the strain it brought on the family relationship! She wrote me a very terrible letter, just because she wanted peace in the family! She later apologised sincerely though, when I laid out the facts before her. Even my junior sister (Ayo), lambasted me for it, in the presence of my wife, without caring to hear my side of the story! The issue not only affected the family relationship, it also affected the church, so much so, that the issue became taboo, and no one could speak about it in public. Anything and everything I said, was taken to mean that I was referring to my brother, and I was not! Nothing I said was right! I was also not to say anything about the event, or to share my testimony as pastor, as it affected

people, and because people were hurt by it. But that is the testimony of my pastoral ministry! That is how it began! That is the truth of the matter, and it will never change, just the same as the issue of ***“He That Is To Come”***! Who can take that away from me? Are we going to rewrite history? No! But when the chief apostle died, and the Lord moved me into my apostolic ministry, everything changed, and God's leadership in my life, way back there in that day, when I took over the pastorship of this assembly, was clearly vindicated. The truth, however, is that the issue of the past, adversely affected this local body of saints, and it cast a great cloud over this local assembly, for many years, for it affected our relationship with one another, particularly with regards to our brother, Brother Edward. The only way to beat away the clouds, and to clear the air, was to deal with it, openly, sincerely, and honestly, and in love, that there may be healing. There had to be reconciliation, for there can be no healing without reconciliation. The matter therefore had to be opened up, for true healing, for we want to go home. And this is where I am going, for it is

the reason why I have come down this route. I opened up the matter before the church in a message, and laid everything out, showing precisely how Brother Edward had not only wronged this church, but also how he had hurt my ministry, and I expressed the need for reconciliation. On listening to the audio message, Brother Edward took the initiative to fly down to Lagos, and he stood before the church, and apologised for all he had done. He also called me on the phone, to apologise to me, saying he did not realise that he went that far. But he believed my testimony, nonetheless, and he knows I could not be lying, despite the fact that it happened so many years ago. That is a much better response, than the response I got from some of you in this assembly! I say that because some of you argued with me over known facts, and denied my testimony to my face! That is the sad attitude which some of you displayed. I appreciate what Brother Edward has done. That is exampleship! That is humility! That is what God expects from us: The ability to acknowledge wrong, and to say I am sorry, for to err is

human! And only a child of God can do that! Brothers and sisters, like Apostle Paul, who seriously persecuted the church in ignorance, and who later became a great blessing to the same body of Christ, Brother Edward is now standing firmly and gallantly for the Continuity light, and is a great support, a great blessing to me, and to the cause of Christ! That lets us know, that his stand against my ministry in times past, was in ignorance of the will of God. He honestly believed I was usurping authority! Moreover, I must warn you, that you cannot judge a man for his stand of yesterday, for it is his stand today that matters! And I can also see that God is in everything, and He used everything, to serve His purpose, for every true ministry is borne in adversity. Moreover, as I said before, God used what went on, and Brother Edward's relocation to Abuja on that account, to set the Abuja church firmly in the Continuity light. And today, I appreciate the firm stand and immense support of the church in Abuja. Praise God! And brothers and sisters, I believe we should be able to talk about the birth of my pastoral ministry, without hatred, and without anyone

getting hurt; without anyone taking things personally. It should bring a smile to our faces, remembering how things went, and an appreciation of grace that has now made the difference, just as Saint Paul remembered his past attitude with a smile, as he saw the hand of grace, for he even testified of it. He no doubt remembered the time he took care of the clothes of the Jews that stoned Saint Stephen to death, thereby consenting to his death. But that was the past! Now I can smile at Brother Bola, and say, "*Brother Bola, you too did not get it initially, and God had to deal with you on your trip to Abuja*", and we will all smile; for he and his wife have been incredible vessels of support to my ministry, all under God, and I thank God for them. That is how we should view the past, for it speaks of maturity. It is something to smile about now. It should no longer be anything to be hurt by, or take offence to. I have also done many foolish things in this way, and when I think back, I can only say, "*Oh Lord, I thank you for your grace and mercy that lifted me up*"; for God's love is so amazing: Because I can see spiritual progress! I am no longer in that state, for I

have moved on, and much higher, by the sheer grace and mercy of God, though I still have a long way to go. But I know He will see me through, for He is Alpha and Omega. Halleluiah! We all have our mistakes, but by God, we will all make it. So, saints, let us move on, for we must get ready. It is home going time. The evening time is here. Reconciliation is a must amongst the true body of saints. Let us therefore reconcile with one another, in the light of truth. We must set right; particularly when we have things that are just hanging there, corroding the body. Such matters will just have to be opened up for true healing. We have to dispel the clouds. Brethren, there must be healing, and there will be healing, in the true body of Christ.

Still on this line of thought, for we are still talking of reconciliation; saints of God, when a brother defrauds or cheats another brother, or secretly edges him out of a business deal in which he ought to have been involved, and for which he ought to have had a share, or a brother dupes another person, whether that other person is a brother or not, it is wickedness, and it is most ungodly, because money is

not everything. Honour and integrity is everything. Have you not read what the Scriptures say? **"A GOOD NAME IS BETTER THAN PRECIOUS"** (OR COSTLY) **"OINTMENT..."** (Eccl. 7:1). In other words, a good name is better than silver and gold! Character matters, my brethren; it matters! Once you lose honour and integrity, you have absolutely nothing, for all else is vanity upon vanity! Proverbs Chapter 22, verse 1, says exactly the same thing. It states: **"A GOOD NAME IS RATHER TO BE CHOSEN THAN GREAT RICHES, and loving favour rather than silver and gold."** For we brought nothing into this world, and we are going with absolutely nothing! We are our brother's keeper, and we should be the ones to watch their back, not butcher them at the back! Therefore, we should know that as a child of God, there is no gain that is ours, if it is wrongly obtained, it is a curse. It becomes a curse, except we are bastards and not sons. Except that! Thus saith the Lord: **"An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be blessed."** (Prov. 20:21). Again it is written in the Book of Jeremiah

Chapter 17, verse 11, thus: **"As the partridge sitteth on eggs, and hatcheth them not; so he that getteth riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool."** But it is written in Proverbs Chapter 10, verse 22: **"The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and HE ADDED NO SORROW WITH IT."** There is therefore nothing we have, brothers and sisters, if it is ill-gotten, we have only invited a curse into our lives. Hence, in 1 Thessalonians Chapter 4, verses 6-7, Apostle Paul seriously warned: **"THAT NO MAN GO BEYOND AND DEFRAUD HIS BROTHER IN ANY MATTER: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness."** Exactly! Therefore, if a brother defrauds his fellow brother, he is under a divine obligation to make right, and restore the ill-gotten gain, IF he still has it. I say this on the full authority of the Scriptures, for we are not called to raise up a pack of goats, but sheep! Come on! We are not rearing crooks! This is holy ground,

for as it is written: **THE CHURCH IS THE GROUND AND PILLAR OF TRUTH!** This is the strait and narrow way! We are talking of *The Beautiful Bride*, not of the corrupt bunch of humanity out there, who are earth bound creatures, and who have no ounce of conscience, people whose god is money! This is true Christianity, old time Christianity! Anything else is a mockery of the faith. This reminds me of a sad incidence which was widely reported in the Newspapers recently. A member of Christ Embassy Church, who was working as an Accountant at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Ikeja, Lagos, was reported to have stolen millions of Naira belonging to the company, running to the tune of over ten million Naira, and he gave it as offering to support Pastor Chris Oyakhilome. When the looting was discovered, the Management of the Sheraton Hotel were said to have approached Pastor Chris for the return of the money, but he flatly refused! My! The Police were later involved in the case, and the matter was just a mess. And why did he not return the money? Why will any minister of the Gospel not want to clear his

own name, in order to show his innocence in the matter, and also to show that he is a man of honour and integrity, who does not encourage or condone such evil acts? Moreover, why will any minister of the Gospel not want to clear the name of the Lord by which he is called, seeing that the terrible incident has brought great shame and reproach to the Lord's name? My! Where is the exampleship which the ministry must have? Lord have mercy! In Nigeria today, just as it is obtainable all over the world, money is everything; and people will do anything to make it. But it is not so with us, for we are the Bride of Christ. We care for the name and honour of Christ. I re-affirm brothers and sisters: **MONEY IS NOT EVERYTHING!** It is not! Having Jesus Christ, and a godly character, is everything! Yes, it is! This thing called quick and easy gain must be discouraged, for nothing good comes easy. That is why we do not gamble as believers. We do not! We are not gamblers! No true saint is a gambler. The Bible teaches us to work hard! We are taught to be diligent in whatever we do, and to exercise patient perseverance at work, for God rewards industry. He

does! It is written: **"A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent."** **"He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him."** (Prov. 28:20,22).

