



# MIRACLES

## Why and Why Not?

### Part 1

GRACE AKALONU

# MIRACLES: Why and Why Not ?

## Part I

*Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them. Luke 4:40*

*Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life:  
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall  
he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall  
never die. Believest thou this? John 11:25-26*

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the King James Version of the Holy Bible

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To Elohim, who teaches and reveals His mind to His people, be glorified forever and ever. Amen.

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## Introduction

**M**any questions are being asked today about why miracles are not happening. Does it mean the Lord is silent or only performed them in the past? No! *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Hebrews 13:8.* God is mighty in power. He will do it again and again. Remember, God will never fail; nothing is too hard for Him to do.

*Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there anything too hard for me? Jeremiah 32:27.*

*Ah, Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee. Jeremiah 32:17.*

Each of the miracles has its own story to tell; they are all peculiar and have criteria that qualify them. If we can align ourselves, we will live in them. The Lord's hand is not so short that He cannot reach us. Jesus is alive forever. Sometimes, having things our way may hinder miracles. It may be daunting to live in Jerusalem while wanting to eat in a restaurant in Jericho but unhappy to travel there. A move or action is required. Instead of declaring 21-day fasting, praying, and decreeing that every well turns to wine, why not ask the congregation to invite Jesus to their parties? The latter is easier than embarking on a hunger strike.

Another thing to wonder is that out of the small number of miracles recorded, why are some of them similar? Examples are healing the blind and the lepers, raising the dead, and feeding the crowd, which were recorded more than once. It emphasises that our needs will be met, anything as bad as death will rise again, every uncleanness will be cleansed, and any blindness leading us to the ditch will be taken away.

God is mighty in miracles. He is our Lord. Whatever has been deemed too difficult, and you have been told will be impossible to do, our God can do it. You will not die. You will live and declare the goodness of the Lord. Like the Hebrews in the book of Esther, who were told that they would be killed as the decree was being signed and sealed with the King's signet. King Ahasuerus is still a man. God reverted their case and will revert yours. Our God is the beginning and end, and all power belongs to Him.

Abraham thought the promise was gone. He was ninety-nine and Sarah eighty-nine, just bones. How can bone carry a child for Nine Months? God said to Abraham: *Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the time appointed, I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son. Genesis 18:14*

Abraham counted age and time as we count today with our Gregorian Calendar. Our God is the giver of life. He created us, and all power belongs unto Him. May we take aside physical limitations. God will do a new thing. Are you looking down on yourself because of physical limitations? "Oh, I'm too old. Oh, I cannot do this because I'm this age. I need to get to this age before I do it. I need to have this before this can happen. I need to get this and all the "need to's".

**People followed Jesus for various reasons, which may explain why some got miracles, and some did not.**

### **Some came for food**

*Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. John 6:26.*

If you follow to get jam for your toast bread, miracles of salvation will happen, and you won't get it because that's not what you're looking for. The physical miracles of opening the eyes of the blind will be happening, and you won't get it because you're looking for the tummy. Jesus knew the reasons for their following.

### **Some came to see a sign**

*Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee. Matthew 12:38.*

They came to see a sign and not to receive it. A lot came to see it but did not want it for themselves.

*Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached. Luke 7:22.*

You will get nothing but the story to tell when you come to the Lord in doubt.

### **Some were sent to take him**

*The Pharisees heard that the people murmured such things concerning him; and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take him. John 7:32.*

They didn't come for the miracle but to take Jesus, so miracles eluded them. They didn't grasp it.

### **Some came to catch him out**

*Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying. Matthew 22:35.*

*And the Pharisees came forth, and began to question with him, seeking of him a sign from heaven, tempting him. Mark 8:11*

If yours is to find faults and make trouble in the church, you will not get any miracle. You have a microscope to scrutinise every sermon for grammar checks and political correctness. Miracles will be far-flung. One's reason for attending church or following Jesus will determine what one gets from it. What we want the blessings for also counts. Is it for self or to the glory of God?

### **Some were among the great multitude**

*When he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him. Matthew 8:1.*

The crowd was a mixed multitude. Some came to see and just followed the crowd. Some people don't even know why they were there. In any crowd, some are cheering, whether or not they heard what is happening. Just as everybody is clapping, they clap. When people laugh, they laugh too. Why the laughing, they don't know. Some people came to church just to get married, not for anything else. Some came to get children. Some came to pass exams. Some came to get a house. Some came to get one thing or the other. When you have all these idols in your heart, things will happen, and you will not get it. May we be truth-seekers, and miracles will be ours.

Let's not follow without having a purpose, just being at church to do the rituals of church attendance. May our mindset change as we go through the miracles in Yeshua's Name. Amen.

*Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these. John 1:50 .*

*And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord. Luke 1:45.*

We will be like Nathaniel and Mary when we seek The Lord with all our hearts. We will see more incredible things and receive the promise of what is said concerning us.

*Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed. And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name. John 20:29-30.*

The key thing here is to believe even before we see. May the Lord open our eyes to align ourselves. I pray the Lord will prepare us for miracles as we study each of these.

Vital things about the miracles are hidden from ordinary eyes. We read them every day but have not taken note. They are not always mentioned in the churches, yet they are the essentials on which miracles hinge. The unveiling of these truths, line upon line, precept upon precept, is an eye-opener. The issue is that the pressed juice was poured out without shaking, and the settled bits missed out have kept the church in darkness.

The book of Luke recorded more than the others. As a Physician, healing may have caught his attention the most. Matthew recorded quite a number, followed by Mark, while John recorded just a

few. As we read along, release your faith, look up to Elohim, and prepare for a shift in your life. Your miracles will come through in Jesus' name. It's time to experience a refreshing and new lease of life.

## They Have No Wine

**T**his miracle is dedicated to all who will be happy to invite Jesus to their celebrations.

*And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: and both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. Jesus saith unto her, woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come. His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it. And there were set there six water pots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. Jesus saith unto them, Fill the water pots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it. When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, and saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him. John 2:1-11.*

## A wedding in Cana

The wedding was in Cana of Galilee, a village in the northeast of Nazareth and the land of vineyards. Preparations for a wedding are no joke. Both the parents and the couple are planning. There is the amendment of an invitation list that doesn't end until the wedding hour, if you know what I am talking about. What about the wedding fever on the bride-to-be? Some lose their appetite until after the wedding. There is the showing off of the engagement ring, the food and the shopping list. The wedding gowns and suits are another story: the groom and bride watch their dreams come true; the best photographer in town is paid for, the best wine, food, caterer and the best bridal train sought for. Tell me, the world of weddings for you! Good to mention the headaches and tears that go with it, especially if the wedding gown has a problem or someone is running late to the church. Haha! We might wonder!

How can there not be any wine in the land where they grew most of the fruits, vines, orchards, and fig trees? And also in the region of the Sea of Galilee? It could be likened to when one does everything to keep healthy, avoids particular food and instead feeds on superfoods. If one took the best vitamins, exercised, lived in a wealthy and clean suburb with a good car, yet fell sick. Where is the disease coming from? What is this all about? You have all these certificates. You laboured. You earned your first degree, second degree, third, fourth, fifth, everything; been to seminars, have all the experiences and yet you got no job. You keep going to interviews. You know you are qualified, yet you did not pass the interview. So what is going on? Are these certificates going to be a waste? You had all health checks in marriage, and everything is okay with you and your wife, yet no child.



## Mary and Jesus were invited

Making a wedding list is not easy at all, especially when parents are involved. They will want to invite their friends and relatives, while the couple will invite friends, colleagues, and neighbours. Depending on your budget, the load has to be shed. You must deploy your Economics knowledge of the Scale of Preference or get into a tight corner. The question is, who remains on the list and who goes?

They invited Mary, “The Lady that matters”. They also invited Jesus, “The bread and wine of Life”. They are sorted! The crowd can come along, no qualms. Who are those on your wedding, birthday and celebration lists?

Can you invite Jesus to your celebration? Did you keep him off your list, or did you forget? Eish! The wine may run out. Fair enough, some of us invite Jesus, but sadly, the invitation may be turned down if the party is filled with alcohol, secretly and openly, because it is not the type he can come. The party with rock music, indecent dressings, drugs and idolatrous traditions; will Jesus come? No, I don’t think so. You won’t invite him. You will not even ask the brethren at church, not to mention the Pastor. No way will you let Jesus near such a party. His righteousness will invade your space, and you deserve to be respected.

They didn’t just invite Mary but also the main person and one of the secrets of this miracle. Mary and Martha had asked Jesus for a meal before. It was easy to invite Him again when their brother died. Peter invited Him to his house for dinner, and his mother-in-law was healed. Zacchaeus was happy to let Him into his home, and salvation came to him. Before Jesus arrived, he cleaned up himself by giving back all he fraudulently took from people. *Luke 19:8*

Can Jesus come into our homes? Some of us have curious art hanging all over our homes from our holidays. We collect all the idols of the Northern, Eastern, Western and Southern nations. They contend for the ownership of the home and which spirit takes pre-eminence and turn. The house, which should have been the altar of God, is filled with all kinds of idols. No wonder nothing is happening because of the idols in the house. It is not all about our physical homes but our Spiritual house, which is our body as the temple of The Holy Ghost. Do we fill it with jealousy, anger, bitterness, an unforgiving spirit, and wickedness, which puts Jesus off?

Some of us deliberately will not call him in because of our lifestyle, and we can't have him at our wedding. No, he has to wait to meet us at church. We put a nice look to church but then do something else at home. Please invite Jesus to your occasions, into your life, and situations, as you don't know when the wine will run out. You will rest assured, and all will be well.

Sort out anything that will hinder you from inviting Jesus to the occasions of your life. He is a lifesaver. Look through your business, job, career, education, choice, and all you do and ensure you invite Jesus. Some people do dodgy things, and when they get into trouble, they look for the Pastor to pray for them. That was a second thought. They would have got it right the first time if they had invited Jesus. Nothing would have taken over their businesses. Also, in marriage, go according to the will of God; don't go by sight choosing who you want because of their wealth, body build or the criteria you have set. Invite Jesus; the wine may run out one day, and you can resort to Him. Many marriages have crashed because they didn't invite Jesus at the beginning. Some people have jumped from one career to another, looking for what pays best and not settled in life. Invite Jesus, and He will direct you.

## **They Had No Wine**

They planned and did all they could to put things in place. However, halfway through the celebration, the wine ran out, unfortunately. Some brides would start crying. It means half of the guests got some wine while others didn't. I am sure people would put their hands to their faces to this shame. What an embarrassment! I don't know what has embarrassed and disappointed you in life. You may have invested a lot of things, time, money, and energy, and suddenly everything goes to shambles. Your life dreams are quashed. Alas, all has melted, all hope lost, and failure creeps in. Have you been in a job with no promotion for years, finished school and have no job, married with no children, and wanted one? You have served faithfully, yet are in lack; put in every effort, but sickness is not allowing you to progress with problems at home: the children, spouse, relatives and all hell let loose on you?

There is no wine can represent many things. There is no wine to grace my occasion, no wine to keep going, and all is gone. The next step is to look for solutions, counsellors, consultants, internet searches, and phone calls. Don't panic. Jesus is sitting right at the high place of your table. It is well.

## **My hour has not yet come**

When Jesus was told that wine had run out, He said: *Mine hour is not yet come*. Such a lesson on humility. Contrary to our showmanship today, he wasn't too quick to show himself. We would have shown off as the powerful miracle worker. People brag about what miracles they can do and their titles on television and social media. Such don't know Yeshua's humility.

How many of us will sit back and allow the Holy Spirit to lead us instead of running ahead of ourselves to show off so that people can see we got it? These days, people give themselves all the

titles: Prophet, Apostle, Bishop, Doctor, Pastor and more, just to one person! It is hilarious. They are filled with pride. Christ is our perfect example. There is absolutely nothing to prove to anyone. He is the Messiah. Whatever He has given us is not by power nor by might but by the Spirit of Elohim. So, there is no need to boast about anything, which makes no sense at all. He had no air of affluence. He remained humble. May we be humble in Yeshua's Name. Amen.

Waiting for the appointed time will bring more glory, so don't be rushed. A brother walked up to me after one of our services in the car park and asked me to prophesy to him. I told him I received nothing for him. He went on to say he knew I am a woman of God, and God speaks to me. That is right, but He had not told me anything about him. People were watching, and he kept insisting. I kept my foot firm. I would not allow him to drag me down with such cheapness.

How many people have gone into self-prophesying from their soulish realm? How many of us have fallen trapped to this cheap trial and prophesy what God didn't tell you? Please don't do it. Don't let anyone push you into what the Lord has not led you.

There is time for everything. Wait for your time. Elisha waited on Elijah until he got the mantle. Don't run off before your time. You won't let that ministry be fulfilled if you run ahead of time. Don't be in a hurry. I see brothers and sisters with just a little blessing; their heads swell, and they run off to do their own thing. That zeal may take you to a year and run out the second year. Satan knows that you're a baby and will push you off quickly. He is an old man and knows all the tricks. Satan knows you're a novice and will clear you out of the way soon. As an old man, he knows all the tricks to use against you.

The Lord asked Elijah to sit down and eat. He did, but God asked him to eat more because the journey was far. Let's sit down and

learn, the journey ahead of us is far. The disciples were with Jesus for three and a half years, slept with him, ate with him, learning as much as they could. In the end, He told them to tarry for the Holy Spirit.

Allow the process in your life and avoid unnecessary shortcuts. Ditch the microwave and drive-thru Christianity. Please do not be in a hurry to do things.

*Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste. Isaiah 28:16*

### **Whatever He Says to You, Do It**

His mother said to the servants, *Whatsoever he saith unto to you, do it.* Brilliant. Whatsoever He says. Mary knew who He is. She had an encounter no man had ever experienced and to have a child by the power of the Holy Ghost. *For, with God all things are possible.* She was a living witness to the fact that Jesus is Elohim.

May the Lord give us the grace to encounter him and develop a strong relationship that will open our eyes to His glory. There is no way anyone who knows Him will be in doubt. You will see Him on the mountain, valleys, land, and sea. He will show up.

No wonder David said: “That I may dwell in thy house, all the days of my life to behold your beauty, to behold your presence.” No wonder Paul said, “No way! My cry. My prayer is that I may know him and the power of his resurrection. I want to know that power that resurrected Him from the dead. That is all I am looking for.” *Philippians 3:10*

Let us ask the Lord to forgive us of all inconsistencies in our relationship with Him. Pray this prayer: Lord, I want to know you and the power of your resurrection. I want to have a decisive encounter with you to understand that all things are possible in

every life situation. I know that you're the Elohim, The Bread of life, The Light of this world, The Door, The Son of God, The Prince of Peace, The True Vine, The Water of Life, The Great Physician, The Miracle Worker, The King of Kings and The Lord of Lords. Amen.

It takes an encounter and a relationship to know him. When in hunger and remember He is the bread of life, it changes things. You will remember: *I have been young, and now am old; Yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. Psalm 37:25*

You will experience the miracle of five loaves and two fishes. My family has been through difficult times and was fed miraculously through our freezer, which was not running dry. There was a day when we had nothing to eat, and someone brought a pot of soup to us and told us she had a voice that told her to take the food to us. God is amazing. I have been through sickness and was ruled out, yet the Great Physician healed me. I had my five children through Caesarean sections with no blood transfusion. The Lord saw me through all. I fell into a fast-running stream and only held onto the grass's root that didn't give way.

The good Lord is mighty to save. I am in no doubt because I have seen God's goodness, and when you come to this point, you don't doubt. That was why Mary told his servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it. Exercise that faith, whether it is cancer, liver disease, diabetes, depression, failure, lack, disappointment, or anything else. Do whatever God asks you to do. It may not look rational, but obey.

## They Obeyed Him

He told them to set out the empty pots. Empty pots! For what? They are looking for wine, and you're asking me to set up my empty pots! The same instruction is still for today. The Lord says, "My child, set out your empty pots. I am about to do a new thing. Shall you not know it?"

The empty vessels man and nature have told you cannot be filled with anything. Such sayings as "I am afraid there's nothing we can do about it". Are you happy to bring your empty vessels? Sing this song with me.

*He will feel my heart today to overflowing.*

*As the Lord commandeth me,*

*Bring my vessels, not a few.*

*He will fill my heart today to overflowing  
with the Holy Ghost and power.*

Now set out the empty jars of lack, incurable disease, depression, disappointment, failure, loneliness, drug addiction, robbery, immoral living, homelessness, alcoholism and whatever. Set them before the Lord.

The pots were two or three firkins apiece, equivalent to six water pots. Each is an average of Twenty-Three gallons, multiplied by six, which will be 138 gallons or 552 litres. It means setting out as many pots as you can. The Lord will fill them.

## Doing the Crazy Thing

Jesus said to them,

*"Fill the water pots with water".*

It is enough to set out the pots, but to be asked to fill them with water when they wanted wine was something else. That sounds weird, a bit crazy and a bad idea. Not in a modern world would anyone do bizarre things like that. It is not politically correct.

“Are we here to do magic? How can I fill pots with water and take it out to the people? No, I would not do that, Jesus. You can do it yourself. It will be an embarrassing thing to do”.

We will argue it out with Him. He didn't even lay hands, pray or bless the water as expected but just asked them to take it out to the guests. They could have rightly said that we are here to drink wine and not water.

I completed a last-minute application and submitted it at 11:59 p.m. to beat the time. I checked my application the following day to realise that the computer glitched, and my paragraphs were mixed up which looked ridiculous. How can someone looking for such a top job do such rubbish? I felt really bad both for myself and the organisation. Anyway, I thought they would trash the application. I continued to feel bad as the job was a bit complicated and outside what I wanted to do, so why did I apply in the first place and then have the system mess up my application? Two days later, I got an invitation to the interview.

First, I laughed,

“Are they serious? Who did the short-listing? This must be a joke”.

I called to confirm, and the person said yes, you are invited to the interview. Meanwhile, this job is two steps ahead of where I was. While preparing for the interview, I realised again most of the things were outside my remit. I decided to stop and only go for the interview to see the organisation and the city. I have not been there before. I went for the interview, and there were many candidates. I relaxed, knowing I came for something else and not the job. I was properly grilled at the interview, and they asked me what I do with my weekends. I said to myself, “I am in for another thing.” I told them I do the homeless feeding every Saturday night and Sunday morning and preach in the church on Sunday afternoon. They looked surprised. I left the interview asking what I did to myself.



I went to the city to look around, which was the main reason for coming. That evening, I got a phone call that I got the job and was the only candidate taken for the job. Is God not amazing?

Are you going to step out to apply for that job, though you think you are not qualified for it? Simple faith. Sing this song with me.

*Like the woman at the well I was seeking,  
For things that could not satisfy,  
And then I heard my Saviour speaking  
Draw from My well that never shall run dry*

*Fill my cup, Lord  
I lift it up, Lord  
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul,  
Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more  
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.*

I don't know whether you are like the Samaritan woman, seeking the things that would not satisfied. She had five husbands, and the one she was living with was not her husband. She has been through things.

Today, the Lord wants you to set out those empty pots. As Elisha said to Jehoshaphat, King of Judah, to make a valley of ditches that were filled without rain, so will your miracle come through with no effort of your own.