Let us take another example, for we are enjoined by the Scriptures to take **"the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes."** (Song of Sol. 2:15). When you judge a matter, indeed any matter, whether you are someone in the ministry, or you are just a brother or sister, as a true child of God, you must be fair and just to all, without distinction, for God hates injustice. You cannot pervert judgment! Therefore, I admonish you: Do not be partial, and do not pervert judgment. But if you misjudge a matter, you must call the aggrieved party, and sincerely apologise to them, in the presence of the one on whose account you perverted judgment. You have to, for this is not a game! We are not to condone unrighteous judgment, for it is wickedness!

Consequently, we are not to have respect of persons. If we do, we will err in judgment. Hence King Solomon warned us, in Proverbs Chapter 28, verse 21, saying: ***“To have respect of persons is not good: for for a piece of bread that man will transgress.”*** I therefore repeat: We cannot overturn or pervert judgment because of the favours we receive from people, or because we are close to someone, for it will not only amount to being unfaithful to God, it will also amount to being unfaithful to the very person we are trying to please. We must fear God. True love will make you rebuke the erring person, whoever it may be, more particularly if they have been good to you. Remember the wise words of Solomon also recorded in Proverbs Chapter 28, verse 23, which states: ***“He that rebuketh a man AFTERWARDS SHALL FIND MORE FAVOUR than he that flattereth with the tongue.”*** Because he will later realise how much love and true concern you have for his soul! Yes! Prophet Malachi also has something to say in this regard. He warns us against the evil of perverting judgment in Chapter 2, verse 17, when

he declared: ***“Ye have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied Him? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and He delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?”*** That simply means that it is wrong to justify people in their wrong, and to condemn people in their right! Even if they will be annoyed with you for giving them the judgment they truly deserve, you should still do what is right, for the sake of their soul, and in order to be true to God. On the other side, when we cross over Jordan, they will thank you enormously for it. But I know that some people do not care though, and they will cover a sin with their lie, and they will deny it till tomorrow, and consistently maintain their lie, even when there are witnesses to the contrary. You cannot help such people, you can only pray for such people, for what can you do with them, but pray for them? But brothers and sisters, if you deny something that went on, or you deny something that you said or did, you are wasting your time merely saying sorry, and denying the facts! It is meaningless, for thus saith the Lord: ***“HE***

THAT COVERETH HIS SINS SHALL NOT PROSPER: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.” (Prov. 28:13). I ask: How can we be a redeemed body of believers, when we cannot get to the bottom of any issue, when particular people are involved? Where is the Spirit of conviction in their lives? How can you cover a fault with a lie, and keep moving on in sin, without a prick of conscience? Do not forget, it is written in the Book of Psalm 51, verses 16-17: ***“For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.”*** Why will people not admit to the things they said or did wrong, particularly when there are living witnesses concerning what they said or did? Why do they still lie about it? You know why? Because not everybody is seed! That is precisely why! And thus, not everybody is going to make it! Some are given to work iniquity, and they rejoice in evil things, although they are very pretentious and look sanctimonious! Certainly

not everybody in Bible Faith Tabernacle is going to make it! Not everybody going to Calhoun church, or to the churches in India, are going to be Bride! I wish everybody were, but not everybody will be. It is therefore the devil's business to put his seeds in an assembly of faith. That is why there is a need for separation; and separation will go on, until every last none seed is weeded out. There is an objective for the devil bringing in his seeds. It is to make them a clog in the wheel of progress, so that there can be no healing. You can preach to them all you want, they will never admit to anything! Their hearts are harder than that of stone. They will never set right, but will cover it, saying, *"I never said it. I never did it. I love you, I have always loved you."* And there is nothing farther from the truth than that; but they will never admit or submit! Getting them to admit, is easier than getting a stone to cry. I do not preach this to be mean tonight, although I care less for what anybody feels. I just want to be true to God. I set forth these things, because it is still a reality within the body of God's people, unfortunately, even though I know that things will

change. But as it stands today around the globe, it is still a mixed multitude. Nevertheless, regardless of what currently holds in the body, the truth must be established, in order to give opportunity to God's true elects, for them to see these things, that they may be positively motivated by them. For as it is written: **"LIGHT IS SOWN FOR THE RIGHTEOUS..."** (Psalm 97:11). I am certain that there are some people that will keep the Word of God, for there will be a beautiful Bride. That is incontestable. Therefore, we will set forth the truth, for those who can keep it, and on their account, I give this message.

In some assemblies, just as it is over here, some brethren despise deacons. They do not listen to them, and will not do as they are told, because they look down on the deacons, as if they are nobodies! And let me tell you now, when we consider the Book of 1 Timothy Chapter 3, Apostle Paul, in setting forth the requirements for the ministry, touched also on the office of the deacons, because they are also officers of the church, and are set over the church, under the ministry!

Therefore, whosoever will disobey the deacons, simply shows himself or herself as unruly, and will account to God for such impudence, knowing that as saints, being sheep, we are expected to be humble and obedient, not proud, haughty, and unruly. There is no one who rejects headship or rulership that will get in shape, for it shows what a rebellious and unruly nature people have. Their prideful nature stinks! Hence, it is written in the Book of 1 Thessalonians Chapter 4, verse 8: **"He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us His holy Spirit."** The lack of respect for the office of deacons will be the stumbling of some. We must love and respect any man set over us, not only if they are rich, but also if they are poor, for God is not a respecter of persons. This is what shows whether you are truly humble or not. Your money is nothing, and it does not make you better than anyone else. We are all dust of the earth, every last one of us. Humility and obedience is golden. As for other brethren, their problem is laziness. Some brethren are just downright lazy! They do not want to work. Yet, they want

to eat, and enjoy the good things of life. So, they while their lives away, and live on other people! This is contrary to sound doctrine, for the Bible teaches industry. I am aware though, and I must make this distinction, that some brethren do not want to work, not because they are necessarily lazy, but because they are waiting on God for their ministry; forgetting that if God will use you, He will use you, regardless of where you are, and regardless of what you do! After all, Elisha and Amos were both working, when God suddenly called them into the ministry. To all those who are waiting on God for the ministry, my counsel therefore is this: In the meantime whilst you are waiting, and until He calls you, you need to work in order to earn a living, and not be a burden to others, thus avoiding being a reproach, for only God knows when He will call you, if He will call you. Period! Leave the calling to God, and show yourself a responsible and honourable person! Yet again, some will work, if and only if the job offers them the moon. Consequently, they refuse to work, until they can acquire that dream job. But whilst they are waiting, they

must be a leech and a drain on others, for every meal they take, for every piece of clothing they wear, and for whatever transport they take every day. And this allows them to continue in gross idleness, with nothing to do, and with nothing to show for it, just wasting their lives, living a wishful life. This is not a Christian life! No true Christian will refuse to work, particularly as men! Let me therefore say to one and all: We cannot all be businessmen and traders. If business or trading is not working for you, why do you not get a job? Get a salaried job, and maintain your dignity! You have to! Start somewhere, for the way up is down. But no, they do not want to do so, they just want to live large, at the expense of others! My! What a horrible attitude to have towards life. You will learn in a bitter way, if you are meant to learn. I only hope it is not too late, for you need to do something with your life. You cannot waste it away in idleness. Saint Paul counsels in 1 Thessalonians Chapter 4, verses 11-12, saying: "**And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;**

That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing." Getting firmer on this issue of industry, in 2 Thessalonians Chapter 3, verses 6-15, he declared: "**Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us. For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that IF ANY WOULD NOT WORK, NEITHER SHOULD HE EAT. For we hear that there are some which walk among you DISORDERLY, working not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ,**

that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread. But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing. And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother. That should settle it for every true child of God. Let us live right. We have to live responsible and honourable lives. This is what will show we are true Christians, for our manner of life tells the world the whole story of our faith.

Coming back to the issue of reconciliation, let me also warn, that in taking step towards reconciliation, we must be sincere and honest, lest God look upon us as hypocrites. For it is written: ***“He that hideth hatred with lying lips, and he that uttereth a slander, is a fool.”*** (Prov. 10:18). Reconciliation is for the healing of the body, and as such, it must not be lightly or insincerely done. But we must be reconciled. It starts with our reconciliation with our God. We must be reconciled with God. But having made peace with God, we must also make peace with our

fellow brothers and sisters. That is why Apostle Paul said in Hebrews Chapter 12, verse 14, saying: ***“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of the God; LEST ANY ROOT OF BITTERNESS SPRINGING UP TROUBLE YOU, AND THEREBY MANY BE DEFILED; lest be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.”*** Church, reconciliation is very vital. And if the revelation of Jesus cannot touch your heart, and appeal to your heart, I can only pray, may God help you. If the revelation of Jesus cannot appeal to your heart, and soften your heart, nothing else can. It is written: ***“The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise. He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth***

reproof getteth understanding. The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.” (Prov. 15:31-33). However, I must point out, that in considering reconciliation, healing is sometimes not immediate. It depends upon the wound. It depends on the gravity of what has gone on. You will have to bear patiently. If you take the right step, then leave the healing to God, because sometimes healing does not take place instantly. It does not always take place instantly! But if you take the right step, things will eventually heal. It must heal! But I must warn you, that healing is not always instantaneous. Just bear that in mind, because, sometimes, just a simple apology may not do, however sincere, particularly if the damage is much, and the wound is deep. Listen to me tonight, for this is not a game! This is home going time! I tell you the truth! There is a right way to look at things, and there is a wrong way. There is a right attitude to have towards things, and there is a wrong attitude. When a man has abused his wife for too many years, for example, and has been most unfaithful, do not tell

me that a simple apology will work a miracle. It will not! Gaining someone's confidence and trust is not immediate, for it is earned! Therefore, it will take quite some time before the confidence and the trust of his wife can be restored, for he will now have to earn it! He will! We must just realise, that there are some conditions, that only time and circumstances, are the means God uses to bring healing! But one thing is certain: Every seed of God that will make up part of the Bride, will have a pure heart towards God and His Word, and as such, he will let truth wash him or her, for he will submit absolutely to the rulership of truth. Period! Hence, although some conditions may not heal instantly, if you take the right step, and live honestly for God, in the light of truth, and also leave everything to God, God will bring healing. But remember, **HE MAKES THINGS BEAUTIFUL IN HIS TIME.**

Tonight, I bring you the message of reconciliation. That is what is going to be the means of our moving forward. There is no other way to move forward, unless and until we reconcile with one another. We make reconciliation

with God, and we also make reconciliation with one another. Individuals in the church may think they have progressed over the years, and that they have moved on, but if there are things in their lives, like unconfessed sins, things they have not repented of, they cannot cover it up, and think that they will excel, and that all is well. It will not work! You have not moved on. **WHERE A TREE FALLS, THERE IT REMAINS.** You have not moved on a dime. You only think you have! It looks like you have moved on; it looks like everything is okay; it looks like you have grown. But have you, really? You only have to look at things with a spiritual barometer; you need to look at things from a spiritual perspective. Brothers and sisters, there is no moving forward if wrongs are not righted. I do not care how many years it has been! In all those years, as long as those issues are not addressed, and nobody is complaining, it looks like everything is okay. But in reality, nothing is okay! It is just suppressed, kept way deep down in the heart! Oh, but we hug, and we shake one another... All that is superficial! It is only a show! All those greetings, the hugging, and saying, "I

love you, and I appreciate you." They are just words, mere words! You can greet and hug and smile, and still bear grudges because of a hurt! Because the hugging does not take away the hurt! It does not heal the wound that has been inflicted! And you know what? As long as you do not talk about it, everything looks good. But that is not so! Appearances are deceptive! You are deceived! Because all those greetings, and all those smiles, are superficial, for it is only on the surface. And until a wound is dressed for healing, all the covering we place on it only gives superficial healing. It will not work! I am speaking to each and every brother and sister around the globe, and to whomsoever will hear my voice on the tapes and or DVDs. I am crying out loud because in the assemblies of the saints around the world, from Bible Faith Tabernacle, Lagos, to Assembly of Faith, in Calhoun, Georgia, USA, to India, to South Africa, to the Philippines, to Uganda, all over this world, in the body of saints, brethren, we need reconciliation, true reconciliation. This matter goes beyond these four walls. And this is not a one

day affair! It is not a five minute thing! Is it for nothing, when in Proverbs Chapter 18, verse 19, the Scripture says, **“A brother”**(or a sister) **“offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle”**? No, it is not for nothing! As mortals, not everything is easy to resolve. But we will get there. If we have a heart of love, and a firm desire to do God's will, we will get there. The Bride of Christ is far from being in shape as we speak tonight. That is why we can have so much revelation, yet in our conduct, in our behaviour, our character still shows just how immature we are. Yes! We can know so much, but our attitude and our conduct shows that we are babes. That is why we still need to remind ourselves of these tiny little things. The revelation of Jesus purges the conscience; it cleanses the heart, and makes it pure. If all we learn does not touch upon our conduct, our attitude, our character, then we have learnt nothing. We cannot follow the same light, and follow the same ministry in the light, and not be united. We must be reconciled. But as I warned earlier, please do not be hasty, and do not be mean

with it. Do everything in love, and with humility. Pray for wisdom, and pray for leadership, remembering the word of wisdom recorded in the Book of Proverbs Chapter 15, verse 1, which states: **“A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.”** This is a new day. May God turn on the steam of conviction, and may God make it hot, until it takes away your peace and joy and rest, until you straighten out, and you are truly reconciled with God, and with your fellow brother or sister. That is my sincere prayer. However, Psalm 51, verse 16, states: **“For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering.”** What does God want? Verse 17 gives it to us. It states: **“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.”** You want to come to God in repentance, your whole attitude will show to God whether you have really repented; because words mean nothing, if your whole demeanour shows something else. Mere words mean nothing. When you are coming to God to make right, please donot

treat Him like a man. The sacrifice God expects of you, when you are coming to Him to set right, is that humble and contrite heart; that sincerely penitent humble attitude. He does not look at what you say to Him, but He looks at your heart, the state of your heart. Therefore, in the same vein with regards to one another, making right is more than just simply saying: *“Darling, you know, I wronged you. Please forgive me, I am sorry. Just forgive me, I am sorry.”* No, no, no, it is not like that! What are you sorry for? What exactly are you sorry about? This is not a joke! What are you sorry for? How have you hurt him? Did you speak with your mother against him? Or did you give him poisoned food? Did you flirt with another man when he was away? The converse is also the same, that is, if the person saying sorry is the husband. I also ask: Why are you sorry? Did you flirt or fornicate with another woman? So, what exactly are you repenting for? You must spell it out! Donot cover it up! The Bible declares, *“Whosoever covers his sin shall not prosper.”* It is thus saith the Lord in His Word. And please do not come to God, just because you feel

He will judge you; because if that is your motivation for coming, you are wasting your time: because it shows that you have not truly repented! You are only doing it out of fear, for you have not yet seen the evil of your actions, enough to be ashamed of what you did! God needs a pure hearted believer! The Lord wants a contrite heart, which is a penitent and remorseful heart! No, it is not necessarily about crying, but the attitude shows. When you see a person that is in godly sorrow, you can tell. I came in the church a few days ago, and I will not tell you when. But when I came in, and I saw a particular brother, I knew something was going on. By his demeanour, I could tell his state. When the brother later came to me, he did not need to say anything, as his whole demeanour said it all. He came to make right, and I knew it was genuine. But he could also have come with a shabby and slack attitude, merely saying, *“Brother Amos, I am very sorry, please forgive me”*, without any trait or atom of remorse. That is the point! You do not come laughing when you have done wrong, and expect that you will be taken seriously.