*And he said, Thus saith the LORD, Make this valley full of ditches. For thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts. And this is but a light thing in the sight of the LORD: he will deliver the Moabites also into your hand. 2 Kings 3:16-18*

Elisha told the prophet's widow to borrow vessels and fill them up with the little she had, so shall your miracles echo in the clouds. She got plenty to pay her bills by obeying to do something out of convention.

*And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not anything in the house, save a pot of oil. Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few. And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full. So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out. And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest. 2 Kings 4:2-7.*

The empty vessel that people have hissed at you, scorned in your community, even to yourself and your family, the Lord is able to rebuild your broken walls today. If you would believe it! Bring those empty pots.

*Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: and I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD. Ezekiel 37:4-6.*

The dead situation might be as stinking as the body of Lazarus in the grave. Jesus will bring you forth. *John 11:39*. The stones

over you will be rolled away. Only Believe! The disciples did as they were told. They filled the pots with water, no argument, no debate, no doubt. In obedience, they did what they were told.

### **Your Latter End Shall Be Sweeter**

The chair of the occasion went to the bridegroom and said, “Man, this is not cool. How can you keep the good wine for the last minute?” People bring the good first, but you did otherwise. Little did he know that the first was by man’s effort, while the second was by God’s grace.

What God does cannot be compared with the familiar. It is extraordinary, satisfying, enduring and absolutely beautiful. Allow God to do it, everyone will marvel. What God will clothe you with what cannot be found in any shop. The drink He gives cannot be sourced anywhere and the peace He gives passes all understanding.

All those who have spoken evil and ridiculed you will return to rejoice at your miracle. All the years Satan and the locusts have eaten, the Lord will restore to you again. Your dry bones shall rise again. He will fill your cup today. You will pursue and will recover all. Your eyes shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of living. People shall give testimonies on your behalf. People shall praise Elohim for you. You will celebrate the new job and dedicate your child, the wedding bells will ring, your health will be restored, the bad lifestyle will vanish, the tears of sorrow will be wiped off, and those demons will be chased out forever.

Now go in prayers, setting out your empty pots in expectation. Your latter end shall be sweeter.

## All I Need is The Crumbs

**T**his miracle is dedicated to all those who will not allow prejudices or relegation to stop them from receiving their miracles.

*Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon. And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. But he answered her, not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour. Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30.*

### She kept up with current affairs

*Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David.*

This lady acted with the information available to her and did not play ignorance. She has learned the tongue, speech, and the

slogan of the righteous. She knew how to say the right thing to get her miracle. She was a Gentile but called Jesus the son of David. She didn't have to know about David, nor did she have to be an Israelite to call Jesus "Son of David". If anyone objects to that, it is their business. The most important thing is that miracles happen in that name, "thou son of David". That name works, and it has to work for her. That was what the blind man screamed, 'Have mercy on me, thou son of David' and received his sight. This phrase must have gone to the air, and she keyed into it. May the name of Jesus work for you. Forget where you come from, whether it is an idolatrous, atheist, agnostic, or religious background. Call on Jesus, and He will deliver you.

I have seen people who miss out on God's promises for them because they were conscious of who they are and where they originate from. They were not humble enough to tap into grace because of their race, tribe, and class, and such people deny themselves of blessings. They pray in a certain manner that is so stiffening because they do not want to identify with the new birth experience. Well, they can keep their problems while grace flows in abundance. When some people come to town, they look for the church where the pastor or the congregants are of their race or tribe. They will never listen to a preacher who does not have the same accent as them. Such people cannot shout "thou son of David" because it is not their language. Their miracles will tarry.

## **Four hard kicks**

### **• She was relegated**

*But he answered her, not a word. Matthew 15:23.*

Which means she was not recognised. Nobody enjoys being ignored. It can break some or make them retreat into their shells, never to come out again. She was a woman and should be honoured

publicly, but that was not the case. People around noticed the cold shoulder given to her, which can be spiteful. I can imagine myself in her shoes. Tears would roll down my cheeks.

- **She was psychologically hit**

*And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. Matthew 15:23.*

The first was emotional trauma, which was bearable because she could shoulder it within herself. This second one was a verbalised, a strong psychological hit and public relegation. Send her away! What did she do? She asked as others did; she used the right word. Was she not supposed to have used Israeli terms, being a Gentile? Okay! The law is speaking against her. The Jews should have nothing to do with the Canaanites, but that was the law. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. John 1:17. She would not give up.

- **Blatant “No” for an answer**

*But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Matthew 15:24.*

Who she was was driven down her throat. It was not hard to realise that she was unqualified and could not have it. Have you felt that way before? You waited for an answer from an interview. You were told: sorry, they are looking for some people with a particular qualification, but you knew it was because of your race, class, religion, looks and whatever. You cannot live in some neighbourhood because of your colour, you are not allowed some privileges, and your grants are not honoured because of who you are.

- **She was demeaned**

*Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. But*

*he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. Matthew 15:26.*

The final straw was to relate her to a dog. I think I would call it quits. That would be it for me, and I am sure many readers would do the same. She worshipped Him instead. That would have been enough to change His mind, but He drove it in. A dog! Can you imagine? What is this miracle worth, to deserve this heavy blow?

## **Profiling 101**

*Matthew 15:22* called her a Canaanite, and *Mark 7:6* called her a Greek and Syrophoenician. One of these nations, then, was bad enough, but to have three hanging on her is off the charts. What has looped all over you at the moment? You are in desperate need of help, but it seems far-fetched. Everything is working against you. All doors are closed on you; it is not of your making, but just because of who you are.

Unfortunately, you cannot change your race. To the left and to the right, all you are told is: unfortunately, you failed and did not pass the exam, you lost all your money in the business and cannot recover it, the loved one is dead and cannot rise again, you missed the opportunity, and it is gone. There is no mercy for people like you, because you do not deserve it. Please do not crumble under any profiling.

## **She persisted**

To get through to Jesus with the number of people surrounding Him must have been difficult. She made it to the front and would not allow her ego or what she was called to hinder her. We should go beyond things that put us down. She must have made up her mind that she would not give up. Some people are deterred from evangelism because they don't get their tenses right. You have

done well with a second language, as long as they can understand you. Few are good at it. This woman was happy to take names so long as her child was healed.

Can we take up the position of this lady to stand before Jesus without minding what is being said to us? You must get your healing, your breakthrough. Do not bother with any ridicule or reducing names. You will not leave God's presence because of what people say. Mere words or dirty looks will not defeat you. Looks are just looks and cannot kill anyone. You are called Miss Nobody, that does not make you a nobody. I have not seen anyone with Nobody as a surname, so don't bother. Bad-mouthing is an everyday occurrence, but that is okay. Don't let Satan steal your miracle by bombarding you with many things to keep you on the floor.

### **No room for deterrents**

Some of us react to racial remarks as if it is life itself. This lady didn't care if she was called a green or yellow alien from Mars. She was there for a miracle, and that is what counted.

Please, let's move on. No one opted for the country they originated from or their choice of parents. No one has any right to claim anything because they didn't create themselves. It is all by God's grace, and no one is better. What is one man's weakness is another person's strength. Looking at history, once mighty nations are at the bottom today. Rome was once a superpower, but is not today. So, kingdoms come and go. Don't react to those things. They are non-essential and should not be allowed. Don't allow barriers to keep you from progress, miracles, and goodness.

If this lady had reacted to what she heard, she could have gone home, and devils could have still possessed her daughter. She was looking at how much she had suffered. Her daughter was possessed by devils, which meant they were tormenting her. No



racial prejudice or remarks would stop her.

‘I need my miracle. It’s all about me’. She cried out, and the disciples said to the Lord, ‘Send her away.’ So, have you been treated dismissively? Don’t let that steal your blessing. Hang on to your faith. Many people miss out on their blessings because they are treated with disrespect. When in need, you mind nothing.

Sometimes, legalities can rule you out entirely. But don’t give in to rejection, as some may call it. People have risen from nothing to something, from peasants to prime ministers and presidents, school dropouts to the gurus and geeks of today.

As long as this woman was concerned, God loves the world, and she was part of the world. Christ is the light of the Gentiles. *Luke 2:32.*

When it concerns Christ’s compassion, please don’t excuse yourself for who or what you are. Jump, irrespective of where you are coming from. He is for everyone.

*And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Isaiah 60:3.*

This woman was determined to see light, so she stayed on.

### **She stooped to conquer**

Who can still wait around after being called a dog? Just pick up your phone and take the person to the cleaners.

“Did you hear that he called me a dog?”

What! A dog?

“What kind of Pastor is he? Are you still going to that church? Throw in the towel and move, how cheeky!”

The next day, it will be on social media, and phone calls will fly around. The church will be divided, and emails with a piece of everyone’s mind will be sent to the Pastor, calling him fake. With due respect to the dignity of our femininity, this

should not happen.

This woman was looking for something. Hallelujah! Speak to pride, tell it to get off you. You will not take no for an answer.

Actually, sin reduces one lower than a dog. So, it is not an exaggeration or a relegation. The police pick up men in suits from the corners of the street, drunk at night. The next day, they dress up as Senior Managers who cannot tolerate alcoholism. Prostitution reduces one to a dog. Lying and cheating take you behind bars. What can we say? Just as dogs are led with a lead attached to the collar, Satan has led many to obey him. He asked them to kill, fight, and humiliate others. They do, and so on.

We can be tried, to see how humble we can be without allowing pride to deprive us of good things. We might be allowed to go through something not because Jesus doesn't care or does not know what to do, as he tried Philip in the miracle of the five loaves and two fish. Philip's faith was tried, but he failed headlong. May you not fail any test in Yeshua's name. Amen.

He allowed Paul and Silas to be beaten, bound with fetters and chains and thrown into the prison because he wanted to show that He could break the prison gates and bars of iron. *Acts 16:23*. Be comforted, whatever you're going through. The Lord will use it to show you, your neighbours, your family, and the world that He can do everything. The Philippian jailor and family would not have been saved if Paul and Silas had agitated about why God allowed them to be beaten. They sang in their affliction; you can also sing in your pain and relegation. Raise a shout of praise to the Lord, and see the doors open.

*And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. Deuteronomy 8:2.*

Several years ago, I encountered a lady in a job who was so rude. One day I decided to stop her, but the Lord told me not to. Bear with her and get what you can for the next step. I ate the humble pie and learned a lot from her. I was new and had yet to understand how things worked in the place. She didn't give me a breathing space. She taught me many things that would have taken me a while to learn, which was okay but she was rude. Eventually, I looked forward to being on her team. A blessing in disguise! I needed to move up, and one of the ways is through what she taught me. She was a lifeline.

*My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. James 1:2-4.*

Could someone eat the humble pie today and allow yourself to be humbled? If you remain in yourself, you will never learn and will repeat the same mistakes several times, which depreciates anyone. The person will run around in a circle. My eyes opened when the Lord taught me this the first time, and I said, "Lord, it doesn't matter where anything comes from. Put my eyes to see what you're doing and what you're saying". Could somebody banish pride? It is not as easy and simple as I said. Pride is horrible, and our world is full of pride. It takes humility to get by. Understanding when you need help and putting down your pride takes wisdom. Watch out for pride; it may look like humility, dress and act like it, but it is pride, and pride will always be pride. Some people do not receive help because they do not want to bother anyone. Is it just shyness, or are you too proud to ask? Your faith may be tried in other ways. Maybe delays:

*Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me? Psalm 119:82*

Your faith may be tried in taking on a low-paid job for your degrees. You might be asked to reduce your army from 33,000 to 300. The disciples were tested when asked to pour water into jugs and serve them as wine. How much are your faith and resilience?

### **Great is thy faith**

*Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt.*

This woman was importunate. She hung onto Elohim in wisdom. Yes, Lord, even the crumbs. I don't need a whole bread. I need the crumbs from you, Jesus. As the woman with the issue of blood required only a touch of the hem of His garment, this woman needed just the crumbs. I am happy to be a dog for you, Messiah, for a living dog is better than a dead lion. Just heal my child. Crumbs from You are more than silver and gold, or what anybody can give me. Our prayers should be: "Lord, give me the wisdom this lady had". Her faith pulled through.

Those who have received the Lord are now God's children. We have been washed by His blood and adopted into the Kingdom of His dear Son. We are no more aliens but co-heirs with Christ.

*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his Name John 1:12.*

Healing is now our bread. We are not picking the crumbs anymore. It belongs to us. Our part is now to ask, seek and knock; it shall be done for us. We can now come boldly to God's throne of mercy and receive help in time of need. It is a done deal. Great things will happen to you if you have the faith.

### **Just the crumb**

*Yes, Lord, even the crumbs.*

*My eyes are fixed on you*

*Truth Lord, I don't deserve bread  
My wretched sins brought me shame*

*CHORUS*

*Crumbs from the Master's table  
I don't need a whole bread.  
It is more than life itself.  
Just the crumbs will do  
Heal me, Lord, ere I die  
Save me, Lord ere I drown  
Lord, even the crumbs.*

*I should just be ignored.  
Idolatry made me low  
I am a sinful stranger  
But your Name will make me whole*

*O' Lord, I have insight  
And know where to find my help  
O' Lord, have mercy on me  
I know where the power lies*

*I know, Lord, you love me  
The power is with you, Lord  
I am holding on you  
I need my miracle*

*Thank you Lord, for the crumbs  
You rid me of my reproach  
You drew me out of dark-ness,  
And clenches of death and woe*

## Power Over Devils

**T**his miracle encourages us to know that demon possessions have expiry dates. They will not stay a minute longer when Jesus shows up. They can pose as much as they can, but when the ultimate power appears, they will bow.

*And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time? And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine. And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters. And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told every thing, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils.*

*And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts. Matthew 8:28-34.*

Here is a case where Satan was responsible for the affliction. The men were possessed by devils, meaning not one. Some people can

be so difficult to exhibit different characteristics that you wonder how. It could be bad habits, fierce attitudes, cheating, lying, irrational behaviour, and so many vices all in one person.

*Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. Galatians 5:19-21.*

*Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same but have pleasure in them that do them. Romans 1:29-32.*

These demons distort personalities and take away life out of humans. To the demon-possessed, everything is normal, but people around know something is wrong. Don't underrate Satan. He renders humans into the state of animals. It doesn't matter how many they are. Jesus has power over demons.

### **The devils recognised Yeshua**

Devils were humbled at his presence. At His name, they bow. The demons recognised Jesus. Recognising Yeshua for who He is in all situations would be great. He is abundantly able to deliver us and cast away any demons or devils disturbing us. Do you believe that he's able to move that mountain? Do you believe that he created all

things and that all powers belong to him? The demons knew him. My prayer today is that all of us will know Him. No wonder Paul prayed to know Him and the power of His resurrection. Knowing Him will change our attitude, way of life, perception, lifestyle, and belief. May we all know better than the devils.

In sickness, we will be rest assured He will heal us, the storms will be calmed, and the trouble will be taken away. At His command, they are banished. His presence blinds them and renders them powerless. Demons cannot stand His glory.

Principalities and power will bow because they know Him. If we know, we will be patient because he that believes shall not make haste.

*What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God?*

Light has no business with darkness, so our bodies cannot be defiled by Devils, in Jesus' name. Amen.

They said, "*Art thou come hither to torment us before the time?*"

The devils knew there was an appointed time to throw them into hell for everlasting torment. There is a time when they will be chained and bound for a thousand years, *Revelation 20:2* but for now, they may roam around like a roaring lion seeking whom to devour. Now, they may go to and from across to steal, kill, and destroy. But a day will come when they will be chained at Elohim's final judgment seat. He will cast devils and all those who do not believe into everlasting fire where worms do not die. *Mark 9:46-46*. David said, So teach us to number our days, That we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. *Psalms 90:12* When our days are numbered, we won't waste them. We will be cautious.

*So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine. And he said unto them, Go.*

They will have no choice but to go, Amen. Do you firmly believe? I used to have bad dreams each time I faced the wall sleeping in my teenage years. When I was born again, I knew that if any man



is in Christ, old things are past, and all things are new. I prayed in Jesus' name about it, and that was the end. Jesus drove them away forever. Whatever is ailing our relatives, our family, colleagues, neighbours, those in our offices, everywhere in the community, and even worldwide, now is the time we take authority. The Bible says Christ has given us authority, Yeshua gives us power, so we shall cast out devils. It's time for us to believe. We blame people for their behaviours, but demons are usually responsible for their actions. We should deal with the devils responsible.

The man wanted to be with Jesus, but He asked him to go. He is set free; there is no need to be afraid. He who The Son has set free is free indeed. The demons cannot come back. The authority of Christ is ultimate. No devil can undo what Jesus did.

*And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told everything, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils.*

The men may have been afraid of the glory of what happened, but why would they flee from the presence of Elohim? Some people come to church, and the preaching reveals their lives. Instead of staying and getting sorted out, they run away and would not come back to church. They fled at the presence of righteousness and help instead of receiving it. Accept the glorious light of the Gospel. Receiving Jesus is life everlasting.

## **Rejecting Christ could be as a result of:**

### **National belief system**

*And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts.*

This is bewildering. How could these people ask the person who took away their torment to go away from their coast? This is absurd

and unbelievable. What story did the Herdsmen tell that made the whole city do such a thing? They preferred to keep their swine than the deliverance of these two men. The men were exceedingly fierce that no man could pass by that way. They tormented the city.

Many nations and cities do not want the preaching of the Gospel. Many workplaces do not want Christians and lay them off at the slightest opportunity. Individuals may reject the grace and the goodness God brought to bless them. This may be due to:

### **Blindness**

*In whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 2 Corinthians 4:4.*

The surrounding things may prevent us from receiving God's goodness and mercy. We might be seeing wrong as right, darkness as light, and the chains of Satan as freedom.

### **Familiarity**

*Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him. But Jesus, said unto them, A prophet is not without honour; but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house. Mark 6:3-4.*

Familiarity can be very deceptive. We might reject the gift of God in a person because we know them too well to respect or honour them. This is common in families. Parents sometimes view their children as inexperienced; husband sees their wives as those who should be under them and vice versa. May the Lord open our eyes in the church, not to despise prophecy from a sister because they have nothing. A brother may have the gift of healing, but because

he is not the Pastor, people may not want him to pray for them. They will miss out.

### **Superiority complex**

*But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? 2 Kings 5:11-12.*

Pride respects no class. It can be seen in the highs and the lows. The “Better than thou” attitude. This can be a great hindrance to our blessings.

### **Racism**

*And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see. John 1:46.*

Racism can be horrible and could be a significant mental trap. Stereotype is not a healthy thing. Some people only attend churches where they have people of their colour and reject ministry from people of other races, yet they plan to go to Heaven. I am unsure what their destination will be because they will be disappointed to see all nations and tongues. Would they walk out of Heaven and go to hell as they will be angry at the mix? Does any racist create themselves or choose the family they were born in? Why the boast and fuss? It makes little sense.

### **Religion**

*They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? John 8:33.*

The spirit of religion can be quite limiting. It is not about belonging to a particular church but living the life of Christ. There is no need to be in church, but short of the grace of God. Taking up a title at church without righteousness will hinder salvation. That you are a church leader does not mean you cannot receive God's grace from another Brother or Sister.