Nevertheless, I am expected to accept his apology, and to leave things to God. If you also come to me with humility and love, to tell me that I hurt you, I will do anything to heal the wound and make right with you, for the fact of it will kill me; for I would hate to hurt God's children for whom Christ died! I will not do such a thing knowingly, and I will be most glad to apologise and make right with you right there and then, asking you for forgiveness. I want to go home. I listened late one Saturday night, several years ago, to an audio message preached by Brother Jackson. It had to do with straightening things out with your fellow brothers and sisters, loving, and forbearing with one another, and such things. Early that morning, I knew I had to go all the way to Ketu, deep inside Mile 12, to seek out a brother, in order to set right with him. And yet I was to preach at the church that Sunday morning. But I had to go, and I could not wait for the day to break. When I got there, I called the brother, whose name I will not mention in this message. I said: *“Brother, you came to me so many years ago, accusing me of having bad thought towards you,*

when I had practically none! I tried to let you see that the issue you raised was most untrue, and that it was far from my mind, as it had never even crossed my mind! But despite my assurances, you still did not believe me, and still do not, till this day. Brother, I am sorry that you feel like that, but it is not the case!” I will now tell you what his accusation was. I have never in my entire life, heard such an utterly ridiculous and dirty accusation. He said the Lord revealed to him that I think he has a crush on my mum! My! What utter nonsense! Why would a young man like him have a crush on an old woman? And why would I even think such a horrible thing? This was a brother that I loved so much, and one with whom I had a lot of fellowship with! He had a love for the end time Message, and we were in various assemblies together. So, why would such an evil thought even cross my mind? Much later though, seeing how badly he had taken things, based on a most carnal so-called revelation from the Lord, and he would not be moved from his false and most bizarre perception, I had to realise that he must have had such a sinful thought

indeed! Hence his conscience was killing him! Otherwise, why could I not appease him? This made him cut off his relationship with me, and I had no choice but to go my way. He stopped fellowshiping with us from that time, but he was always on my mind, for I loved the brother. So, after I had listened to Brother Jackson's message, I went to see him early that Sunday morning, in order to mend the relationship, and do you know what he did? He threw my sacrifice of faith, my olive branch, right back in my face! It was insults that I received from him! But knowing that I came for peace, and that I had come a long way for peace sake, I was not going to let any negative words move me, and render my mission useless! I simply pretended I did not hear him, and let it go, for some of the words were most unkind and unchristian! Yet, I do not bear a grudge on this account. But to say the truth, initially, I felt like, *"I donot need to take this nonsense! Is he not a Christian? How could he have spoken to me like that?"* But church, I realised that if I left my home early that Sunday morning, to go in the name of peace, and I ended up in war, would I not

have wasted my day? I had to say, *"Lord help me. Oh, my Father, you see my heart. Please help me."* I had to make a fast prayer to God in my heart, God who alone gives grace to the humble, and who alone can help me. Because of myself, I would fail right there! I would fail the test. I had to look to God. And when he was throwing all his arrows, I just remembered, I came here on a spiritual mission, there is no point nullifying my own mission. It would be a wasted morning, and a wasted day, and I was going to take the message in church later that morning. So, I had to swallow my pride, and let love reign! I had to appeal to him, saying, *"Brother, why do you think I came here? And why would I come here this early Sunday morning, when you know that I have to be in service, if I did not mean it?"* I was appealing to him in humility, throwing away my pride, speaking the truth in love, that I may win him. And he saw my point, and my sincere and humble attitude, and he mellowed down. Why did I do that? Love made me do it! The love I had for a brother! It was not done so that he could come back to church; and I let him know that he

did not have to come back to our local assembly. I did it out of love. And although we remained on our separate ways till today, at least God knows that I did my best! The ball is in his court! God will always reward obedience, and vindicate the truth. Before you know it, he had gone back to the organised religious world, for he was attending the church of Mountain of Fire And Miracles, sitting under women preachers. Yet he was telling me he knows what he believes! And before we knew it, he had enrolled in their Bible School or Seminary. My! But he knows what he believes! He even believes that there is no one in the true message, as if the Bride of Christ will be made up of only one man! What a deceived brother. Yet the Lord told Elijah: *"I have reserved unto myself seven thousand who have never bowed the knee to Baal!"* Brothers and sisters, love will move you to do some things.

When you come to me concerning somebody, and this should be the attitude of every man in the ministry, particularly one that is a pastor; if you come to me concerning somebody else, or you come to report

somebody, be it a brother or sister, or be it your spouse, I will put you in the car, and we will go to that person, and I will tell you in his or her presence: *"Now repeat all you just told me. Say it!"* Because a lot of times, we say many things behind one's back, and when we come face to face with the person, it is a different kettle of fish! Now we water everything down; we change and alter things we stated originally, things we have exaggerated and blown out of proportion in order to justify ourselves, until it is no longer the same! Sometimes you are shocked at what comes out, and you would have been made a fool of, if you had taken action based on what you heard one sidelay out! I have seen that happen over and over again. And let me tell you this tonight: If you listen to gossip, you are as guilty as the gossiper. You are as guilty as the gossiper, because you entertained it, and you went along with it. If the gossiper repents, you as the listener must also likewise repent, because you entertained it. Otherwise, you should be able to rebuke him or her, for such unacceptable behaviour. God hates gossip or tale telling, for it separates brotherhood.

Therefore, we should also hate it, and not encourage it. Tell them to mind their business, and to be ashamed of themselves, for saying evil things concerning their brothers and sisters! Some will even go on the phone to crucify brethren to innocent minded people, for things they do not know or understand, spending countless hours, burning up their phone bill, just to tear down a fellow believer! It is written in the Book of Proverbs Chapter 26, verse 22: ***"The words of a tale bearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly."*** Hence in verse 20, it states: ***"Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no tale bearer, the strife ceaseth."*** What do tale bearers or gossipers do? They are news carriers; they carry negative news about other people, and never of themselves, just as it is written in Proverbs Chapter 11, verse 13: ***"A tale bearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter."*** Yet, when they see the same people whose image they have killed, they will greet them, *"God bless you."* What a hypocrite! It is written:

Whoever covers his sins shall not prosper. Your brother or sister may leave the matter and move on, but there you remain, and there you may die, unless you make right. For where a tree falls, there it abides; there it remains. You may move on for the next forty years, but you have not moved on spiritually. You only moved on religiously. But in true spirituality, you never moved on one dime! You never moved on an inch, because having a head full of knowledge does not make you spiritual. This is serious! Whoever can take it, let him take it. We have come to the waters. You may refuse being washed. You may! I look at each and every one of you in the eye tonight. You may refuse to be washed. You may. But I plead with you today, please be washed. Remember, God is not washing a Denominational bride. He is not dealing in conviction in the Anglican Communion, or in the Methodist organisation, in order to get a Bride ready; neither is He perfecting the Roman Catholic or Baptist churches. That is where you can have Mrs "X", who for the past twenty years, has never spoken one word to Mrs "Y", and yet, they attend the same church!