Religion can hinder miracles from happening. Many preach their churches and their men of God, but not Yeshua. They're being blinded. Many people hold on to the religions of their forefathers in idolatry. Because of that, they're not making room for Yeshua Hamashiach. May you make room in your heart for him.

### **Hardness of heart**

*Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen. Mark 16:14.*

One's heart can be hardened that they don't see the wrong they are doing. God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, whosoever believeth will have mercy and be saved. There will be a remission of sin. There will be forgiveness if we can believe him. He died for the sins of everyone, irrespective of where you are coming from. I pray our eyes may be open, and we will take away the hardness of heart.

And Yeshua said to those devils, 'Go,' and they went. Every hardness of heart, religious spirit, racism, superiority complex, familiarity, blindness, demon tormenting your life, relatives, work, situations, neighbours, or loved ones must go as Jesus commanded those devils. Amen.

## Diverse Diseases Healed

Troubles and sorrows could sometimes be many, and one may lack words to qualify them. In any case, it doesn't matter what they are; just bunch them together and take them to the feet of Jesus. They will be sorted.

*And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with dev-ils. And all the city was gathered together at the door. And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, be-cause they knew him. Mark 1:32-34.*

*When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be ful-filled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Him-self took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses. Matthew 8:16-17.*

*Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them. And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, Thou art Christ the Son of God. And he rebuking them suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Christ. Luke 4:40-41.*

Diverse means there were all kinds of sicknesses. If we try to name them, we might miss out on some. They come in diverse ways. Some are of known origin, and some are of unknown origin and beyond the scientific mind of man. At the time, it may look like all joints and hinges of life had given way. One is living a vegetative life with mental illness or low self-esteem. Some people feel they don't look good enough and try to change themselves.

There are many diseases, not just physical ones but social diseases. When you feel you're not good enough, are impressionable, or cannot stand for yourself. Psychological conditions also exist when your thinking has been distorted and bizarre. It doesn't matter what limitations you may have: this is the time to release your faith and say, "Here am I, Lord! I bring myself to your mercy seat".

It doesn't matter the sickness, look up to Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith. He was bruised for our infirmities. Through the stripes given to Him, we were healed. This means our healing has already gone forth even before we go through any sickness. It is like a ready-made meal in the fridge. All you need is to warm and eat it.

Our healing has been paid for by the blood of Yeshua Hamashiach. Touch wherever you have the sickness, deformity, or pain and affirm that the price for your healing has been paid. Do it by faith. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. At the mention of His name, every demon and principality will bow. See God through the eyes of faith. He is right here as you read this book, He will heal you.

Stand firm on the confession. Say to yourself, "I am healed; The blood of Jesus makes me whole, and I will prosper and be in good health". 3 *John 1:2* No weapon formed against you shall prosper. Every tongue that rises up against you shall be condemned in judgment. *Isaiah 54:17*. Tongues of diseases, mental illness,

physical illness, social illness, psychological illness, whatever name they are called shall be condemned in judgment. Your body is the temple of the living God, the living Elohim. God will nullify anything that will defile your body.

Let's not forget sin is also a disease. It is the worst disease that leads to eternal damnation. Sin is a terrible spiritual disease of the heart that cripples and takes one to hell. Pray, "Lord, this sin of rising and falling that overtake me is going today". Avarice, greed, cheating, malice, envy, bitterness, maliciousness, haters of God, truth breakers, covenant breakers, jealousy, pride, idolatry, adultery and fornication, those disobedience to parents and abusers of themselves, just to mention but a few. *Romans 1:28-32*. Hold on to the cross and proclaim the finished work of Calvary. Tell yourself it is finished. Sin shall no longer have dominion over you.

As you leave your door to school or work, latch on to the promise in *Psalms 121* that the sun will not smite you by the day. As you return to sleep, the moon shall not smite you by night. The afflictions and diseases of the unrighteous shall not come near you. Be strong in faith, God will heal you. You might look at the sickness, and it seems to linger; have faith, you shall be made whole.

I know there is power in the blood of Jesus. My family and I can testify. We have seen it, touched it, and now we preach it. There is power in the blood of Jesus, so we live to serve Him forever. We will adore and give Him praise. His greatness and glory shall come on us. He delivers those who trust in Him.

Jesus said to them in John 11, "Lazarus is sick, but that sickness was not unto death". Physically, he died, but the Lord wanted to show his power. The Lord will show His power to you. You will arise no matter how long that situation has been in the grave.

He bore our sicknesses. He came for the sick; do not be afraid. He is with you. You will not be consumed by circumstances.

*When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; nei-ther shall the flame kindle upon thee. Isaiah 43:2.*

The devil tells people that God does not exist because he, the enemy, wants to remain. He knows that if we do not believe he will have a good place to rest, relax and make his abode, but once we believe he cannot stay. That is why he is taking his time to deceive men, to bring doubt, fear, and unbelief. If you believe in Christ and his power, sickness, depression, loneliness, pain, worry, and anxiety will go away.

Some people have been through abuse, molested in life from childhood, and are emotionally tormented. Counselling and research have not helped them. Come to Jesus, His name is mighty and has the power to stop the raging waves and heal many diseases; He can forgive all manner of sin. We know he rebukes demons, casts demons away and gives us a sound mind.

*Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Je-sus every knee should bow. Philippians 2:8.*

Appropriate His name in faith. You lose nothing believing, but you gain all. There is no other name whereby we may be saved. The name that shakes the mountains and moves the oceans.

The name by which all things were created, and nothing is created that is not of Him. Right where you are, rise and call on the name of Jesus. He is in our midst, home, body, mind, heart, and every situation we face. We cannot be afraid; Jesus is the Solid Rock, and on Him we stand.



## The Unclean Spirit

**T**here will not be any hiding place for Satan, not even in the unlikely places like worship centres. Be assured Jesus will find him out.

*And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the Synagogue, and taught. And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes. And there was in their Synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him. And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him. And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee. Mark 1:21-28.*

*And came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the sabbath days. And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his Word was with power. And in the Synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou*

*Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not. And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a word is this! for with authority and power he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out. And the fame of him went out into every place of the country round about. Luke 4:31-37.*

### **The crowd was astonished at His doctrine**

Here again, we find an attentive crowd. They were not like the ones that dodge Bible studies. Those who cannot stay for more than an hour in the church. They are happy to go to the theatre for the new film release but will not stay in church for too long. This crowd are like David, who was happy when they said to him, come to the house of the Lord to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of his life. The house of God is a place of safety.

*And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: For he taught them. Matthew 7:28-29.*

His Word is a miracle. There was no separate healing crusade here. When we teach the Word, miracles will happen for those of us wondering how miracles can happen.

*And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things. Mark 6:34.*

The entrance of thy words gives light. As the Word goes in, it pushes away the darkness. Jesus taught the people, and deliverance happened. Satan will not budge if you exclude the Word. He only reacts to the written Word. He bowed when Jesus told him, "It is

written” at the His temptation. It takes the Word to convict men of sin and of unrighteousness. Satan cannot stand teaching. *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1.*

## **Demons cannot stand the Word**

People are happy with the dancing and testimonies at church but will sleep during the sermon. Some people complain about free sermons being too long but can spend hours watching films they paid for in theatres. They cannot take the Word and will not share it. Music and drama get the highest views on social media, followed by three to ten-minute clips of messages. Anything more than that will remain starved. Preachers have gone into short and scanty messages to reach the crowd. People flip through for messages that are not long.

The Word of God comes with great strength. It takes a stronger man to drive a strongman from his house. *Mark 3:37*. In some places, demons are cast out of the same person at every church service. Are the demons deaf? Now, we know one of the secrets of driving away demons is to preach sound doctrines. Take teaching out, and you have a bunch of demons doing jamboree, drinking and surfing the net and sitting at ease in the church.

The only thing that can hit or knock Satan out is the Word. The Word of God is powerful and quick. It cuts even the hardest heart asunder. *Hebrews 4:12*. The Word convicts the sinner, the armed robber, the murderer, the harlot. Physical prison cannot do it; instead, they become more hardened and serial offenders. Counsellors do not cast out demons. Those who push people down to cast out demons are wasting their time. Demons don't respond to such. No beating or shouting will do the job. No prayer book or colourful handkerchief will do it, either. Repetitive rituals cannot cast him out.

People might complain that the Word you preach is harsh and threaten to leave. Please don't mind them, carry on. It is not the people complaining but unsettled demons.

In most places of miracles He taught, He had no separate healing, teaching, prophetic, or evangelistic ministry. Everything was manifesting simultaneously. So those who just come to miracle services without the Word, I assure you Satan will not bulge because he only reacts to the written Word. Conviction came through the Word, and Satan could not stand it anymore and shouted out.

It takes the Word to convict men of sin, righteousness, and judgment. It takes the entrance of the Word to drive demons out.

Thank God for Fasting and prayers, but the Word will drive Satan this time. Stick to God's Word.

### **Demons came to church**

*And there was in their Synagogue a man with an unclean spirit;*

This is thought-provoking. Satan was sitting still in the Synagogue. He could do that because the preachers were hypocrites. The Priests were busy taking up the high seats, the Pharisees were blinded by Moses' law, the Scribes arguing about the resurrection, the Lawyers and Doctors seeking to catch Jesus out, and the Levites after the rituals. The ordinary people were buying and selling turtle doves, changing money. Nothing remained as the place of worship was spiritually empty. Satan came in with a rocking chair to relax and rock himself to sleep.

Satan knows the church, family, and individual void of the Word of God. He knows which church the Pastor leaves in secret sin, and members live in compromise and strife. The church infested with malice, envy, and unrighteousness is far-reaching. Unclean Spirits will come to relax because the Spirit of God is not in such a place. Righteousness drives Satan crazy and pushes him away.

The beauty of holiness dazzles him, and he cannot remain among Saints.

### **The Demons recognised Jesus**

Unclean spirits knew Jesus and cried out:

*Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth?*

*And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God that thou torment me not. Mark 5:7.*

*And he healed many sick of divers diseases and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak because they knew him. Mark 1:34*

*And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, Thou art Christ the Son of God. And he rebuking them suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Christ. Luke 4:41.*

*And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time? Matthew 8:29.*

*And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God. And he straitly charged them that they should not make him known. Mark 3:11-12.*

Does Demons know us as righteous people? They know those who are called by Christ's name. Light has no business with darkness at all. Worldliness, pride and arrogance in the church are a mismatch to holiness. The devils ask Jesus what they have to do with Him. Seek to be like Jesus, and demons will have nothing to do with you.

*Nevertheless, the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that*

*nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. 2 Timothy 2:19.*

*And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? Acts 19:15.*

### **There is an expiry date for oppression**

On this faithful day, he came in to relax as usual, thinking that the Scribes and Pharisees would go into a hot debate on the resurrection so that he could watch drama. However, the power and authority are in the Word. Jesus walked into the Tabernacle with authority and power, and every knee bowed.

When the Word of God is allowed in us, whatever contrary thing that relaxed in you will be driven away in Jesus' Name, Amen.

*Art thou come to destroy us?* Yes, that is why Jesus came: to destroy the demons that wreaked havoc in your life.

*For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 1 John 3:8.*

The unclean Spirits went out of the man and did not hurt him. Please don't hurt people physically; it will not take away the demons. Speak the Word, teach the Word, and that will be done. Jesus did it with authority and power, and we have that authority. Rebuke the unclean Spirit in the name of Jesus, and they will back off. Remember. There is power in the Word. Demons will scream out and be ready for eviction.

## Thy Son Liveth

**T**his miracle is dedicated to all who will not allow wealth or affluence to deny them the blessings of humility.

*Then when he was come into Galilee, the Galileans received him, having seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the feast: for they also went unto the feast. So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe. The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die.*

*Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth. Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house. This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judæa into Galilee. John 4:45-54.*

## He left the city to look for Jesus in the village

The nobleman lived in Capernaum, a developed city during the time of Jesus. It was the city of Matthew, the tax collector and all about money. You can't invade tax in Capernaum.

*And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute? Matthew 17:24.*

He went from the City of Capernaum to the Village of Cana to seek a miracle. There is not a lot to do in villages. The experts, science, and medical practice are more in the city than the village. He heard that Jesus was in the Village of Cana and went to look for Him.

Capernaum was a typical city of sin. Jesus lamented their unbelief and recalcitrancy, yet a nobleman was in that city. He chose to go the opposite way of the majority by trusting that Jesus could help him which was one of the secrets to get his miracle.

*And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee. Matthew 11:23-24.*

## A nobleman with humility

Nobody goes with the emblem of riches on the street, yet you will identify them. Their clothing, car, houses, good looks, and carriage singles them out. Noble people could afford anything. Why come to Jesus? He would have paid for a flight or hired a private jet to bring Jesus over. This man stripped himself of everything he's got. He humbled himself, unlike Naaman, who asked, "Who Elisha was to tell him to go to river Jordan to dip



himself seven times?” Can’t he come to Syria and talk to him? That was typical of a man of wealth!

*But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage. 2 Kings 5:11-12.*

He may have read about Naaman and will not repeat his mistake. May we strip ourselves of our ideologies, experiences, and wealth and humble ourselves to get the miracles before us. Most times, what hinders the manifestation of miracles is ourselves and the things surrounding us that we cling to. The nobleman made up his mind to go after Jesus, as his son was dying, and he couldn’t take chances. He knew the Pharisees might be surprised at his move and could mock him as they mocked Nicodemus in *John 7:52*, but he said to himself, ‘Pharisees can’t help me, so what’s the big deal listening to them?’ He humbled himself. Cana is a little village, so if he had flown with a private jet, there would have been no runway to land on. If he dressed like the pageanties, his regalia would have become dirty.

Jesus is humble Himself and gives grace to the humble. The proud will get nothing but resistance from God.

*And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Philippians 2:8.*

*Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. John 4:52.*

He came with the crowd and waited for a whole day. It means he had been out for more than 24 hours with the crowd waiting to see Jesus, and how many rich men would do that today? Not when they are driven in Limousines, and they wave at the masses through the tinted glasses. May the Lord help us take great steps in removing everything hindering us from receiving from him. They are nothing at all.

He was a nobleman with great wealth but went on this journey. He may have slept outside with others, pushed in the crowd, and gone through some humbling with ordinary people.

He stripped himself of every air of affluence and sought Jesus with ordinary people. You can take the same bold step and cry unto the Lord for help. Put aside titles and the pride of life and get your miracle.

Some people do not get their miracle because the place where miracles could be assessed does not match their class or expectations. They may feel too proud and ashamed to attend church, a place God ordained for their eternal heritage. Some may look down on the person or minister God is using because they look simple and are not wealthy. Some prefer places with red carpets and crowds of wealthy people like them. The church building and the interior are sized up, and more offence kicks in when those in the church seem to be of lower class. They storm out in disdain. Some will reverse and go just by seeing old jalopies in the church car park.

The nobleman was an excellent example of what we should do when in need. Please get help, and do not allow anything to stop you. The nobleman did not allow anything to stop him. He moved self to the side as it can sometimes become a problem. His miracle came because he put self, wealth, and affluence and came for the saviour. That is the secret of his miracle.

We had a funny experience in our church when somebody walked into the building we were using and sized down the hall. He told a sister that it was not what he expected. He expected to see a hall with expensive carpets, comfortable seats, a big choir, a fancy altar and so on. Well, he was disappointed. He left and didn't come back, yet what brought him was to study at the School of Ministry, but he missed it.

We have seen people come to church telling everybody who they are and what they have. Well, in the church, only Jesus is the King. We don't need another, nor are we seeking any idol to worship. Worst still are ministers who do not go to minister in small churches because there are only a handful of people. They prefer to go to larger churches where they will be recognised. I am glad Jesus was happy to pastor a church of twelve people.

If we can say, "Lord, I put down all pride of life, title and self", there will be no limit to getting our blessings.

### **His faith was tried but he was not deterred.**

Finally, he endured the crowd and got to Jesus, but neither got a warm welcome nor an accolade for making the journey; instead, his faith was tried.

*Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe. John 4:48.*

Some people would have taken this statement as harsh and would say,

"Oh no, this Pastor is rude; can you imagine what he said to me? At least you would have respected me. I am a nobleman from the City of Capernaum and came to look for you carpenter in the village of Cana, and this is what I got".

They would have complained that the Pastor was rude and become angry. They would have felt disrespected and walked

away. It would have been a wasted journey after travelling down from the city and waiting for more than a day. Moreover, this was a mere carpenter talking to a noble person.

Over the years, we have seen wonderful brethren that the enemy got cheap on these grounds. They got angry at a message that truthfully hit them and left the church. They left the course of their destinies.

His attitude was different, typifying his nobility. If he had taken offence and left, his son would have died. To him, it didn't matter what Jesus said. He is The Alpha and Omega, The King, The Father, and The Creator. He knows our hearts, and everything He says is true. Any offence will be against himself, so he didn't take that route. He had come a long way for a miracle and would not be deterred.

*The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die. John 4:49.*

‘Sir, I don't mind whatever hard truth I am told, please intervene, my son is dying’. He remained focused on his needs and not giving up. He stood strong, looking unto Jesus. Don't get put off by what you are told, as some do, and miss out.

### **He was an obedient man.**

*Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.*

Obedient people will always walk in miracles. The nobleman might have thought, “Off I go, holding unto what he said to me. I came a long way to get this; that is all I want to hear. My son is alive. No doubt.” He took his journey back to Capernaum. He did it. For him, it was done. God said it, and it was settled. All power belongs to Him.

How many of us would believe what the Lord has said concerning you? Do you believe you're healed, the strange situation is taken care of, and His blood is powerful enough to cleanse us from all unrighteousness? Do you believe that you can be turned around and made as white as snow? Please believe.

There was no thought like, "What if I get home and my son is not healed? How can I come back to Cana? Jesus would have left, and what would I do? Which city am I going to look for him? No, I am not going. I have to make him come with me to be sure".

Some people go for what they see and want proof before they can believe. That is fine, but please believe Elohim when it comes to faith and miracles. Believe in His word, and you'll prosper. Believe in his prophets. It shall be done unto you. Simple!

*Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. 2 Chronicles 20:20.*

He went as Jesus said, with no doubt. He knew who had spoken that with him, all things are possible. He did not think it would not happen or that he would be disappointed. The master had spoken, and so it was. This is Cana, where he turned water into wine, so my son is healed according to His word.

The disciples' obedience in filling the pots with water and having it turned out as wine prepared the ground for this miracle. It was noised abroad; people drank the wine and were witnesses. Even though it sounds silly, the lesson on obedience ripped through and made it easy for people to believe. Many of us cry, complain and agitate when we face difficulties. If we don't stay still and allow God to see us through, we will not experience the miracle. If the first one is sorted out, it will be easy to believe that the second one will be sorted, but most of the time, we don't give God a chance to put smiles on our faces.

After studying this man's actions, you can also believe God for your miracles this same hour. Just say to the Lord, "Lord, I heard you. I put self, doubt and pride down. I believe, and it shall be done to me according to your word".

This miracle was written for you and me so that we know that Yeshua is real, his words are powerful, and he moves in a mysterious way.

The attitude of this nobleman reminded me of the third, fourth, fifth and sixth stanzas of William Cowper's 1774 song; God Moves in a mysterious ways".

*Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;  
the clouds ye so much dread  
are big with mercy and shall break  
in blessings on your head.*

*Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,  
but trust Him for His grace;  
behind a frowning providence  
He hides a smiling face.*

*His purposes will ripen fast,  
unfolding every hour;  
the bud may have a bitter taste,  
but sweet will be the flow'r.*

*Blind unbelief is sure to err,  
and scan His work in vain;  
God is His own interpreter,  
and He will make it plain.*

The dark clouds you dread will break in blessings on you. Stop running away in hiding. All things will work together for good for you. If you don't get to the Red Sea, it will not part. You get nowhere if you keep watching and looking at it from afar. It will still be there and loom on you. Jordan will part when your feet get into the water. So, stop being afraid. You're in for a huge thing. God wants to showcase you. God wants to use you for a miracle, to show your generation that He is the Lord, but we are not allowing him.

'Yes, Lord, like this noble man. Lord, I'm going to take my journey. I am dumping everything representing the city, the knowledge, wealth, arrogance, pride and pageantry, for the village where my miracle is.

This miracle teaches us to humble ourselves and seek the Lord while he may be found. This gentleman was a nobleman man from the city. He took the journey to the village of Cana. He humbled himself and stayed on with others. He put his wealth aside when he got to Jesus. He was given a gentle rebuke and was not offended. He was asked to go; He went in faith, and his child was healed.

## Speak The Word

**T**his miracle is for all who have all the conveniences money and power can afford, yet they are humble. They recognise the extent to which those assets can go and a line they cannot cross. Humility opens the door to miracles. Reading Matthew's and Luke's accounts will bring more insight into this miracle. Luke gave more to the background story. Please read the two.

*And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. The Centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. And Jesus said unto the Centurion, Go thy way; and as thou*



*hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour. Matthew 8:5-13.*

*Now, when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum. And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die. And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant. And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this: For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue. Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the Centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldest enter under my roof: Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick. Luke 7:1-10.*

### **This servant was dear to his Master**

It takes a level of commitment and good behaviour to be dear to your Master. This is not his child but his servant. What wealthy man will stoop so low to join the crowd to ask for his servant to be healed? This servant must be exceptional; there must be something about this servant. It takes obedience, loyalty, humility, hard work, and good attributes to be dear to your Master.

The question is, what can we do to have our masters stick out their necks for us? Are we that loyal and well-behaved? It takes a level of integrity to have our Master stand in for us. Jesus is seated at the right hand of God, making intercession for us. Will he find us faithful to intercede for us?

*Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Romans 8:34.*

Faithfulness is the key. God will not let us die if we serve the Lord in obedience and loyalty. He will go out of His way to restore us. There is good in being dear to our Master. There is hope and security. We will be treated as friends.

*Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. John 15:14.*

*If a man loves me, I will love him, my Father will love him, and we will abide with him.* Jesus and the Father live in us in the person of the Holy Spirit. It means no sickness, demon, or principality will defile our bodies. It will be chaste unto the Lord.

*Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. John 14:23.*

This man did not allow his servant to die. There may be areas of our lives that are sick unto death. Jesus is making intercession for us. Do not lose hope or get discouraged. We have a Master who is speaking on our behalf. It does not matter the shadow of death you are passing through, the roads closed on you, or the tunnel looking so dark. The good Lord will take you through. He will speak for you. His thought for you is of good, not evil, to give you an expected end.

### **He knows how to get help**

He besought the elders to speak on his behalf. He was a gentile; the bread is for the children, not dogs, as said to the Syrophoenician woman. Many of us do not know how to ask for help. Some out of pride, ignorance, or just trying to not bother. He did not carry any air of affluence but humbled himself to ask. Some miss God's blessing because they feel too big to ask. The person may be of lower class, but that is where the blessings lie. The church may be small with a poor Pastor, but that is where the miracle is.

### **It takes goodwill to speak on someone's behalf**

Something gave this man the boldness to beseech the elders to speak on his behalf. He was one of the Roman Soldiers who were no good. They extorted money from people. They arrest you if you don't pay tax on literally everything. Jesus was born in a manger because Mary and Joseph were travelling home to be numbered for taxation at the command of Augustus Caesar. No room was in any inn, and they resorted to the stables. Hopefully, we have room for Jesus.

### **He had a good report**

This Centurion's case was different. He had a good report of them that are without. Good begets good, and light begets light. He came for His servant, and the Jews spoke to Jesus of his good deeds. It is rewarding to be a good person. Jesus came for every class of people in the society. He came for old and young, poor and rich.

*Moreover, he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. 1 Timothy 3:7*  
*That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without. 1 Thessalonians 4:12.*

If this man had not a good report and was like other corrupt soldiers, his servant would have died. He was singled out, which should be our desire to have a good report of people. It is all about what the people can say about me.

In *Acts 10:1-4*, Cornelius was a gentile man who loved the Lord passionately. The Lord sent Peter to him and his household. If you have been doing good, the Lord has seen you. It doesn't matter where you are: in prison, a cave, on the corner of the street, isolated, or in a desert. The Lord will get to you. Are you in the ocean waiting for the whales and sharks to swallow you up because there is no rescue? The Lord has seen you. Keep trusting, the Lord has seen you. Jesus had compassion because of the good report. May we have a good report.

### **He was humble**

The Centurion would not let Jesus come to his house. To him, he was a gentile, a Roman Soldier, a sinner and unworthy of having Jesus under his roof. He made his case by telling Jesus his position in society.

*"For I also am a man set under authority... and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth"*, but he was also humble. People at that level are not always humble. They are filled with pride and arrogance. Naaman said to Elisha to come to Syria and slap his hands on the leprosy to heal it. He would have remained leprose if he had not gone to wash in Jordan. The Centurion got this miracle because he was humble. How far can anyone go in pride? God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble.

### **Unprecedented faith**

Speak the word, and that is okay for me. This man's faith was unparalleled. Nowadays, we will need points of contact, special handkerchiefs, special oil and water. We need something to show.

We will be worried that mere words cannot do it. We need drama and acting to happen before we can believe it. For the Centurion, it is, speak the word! I know what the word means.

*In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. John 1:1-5.*

The word says, *I shall not die, I will live to declare the goodness of the Lord. Though I pass through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil. I wish above all things that you may prosper in good health. I am the Lord, your healer. I will never leave no forsake you. I have redeemed thee. My banner over you is love. His mercies are new every morning.*

There is power in the word. Faith has only one price tag, “Believe”. Our faith should be alive at all times. Jesus spoke highly of him. The challenge is now ours. Can someone ask Jesus to just speak the word?

### **Warning to the religious**

There is a warning around this miracle to the religious.

*When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

The religious are too familiar with the word and are not profited. They receive the word for others but not for themselves. They have heard the word before, so it is no new thing. They are in doubt. They have Abraham as their Father. They miss out on miracles because of spiritual pride. May we heed that warning and not fall into this trap of deceptive familiarity but open ourselves in faith, believing in Yeshua's Name. Amen.

## Weep Not

*And it came to pass the day after, that he went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people. Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not. And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother. And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, that God hath visited his people. And this rumour of him went forth throughout all Judaea, and throughout all the region round about. Luke 7:11-17.*

This young man was dead. All hope was gone. He was the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. An unfortunate situation. No wonder people cried. If she is just a widow, there are other widows. If her child died, others have lost their children, too. If she had an only child, many have only one child, and some do not. In her case, all the surrounding walls collapsed.

One trouble is enough, but to have three worst-case scenarios is horrible. I am unsure who is in this condition now, with so many things happening to you in one go. She only had three, yours may

be innumerable, and you are collapsing with the walls. People are sending messages and prayers to comfort you. You are going through dialysis, waiting for a transplant, losing a loved one, poverty, hunger, no hope, and a loved one on life support, and you are about to commit suicide. It is too much; you cannot take it anymore. You have come to the end of the road. Family matters have crippled you, and hope seems far to reach.

So many things may be happening to you in one go. You have cried out your eyes. Messages, phone calls, consolations, and condolences come from every angle. Some people will go to stay with family or friends, but you have no one to go to. It is challenging and devastating. You have lost four jobs in a row, the swollen legs have gone gangrenous and need to be amputated, there is no food, and the children are malnourished. You are probably locked up in a room and just waiting for you to close your eyes to death.

Jesus had compassion on her and said to her, weep not. Have you wept for 20 years, and your cries sounded like music in your ears? Weep not. You smile during the day and wet your pillows all night. You have asked, “Why me, of all people?”. Weep not! You are still alive, whatever that problem may be, legions or bands. May your faith rise in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

Weep not, Jesus is the resurrection and the life. *Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? John 11:25-26.*

Weep not, Jesus has prevailed. *And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. Revelation 5:5.*



Weep not, He reigns forever, and all tears shall be wiped away. *For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. Revelation 7:17.*

Weep not. All authorities and powers are subject to Jesus. The disease and pain are subject to him. The worry and everything troubling you are subject to him. Whatever difficulty you are facing is subject to him. It does not matter what age, race and tribe. By Him are all things created, and without Him is nothing made.

*Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him. 1 Peter 3:22.*

*I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death. Revelation 1:18.*

*For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted which did put all things under him. 1 Corinthians 15:25-27.*

Some will tell you they are going through hell. Hell is hot and terrible; it burns, and no comfort is in hell. Christ has the keys to death and hell. They sting no more, weep not. This should give us assurance. Satan may buffet you with threats and trials, but Jesus has prevailed. Hang on to him, do not waver.

*Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; 1 Timothy 6:15.*

The raging tempest and billows may rise taller than your ship; weep not. *The pillars of heaven tremble and are astonished at*

*his reproof. He divideth the sea with his power, and by his understanding he smiteth through the proud. Job 6:11-12.*

It does not matter whatever is boasting of itself or looming large on you. Weep not. The Lord will comfort you. Name all your waste places if you can remember them and if you can't remember them, don't bother. Put them in one corner.

*For the Lord shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody. Isaiah 51:3.*

Weep not. The Lord will reprove everything antagonising you. *The pillars of heaven tremble and are astonished at his reproof. He divideth the sea with his power, and by his understanding he smiteth through the proud. Job 26:11-12.*

Rejoice! A new freshness and newness of life are coming to you. The scriptures have it all. When calamities and fears try to grip you, break them with the Word. Weep not. That heart that is broken will be bound, the Lord will bind it together again and you will have wholeness of life,

*The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted. That heart that is broken will be bound this morning, the Lord will bind it together again and you will have wholeness of life, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified. And they shall build the*

*old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations. Isaiah 61:1-4.*

All generational curses shall be rebuked. Today, you are set at liberty from all desolation, things carrying on in families, untimely death, near-success syndrome, mental illness, distorted homes, death, and inherited sicknesses. They are not for you. Say no to them. You are in a covenant relationship with Christ Jesus; the blood has blotted out every adverse situation.

Are you brokenhearted? Weep not, you will be bound. *He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the Lord hath spoken it. Isaiah 25:8.*

Weep not. Christ has swallowed up death in victory, physical death, spiritual death, psychological death, and emotional death.

Weep not; sorrow and sighing shall fly away. *And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Isaiah 35:10.*

The Lord had redeemed and ransomed us from the hands of Satan. He paid the price. His blood did it. His blood that speaks better things has done it. They will linger no more.

*For the Lord hath redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he. Therefore, they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the Lord, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all. Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old*

*together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow. Jeremiah 31:11-13.*

Weep not. Jesus stills every turmoil, false lion or python. *Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them. Psalm 89:9.*

Weep not, Jesus has subdued all things and has put them to quietness. *Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. Philippians 3:21.*

Weep not, Jesus saves to the uttermost. *Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost. Hebrews 7:25.*

Weep not, He is able to deliver. *If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. Daniel 3:17.*

The young man rose from the dead. You will arise. Call forth all those things that were dead to come back to life. Call them forth. That worry, anxiety, bad habit, trial, temptation, alcohol, drug, evil intention, pornography, anger that has tied you down, bitterness, stubbornness, pride. Speak faith and call forth life to your situations.

You will send messages to all who came weeping for you that the Lord has turned away your captivity. As those that bore the bier stood still, so shall everything carrying your dead depositions stand still in Jesus' Name, Amen. You will arise and speak again. His compassion has taken care.

## The Damsel is not Dead

*And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him: for they were all waiting for him. And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house: For he had one only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying. But as he went the people thronged him.*

*And when he came into the house, he suffered no man to go in, save Peter, and James, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden. And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead. And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise. And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat. And her parents were astonished: but he charged them that they should tell no man what was done. Luke 8:40-42, 51-56; Matthew 9:18-19, 23-26.*

*And, behold, there cometh one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name; and when he saw him, he fell at his feet, And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.*

*While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain which said, Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further? As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe. And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James. And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly. And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying. And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, damsel, I say unto thee, arise. And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment. And he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat. Mark 5:22-23, 35-43.*

### **He fell down at Jesus' feet and worshipped Him.**

Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue, fell at Jesus' feet, asking Him to come to his house to heal his daughter. This was when his colleagues, the Scribes and Pharisees, were mocking Jesus. He was different. He singled himself out of the negative company. While Jesus was derided by others, Jairus recognised Him. He didn't dance to the opinion of men.

Unlike Nicodemus, who came to Jesus by night, he was open about his convictions of Christ.

He is well known in the synagogue, but he has a problem. His daughter was dying and he needs help. There is no shame about it, he humbled himself. No wonder Jesus followed him.

## Why troublest thou the Master.

The child is dead, and to the people, that was the end of the story. It is not expected to have a dead person come to life again. It is the land of no return. All hope is gone, and life is taken out. Many people have faced a challenging situation that has led them to lose hope. It may be a loss of a lucrative job, and life seems to be over. It's gone forever. In their physical eyes, the page is closed, but Jairus knows who he came to. The owner of life and death. He stood by his faith. Though this child died; with Jesus, she shall live again.

*As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe.*

The same word is coming to you; be not afraid. The cruel mocking of people doesn't matter. Jesus heard them all, and He is with you. Just take the attitude of Jairus. He believed the Lord. Jesus regarded their actions as an ado, and you do the same. You will get the faith and grace to stand. Regard the dire situation as a staged drama by Satan, and so shall it be.

All three accounts of this story described it differently depending on what they saw. Luke wrote: *And all wept, and bewailed her.* Matthew wrote, *"And saw the minstrels and the people making a noise.* Mark wrote: *and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly"*. There was crying, weeping, wailing, noise, and minstrels. There may be some kind of noise around you. Regard the banging footstep of Satan marching towards you as an ado, and so shall it be. The noise will calm down in the name of Jesus. With God, all things are possible.

## Scornful laughter

He took with Him Peter, James and John. When they got in, He asked everybody to leave, but they laughed Him to scorn. How

could people cry and laugh at the same time? That crowd was not real, their cry was fake. The wrong crowd. Will you be able to recognise the wrong crowd around you? This crowd could see as far as their carnal senses could take them. To them, from all they knew, this child was dead. Little did they know that the Resurrection and Life was right there in their midst.

They laughed at Jesus, so don't worry if you are laughed at. Things might not have worked out because of some limitations in life. Situations may have laughed you to scorn, maybe poverty, your parents had nothing, and you were raised in a high-rise in a community of drugs, rapes and knife crime. Perhaps alcohol has wrecked you and left you with no sense of balance. Nobody cares about you. Remember, a good number of people on earth who did not have the well-withal made it in life. You will make it! Only believe you will arise. You will live again.

### **Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth.**

They knew the heartbeat and breathing had stopped. The experts have confirmed her dead. Why is He saying the child is sleeping?

Weep Not! She is not dead but sleeping. Tell yourself you are not dead. That situation or circumstance is not dead, but sleeping. It will awake. Proclaim it: "I am not dead, my child is not dead, my academics is not dead, my career is not dead, my marriage is not dead, my promotion is not dead, my business is not dead, my joy is not dead, my finances is not dead, the war cannot kill me, poverty cannot kill me, wicked people cannot kill me, sin cannot kill me, they are all sleeping and will rise again in Jesus Name Amen". Because He lives, I can face tomorrow. Don't allow disappointment to depress you. Don't get stressed out because of the exams, the loans, and the looming uncertainties. Today may look dead, but tomorrow will rise again.



## Put out the distraction

Jesus put out those who laughed him to scorn. The distractions and noises were put out. Put out the things posing as a threat, trying to reduce you to nothing and to die of emotions.

Put out the depression, the satanic whispers of hopelessness that want to kill you. Jesus put them all away. Gather all the troubles together and tell them to go.

Elijah took the child out from the crying mother to go and pray. He went away from the noise of the crying.

*And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed. 1 King 17:19.*

We have to tune out the noise, the screaming headlines, the breaking news, the red letters, the long-term conditions, and conspiracy theories. Please tune out the noise.

Elisha did the same with the Shunammite woman's son. He took the child away, went into the room, and shut the door.

*He went in therefore, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto the Lord. 2 King 4: 33.*

Reject every family curse, inherited disease, and negative things. Tune out the scorners; they have nothing to contribute and cannot bring any dead situation back to life. The manner of Jesus is to put away distractions. He did that with the deaf man in Mark 7:33 and also with the blind man. He took them away from the noise to the outer city to allow the miracle.

Peter took Dorcas out and prayed, and she arose. So, will you put out distractions and look to Jesus.

*But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed. Acts 9:40.*

Noise and tumults will distract you, bring you down, remove your faith, and disorganise and discourage you. It is only by faith, *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Hebrews 11:6.*

Distractions are a lot, and they can represent anything. It could be an empty fridge with no food inside. We can ask for the grace to put away everything that has distracted us. Jairus got the news that the daughter had died. He didn't tell Jesus to forget it but still allowed him to come in.

### **Maid, arise**

You will rise. Let this miracle be your portion. Jairus believed and besought the Lord. The phrases "I'm afraid" or "Unfortunately" may have been said to you several times. I tell you, nothing is unfortunate. Jesus is with us. Is it a job you didn't get because of disability, labels, and stereotypes? You have not married but have given up hope of marriage or getting a child. The voices are telling you it is impossible; tune them out.

Believe the Lord. Nothing will be worse than a dead person. It is the last bus stop, but you are not there yet. You are still alive. Discouraging voices can be heavy. It can attack the mind, come through people, and blow like a wind to remove your roof. The roof will not be blown away. Arise. Speak strength. Regard the illness as temporal. It will go. Relax and trust Elohim.

## Our Friend Lazarus Sleepeth

**T**his miracle is dedicated to all those who love the Lord but are going through difficult times. A popular question out there is: why do good people suffer or face hard times? The miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead strengthens the faith of all who have this question to ask. Mary anointed Jesus with a precious ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. Why will her brother die? There are twenty-two lessons to learn, which are not exhaustive.

*1. Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.) John 11:1-2.*

Satan has shaken people's faith to take them out of the truth by suggesting that being sick means you are not loved by God or a punishment from God. Those who listen to this lie have thrown in the towel and made room for backsliding. They have allowed Satan to discourage them and feed them with the food of sadness. They ask God all the 'whys' they are sick because people out there will think their relationship with God is not strong. It is assumed that those who married had their prayers answered, and those who didn't have problems. Those with houses and wealth are preferred, and those who do not have are meant to suffer. All these "why me?" questions must come from the devil.

In our modern-day erroneous preaching, someone loved by Jesus cannot be sick. Many brethren have hidden their sicknesses because of the wrong perception of people. Job's friends thought he was suffering because of his sin. Paul left Trophimus sick at Miletus. He would have healed him. *2 Timothy 4:20*

Christ immortalised Mary's name and said she would be remembered in all generations for anointing His feet with costly oil, wiping it with her hair. *Mark 14:3*. This was Mary, whose brother was sick.

The goodness of the Lord in our lives is not dependent on anything. He does with us what he will and His way.

*2. Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick. John 11:3.*

Jesus loved this family, and they loved Him, too. Martha gave Jesus and the disciples good hosting anytime they were around. They were special to him. If any family should be kept protected and healthy by the anointing of Jesus, this family should come first. So why was Lazarus sick when Jesus had been healing others?

Have you been serving, faithful, sold out, consecrated, committed, living a sinless life and valiant in faith? You should not allow anything to discourage you. Jesus will come through for you.

*3. When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the son of God might be glorified thereby. John 11:4.*

Your sickness is not unto death; you should hang on to these words. Tell the adverse situation that it is not unto death. It will not destroy you; God's name will be glorified.

God will not give Abraham a promise that came after twenty-five years and take it back from him. There was a lamb ready for

the sacrifice. *Genesis 22:9-14*. He will not give the Shunammite a son and take it back. *2 Kings 4:28-38*. He knows the Red Sea is on your way and will part it. He also knew about Jordan further down. God knows about the desert and the bitter waters. He will turn them around. He can do all things. The stone thrown at you will not crush you.

Do things slip off when you are about to grip them? Don't worry, they have not gone. Jesus the same yesterday, today and forever. He will help you again and again. Be strong and of good courage. Jesus loves us as much as He loves this family. There's a light at the end of that tunnel.

*Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13.*

*As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. John 15:9.*

*4. When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was. John 11:5.*

He took his time, there is no need to hurry. Life and death belong to him. He has power over them. He is the beginning and the end. There is no shadow of turning with Him. There is no delay with him. The stars, moons, sun, and day and night belong to Him. What we count as four days is nothing with him. For a day is like a thousand years in his sight, and a thousand years are like a day. *2 Peter 3:8*. He abode still, not because he kept quiet or did not know what to do. He knew what He would do.

Some people worry when their prayers are not answered immediately or don't get their desires. It might not necessarily be denial as men see it, but also for the glory of God or to try our faith. He might ask you to reduce the number of your army like Gideon. *Judges 7:1-7*. He doesn't need to trust in the arm of the flesh. It is nothing with The Lord to fight with many or with few.

He will do it His way so you will know it is a miracle.

You might be going from one clinician to another and from place to place. The Lord is watching. He waits until we are done with self-help and ready to turn to Him. Let Him in the ring to take over the fight.

You might be instructed, like the children of Israel, to walk around Jericho and give a shout. *Joshua 6:15-20*. It may not make sense. The walls are built with concrete and hard stones. God uses the foolish things of this world to confound the wise. Nothing may have happened on the sixth day, and panic sets in. Don't forget the seventh day is just some hours away. The wall will surely crumble. May the Lord give us the patience to continue in him in Yeshua's Name. Amen.

He can permit anything to come our way, even delays. David waited after being anointed by Samuel as King until Saul died before taking over. *2 Samuel 5:1-4*.

*How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord? forever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me? Psalm 13:1.*

The day he was anointed King was when trials and persecution started. It would have been better to remain as he was with his Father's sheep than to face anguish and sorrow in the hands of Saul.

*I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God. Psalm 69:3.*

David may have wondered when the kingship would become a reality. Saul was still alive.

*Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me? Psalm 119:82.*

Comfort came to David and will come to everyone who thinks they are being delayed. The rain that ceased for three and half years will shower abundantly, and fill your empty vessels to overflow in Jesus' name. Amen.

*5. These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. John 11:11.*

The disciples thought Lazarus was sleeping and should get up when he was done. They couldn't see spiritually what the Lord was saying; this is our case most often. You might not want to confess negatively, but those around you may misunderstand. When you take things in your stride, managing with a smile, people may think everything is going well with you, not knowing the difficulties you are going through.

*6. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead. And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless, let us go unto him. John 11:14-15.*

This plainness is needed in churches today, as few people can discern spiritual things. Jesus was not there when it happened so the disciples' faith could grow. He doesn't have to be physically there before something can happen. He will soon go, and they need to know that He is the same physically and spiritually. The time will come, only the mention of His name will do the miracle.

*7. Let us also go, that we may die with him. Then when Jesus came, he found that he had lain in the grave four days already. John 11:16.*

Lazarus had been in the grave for four days. Decay has set in, and the smell oozing. What thing of yours is dead for four days. You have been told it is incurable, too late, and you cannot have a child; no fate for you, unfortunately. The class have started, you are late as the train is delayed. God will make a way. You will not miss any opportunity before you. If Jesus could raise Lazarus after four days, He will raise us. I don't know what a grave represents to you. It could be anything. Life was so horrible for Job that he

thought his purposes were broken and the grave was his house. It cannot be so for you.

*My days are past, my purposes are broken off, even the thoughts of my heart. They change the night into day: the light is short because of darkness. If I wait, the grave is mine house: I have made my bed in the darkness. I have said to corruption, Thou art my Father: to the worm, Thou art my mother, and my sister. And where is now my hope? as for my hope, who shall see it? They shall go down to the bars of the pit, when our rest together is in the dust. Job 17:11-16.*

Some people have their families, jobs, personal lives, and minds scattered. *Our bones are scattered at the grave Psalm 141:7.* It looks like the darkness of the grave has engulfed them. You have tried so many places to get help, but nothing worked. Everywhere looked like a grave. You shall be raised in Jesus' name. Amen.

*8. Now Bethany was nigh unto Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs off: And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house. John 11:18-20.*

Martha heard that Jesus was on his way, the Alpha and Omega. Why would she waste time? She went and met Him.

Mary sat still. Why? A lot of interpretations can be given to this. Mary sat at the feet of Jesus to learn while Martha was busy with bread and butter. She would have been the one to go to Jesus knowing how much she had learned of Him, but she sat still. We can be overwhelmed by the troubles and issues of life. It can paralyse us so much that we don't even see deliverance at our door. In our human thinking, there is no need to bother the Master. Lazarus has died for four days, and he is now smelling. Have you given up on things? Have Satan beaten you black and blue, and



you have lost faith? Please don't sit still in that misery. Run to Jesus.

*9. Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. John 11:21.*

Good Martha. Well done! She remembered the demons cast out, the blind saw, the lame walked, the dumb spoke, and Jairus's daughter rose from death. She remembered water turned to wine, she remembered! Wonderful lady. Can we remember and say the same thing? Martha forgot one thing. Jesus doesn't need to be physically there to have her brother alive. He is not a man. He is everywhere at all times. He knows what was going on, there is no need to say, if you were here.

*God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. John 4:24.*

*10. But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee. John 11:22.*

Martha rescued the situation with the clause "but I know". That is a powerful statement. It takes knowledge to overcome ignorance, doubt, and disillusion. Knowledge gives you decision-making power, keeps you above others, and gives you boldness and cutting edge. It takes closeness and intimacy to say in boldness that you know someone. She knew the power of Jesus; in Him is the fullness of life, and she knew He can do all things. She knew He is Elohim. She knew nothing was created without Him. If The Lord was there, nothing would have killed her brother.

*11. And then Jesus said to her, Your brother will rise again. John 11:23.*

The Lord is saying to us, too, that we will rise again!

The dead situation will rise again.

Your broken marriage will rise again.  
Your dry bones will rise again.  
Your dead business will rise again.  
Your dead spiritual life will rise again  
The dead brain will rise again.  
The dead liver, pancreas, heart, lungs, and eyes will rise again.  
The dead relationship will rise again.  
The estranged children will come back.  
The lost property shall be recovered.  
The “dis” to your favour shall be cancelled.  
The bullying of Satan is stopped.  
The glass ceiling over you will be broken.  
The limitations are taken away.  
Self-harm is nullified,  
Drugs and alcoholism are vanquished.  
Adultery and fornication are nullified  
Vengeful and wicked spirit is cast out.  
Debt is cancelled  
Hunger and lack are pushed away.  
The oppressive spirit is bound  
Blood disease is healed.  
All delays are rectified.  
Every tear is wiped away.  
You will soar to the top.  
You will be the head and not the tail  
All the year that the locusts have eaten is restored  
You will pursue, overtake, and recover all.  
Your prayers are answered  
The siege is over! Satan is overthrown!

Believe it, latch your faith on it. Yes, you will rise again. No more negative confessions. No more; I am dying, helpless, isolated,

lonely, and the water will swallow me up. No more, no more. You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you. Now it is your turn. Start naming all dead situations and give them the authority to rise again.

*12. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. John 11:24.*

Martha is losing it now! She just confessed that she knew Jesus, and right away, she cancelled it with religious reasoning. Martha has just exercised such powerful faith in verse 22 but now tries to postpone her miracle to a later date. No, Martha didn't get it right. Jesus is talking about now, but Martha is referring to tomorrow. She is being religious here. What has the Lord told you He will do for you, and you are busy justifying your self-righteousness?

The Lord said you will get married although you are sixty years old. You are busy quoting the scriptures of the marriage supper of the Lamb to Him. The Lord said He will build you a house, and you are trying to convince Him of the many mansions in your Father's house in Heaven. He told you you shall live and not die, and you are referring to the resurrection on the last day. Your middle name should be changed to Martha. Many of us who have known the Lord, especially the older Ministers, fall into this trap. May the Lord help us accept the grace He is offering.

*13. Jesus said to Martha I am the resurrection, and the life. John 11:25.*

I wonder if this verse is deleted or missing in the Bible of those debating Christ's divinity. No wonder no miracle works for them. This is a powerful statement. Place your hands on it and declare to the elements of nature that Jesus is The Resurrection and Life. You will be satisfied if you know Him as The Bread of Life. If you know Him as The Door, every way will be opened for you.

If you know Him as The Resurrection and Life, you will call to life everything that represents death in your life. You will live to declare the goodness of God in the land of the living. Diseases of unknown origin will not kill you because Jesus knows the source. The fire will not consume you because His blood is powerful enough to quench it. The billows will not sweep you off because they stay still at His command. The Demons flee at His roaring. When He arises, all enemies will scatter. He is The Lord of Lords. Halleluiah!!!!

*14. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world. John 11:25b-27.*

If you believe this, shout, Yes, Lord, I believe! Don't stop here. Take this message to the rooftop of your friends, family, those going through some difficulties, and those in the bondage of Satan. Whosoever liveth and believeth on Jesus shall never die again. This is a low-hanging fruit. They don't have to do anything. Just believe. Wow! Is it that easy? Yes, salvation made easy.

Martha still did not answer the question asked correctly. She would have stopped at Yea, Lord, but she carried on again with the religious spirit. I know you are Christ and will come again. Please don't let what you already know to blur you from the simplicity of the gospel.

*15. And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee. John 11:28.*

Our Lord was not in a hurry to get to their house. He had a stopover somewhere. So why the further delay? Jesus knows best.

Our miracles will not be delayed beyond what is allowed, as the Lord knows what He will do. Mary ran to meet the Lord; people followed her because they thought she was going to the grave. She was running to the Lord. Many people may not understand your motives, especially when you are running to God for salvation and deliverance. It might seem odd that you are running to the church for prayers. They might not know why you suddenly start going to church. Martha told her sister secretly that Jesus had come. People assume a lot when we are prompted to do something quietly. They may not understand.

Mary repeated the same statement as her sister: *“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died”*. You might think she would have done better than her sister since she was the one who learned at Jesus’ feet, but no. Emotions can be overwhelming and blank out a sense of spirituality. We need the grace of God to overcome difficult times. The Bible didn’t tell us about their parents, so losing one of them must have been very hard. People cried with them. Family ties are so strong that some don’t recover from losing loved ones. They grieve for years.

Are you grieving the loss of loved ones, jobs, children who have missed it, failed exams, lost relationships or for whatever reason? Like Mary and her sister, you are saying, “Lord, if you had been here, this dire situation would not have happened. Rest assured that there is no limit to the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He is omniscient. He is everywhere. He is omnipotent. He knew Lazarus was sick and had died. He had told His disciples.

Mary and Martha didn’t know what was going on behind them, and sometimes, we don’t know the Lord’s plan for us. His thought for us is of good and not of evil to give us an expected end. *Jeremiah 29:11*. Ignorantly, we may cry and ask questions, not knowing He has a plan for us. May we be comforted knowing Jesus is aware of all our trials. He knows the ditch ahead of us and

has made a way of escape before we get there. The Lord knows you will come to the point where you are right now.

I have learned through our life experiences that God is ever-present. Sometimes, we are pushed to the walls, and Satan laughs too soon. God has come through for us. My son had taken exams, and we thought he would not have made it. The cutoff mark was too high, and we didn't get any help with the preparation. He competed with those who had two years of preparation, and we only knew about the exams two months before that date. God did it. My husband had been sick, and the Doctors gave him days to die. He took the flight home as he told them, and God came through for him. We have seen things that will cringe anyone if all the stories are told. Those experiences affirmed to us that Jesus is Lord. There is nothing too hard for the Lord to do. Don't give up. It is not gone yet. All it takes is consecration and commitment to God, but most importantly, believing that he is able to do it.

*16. Then when Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled. John 11:33.*

Jesus groans at the pain of His beloved ones. He groans when Satan attacks us when we fall into sin, live in disobedience, are faithless, and live in fear.

*For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. Hebrews 2:16-18.*

Jesus endured severe persecutions and trials, so He understands what we are going through. He did not come for Himself but for

us. He cares about our suffering, and it touches Him. He groaned for Lazarus, and so He is for us today.

*17. Where have ye laid him? John 11:34.*

Enough of the cry. Jesus is here now. Wipe the tears. Where did you lay Him? Can you show Jesus the disappointment, hurt, hopelessness, and impossible situation? Show Him the things that have held you hostage. Show Him where they lay.

*18. Jesus wept. John 11:35.*

He wept for Lazarus. How much He loves him. He knows us, too and is touched by our sorrows. He knows what we have not shared with anyone, the tears at night, the hunger and lack, the hiding in the cave, the sawing asunder and slit in half, the wickedness, the maltreatment and accusations. Have you not been meeting up with deadlines? Redundancy letter is in your hand? He knows about it. The drug issue has reduced you to nothing. He is not happy that we are perishing. It is not the will of Elohim that we should perish. He is a compassionate Father.

*And then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!* God loves you. It's not a slogan. It's not a buzzword. Indeed, he loves you. Yes, he cares! Do not let Satan, demons, or principalities talk you out of this conviction.

*19. Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. John 11:39.*

The grave is a place of darkness, hopelessness, and lifelessness, where worms eat up. Jesus commanded the stone to be taken away. All stones covering your destiny shall be rolled away.

We have a duty to roll away the stone. Don't argue, complain or cry about it. Just move it away.

Lazarus had been four days and stinking, but the Lord said, roll

away the stone. The job application deadline has passed, and the door shut to that employment, it is gone, unfortunately, roll away the stone.

Everything seems impossible, and all hope is dashed. Don't leave the stones. While it is still there, Lazarus will remain there and stink the more. Will someone have the faith and command every stone that has kept you in the grave to roll away right now in Jesus's Name? Amen.

Have stereotypes or profiling blocked your uprising as a glass ceiling and vouched to keep you subdued? Come on now! Roll away the stone.

Your family is the least, and you live in a social estate, and your postcode limits you; roll away the stone.

You are a widow and cannot afford a particular status; roll away the stone.

Your child is far gone and a prison trotter for life; roll away the stone.

Curses are placed on you as a chain to bind you; roll away the stone.

There is an untold hardship and near success syndrome on you and your family; roll away the stone.

Your spouse is unfaithful, and life seems cruel; roll away the stone.

The hearts of men are so hardened that destruction is everywhere; roll away the stone.

You are fearful and uncertain of the future; roll away the stone

Whatever is dead and stinking in your life shall come to life in Jesus' name. Amen.

Yes, dead body, four days in the grave, that is not your lot; rise in the name of Yeshua. Amen.

Amazingly, Jesus asked the people to roll away the stone. Those



who rolled stones over you will be the people to roll them off you. Whatever situation that has rolled the stone over you, that same situation will take those stones off, and Jesus says, Lose him and let him go.

*20. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh. John 11:39.*

Any dead person in the grave for four days will naturally decay. Martha was correct as it goes with nature, but the supernatural is on the stage. Yes, with scientific eyes, the disease is terminal, but The Beginning and The End say, “Roll away the stone”. The situation is bleak, and a ruling has been passed. Jesus said, roll away the stone. People might encourage you to bear the loss. No, don’t take it; roll away the stone. The Job is kept for certain people; you cannot get it, roll away the stone.

*21. Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldst believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God? John 11:40.*

The core element of this message is: If only you would believe. Would you believe that Jesus can raise you?

*And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. 2 Chronicles 20:20.*

*Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent. John 6:28.*

Put your hand on your chest and say; Father, I believe. Forgive my unbelief, my trying to prove everything through technology, opinions of men, societal lens and trust in man.

*Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to*

*God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Hebrews 11:6.*

Faith is a defensive weapon. All things will be possible to those who believe. Don't be an unbelieving believer in the church, but do not trust God. They go to church and know the name of Yeshua, but they don't believe in Him. It is a sin not to believe God, not with what we know and have witnessed. Believe Him for your salvation, justification, and everything in a victorious Christian life and over principalities and powers.

*For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. Job 19:25.*

David believed in God when he stood in front of Goliath. He professed his faith and cut off his head. *1 Samuel 17:45-51*. The three Hebrew children believed that God is able to deliver them, so they were not bothered about the wrath of the King.

*Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, answered and said to the King, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. Daniel 3:16.*

It is one thing to preach and shout with others and another when push comes to shove. When the real-life situation comes, that's when the test is. Will you believe the Lord? If the house starts to burn, will you believe he can quench the fire?

*22. Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto*

*them, Loose him, and let him go. John 11:41-44.*

Now it is your turn. Command all the Lazarus of your life to come forth! Spend the next few minutes in prayers, prophesy to yourself, and call them back to life. Be specific in addressing the issues. If you can't remember all, come back to it later. They must come to life.

Loose all and let them go. Take away the binding clothes. Jesus has set us free, and we shall be free indeed. Our family members, friends, and community will see God's goodness in our lives and believe. The Lord wants to show his greatness through us, and miracles may not happen if you don't go through some difficulties. We often do not give the Lord that chance or allow him to use us as an example to show his praise and power. It will take the death of Lazarus to raise him from the dead. No more complaining. Whatever mishap will turn out to be a glory to Elohim.

The Lord wants to show the world it is possible to raise the dead. But how many of us will allow the Lord to take us through, and we still believe, trust, and glorify him? It doesn't matter what we go through. We're still singing, honouring and bowing to him. Allow God to do it His way.

This is a typical case of Job happening in the New Testament. Job had no clue that the Lord was boasting of him. Martha, Lazarus, and Mary had no clue that the Lord allowed Lazarus to go to the other side of the world so that men may see, hear, learn, and grow in faith. Out of the bad situation will come testimony. When the time for the stone to be rolled away, nothing will keep it back a second. It will surely go.