And when Mrs "Y" also sees Mrs "X" coming, she takes another pathway, to avoid meeting her. And if Mrs "X" is sitting on a particular row or side of the church, she will go to another row or to another side of the church to sit. They have never spoken a word in twenty years, and they go to the same church, and also take what they call Holy Communion. What absolute nonsense! What utter rubbish! You must know that that cannot obtain in the Bride, for malice and bitterness of the heart is taboo, being evidence of an unregenerative state. There is washing in the Bride, true spiritual cleansing. True reconciliation will be obtained, because there is no other way to move forward. No one can make it into heaven without perfect love in his or her heart. And I will tell you this now: It is a new day. Some of you, in settling a matter, I will call you in one by one, and I will also call in witnesses. Then you will face the people you have spoken about, one by one. I will call you one by one. Both those who spoke, and those of you who listened, you will all state your case, one by one, and every wrong will be rightened. We

will be washed. Otherwise, may God push you out of this church! May God push you out of this church, one by one, if you will not submit to truth. Sister Labake, I want to see you after service. Sister Adline, I want to see you. Sister Funmi, I want to see you. We have something to sort out. One by one, we will speak. God did not raise us up to minister to a bunch of goats in this church. We have been raised up to feed sheep, and sheep it will be. Sheep will listen, and sheep will obey. This is a new day. That door is open, if you donot like it, you can walk out. I am not here to waste my time, and I am not an idiot either; I am no fool. I am not a little boy, and I was not born yesterday. It is written: ***"And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: WE PRAY YOU IN CHRIST'S S T E A D , B E Y E***

RECONCILED TO GOD." I beg you today: Please be washed. We are at the waters ready for washing: Please washed. I plead with you; because you can force a horse to the water, but you cannot force it to drink the water. But at least, you would have given him the privilege, the opportunity to drink. So, if you donot make it in the rapture, you cannot blame anybody else but yourself; and in particular, you cannot blame me. Like Saint Paul, I have not failed to declare to you all the counsel of God, and as such, I am free of the blood of all men. You will have to blame yourself, and your stubborn heart, your wilful hard heartedness. I speak this in love, because I want the best for you. There is not one person in here that I want to lose. You are the jewels in our crown on that day, and as such, God helping me, I will watch over you like a hawk. There is no child that is not disciplined by his parents. They do that, so that the child does not become rotten. And no true ministry will know of things, and see bad situations, and allow it to go on. Church, it is a new day. It is a new day. And let me also say this, for I must warn you: Donot make right only with the men in the

ministry. Church, are you making a distinction between the ministry and your fellow brothers and sisters in matters of reconciliation? You cannot do that! So, if you can make right with the ministry, why will you not make right with your own fellow brother? Is he a lesser brother because he is not in the ministry? Does he not deserve an apology if you have wronged him? If I hurt you, for goodness' sake, please, come and tell me; donot tell another brother. Come and tell me, and I will make right. I will do it, for to err is human. And humility is of God. As I said before, we have done a lot of things wrong in times past, but now that the true light is shining, let us walk in the light. All I know is that I want to make right, because I want to be right with God and with man. I want to be in this Beautiful Bride. Those following Chris Oyakhilome do not know anything of what we are talking about tonight. If Pastor Chris himself knew, he wouldbe following this way, and he would have returned the stolen money the man paid into the coffers of his church, the money which was stolen from the Sheraton Hotel. And when the Hotel management wrote him, to

lodgea formal complaint with him, the first thing he should have done, was to return thebig electric generator the man bought for his church, with embezzled money!But he did not, because he does not care! As far as he is concerned, the generator and the moneyhave entered the "sanctuary" (that is, it has entered the church coffers);but it does not sanctify that gift!It was stolen! And it can be returned! It just shows you that some preachers are more crooked than thosecrooked givers themselves. For how can the cause of God be advanced by stealing? How does evil produce good? My! If a man has honour and integrity, and a mind of righteousness, the first thing he will do is to return the stolen goods! He has to return the goods, because it is still there! It was not sold to an innocent third party! So, if I wrong you, please come to me, and I will be most glad to make right with my brother or sister, for I am only a sinner saved by grace. But regardless of my position in the ministry, I am under a divine responsibility to make right. But also remember, we do not all have the same measure of grace. Therefore, in some

situations, you have to allow some time for healing, and not go home disappointed, because you must be able to weigh the gravity of what you have also done to the other party. There is a wisdom that guides God's children. Patience is a virtue.

Before we close today, let us take a quick look at just two other issues, amongst many others, causing strife within the body of saints around the globe. The first issue deals with abuse. We all know, or should know, that a believer is a considerate person, and as such, he does not use and abuse people, because it is unchristian to do so. We should not be taking advantage of one another, devouring one another. Unfortunately, even among the body of saints, abuse happens many times. And in most instances, it is all on account of a sheer lack of understanding. I am not talking of verbal abuse, or of physical abuse, or even of sexual abuse, for if truly our hearts have been circumcised, such things should not be mentioned amongst converted followers of Christ. But the issue is this. People take advantage of the love and kindness of the saints, and that is not a good thing to

do. The fact that someone loves you, and helps you, does not mean you should become a leech on them on this account, using them for everything, without wanting to contribute anything, and without thinking of the personal burden such people may be bearing, or of the difficulties they may be facing. It shows you have no care or consideration for anyone, for you are selfish. You are just a user, pure and simple; otherwise, you would place yourself in another's shoes, and not just imagine that everything is cool and rosy for them, whatever the weather! It shows in essence, that you really have no self-respect, for self-respect will not allow you to be a perpetual burden and usurper. God expects us as His children, to be considerate, putting ourselves in one another's shoes. Hence, the Lord Jesus made it the golden rule in Matthew Chapter 7, verse 12, saying precisely: ***“Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.”***(Matt 7:12). It is a virtue called being considerate. And in this regard, when you are living with people or with brethren, please, do your

best to contribute something to that household, however little. It could be by way of providing food once in a while, or drinks, or even a little sum of money here or there, to help with the sustenance of the household. This is most vital, for it makes for peace. It also takes away resentment and ill feelings. Moreover, it makes way for respect and dignity. I remember this to my shame. But when you do not have anybody to look up to, spiritually speaking, or anyone that has any exampleship in this Christian way, we do a lot of foolishness, all out of ignorance. We just would not have any clue, spiritually speaking! I wish I had come under the ministry of Brother Jackson much earlier in my Christian walk. It would have made the difference, for his ministry light would have kept me from doing a lot of the foolish things I did, all in ignorance. I was a student in the United Kingdom, undergoing a post-Graduate course in Maritime Law, (Shipping Law, or Admiralty), and I was living in a house-share with other students. Just when my rent was about to expire, and I was looking forward to simply renewing

the same, for we paid weekly rent, my landlord gave all of us about two weeks Quit Notice. Honestly, I was stuck, because I did not have the funds to acquire a new accommodation. I suddenly found myself in a big jam! I tried to raise funds to no avail, and eventually, having just one day to go, I had to call a friend of mine, a family friend, and begged him to allow me to stay with him, for we were very close. I had nowhere else to go. He had a lady living with him at that time, in a three bedroom house, even though they were not yet married. And she really did not like me moving in. On account of her disposition, I was forced to sell my things cheaply, like my new television set and new sofa bed, (which is a couch that converts into a bed), for there was “no space” where I was going. The bottom line is that I moved in with them. And although I received a stipend from the church, it was not much; and I was sending it overseas, to support the love of my life, who, at that material time, was a student missionary in Thailand. This left me with practically nothing! I was eating in that house, without contributing a dime,

because I did not have, and also because we were very close friends. I thought he would understand my temporary plight, but I was being senseless. Shortly thereafter, his partner started to keep the food from me, and her attitude was one of disdain. One day, when I got some money, and I bought food for the house, the big smile and joy I saw on her face, made me realise, just how my past conduct had caused a lot of resentment and disdain! I learnt my lesson in a very bitter way. And when I think about it even now, I feel so ashamed. That was most senseless of me, but I just did not know better! I had my beginning in an organised church system, where nobody had a clue, and thus, I had nobody to show me the way! Please, you can learn from my mistakes. You do not have to fall in a gutter in order to learn what I learnt the hard way. Please, let us be considerate, and let us give ourselves some air of dignity and self-respect, by contributing to the household, when we are living with people. It makes us true Christians. I hope that sinks. The other issue we want to consider is concerning indebtedness. The issue is this: If on