## Peace Be Still

**T**he wind and the waves shall obey Yeshua Hamashiach. Do not be afraid nor dismayed, those billows will not collapse on you. Jesus is in the boat of your life.

*And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him? Mark 4:35-41; Matthew 8:23-27.*

*Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth. But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy. And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, Master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water:*

*and they ceased, and there was a calm. And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him. And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee. Luke 8:22-26.*

## **The disciples were afraid**

Jesus and the disciples were done with the multitude, and they entered the boat to go over to the other side of the sea. They had been with Jesus for a while and witnessed many miracles by Him, yet their faith was shaken when the wind became boisterous. The water they were passing was just a lake and not an ocean. The river you are afraid of might just be a lake, yet Jesus is with you.

By today's standards, they are born-again Christians, Pastors, Evangelists, Priests and church workers. This can happen to all of us in the church who know and have heard the promises in the scripture yet are afraid.

This reminds me of the sad story we were told in Galway, Ireland. Thousands of people perished in the sea trying to escape when the King of England invaded Ireland, and people took to the ships to run to America. They thought it would be a smooth and short journey, not knowing that most would not reach their destination. The tempest and billows consumed them in the ocean. The boats was unlike modern cruise ships, which has tennis lawn, football pitch and swimming pools and buoyant enough to withstand storms. Those days, it was just wood. People took the risk just to run away from hunger and tyrants

## **The Master was in the boat**

Christ was in the boat. They finished ministering, and it was time to cross to the other side. He was exhausted and laid down to sleep. While on the journey, the wind came. You might have been serving the Lord all this while and are now taking a journey that leads to the next level, and the tempest meets you on the way. You are saved and sanctified and filled with the Holy Spirit. Why then, are you going through these problems?

The tempest can be scary. It is nothing you sit comfortably and watch on the television or the web. It rises so high, like a multistorey building, with an intimidating dark blue colour. If the waves slam down on any ship, it will sink immediately. Jesus was with them in the boat, yet they did not have faith. This can equate to Christians who confess negatively to their situations. No water can swallow the ship Jesus is in. No tempest will sink it. There will be winds and storms to test us. As long as Jesus is in the boat of our life, we are safe. The Master of ocean and earth and sky, the creator of Heaven and earth, The one Four and Twenty Elders bow to, saying “Hallelujah the Lord God omnipotent reigneth”; Holy holy Lord God almighty, the powerful one”. Why will I fear man, sickness, troubles when Jesus is with me. The Master was quietly sleeping at the back. Jesus is in the back of your boat; fear not!. We might not physically see Him now but know that He dwells in us and have the faith that the water will not overflow you. The issue is that when we have wrong things going on in our lives, they will keep us from seeing Jesus. With Jesus, we will only feel the cool breeze, but without Him, we will see the raging waves. The wind of life could be :

### **Natural or accidental**

Being a Christian does not shield one from trial and temptation. Sometimes life can be so cruel. Many have lost loved ones, had

accidents, or been through fire incidents. Some people have been through things: rejection, orphanhood, running from one hole to the other, and fending for themselves from a young age. Life brought them to anti-sociality. They nick things because they are hungry and angry because they don't have basic needs in life. They are labelled and stereotyped. We accuse them without knowing their ordeal. Some don't know where the next meal is coming from, and every winter is an anathema to them. Life tempest can be cruel and may come in different ways. It may look like all hell is let loose. All the North, South, East and West winds blowing simultaneously, taking everything on their way. It comes like a tsunami to draw everything back to the waters. This wind may result from no cause of yours. It could be hereditary diseases, infirmities, mental illness, chromosomal deformities, disasters, famine and draughts.

### **Wind from Satan**

The wind from Satan was tough on Job. It blew the hell out of Job. His houses, farms, properties and children went simultaneously.

*And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them: And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from Heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. While*

*he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly. Job 1:13-22.*

Job rent his clothes. This is too much for one man. Job shaved his hair. Have you shaved your hair in despair? The Sabeans killed the asses and the servants, and only one escaped to tell him. While he was speaking, another came to report that fire fell from Heaven and consumed the sheep and the servants. Job thought it was a fire from God, not knowing it was from Satan. The Chaldeans came for the camels and servants and carried them away; the last was the death of all his children. What a wind of disaster! Life could be horrendous. You might have been through a hard time for years. Job's was all in a day. It can crush a man. Job fell down and worshipped. Wow! This is a man of the Old Testament before the Pentecoste, but God is living in us in the person of the Holy Spirit. The disciples had Jesus with them, but they were afraid instead of worshipping. You could worship the Lord today. In everything, give thanks. *1 Thessalonians 5:18.*

This could be anyone. On one hand is a letter of eviction, and on the other is a letter from the hospital for a terminal illness. A phone call is coming in to notify of job redundancy.

Satan can blow his wind in any direction, and it could be anyone. Job didn't complain and moan at God, threatening to throw away



his Bible. His troubles drew him closer to God. God knew Job and was watching. Does God know us as those who will not deny Him in any adverse situation? May we glorify the Lord in all things. Job had no clue God was boasting of him to Satan. Satan accused Job of being faithful because he was given everything. He challenged that Job would deny God if those things were taken away. God knew Job would not bulge and asked Satan to try but not touch his life. Satan did try. It was terrible, but Job stood strong. If you had spoken advisedly against the Lord because of the little things you have been through, you can repent. The Lord is faithful, just, compassionate, and will forgive. Storms may come from Satan to unleash his wickedness against us. Latch on to God's grace and believe Him. Remember the good things the Lord has done for you.

### **Wind from our mistakes**

We may be the cause for which the wind is after us. If you bleach to change your skin colour and it goes wrong, that is your problem. Alcohol and drugs can mess up one's life and brain. Promiscuity may attract incurable diseases. The wind may come due to the misspent past. Doing the wrong thing or disobedience can bring the wind our way. Jonah was running out of disobedience, and the Lord sent a wind his way.

*But the LORD sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken. Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his God, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep. So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not. Jonah 1:4-6.*

This ship went through the tempest just because of one man. Sometimes, the church can go through some kind of affliction just because of one man. Families can go through some sort of afflictions just because one person, a child, husband, wife, or relative in that home has brought a curse onto the family. Suppose someone in the family is a murderer. In that case, the bloodshed will cry against the family, and it can follow through generations.

Some people in occultism have covenanted their families, even their unborn children. Their progeny go through hard times and many sicknesses. Satan now lays a claim on entire generations. The wind rocked their ship, and they had lost all their goods. Jonah, who was responsible, was busy sleeping. Most people who cause problems are oblivious to what they did. They carry on as if nothing is happening, wreaking havoc, and those around them are shaking. He confessed when they caught him sleeping and wondered why he had not called on his God. He was thrown into the water to save others.

### **Carest thou not that we perish?**

Jesus cares. He is leading the way, behind us, and our God and does not slumber nor sleep. His eyes are watching us. Satan cannot steal you, billows cannot take you away. His mercies are new every morning. He is in the boat with us, and that settles everything. He has not gone on holiday and is not slack as men count slackness. Do not be afraid. He knows our beginning and end. They are all mapped out, and He is in charge. Peace be still. Whosoever shall call upon His name shall be saved.

*He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: He that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. Psalm 121:3-4.*

*It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, Because his compassions fail not. Lamentations 3:22.*

*I watch, and am as a sparrow Alone upon the house top. Psalm 102:7.*

*But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Luke 12:7.*

### **The wind obeys Him**

Speak out to the tempest. It has no option but to obey the Master.  
Sing the song of Mary Ann Baker:

*Master, the tempest is raging!  
The billows are tossing high!  
The sky is o'ershadowed with blackness,  
No shelter or help is nigh;  
Carest thou not that we perish?"*  
*How canst thou lie asleep,  
When each moment so madly is threat'ning  
A grave in the angry deep?*

*Refrain:*

*The winds and the waves shall obey thy will.  
"Peace, be still!"*  
*Whether the wrath of the storm-tossed sea,  
Or struggles or evil, whatever it be,  
No water can swallow the ship where lies  
the Master of ocean and earth and skies:  
They all shall sweetly obey thy will.  
"Peace, be still! Peace, be still!"*  
*They all shall sweetly obey thy will.  
"Peace, peace, be still!"*

*Master, with anguish of spirit  
 I bow in my grief today;  
 The depths of my sad heart are troubled,  
 Oh, waken and save, I pray;  
 Torrents of sin and of anguish  
 Sweep o'er my sinking soul!  
 And I perish! I perish, dear Master:  
 Oh, hasten and take control.*

*Master, the terror is over;  
 The elements sweetly rest;  
 Earth's sun in the calm lake is mirrored,  
 And Heaven's within my breast.  
 Linger, O blessed Redeemer,  
 Leave me alone no more;  
 And with joy I shall make the blest harbour,  
 And rest on the blissful shore.*

They cried, 'Master, save us, we perish!' he got up and rebuked the wind. Everything standing like waves and tempest before you will be rebuked by Yeshua Hamashiach. Amen. Will you believe it? Those on a holiday cruise ship on the calm sea will want to book another trip. Those on a boat with the wind and billows will surely dread the journey and cry out for help. The look of rising tides can freeze anyone in fear.

We are hidden in Christ in God, with twofold protection that no demon can go through. Satan will only rage. We will overcome him by the blood. They asked what manner of man He is that winds and waves obey Him. Probably, they were still looking at Him with the carnal sight.

God is not a man, neither is He equal to the gods of this world. The earlier we realise this, the nearer our miracles are. We tend

to see Him through the prism of our eyes and imagination, but that will steal our miracles from us. God created the seas and the waves and can calm them. All power belongs to Him. People look for Him in a manger at Christmastime. In their brain, He is the little child that should be adored. You will miss Him if you go down that route. He is the soon-coming King! Amen. He is the miracle worker. He is the Lord of Lords. Playing hypocrisy with Him is self-deception. Those who engage in such do not know Him. He knows and sees all things.

Jesus asked them why they were so fearful of the wave. They were afraid of the terror, the terror went, and they carried on being afraid that the terror had gone. There is no need to be in fear. Jesus has taken away the wind and the tempest, so rejoice and be glad. The terror is over, and that sickness will not come back. You are healed. The prison door is opened, and you are set free. The blood of Jesus makes you whole. The chains are broken in fetters. You are redeemed. No more bondage. The siege is over. Praise God.

Jesus is not far. He is here. You will not perish. That sickness will not ravage your flesh, you will not go mental, the hunger will not linger, the loneliness will not last. Just scream out, "I perish, Dear Master". He will rebuke the wind. Some people do not ask for help. Please do ask. Tell satan not to bother filling your boat with water. He should turn round and see Jesus in the boat. That will scare him. Remember, Jesus said to them, "Let us go over the other side." If God be for us, who can be against us. He is with us all the way.

## Be not Afraid, It is I

**T**his miracle is dedicated to all those who will believe the simplicity of the words of Jesus and will not try to prove anything.

*And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God. Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52; John 6:16-21.*

The team had just finished a tedious three-day service and deserves some rest. The disciples, perhaps, should have travelled safely as a reward for good deeds, but they faced danger and risked their lives on the way. We see this scenario today, where people get greeted with unfortunate things after doing a good deed. Such people might wonder, “*Why me of all people?*”. Be encouraged; Jesus has seen the wind and is coming quickly your way. You might have kept yourself chaste, no messing around, yet you are still single, and it looks like time is flying past you. You shall be settled! You have worked hard, yet poverty is inscribed after your surname. You have been diligent, yet lost everything; you have prayed, and answers are delayed. Yeshua Hamashiach is on His way to you.

### **The contrary wind**

*The ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. Matthew 14:24.*

We sometimes find ourselves, amid the sea of life, with the billows and waves tossing high. The nearest land may seem too far away for swimming to be an option. The ship feels like a wreck waiting to happen, and lives are in danger. The sea animals are circling below the boat, waiting for any meat to arrive. The polluted sea may be uncondusive for swimming. One would be contending with many things: cold water, acidic water, or sharks. How far would anyone go in these conditions?

Contrary wind may represent bad times, pain and uncertainty. In natural courses, we can find ourselves in the middle of the sea with nobody to consult, and everywhere is shaking. Some people have committed suicide because there's nothing they can do. They thought it was the end of their lives. Life can be so terrible, excruciating, and unkind. Some stories can chill your bones and

get you dumbfounded. People have gone through things that will get you thinking if we live on the same planet. Those who have coasted through life may not understand what we are saying. They will be imagining what I meant.

Troubled waters can come to an individual, a nation, a group of people or worldwide. While others are enjoying the others are experiencing earthquakes, landslides, volcanoes or tsunamis. It can be a ravaging disease that has killed a whole village; people are in their huts waiting to die because there are no hospitals, no medication, no technology, nothing. While some have the media to tell their stories, some live in remote, forgotten islands without electricity or networks. Some people will die today because hoodlums will shoot them dead.

Some are in the midst of wars, their little ones are killed, their younger ones missing, and they will not reconnect with their families. The elderly, who cannot run, face cruel death. *The wind was contrary*, which meant it blew them in every direction: to the left, right and even to the opposite side.

Remember, the likes of Peter, Andrew, James and John, who were professional fishermen, were on the ship. Surely, they would have known what to do, as they would have experienced this before. They could have controlled the ship or at least done something. You might be in their shoes right now, where all you know has failed; your expertise, profession, intellect and research failed.

Low self-esteem and worth can be a raging sea in some people's lives. They don't believe that they are good enough for anything. They look down on themselves and think others look down on them. They have no sickness or lack, and they have good jobs and houses, but low self-esteem poses a contrary wind to them. The Lord will pull you out of that dunghill if you truly believe in Yeshua's Name. Amen. The Lord will save you.



Some people are so fearful that they cannot look straight at anybody, not to talk of staying in a room alone. The Lord is going to calm that sea in Yeshua's Name. Amen. Some are in extreme poverty or generational poverty. It doesn't matter what they do; they are still there. The wind of poverty blowing contrary to you will be calmed in Jesus' name. Amen. Your five loaves and two fishes will be multiplied. Sometimes, the waves roll in unending, with sickness, death, one trouble to the other, house fire, just to name them.

### **They thought He was a Spirit**

Fear blinds and cripples. They did not recognise Jesus. They have eaten and been with him, worked and slept with him. Fear is a torment. How could they not have recognised him? Help was coming; instead of relaxing, rejoicing and singing, they cried out more. Fear had gripped them, and their situation overtook them. Our issue can overtake us, and all we see are roadblocks.

The good thing was that they cried out. Some of us keep our problems to ourselves. They do not cry out and are ashamed or think they disturb others. They die in silence. Cry out to Jesus. He will save you.

### **Be of good cheer**

*Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. John 6:20.*

Are you frozen with fear? The lions of life are roaring at you, the tigers posing at you, the pythons hissing right in your face? Jesus is walking towards you. You are losing your job, tomorrow will be your last day at work, you have no clue what else to do, you are living in rented apartments and don't know how to pay the following rent. How would you feed the children? How would you go about things? *Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.* Yeshua

is walking towards you. Ask the Lord to open the eyes of your heart to Jesus walking towards you. The trouble and depression will cease.

Don't allow fear to crush and cringe you; look up to Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith. In fear, one will forget the promise that God will be with us always. Jesus created the wind and the sea so they cannot take us while he is with us. As the wind was raging, Jesus was coming closer. There is deliverance coming your way. Halleluiah!

*And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. Matthew 14: 28-29.*

What was going on in Peter? This statement could mean anything. Did Peter recognise his power to make him walk on the sea, or did he want an evidence-based assurance that He was the one? The days of propounded theories are gone. We are in a time of "Seeing is believing". Was Peter still in doubt, as some of us would be? Well, he was asked to come, and he stepped out. I don't think I would do that myself. Peter was a bold man. Something in him assured him he would not sink if Jesus asked him to come on the water. Peter's instinct is commendable, but it was done with an 'if' attached. He wanted to prove something. Others stayed back, but Peter, being who he was, will put himself forward. He was just after the evidence.

Have you been told you are healed but still want evidence right then? When God lifted me from the bed of affliction in 2020, I was told He had healed me. I believed Him, although death came afterwards, but the Lord said it. I knew it was to try my faith. The wind blew contrary, but I stood my ground. I didn't want to be like Peter because I had read and learned from this passage. The Lord

healed me. I don't need any evidence; I am healed, and so it was.

## **Danger of fear**

Peter walked on water, but fear didn't allow it to last. He was too quick to rush out. He did not deal with the fear of the wind before venturing out. People want to run into ministry without proper preparation. They take on titles they do not have the capacity to handle.

Many have received their miracle, but fear and doubt have not allowed the miracles to stay because of our past experiences and what we witnessed. They cancelled it out of a lack of faith. They could not imagine they were healed because of the opinion of men and science or the thought of people who have died of those sicknesses. Please keep in your miracle. Stand in it. It is real. We may not see God with physical eyes, but through the eyes of faith, we can see him. Hallelujah. The Lord has healed you.

Forget about the evidence. I watched a young man pray for a lady who had pain in her feet. After the prayers, he asked her to check if the pain was still there, and the lady said yes. He started all over again, this time around stepping on her, and the lady was in much pain. He carried on these rounds. That should not be. He would have prayed in faith and let the Lady go, but he sought immediate evidence. He was faithless himself and could not pray for the healing of anybody because it would not work. May the Lord give us the faith to stand firm in our faith.

Peter cried out, 'Save me, Lord,' and immediately, Yeshua stretched his hand and saved him because Peter was sinking. *And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? Matthew 14:31.*

Doubt counters miracles. *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Hebrews 11:6*

We can ask The Lord Jesus to increase our faith.

### **The wind has no option but to cease**

*And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. Matthew 14:32.*

The wind has no option but to calm down because he created them for his pleasure. Any contrary thing working against you will bow in Jesus' name. Amen. Fear not. The sea will calm in His name.

That problem, situation, loneliness, domestic violence, the delinquent child that is not behaving well, the drug addiction, alcoholism, and spirit of prostitution has no option but to bow to Elohim.

Cry out like Peter, and you shall be saved. The world is filled with wickedness and oppression, tension and uncertainty. Remember that Jesus is walking on the sea that is troubling you. They are underneath His feet. He has conquered them. You can never get drowned.

When children are asked how they get on with their books, they usually answer, 'Mum, I am on top of it'. It means they have a grip on the subject. I want you to tell Satan I am on top of what you are bringing to me. I will not sink. I will work on the water; you are underneath my feet.

Peter walked on the water that troubled them, and so will we walk on any water contrary to us, but remember, we are not to doubt. It counters miracles.

*For they considered not the miracle of the loaves: for their heart was hardened. Mark 6:52*

Eish! What went wrong here? In verses 38-44, they had just finished feeding five thousand men besides women and children with five loaves, two fish, and twelve baskets remaining. Possibly the most epic miracle of the Century, yet they still didn't get it. In verse 52, they cried out in fear. This speaks volumes. The natural man was still edging out in them. Fear, unbelief, lack of understanding, fixed mindset, and forgetfulness, to mention but a few, could contribute to the dull sense of reasoning. Hang on before you throw eggs at them. How many of us have complained of no lunch, although we had a heavy breakfast. With a slight headache, we forget the deadly car accident we were delivered from. I pray we count our blessings and, in surprise at what God has done, we sing out in gratitude instead of fear. Please do not harden your heart; be open to God's mercy so we can receive more.

## Two Blind men Healed

**T**his miracle is for those who do not want to come to Jesus for just one thing but the whole package.

*And the fame hereof went abroad into all that land. And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, Thou son of David, have mercy on us. And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord. Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, See that no man know it. But they, when they were departed, spread abroad his fame in all that country. As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil. And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel. But the Pharisees said, He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils. Matthew 9:26-34.*

### **They followed and asked**

These men followed Jesus, and many will not do that. We expect him to come to us. Some are too shy to make a move, and some are just laid back. The worst group are those who are ashamed to follow and will miss out. Are you happy to follow Jesus, you will receive your miracle.

Interestingly, they asked Him to have mercy on them and not that they may receive their sight. These men must be wise. They asked for total healing. They may receive their physical sight and yet have spiritual blindness laden with the weight of sin. They can't miss this opportunity.

They called Him the son of David, which is very significant. They recognised who He is. Knowing him and his name goes a long way to our miracles. The son of David, whose sceptre shall not depart, the King of Kings, who has all authority, the Healer, the Mighty one. He has a name for every situation. These men were physically blind and called on Jesus, and He healed them. One may say, I am not blind, so this miracle does not concern me. Spiritual blindness is the worst blindness. They are more restrictive than physical blindness, and if we find ourselves in such blindness, The Lord will heal us today if we recognise His power.

Blindness could be social, lacking understanding, poor perception, and wisdom. Such people are not diligent and do not take precautions. This means they cannot see beyond the physical eyes. Metaphorically, we do ask, "Can't you see?". It doesn't really mean that they are blind physically; it means they do not understand and cannot perceive the surrounding happenings. May the Lord have mercy on us.

Some can be spiritually blind and cannot see the danger of sin. It could be turning a blind eye to wrong things. Intentionally allow misconduct and compromise. When people cannot see lukewarmness creeping in, they are neither cold nor hot. They do not know their left from their right in spiritual matters. They are not seeing the coming of our Lord Jesus coming so close. The strange thing on our planet. The world is running out of time, yet we remain in unbelief. Idol worship has been reignited on a large

and subtle scale in the name of meditation, and we are yet without understanding. Strong men and tyrants rising from every nation, killings and spilling of blood is like pouring away water. The world is groaning from our abuse, and we are calling it climate change. It can't wait to become extinct. Strange things are really happening all over the globe. Persecution is on the rise, and many are forsaking their faith. May the Lord have mercy on us.

So, blindness could be actual or intentional. It could be partial, legal or totally blind. Whatever category, blindness is blindness. Whether it is social, psychological or mental, it is blindness.

We are blind to the injustice going on around the world. Nobody wants to talk about it. Those who speak of this are few. People close their eyes to the evil, and that is blindness.

People abuse themselves with mankind without natural affection, and we are good with that. We don't want to say anything to please people. That is turning a blind eye.

Society has put on things destroying our young people and inculcating them into the curriculum. The simple children who don't have prior exposure to such are being destroyed. The things we were protected from when growing up are given to our children on a platter of gold. Can't you see? I pray we give our children a chance to be children before they become adults.

People cannot see the effects of alcohol and drugs on their systems. It is dubbed as enjoyment. Can't we see the harm? May the Lord have mercy on us.

The children cannot sit and listen to the news as we did in our day. Media show inappropriate adverts at news times, and our children see them, yet we turn a blind eye to them. Can't we see? Children should be given a chance to be of age to handle such exposure.

We can ask the Lord to open our eyes to see that we're destroying the next generation, rendering them hopeless and packing them



up with junk. Their young minds are being messed up with things they do not understand just for the selfishness of some adults.

When you give cheating, lying, pride, and worship of Satan a pass, there is a looming blindness. May the Lord open our eyes. It is blindness to close our eyes and hearts to God's goodness, favour, righteousness, deliverance, and salvation. We can ask Him to restore us back to Himself. God is still receiving sinful men. He will take away the scales from our eyes.

### **Do you believe I am able to do it?**

He would have just healed them straight away as He did to some, but asked if they believed that he can do it. Christ knows when our problem is a heart and mind issue, unbelief and hardness of the heart.

Do you believe that Jesus is able to give you understanding and wisdom? Do you believe that He can heal you? If you believe like these men, say Yes, Lord, I believe! The Lord will restore every sight. We have no reason on earth to doubt him.

Are you in the hospital bed? Believe him for your healing. Are you in pain? Put your hand exactly at the place and declare that you believe him? Yes, Lord, I believe. I believe. Yes, Lord! And so shall it be unto you in Yeshua's name. Amen. There is power in Him.

### **According to your faith be it unto you.**

These men had the faith to receive. Faith is active and is not dormant. You could clearly see that these men meant business. Please be strong in your pursuit of the Lord. Your faith settles it.

### **They spread the news**

Go see that you tell no one, but they went and told all. That shows a heart of gratitude. They will not be silent. Something good is

happening, and others need to hear about it. Tell the message over the hills and vales that Jesus saves. Use every means, your voice, microphone, text, email, and media, to spread the good news.

When their news was heard, the man with the dumb and deaf spirit was brought and was healed. May the Lord use us to get others. Don't eat your testimony. Don't hide it. Don't bury it.

Speak of the goodness of the Lord, the salvation of the Lord. He is able to bind the broken-hearted. Through the stripes given to him, we are healed. He dealt with the devil that possessed the man. When we spread the good news, people will be liberated to see the goodness of the Lord. It is all about knowing who Jesus is, believing and having faith.

## Who did Sin?

**T**his miracle is dedicated to those not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is also for those told they are suffering because of their sins. The entire chapter 9 of the gospel of John is dedicated to this miracle. It means there is more to the miracle to learn.

### The religious perception

*And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? John 9:1-2.*

Jesus passed by and saw a man who was born blind. The first question from his disciples was about the general perception of men. “Who sinned, this man or his parents”?

It is common to assume people are sick because of what they did. Some people will not share their problems or things they go through for fear of being judged and condemned by others. They suffer shame in the secret because they cannot openly say what they are going through for fear of being seen as sinners or evil.

I was once in a prayer team where people who came for prayers were asked if they sinned. It is not right to ask people to confess their sins before they are prayed for in every situation. What if they had not sinned as the gentleman in this miracle? This assumption is discouraging and can put guilt on people. The disciples fell into

this trap, which can happen to any of us. The notion makes people shut their mouths and not tell their ordeal. The prayer team was too quick to decide what was happening in other people's lives. It is all about unseen blame and restrictions that have kept people bound.

Quoting *James 5:15-16* before praying for the sick should be seen positively and not taken to mean that there is a secret sin that needs to be confessed. If anyone has sinned, please confess it to God and move on. Don't hide it or die in silence.

*And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed—the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:15-16.*

The love of Elohim is more than our perceptions. We should see the big picture of what Elohim wants to do.

People get blamed for being in difficulties, disability, or for conditions they inherited from their parents. This behaviour has created marginalisation and inequalities, which have traumatised many people. This miracle will liberate all those labelled as sinners or put down because of wrong perception.

### **Jesus addressed the issue**

*Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. John 9:3.*

Hallelujah. He didn't sin. Satan attacks both the righteous and the unrighteous. There was no sin involved here. Chromosomal defects, disabilities or inherited conditions happen because that is how people are made. Accidents can happen to anyone; unfortunate situations can happen to anyone.

It doesn't matter if your situation is your fault or not. Christ will address it if you believe. So, sing out if you have been misperceived. The Lord is on your case for a spectacular miracle. Come out of that shell, the inferiority complex, and stop feeling miserable. You are in that condition for a day like this to show God's praise and His manifest wonders. Without a test, there will not be a testimony. Jesus knows our hearts and what ails us and will show Himself strong on our behalf. Stop beating yourself up, be calm and see what Elohim will do. God will show forth His power in your life.

### **Christ is our light**

*I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. John 9:4-5.*

Darkness cannot overtake us. Do not allow the opinion of men to becloud you. Christ is the great light that dwells among us. The blindness was not because of his sin or his parents, but that light might shine through the dark hearts of men.

*The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. Isaiah 9:2.*

*In him was life; the life was the light of men. John 1:4.*

*Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. John 8:12.*

It is not about the physical blindness or the disease/condition, but for us to recognise that Jesus shines light into dark situations. Dark hearts may see his goodness and rejoice. We can cash in on this, Christ purchased it all for us.

## Go and wash

*When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, and said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. John 9:6-7.*

Yet another unconventional miracle. Jesus mixed spittle and clay and anointed his eyes. He asked the blind man to go and wash. Jesus knows how to do it. He is the expert. Rid yourself of the usual way things happen. Jesus is about to do something in your life. He may tell us to do ordinary things that make no sense, and we refuse it because we are used to our experts, special equipment, or best consultants. We are programmed to hear things in a certain way and see things from a particular angle. May the Lord deliver us from the cultural patterns that the world has fashioned. May we be people who dare to do things differently; in Jesus' name, Amen.

What will heal us might be in our kitchen, back garden or found in advice from a commoner. Let's heed what He says to us. He might use the maid as with Naaman. Naaman was asked to go and dip himself seven times in River Jordan. He argued but obeyed because his miracle was hinged on that instruction. He might ask us to drink water, and that is it. *2 Kings 5:9*. Don't doubt what the Lord can do. I have had a pain that lingered for so many months. The anguish and gritting of teeth were very excruciating. I was praying in pain one day, and the Lord asked me to shake it off.

"Shake it off?"

"What? I have been moving around. How can this pain go by just shaking myself?"

Thank God for the scriptures and the lesson of obedience through the recorded miracles. I shook myself vigorously to ensure I got it

right if that would heal me. Alas! The pain disappeared instantly. I screamed out, "What!". I could not contend with it. I was calling everyone who prayed with me to share the story. It was mind-blowing. May we have the grace to obey Him.

*But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: that no flesh should glory in his presence. 1 Corinthians 1:27-29.*

### **That the works of God should be made manifest in him**

Abraham and Sarah were barren for so many years. Isaac came in due time when they were old. Samson was born in due time. The children of Israel were delivered from Egypt in due time.

*And that thou mayest tell in the ears of thy son, and of thy son's son, what things I have wrought in Egypt, and my signs which I have done among them; that ye may know. Exodus 10:2.*

You will be delivered and be a sign and wonder. The lingering sickness is that you may know that the Lord is God, He is almighty, He is the King of kings, the Creator of heaven and earth, Yahweh, and He is Elohim. Hallelujah. Whatever the ill health or long-term condition, will be healed in Jesus' name. Amen. They are all for your testimony.

### **He was not ashamed of Christ**

*The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged? Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and*

*anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight. Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not. They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind. And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes.*

*Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see. Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them. They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet. John 9:8-17.*

People were confused if he was that man that was born blind. He was brave to tell them. He was not ashamed about it. Praise God, he can see; his completeness came through, unlike the other man who denied Jesus and went to tell the persecutors. This man was up against the scribes and Pharisees. They tried to persuade him to speak evil of Christ, but they met their match in him.

They said to him,

“Please tell us the truth. We know you were born blind”.

He said,

“Of course, I was born blind”.

And they said,

“You know that this Jesus Christ is not true”.

He stood his ground and declared Jesus true. Getting intimidated in the workplace, communities, and schools is prevalent because of people’s perceptions. They make you feel left out because you don’t go to parties, theatres, or for drinks with them. They are the majority, and you feel like a chicken beaten in the rain when you are with them. Sometimes, our children think they don’t have friends



because they are Christian. Some go as far as being depressed, cutting themselves and disobeying their parents to hang out with friends and feel like one of them. Don't deny Jesus because of Satan's pressure and influences. These influences ridicule Jesus and make a joke of Christianity. Others go for all the labels in the market and make you feel miserable in your decent dress. They can seal your mouth and make you lose your ground as a believer.

The man who was blind shunned them and declared Jesus publicly. He did it like Paul:

*For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation. Romans 1:16.*

He wasn't cowed by fellow men who decided to remain in blindness and hardness of heart. They rejected Jesus, and he would not let them transfer it to him. The blind man had no room for intimidation.

*Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the Gospel according to the power of God. 2 Timothy 1:8.*

The blind man was threatened with being put out of the synagogue. He took his position and withstood the opposition. He knows who he believes and was persuaded of Him.

Your job might be threatened if you mention Jesus Christ in your workplace. That is okay; it is not the only place of work if they put you out because of your faith. Remember, these intimidators are but mere men. They will close their eyes in death one day, and you will be left in regret. They are not spirits; don't deny your salvation because of them.

*For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. 2 Timothy 1:12.*

What shall separate me from the love of Christ? The threat was to take him out of the synagogue, but not out of heaven. They can strike his name off their register, but not from the Book of Life. The man was consistent in his answers. He knew he had the best and eternal life, which mattered to Him. To live is Christ, and to die is gain. The testimony of Christ is true. He was born blind, but now he can see. Hallelujah.

### **He became a preacher of righteousness**

*Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner. He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see. Then said they to him again, What did he to thee? how opened he thine eyes? He answered them, I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? will ye also be his disciples? (Man of wisdom do you see that?) Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is.*

*The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. If this man were not of God, he could do nothing. They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? John 9;24-34.*

Amazing, whereas he was blind then, he now sees. The little he knew about Jesus was that whoever made him see must be righteous. He answered every question about this Jesus that he

had not known. He told his testimony, and it is enough as a tool to spread the Gospel. Can we speak of God's goodness in boldness to people without being ashamed and intimidated? Don't look too far at what to preach; our testimonies are enough. He withstood the gainsayers head-on.

Preaching and defending the Gospel will bring miracles to us. Why would we not preach the good news to others out of fear of men? No, the blind man defied all odds and told people the truth.

### **Fear of man is a snare**

*But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see? His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself.*

*These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him. John 9:18-23.*

Fear of men can crush our confidence and take away the grace of God in our lives. It is a snare.

*The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe. Proverbs 29:25.*

*I, even I, am he that comforteth you: who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the son of man which shall be made as grass. Isaiah: 51:12.*

*Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews. John 7:13.*

*Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man. Deuteronomy 1:17.*

His parents did not want to say anything to offend the oppressors. When asked who healed their son, they said,

“We don’t know. You can ask him, he is of age”.

You would have thought they would challenge the opposition, but they didn’t, which is surprising. They denied Christ. Christ is being rejected in our time in various ways. When one is afraid to talk about Jesus in public, in the workplace and in school, you deny Him. When there is no difference between one and the world in attitude, fashion, and conduct, you deny Him.

When you know the truth but keep quiet about it, you know to do good but not do it and prioritise other things before God, you deny Him.

There was no need to deny Jesus. Those men were selfish. They had their sight, enjoyed their liberty, and could go anywhere. They were jealous and evil. They wanted him to remain blind and in one place. That was ridiculous of them. They were sad people. The natural thing is to be happy for this man, but they weren’t. Why should it be opposed? These men were after physical blindness while they were blind spiritually.

People in bondage want others to remain chained with them. I pray that our eyes will be opened to all the world’s lures. They are to destroy us. Do not join their evil ways. They quote the laws and all manner of political correctness to shift you. Remain steadfast.

## There is a reward

Jesus knows what is going on in secret. He knew this man's faithfulness, integrity, and good faith and returned to seal his salvation.

*And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him. And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth. John 9:35-41.*

Wow! He received a crown of righteousness and faithfulness, and his name was written in the Book of Life. When we stand for the Lord, we will be healed forever. Jesus will commend us. He will reveal himself to us. He will show us the way.

## Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight

**T**his miracle is dedicated to those who will not allow anyone to talk or shut them down from receiving their miracle. They will not complain about what they do not have but will use what they have. They will make use of the opportunity provided.

In Matthew, there were two blind men. Mark was specific. The blind man was Bartimaeus. Luke has the story of a blind man. All three accounts are the same; each brought out an aspect the other didn't get. The most important thing for us is to pick out the lesson to learn.

*And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee. And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way. Mark 10:46-52; Matthew 20:29-34*

*And it came to pass, that as he was come nigh unto Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the way side begging: And hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant. And they told him, that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by. And he cried, saying, Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him: and when he was come near, he asked him, Saying, What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee? And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee. And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God. Luke 18:35-43.*

## **He enquired**

Bartimaeus heard an unusual noise and asked what it meant. Please don't remain ignorant, and don't ignore the noise. You will miss the happening, especially when you are not seeing. He enquired, and that helped him to take action. Some of us don't like asking questions, and things will happen around us without our knowledge. If you are missing your way, please stop and ask questions. Ask those around if you are unsure of anything; it will save you. If there is anything you did not understand, please send an email, call on the phone, or send a text to get some clarity. Many people have taken wrong information, made wrong decisions and jumped to conclusions about a matter because they didn't ask questions.

*One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple. Psalms 27:4*

Please don't miss any opportunity that comes to you. When you hear of any, do something about it.

## **He acted**

When he heard the noise was about Jesus of Nazareth, the healer, emancipator, Prince of peace, compassionate one, Emmanuel God with us, Yeshua Hamashiach, he might have thought:

“What? Jesus of Nazareth, passing by Jericho? If I miss Him, I have missed Him, and He will be gone”.

He cried out. He can't miss this fantastic opportunity, which comes once in a lifetime. He began to cry out and say, “Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me”. He was blind. How many will cry out to Jesus to heal the physical sickness, emotional sickness, spiritual sickness, depression, anger, lies, deception, bitterness, and unforgiveness? Don't miss Him, get your miracle of deliverance. Is it that people will not offend us? They will, but the main thing is the ability to continue after the hurt and ask the Lord to heal. The Lord is able to do it.

If you can't see, you can hear, use your strength, thrive with it, and put it into action. Bartimaeus kept his ears open. Keep what the Lord has given to you in high receptivity. Don't grudge over what you do not have. Just use what you do have to excel.

## **He cried out the more**

I like the way he cried out. Bartimaeus did not miss Jesus, don't miss Him yourself. The description given to this shouting is intriguing. In Mark, ‘but he cried so much the more’. In Luke, ‘but he cried so much the more’.

What a cry! I am unsure if I can shout that much to draw any attention. Bartimaeus has taught me not to give up. Cry out for Jesus. He will surely answer. Bartimaeus deployed what he had. He could not see, but he could hear and shout. Though Satan tries



to shut you down and situations of life try to kick at you, cry out the more until your prayers are answered.

*I cried to thee, O Lord; and unto the Lord I made supplication. Psalms 30:8*

*In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried to my God: and he did hear my voice out of his temple, and my cry did enter into his ears. 2 Samuel 22:7*

*I cried unto the Lord with my voice; with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication. Psalms 142:1*

### **Have mercy on me**

Bartimaeus was a wise man. ‘Thou son of David, have mercy on me’. Good asking. He might have thought, “I don’t want to miss Him”. People perceived blindness as being caused by sin. In John 9, the disciples asked Jesus who had sinned: the man or his parents. With Bartimaeus, whatever the cause of his blindness is, whether it was his sin or his parents, let it be; there is no argument, no debate. All he knew was, Lord, have mercy. His mercy would heal and raise him. His mercy would give him back his sight and bring him out of the darkness. Jesus washes away sin, delivers, and takes away the burden, unhealthy habits and Satan’s pointing at you.