account of services rendered or work done for me, I owe you one thousand Naira, (which is equivalent to just about four pounds sterling), or if I borrowed one thousand Naira from you, even though it may be a small amount to you, the fact remains that it is owed! That amount, which looks so small to you, may be like one million Naira to the person you owe, because he does not have much to start with! The "widow's mite" might be all he has! So if you take his "widow's mite", you have taken his all, even though it is a mite to you. You should therefore be considerate and caring enough to pay him what you owe! Let us not forget to settle our debts, as people with honour and integrity, and as considerate and caring people. And do not also forget that the longevity of time does not take away a debt! A debt is a debt! You cannot unilaterally cancel a debt you owe others, simply because time has elapsed on the debt. Let your creditor be the determiner of that. You want to redeem your image. These are issues causing problems and misunderstanding and hurt within the brotherhood. Let us be mindful of one

another. We cannot continue to borrow and not pay back! That is not right! If you owe, you pay! Hence the Bible says we should owe no man! It is not that we should not borrow or owe, it is that we should endeavour to pay back. But a situation where people constantly owe, and are very comfortable to keep owing, without any intention or plan of repayment, is not Christian! And if you cannot truly repay, why do you not go in humility to your brother, and let him know your state, if peradventure the Lord may grant you favour, and he may release you of your indebtedness? Going to him to let him know the state of things, shows you care, and that you have not forgotten your obligation! Because at the end of the day, your brother has not been living on those funds up till today! God has been sustaining him thus far, and God will surely see him through! Why do you then pretend like you do not owe him anything, and then some of you even forget that you owe? What a shame! How can you forget your debt! That is what brings strife, because the people you owe, see new clothes on you, they see the new dress that you wear, and the new shoes,

and the new mobile phones; but his four miserly pounds, you don't want to give him. It shows you can't afford to pay him, even if it is a sacrifice you make in order to repay. But he also made a sacrifice to give you the loan, for it was not convenient for him at that time! But no, what do you do: You dodge him every time you see him, and pretend you did not see him. And the funny thing is that he or she sees your little childish games! Some on the other hand, simply ignore their debt, and wave off their responsibility, not caring a dime. That is a shame! I said it is a shame! That is what is causing strife. And let me say this, a lot is wrong within the body of Christ all over this globe, but God will straighten it out. Brothers and sisters, I have to address these issues, because it is not enough just to talk about reconciliation; we must also address areas which are causing frictions within the universal body of saints. That is going to the root of things, that there may be love, peace, and togetherness. I realise that many times, if you do not nail things on the head, people just do not get it. They cannot take a lesson from situation "A", and transpose it to situation "B".

You have to tell them every time what to do, for they lack wisdom and understanding. May the Lord help us all. We need divine wisdom; and we need understanding.

Let us also take a look at the case of a young brother. I will not call any names, for this applies generally. But he travels forever, and leaves his wife and children with nothing. That is most irresponsible! How can anyone do that to his own family? Who forced you into marriage, and who forced you to bring those sweet little children into the world, that you do not know you must take care of them? And why will you leave your own wife without sustenance? That makes you an uncaring and an irresponsible husband! Your family is your responsibility under God. And may I remind you that doing it is not a favour! It is a duty, a God-given duty! Hence it is written in 1 Timothy Chapter 5, verse 8: **"But if any" (MAN) "provide not for HIS own, and specially for those of HIS own house, HE hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."** That is serious! Just think about it! Think! Many sisters are suffering abuse by the shabby and horrible

treatment their husbands meet to them, as if they are nothing! But they are God's daughters! Joint heirs they are! Hence Apostle Peter warned: **"Likewise, YE HUSBANDS, dwell with them according to knowledge, GIVING HONOUR UNTO THE WIFE, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered."** (1 Pet. 3:7). Your love and treatment of your wife, exemplifies or shows your love and treatment of Christ. Yes! Hence in Ephesians Chapter 5, verse 25, Saint Paul admonished men, saying: **"Husbands, love your wives, even AS CHRIST ALSO LOVED THE CHURCH, and gave himself for it."** But in order to strike a balance, wives must also be obedient to their husbands, taking care of them, and also taking care of the home and the children, knowing that as they serve their husbands, they serve the Lord. Hence it is written in Ephesians Chapter 5, verses 22-24: **"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, AS UNTO THE LORD. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church:**

and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.” On the full authority of the Word, I re-affirm: SISTERS, AS YOU SERVE YOUR HUSBAND, YOU SERVE CHRIST. And also remember, this Word is written strictly to the believers, for it has no application to those out there. Period! But continuing along the same line of thought, married sisters should be understanding, and should not make unnecessary or unreasonable demands. It is unreasonable, for instance, for a married sister to expect her husband to acquire an accommodation that is way beyond his means. That would be killing, and that will definitely put a lot of strain on the relationship, because the bill will kill the man! We must, as such, learn to cut our coat according to our size, for the way up is down. After all, you knew his estate before you married him. That is precisely why Apostle Paul warned, saying: “... ***Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate***”. (Rom.12:16). These are things that are causing

strains in many relationships today. Let us therefore be wise. Our sisters must not be extravagant or spend thrifts, and neither should they be wasteful. This reminds me of my own case many years back, when God broke the staff of bread of my family, and He put my father, (a former Deputy Governor, of the old Ondo State), in penury (or great poverty), in order to give me an experience and a training. I had not long returned from the United Kingdom to settle in Lagos, by the leadership of God's Spirit, and was looking for a job. However, I needed to move out of the family house, so I could live on my own, and give some reprieve or relief to my aging parents. Considering the reality of the very harsh and bitter economic situation in the family, when I was to leave them, I asked my mum for a one room apartment; not a mini-flat, which is a self-contained flat, but for a one room accommodation, which I would obviously have had in a shared house, or in a shared flat. My mum simply told me I was asking for nonsense, and she reported me to Mr. Ajitoni Ajayi, my uncle, a very lovely man, who has now passed away, and was

asked to talk to me, in order to dissuade me from going after that kind of accommodation. But I said to them: “*We do not have the money! Is it because I am the son of a former Deputy Governor? So what? Who cares? This is reality, we do not have it! Things are financially horrible for my dad and the entire family! Give me one room, and I will do it up comfortably to my satisfaction.*” Brothers and sisters, I asked my parents for one room to start out with! I was then, and still am a lawyer by profession. I had already travelled all over the world prior to this time, and I already knew what money was; and I had also acquired a taste for things which none of you have in this church; at least not yet. That is why all these material things, like expensive clothes and shoes and cars, mean absolutely nothing to me anymore! I have done this, and been there, and hence the reason this material world has no appeal again for me, for it is all vanity! I bought nothing in this country. If I needed just a toothbrush, (and I say this just to make a point), I would travel out on a Friday night to London, shop all day Saturday, and return by the evening flight; and by

Sunday morning, I was back in the country! I was that silly! But when the grace of God touched my life, and the Lord turned me around, that I may look at things, not from a carnal earthly perspective, but strictly from a spiritual heavenly perspective, this world lost its appeal! But saints, that was my life before I came into the faith, whilst in the world of unbelief. It was a stinking life, because it was all for the flesh, for I was spiritually destitute! But then grace turned me completely around, tempered my taste, and God taught me humility. And I care no more for the past, but I care for the future, and Jesus is my future. My mum then took it upon herself to get my bed and mattress, cupboards, and all the housing things that I first owned, and eventually, I was persuaded to look for a flat. That was how I later got the three bedroomed apartment or flat, where Brother Victor now resides. It was a loan they took in order to pay for it, for nothing my father did worked at all those days, regardless of whom he knew, and where he went. They borrowed money in order to make me comfortable. It was a

sacrifice. But do not forget, it was not a sacrifice I forced on them; it was one they bore willingly, of their own accord, out of love for me, for they are most loving parents. Church, listen to me, for I have a reason for sharing this testimony. This is where I am going: As a lawyer by profession, and the first born of a former Deputy Governor, whilst under the roof of my parents, I asked for one room, knowing the very bad reality of the financial state of my family. Do you now want to tell me that you, who do not have any High School or Secondary School Certificate, cannot live in one room? I will ask you: Who are you?! You do not even have a dime, and yet you are so proud! You want the moon! I speak to every young brother and sister seeking to make a start in life: The way up is down! Of course if you have the funds, and you can afford it, and you want to go and live on the moon, please go! But if somebody else has to pay the bill, you must know that God expects you to be reasonable and humble! This is not a rat race! The fact that your friend got a three bedroomed apartment when she married, does not mean you will be able to afford

such when you marry, for fingers are not equal, and life is not a rat race! We are not in competition with one another! There is a virtue called **"CONTENTMENT"**. It will do you good to possess it, for it will give you peace, and a thankful heart for God's mercies in your life. Your brother may be able to afford a car, whilst you cannot, and please, do not kill yourself in order to get a car, otherwise, you may go in rags! Consequently, you must know that you cannot use your friend as the standard for what you get, or you will burn your fingers! Learn from my example, and be humble! It is written: **"... MIND NOT HIGH THINGS, but condescend to men or people of low estate"!** (Rom. 12:16). The Gospel message remains the same, and it is this, even as it is written: **"BUT GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT IS GREAT GAIN. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content."** (1 Tim. 6:6-8). There is virtue in godliness and contentment. Just look at Brother Wole, my junior brother, the last born of my

family. He is able to do things on a material realm, buy and ride cars that I cannot even smell, so-to-say, and I am not seeking to own one like that either, for it is not a rat race! It is not a competition! The truth is that I am very happy and most grateful to God, for the blessings He has bestowed upon his life, for he is such a wonderful brother. But I must also be exceedingly grateful to God, for the blessings He has so generously and graciously bestowed upon me, for God has been good to me. And I can say that of all men on earth, I am the most blessed! Thank God for His immeasurable love and mercy! Saints of God, we should be able to count our blessings, rather than give ourselves sleepless nights, just because we are coveting what somebody else has, thereby developing hypertension and high blood pressure, simply because we are not contented and thankful, or grateful, for our lot! Everything is not about new clothes, new shoes, new cars, new mobile phones, new carpet every year, new furniture, new this and that! Even if we have the money, God still expects a judicious use of the money He has provided for us, for we will give

account of how we spent it. That is a fact! These are issues causing worries and pain in various relationships across the board. But God gives peace to the wise hearted, for godliness with contentment is great gain.

“Oh Brother Amos, how can you talk like this? I know you are talking about me. It is my case you are x-raying. But how can you talk about my situation like this?” Yes, I am talking about you. After all, I also spoke of myself. I have hidden nothing. When I got a new International Passport in another name, and for a particular reason, I later came on the pulpit and made my confession before the church, and made right before God, and I also knelt down before the whole church, and I asked you to pray for me! That was many years before I became the pastor of this church! Although I am not excused for the wrong I have done, (and I am quite ashamed of it), nevertheless, I did it because, despite all the countless trips I had made to the United Kingdom prior to September, 1995, approximately speaking, about over thirty-something visits, the British High Commission would

not give me a mere visiting visa, and they kept refusing me consistently, all on account of my lack of **“sufficient funds”**; and also on the grounds that they did not believe that I would return to Nigeria, when in fact I was not going to stay back in the United Kingdom! My precious wife was over there in London, all alone, and with no one to help her, and she had to undergo a horrible emergency caesarean operation. Out of desperation, I submitted a false bank statement in support of my application for visa, a bank statement I had cooked up! And what a most shameful thing to do! But I have to add, just like I told you before, that this shameful act was done, not in order to defraud any bank, or to defraud any person, and please note that, but it was done, strictly so that I could travel to London for a short while, to give support to my poor wife, at her hour of great need! Period! You are all witnesses of the fact that I did not even get to see my first son, until he was ten months old! Why? It was all on account of this problem with the visa, and the fact that my wife was unable to travel because of what she suffered medically! Those were really harrowing days

for us! However, God saw to it that I was still refused! And when I was refused yet again, I decided to apply for a visa in another name. That was what made me adopt the name Brother Jackson gave me. Consequently, and out of desperation, I changed my first name officially to Amos, and got a new Passport in that name, wanting to apply for a visa in my new name, so the Embassy would not know it was the same person applying for a visa. But out of conviction, I could not go on with the application. And I want you to know, that I not only informed the British High Commission in writing, that I had made a formal change of name, but I also apologised for the false bank statement which I had submitted in support of my visa application, and begged for forgiveness for my shameful act. But the truth is that it would be five whole years, from late 1995 to 2000, when the British visa wall finally came down, and I suffered greatly on account of the visa refusals, and it gave my wife and myself a lot of sleepless nights, tears, and incredible pain, not even considering the great amount of money that went into all the applications, a huge waste of money in

that period of time. But I realised much later, that it was allowed by God, for I was to be on ground, in order to face and do battle with the various wolves that were coming to the assembly, for it was going to be the means of my training, as well as the means of my testing, thereby preparing me for a time like this. What can I say but to appreciate the love and mercy of God, towards a most wretched sinner like me? Saints of God, the question is this: Why did I tell you? Why did I come before the church? I did it in order to make right with my God. I did not spare myself. And if I did not spare myself in my shortcomings, neither will I spare you where necessary. It is all to this intent: That as the Bride of Christ, God may be glorified in our lives, and that we may attain that perfect stature of Christ, in readiness for rapture. Period! That is all that matters.

As such, I plead with each and every one of you: Let every man look to his household. Let us be responsible people. Let us live honest and honourable lives. And let us also learn to show love and respect to our fellow brothers and sisters, treating everyone

with courtesy, not looking down on people, on account of their lowly estate. As brothers, we should learn to call one another brothers; and as sisters, we should learn to call one another sisters. This is the old time way, and it makes for respect in so doing, rather than calling brethren whom we came to know only in the way of faith, by their first name, when they are not our family, and neither are they our old school mates, but fellow believers! Let us all be considerate and caring, showing mercy and understanding for the people of God. Remember, strife does not jump down from the moon. It is how we relate to one another, our attitudes, the actions we take, and the way we address one another, and what we say and do to one another, is what causes strife. Everything boils down to our behaviour, our conduct. That is why we must make sure that we do not put any stumbling block in the way of our brothers and sisters. Let us not speak ill of one another, and let us appreciate the grace of God in the lives of one another. The only thing we owe one another is Love and Respect. I may not have touched your own particular situation, but I pray that God will touch you with His hand of conviction, so that you can wisely transpose what has been shared so far, and apply it to your own situation, and

take instruction, for your spiritual good. I say that because as I said earlier, some people never see themselves, and unless and until you mention precisely what they do by name, spelling it out, they never see or feel anything. Yet, it is impossible to touch every situation, or even to conceive of every possible scenario, for we are mere mortals. But our God is unlimited, and He is therefore able to meet all our spiritual needs, for salvation is of the Lord. He deals with all His children by conviction, concerning every situation of their lives, and it is by this means He leads His people. If you do not have it, there is nothing that will work for you, spiritually speaking, because it takes a personal divine touch, which is the tugging of the Spirit, to walk this way, a way we have never walked before. I repeat for emphasis: God deals with His people, and also leads His people, by conviction of the Spirit. Once this conviction is lacking, you will never know what is right, from what is wrong; because nothing will be wrong to you, and everything will be okay, simply because you are devoid of the Spirit of conviction! There is therefore, a discernment God gives every seed, male and female, and you cannot live in this world without it. You certainly cannot walk this walk, without a measure of

discernment in your life. Because that is what will open your eyes to the snares and deceptive ways of the enemy! There has got to be a conviction and a discernment you must have, because it is your security check! I repeat: IT IS YOUR SECURITY CHECK! But one thing is certain, however, and that is that the Lord will perfect that which concerns the Bride, for His will is sovereign. And just as King David prayed, May the Lord also keep us back from secret faults, and presumptuous sins, sins we commit unknowingly, or those we do not even remember. Because under the law, we would still be held guilty for the sins of ignorance! Hence, there is a sacrifice required under the law for sins of ignorance, because ignorance is no excuse: for sin is sin. The fact that we forget does not excuse us. May God give us pure hearts.

“Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: WE PRAY YOU IN CHRIST'S STEAD, BE YE RECONCILED TO GOD.” Let us be reconciled with one another, for true reconciliation, creates a very healthy spiritual atmosphere, for *The Beautiful Bride*. It shows

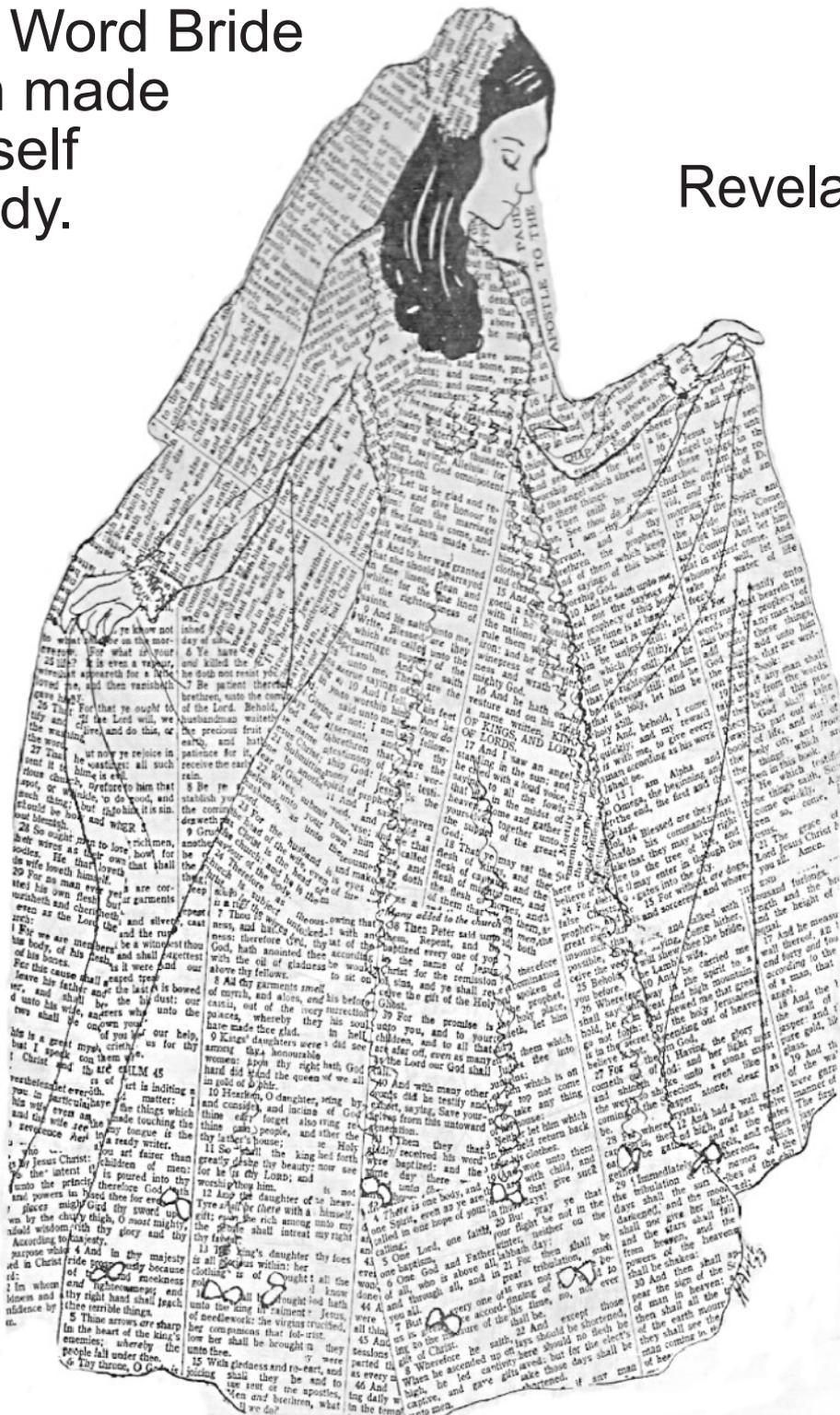
that the Word of God is working deep repentance and conviction in our lives, to straighten out our lives, that we may truly conform to the image of Jesus Christ our Bridegroom. This message is for healing. Take it. Please take it. Take this balm, and it shall be well with you. *The Beautiful Bride*: She is in the making.

May God bless you.

THE BEAUTIFUL BRIDE

The Word Bride
hath made
Herself
Ready.

Revelation 19: 7



DIRECTORY OF THE SCRIBE contd.

22. The Walking Voice, Parts 1 & 2 (October 2007).
23. The Man That Was Caught Up, Parts 1 & 2 (December 2007).
24. Genesis: The Creation Of The Universe (January 2008).
25. Genesis: The Eden Of Angels (February 2008).
26. Genesis: The Eden Of Man (March 2008).
27. Genesis: Cain And Abel (April 2008).
28. Genesis: The Mark Of Cain (June 2008).
29. Genesis: The Mixing Of Seeds (July 2008).
30. Genesis: The Travails Of Ham (August 2008).
31. Why Continuity?, Parts 1 - 5 (September 2008 - February 2009).
32. The Promise Of John - Parts 1 & 2 (March - April 2009).
33. The Spirit Of John - (June 2009).
34. John: The Angel's Feet Placing (July 2009).
35. John: The Eating Of The Scroll (August 2009).
36. John: Completing The Voice Of The Seventh Angel (September 2009).
37. John: The Foundation And The Plumline (October 2009).
38. John: They Confessed And Denied Not (December 2009).
39. The Unseen Headship Of Jesus Christ (January 2010).
40. The Beautiful Bride - Part 1 (February 2010)
41. John, Angels, And Prophecy; *Special Edition* (March 2010).
42. The Beautiful Bride - Parts 2 & 3 (June 2010)
43. The Beautiful Bride - Part 4 (July 2010)
44. Demonology: The New Face Of The Contender; *Special Edition* (October 2010).

Announcement

Our Convention dates for 2012 & 2013 are as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. May Convention: 17th - 20th May, 2012. | 2. Nov. Convention: 15th - 18th Nov., 2012. |
| 3. May Convention: 16th - 19th May, 2013. | 4. Nov. Convention: 14th - 17th Nov., 2013. |

NOTE: Our email address has changed.

All are welcome to the meetings. If you need more information, or if you have any questions or any comments, please feel free to contact us. All correspondence should be addressed to:

pastorbft@yahoo.com

For those who prefer to write, our postal address is at the bottom of this page. We look forward to hearing from you.

DIRECTORY OF THE SCRIBE

1. The Foundation Of The Five Fold Ministry, Parts 1&2 (January 2007).
2. The Foundation Of The Five Fold Ministry, Part 3: The Uniqueness Of The Ministry (January 2007).
3. The Foundation Of The Five Fold Ministry, Parts 4&5: Testing For Faithfulness (January 2007).
4. Locating God: The Visitation Of God, Parts 1&2 (February 2007).
5. Affinity With Evil (February 2007).
6. Where Are We? (February 2007).
7. The Way Forward (February 2007).
8. The Plot, Parts 1 - 4 (March 2007).
9. The Seven Thunders In Relation To The Five Fold Ministry, Parts 1&2 (March 2007).
10. The Jewish Connection, Parts 1 & 2 (April 2007).
11. The Third Pull (June 2007).
12. The Third Pull, And The Three Steps Into The Rapture (June 2007).
13. The Angel Of The Seventh Seal (June 2007).
14. They Came To Present Themselves, Parts 1&2 (July 2007).
15. The Invitation (July 2007).
16. The Promise To The Overcomer, Parts 1-3 (July 2007).
17. The Manifestation Of The Sons Of God (July 2007).
18. A Woman Rises In America (July 2007).
19. The Prophetic Ministry Of William Branham, Parts 1-4 (August 2007).
20. The Three Scribes (September 2007).
21. Ministerial Irresponsibility (September 2007).

Directory contd. in the inner cover.



*Stand by the Rock of revealed Truth.
It makes the difference!
Matt. 16:15-18*

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