‘Have mercy on me’ covers every kind of blindness, be it physical, spiritual, social or emotional. The worst blindness is spiritual blindness. It blinds people to sin and leads to ignorance and hardness of the heart. Getting deliverance from such is a miracle. Can we ask the Lord to have mercy on us?

A lot of people pursue physical miracles. They want their eyes, legs, hands, hearts, and ears healed, but the inner man is rotten. While looking after the physical, care about the inside that will live forever. Dogs licked Lazarus’ sores in Luke 16, but he went

straight to Abraham's bosom when he died.

Don't allow one impediment to let you down. Don't grudge over what you do not have; instead, excel in what you have. Use what the Lord has given to you and excel. Jesus will hear us. Bartimaeus' ears and voice worked for him. Jesus is very close. The shouting out here has something to do with the importance of not giving up. Do your best. Go ahead. Hallelujah.

### **They rebuked him**

The crowd, again! They rebuked him. Remember, they were a mixed multitude. Some were earnest seekers, some came to catch Jesus out, some had no bearing, and some were just fascinated. Can you imagine them, the crowd looking for their mercy and miracles, or whatever reason they were there for? They could not help themselves either, telling him to keep quiet. No, he can't listen to them. He will lose out. Bartimaeus scanned them through his senses, knowing they were as helpless as himself and had no locus. They were trying to talk him out of the only opportunity he had. He neglected them. He could not allow them to hinder him or shut him down.

Remember Job's friends. They came to judge him on what they had no clue about. They gave him hell from *Job chapters 2-41* and accused him of wrongfully doing things secretly. Satan is not a friend, he always whisper lowering words to your hearing. They are the voices of religion. Sometimes, the voices may not be spoken through humans, but situations and circumstances speak discouragement to you. Comments like "Why are you serving God so fervently? Are you the only one at church?" Devils are trying to steal away the grace, and you should not heed them.

Be careful of the voices you listen to. They may deter your miracle of deliverance, spiritual growth, and life and bring doubt and confusion to you. When you shout out to Jesus, they try to

talk you out of your conviction and zeal and quench your thirst and desire for righteousness. If you heed their distraction, your miracle will be far.

The Lord has told you He will make you a great nation. There is a prophecy on how to spread the gospel. Listening to some people's opinions will squash the grace of God in your life. Be mindful of such. If you listen to those fake voices, you remain a small nation.

### **All things work together for good**

The crowd tried to shut him down, and his responses heightened the noise and brought Jesus' attention to him. Whatever is trying to shut you down will make you prominent, in Jesus' name, amen. Whatever burden Satan puts on you will not bend you over but will make you taller to be noticed by Jesus. Amen. Whatever exacerbates your sorrow will only bring you closer to the attention of Elohim, in Jesus' name, amen. All things work together for good.

Some people do not pray until they have a problem. Some people's sickness brings them to church. While the challenges continue, they are at every church meeting. Once the issue is sorted, they disappear from the church. You wonder if their problem should continue, as only that will draw them closer to God.

Be strong and of good courage. Don't run off at the noises and shouting of people. If you do, they have got you cheap.

Though Satan tries to shut me down and life situations kick me down, I will cry out louder. I will not keep my peace; I will speak out.

### **Power of direct answer**

And Bartimaeus said, 'Lord, that I may receive my sight'. That is it, not too much ado. Unlike the impotent man, he was direct and told stories when asked if he could be made whole. Bartimaeus

knew what he wanted. Some people rigmarole in prayers without hitting the nail on the head. Go straight and tell God what you want. “That I may receive my sight.” Amen. You will be healed, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

### **He was a grateful man**

He received his sight and glorified God. Are you a person of gratitude? Do you forget too soon? Do you carry along as if nothing happened and display ingratitude? Sometimes, people do not share their testimonies until they forget what happened and will not glorify God appropriately. Miracles will happen to those who will glorify God.

### **Thy faith hath made thee whole**

Jesus commended his faith. When he heard Jesus was passing by, he enquired, cried out, and did not allow the crowd to talk him down. Bartimaeus knew what he wanted, did not miss his opportunity, and received his sight. He was a grateful person, and he glorified God. Amazing!

We owe thanks to Bartimaeus for displaying such great attributes that are uplifting. Get your miracle, shun every contrary voice and shout for help. Jesus will come for you.

## Rise Up and Stand Forth

This miracle is for those with rules and regulations hanging on them. By faith, you will rise up and stand forth in the midst. No situation, sickness, or ill-happenings will not put you down. You will rise!

*And it came to pass also on another sabbath, that he entered into the synagogue and taught: and there was a man whose right hand was withered. And the scribes and Pharisees watched him, whether he would heal on the sabbath day; that they might find an accusation against him. But he knew their thoughts, and said to the man which had the withered hand, Rise up, and stand forth in the midst. And he arose and stood forth. Then said Jesus unto them, I will ask you one thing; Is it lawful on the sabbath days to do good, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it? And looking round about upon them all, he said unto the man, Stretch forth thy hand. And he did so: and his hand was restored whole as the other. And they were filled with madness; and communed one with another what they might do to Jesus. Luke 6:6-11; Mark 3:1-6; Matthew 12:9-14*

### Strength and dominance were taken away from him

This man in the synagogue had a withered hand. Despite having a disability, he attended with others. Some people would have

used the deformity as an excuse to absent themselves. There is always a reward if we faint not. Jesus came in to teach and saw him. Being at church faithfully had finally paid off for him.

His right hand was withered. The majority of us are right-handed, and few are left-handed. The right hand represents strength, reaching out to grab and dominance. This was taken away from him through disease, birth injury, or some other cause.

*And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. Zechariah 3:1.*

To resist a man at his right hand means challenging him. Challenges could be anything posing as a barrier to you. They hinder you from reaching out in life and could be thoughts, people's attitudes, discouragement, looking down on you, taking away your esteem. Each time you want to reach forth, something draws you back. Maybe there are ancestral spirits, curses, and spells from witch doctors. It may be natural barriers such as your colour, race, and class. Perhaps you are not as intelligent as others.

This man was not just limited by the withered hand but also by the religion he believed in. The religious men in the house were watching if he would be healed. That was absurd. The very people with him in the synagogue were those who opposed his liberation. Can such happen at church today? Yes! This can happen when a church is filled with people of bitter envy and malice. Offences at church can cause people not to look out for others. Prayers in such a place are usually not answered. The house is polluted. That could be why this man in the synagogue was not healed. The heart of the people was not right. The umbrella you are covered with will determine how much rain will beat you. Where you fellowship matters a lot. This is a lesson to those who just go to church for going sake without checking out if the Spirit of God is there.

The Scribe and Pharisees have no disability. They could do anything and go where they wanted, but they tried to withstand this man from having his withered right hand healed. The rule of law was also against this man.

### **Opposition from the unexpected quarters**

And the scribes and Pharisees watched him, whether he would heal on the sabbath day; that they might find an accusation against him. There were oppositions of men, religion, culture, norms, constitution, bills, and societal views wedging against this miracle. The religious were the last expected to oppose this miracle.

This time, what stood against this man was what we all accepted as good working against us. Laws that would have been a blessing to us are twisted so much that it becomes a judgment. Sometimes, the law could go against human milk of kindness. A typical example is the execution of any murder case. Should someone who reported himself for killing and genuinely repented still be executed?

There should have been pity and prayers going for him. The priest could not heal him, and here comes Jesus. Everyone should have been happy for this man. Jesus has found him. The Pharisees were standing in judgment with the law, but you are standing today with the law of liberty in front of you.

### **Oppositions shall hold their peace for you**

*And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace.*

All oppositions against you will hold their peace. They will be silenced. Jesus, the emancipator, is here with us. Your miracle is beyond man. Has Satan kept you on the floor with various life

limitations? If you have suffered from inherited diseases, you will rise up and stand forth.

You might have certain bars over you, and promotion is coming forth at work. You will rise up and stand forth. Your case may be rejection and desertion in obscurity, lost all you have to the wicked one, and it looks like all is over for you. You will rise up and stand forth. Look intently at Jesus, He is the one that matters, and your withered hand shall be recovered.

### **And he arose and stood forth.**

This man obeyed Jesus in the face of adversity. He was not afraid of men. He believed Yeshua and refuted the opposition of men. He didn't care about the intimidating eyes of the Scribes and Pharisees. They could put him out of the synagogue if they chose to. He would rather obey God than men who blow hot air. This miracle will not happen to those who keep up with the Joneses. It is all about him now, and he will not compromise the opportunity. They have their hands, but he was withered and cannot trade such an opportunity.

Many will do so because they care so much about what people will say to the detriment of their souls. The crowd rules them. They conform to the latest fashion, shows, and styles. They will not accept salvation because the majority doesn't believe in God. They want to do good but are ashamed of what people will say. That is our society these days. Many are rejecting God because it is the popular thing to do. This man was different. He arose and stood forth.

Rising from the illness is about your healing and deliverance. Light has come to you, and you can't afford to remain in darkness. Jesus is saying to you, "Rise up and stand forth". Rise from oppression and humiliation and break off the chains. Rise up and



stand forth from the disability, failures, grief, anger, and inordinate affections. Are the troubles flexing their muscles at you and the wicked ones inflicting pain on you? The ultimate authority is here to deliver you.

The man knew that with Jesus, every handwriting of ordinance against him was nailed to the cross. He knew if God be for us, we cannot fear what man shall do to us. He was aware of whose report we would believe. The law and Pharisees may be watching, but will you stand forth in their mist. Yes, it's sabbath, but they wriggle out of the law themselves and would not want the healing of this man.

Believe him for your healing. He has conquered every opposition, death, demons, heartless men. He is the Maker of heaven and earth. The law states life imprisonment for any case of murder in some countries. You have genuinely repented of your sin; do you believe you can be set free.

Let your heart bubble with joy; Jesus has won the battle for you. Say to yourself; I am rising up from this bed of affliction to stand forth. It doesn't matter if you are not a Christian; just believe and call on the name of Jesus, and you will have life.

We hear so much in the media that will make you think the world has collapsed; do not be afraid; rise up and stand forth. There is an economic crisis globally, the cost of living going high, families going hungry, and you don't know what to do. Don't be discouraged. Jesus is alive.

Those privileges denied are going to come forth again. Are the streets your dwelling place, you are homeless and forgotten, life has been hard on you, you can only do menial jobs with no good income, you will rise up and stand forth. Would you believe it?

Many people commit suicide during the December holiday because life seems cruel, and they have had enough. Nobody gives

them presents, others go on holiday, and they are alone, without family or friends. They take up all shifts instead of staying alone at home. You will rise and stand forth, Jesus will bring hope, and the Holy Spirit will keep you company. The good Lord will visit you. This man looked up to Jesus, the author and finisher of his faith, so look up to Him and not the things around you.

It takes faith. Jesus has power over men, Satan, and situations. Don't look at the tsunamis, volcanoes, and tempest. Jesus said to the man, rise up and stand forth, despising the opposition. So shall your withered life be restored.

## Loosed from Infirmary

**Y**ou will get your miracle when you are in the right place. Jesus met her in the synagogue when He went in to teach. Those who dodge Bible studies and fellowships will not be in church when Jesus visits, and they will miss out.

*And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. Luke 13:10-11*

This woman was in the synagogue despite her physical deformity, unlike those who make excuses for minor pain. She knew where to get help. Her situation was enough to make excuses, but she knew her hope could only come from God. Missing church fellowship is not helpful. There may be a word that will sort out your problem that has lingered for eighteen years, but it will elude you because you were not there. In the presence of God is deliverance. I pray we will be found in the right place, in Jesus' name.

### **Jesus saw her**

*And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Luke 13:12a.*

Do you believe Jesus has seen the sickness you have been hiding for eighteen years, twenty years and counting? Has the condition

lingered? You are in the right place. As you read and charge up your faith, know that Elohim's eyes are on you. No demon, sickness, or infirmity can stand the presence of God. You are healed. The end of the anguish is here. You are remembered.

*When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Psalms 126:1-3.*

Rejoice and give the Lord praise. The Lord has seen you, and there is no more hiding place for whatever has been a pain in your life. He will set you free.

### **Thou art loosed**

*Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. Luke 13:12b-13*

You are loosed from every situation that bent you over, every destroyer, chain of darkness, torment of Satan, ill luck and all aggressors:

*If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. John 8:36*

Hallelujah. Oppositions have no power again; Jesus has seen you. All power belongs to Jesus.

*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Matthew 28:18.*

All power is given to Him. It doesn't matter the diagnosis or prognosis, or anything standing against you. Have you been told it is an impossible situation or permanent and indelible? Nothing is permanent when Yeshua appears. All power on earth is given unto Him.

*As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. John 17:2.*

Will you believe Jesus is right there with you in your room, on the train, on the bus, at work, or on the farm? There is a healing anointing flowing. God has given Him power over all flesh to heal, deliver, and set you free. He set me free and will do so for anyone. He healed me of asthma and can do it for anyone. There is power in the blood of Jesus. Miracles are for every day. Get your heart and mind in the right place, and it will flow through.

*What the Lord has done for me, I cannot tell it all,*

*What the Lord has done for me,*

*I cannot tell it all,*

*What the Lord has done for me,*

*I cannot tell it all,*

*He washed me and saved me from sin,*

*So I can shout Hallelujah!*

*I can shout Hallelujah!*

*I can shout praise the Lord!*

*So I can shout Hallelujah!*

*I can shout Hallelujah!*

*I can shout praise the Lord!*

You will join the company of those glorifying His name. As you sing this song, speak to whatever situation that has bent you over, every infirmity, command them to go; their negativity is vanquished. It doesn't matter how long they have lasted for. Tell them to move. Eighteen solid years of infirmity can leave in a moment. Their stronghold will be gone.

*Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities. Hebrews 4:14-16.*

We have a compassionate Father, and our agony, tears, and teeth-gritting touch Him. God has seen every hunger, poverty and rejection. Trust Him to take them all away. Take all the heavy burdens to Him. There is rest in Him.

Jesus is for everyone, both old and young. There is no bias for anyone; even if you have not believed in Him, His mercies are for all.

### **The schoolmaster weighs in one more time**

*And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, there are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day. Luke 13:14.*

The religious were offended and misconstrued the law. What a flimsy allegation! Instead of rejoicing at the miracle, they opposed it. They were more concerned with the sabbath, which should be a day of liberty and rest. The woman got her freedom, and that should have been cheered. Satan may be on your way to hinder you. He came to steal, kill and destroy, but Jesus has given us life in abundance. *John 10:10* God will defend you. Your healing may make demons mad, but that is okay. They cannot overrule what Jesus has done. They prefer holy days to humans. If we do not do good on a resting day, what day will we do it? Satan's argument holds no water. Satan was talking through those men. He was propelling them to say the wrong things.

Can you imagine Satan being angry at your freedom? People got mad because you landed a good job. All those years you were in poverty, living from hand to mouth, they loved it. You live in a neighbourhood where people do not respond to your greeting because they feel you are not good enough to live in that neighbourhood. Satan may want to hold you bound to sin, unforgiveness, jealousy, and wickedness. Jesus is here to set you free.

### **Jesus will defend you**

*The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? Luke 13:15-17.*

Jesus called them hypocrites. He defended this woman. The Lord will answer your enemies and those sicknesses. He defended the children of Israel, Mary Magdalene, the three Hebrew children, Daniel and Joseph, and will defend you. You will be guarded against every accusation, every infirmity, every disease, and every oppression, in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Your adversaries shall be ashamed**

*And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him. Luke 13:17.*

Every oppressing adversary shall be ashamed, in Yeshua's Name. Adversaries of sicknesses, rejection, loneliness and accusations that pile up against you for many years will be cleared by the blood of Jesus. Amen.

Every spirit hindering your success after you have put so much effort into things will be broken. Spirits that oppress in the dream, voices during the daytime, devils, the Goliath against you, witchcraft, poverty, marginalisation and social bigotries shall be ashamed, in Jesus' name. Amen. Every psychological or physical label that has limited you from going further in life shall be put to shame, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Every feeling of hopelessness and discouragement that has not allowed you to reach your potential because of experiences shall be nullified, in Jesus' name. Amen. The spirits of laziness and procrastination that do not let you get things done. You started a project that has lasted for years but is still unfinished. It shall be cast out, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Some people are bound by the spirit of fear and anxiety. They are anxious about tomorrow, what to wear, eat, and what to say to people, and fear has stolen their persona. They are afraid to go out or even interact with people. The good Lord will deliver you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Lingering spirits of failure. Failure at everything you do. To the left, it fails; the right is the same. You leave one city for another city, one country for another, failure. Such shall be bound, in Jesus' name, amen. They shall be ashamed. Spirits of fear and anxiety, fear of the unknown, fear of every little thing. What to eat, wear, what to say and do. The spirit that hardens the heart. Some people cannot see themselves doing good. They are not moved when people are in pain. Such spirits shall be ashamed in Jesus' name. Amen.

The spirit of wickedness that cannot stop inflicting pain on people. The cloud of evil around you, for no reason, shall be broken. The spirits of anger, rage, hatred, bitterness and jealousy that grip people without a cause shall be ashamed, in Jesus' name, amen.



Spirits of alcoholism and drugs that enslave and take away esteem shall be put to shame. These spirits take away families and jobs and land people in homelessness and wrecked lives. Jesus will put them to shame.

The dirty spirit of adultery and fornication that reduces one to nothing will be put to shame. Every adversarial spirit withstanding you shall be put to shame. You are loosed, in Jesus' name. Amen. Eighteen minutes of pain is a lot, eighteen hours will call for an ambulance, and eighteen years of being bent is horrendous.

This woman was a daughter of Abraham, and you are a daughter of the Most High God, the Holy One of Israel, the beginning and the end. You will be defended and set free. Believe what God has said, and it shall be settled. Those who opposed were ashamed. You are set free and healed. Amen.

## The Tribute Talk

**T**his miracle is dedicated to those who will be obedient to go for their miracle in the most obscure place.

*And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your Master pay tribute? He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers? Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free. Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee. Matthew 17:24-27.*

Peter was asked if his Master paid tax, and his answer was outright no. He is a citizen of the land and not a stranger. Peter might have thought the lying-in-wait was getting too much. They have tried everything, and this time around, it was tribute money. Moreover, his Master does charity work, healing the sick and preaching the gospel without charge. Their business is non-profit. No one asks the High Priest or the Levites to pay tax, and a greater than them should not pay. He was a carpenter and known as a carpenter's son. Peter knows his matter too well and can tell more stories than anybody.

*Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? Matthew 13:55.*

Other miracles have been on healing, food, powers over devils, and nature. This time, it is physical money. Someone might be reading this book and wondering that his problem is money. He is well, not disabled, and has his certificates but his problem is a lack of money. It might be that your business is not growing, you don't have capital to start a new one. You are unemployed and cannot afford the basics of life. Poverty is written all over you in capital letters. This miracle is for you. Nothing is too hard for the Lord to do. Money is metal or paper and the least to worry about by the Master.

*The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts. Haggai 2:8.*

*For every beast of the forest is mine, And the cattle upon a thousand hills. Psalm 50:10.*

You might also find yourself where Peter and his Master were at. You are in ministry serving the Lord. It is not a paid job. You have left all to travel as a missionary supported by a small, low-income church. Things have gone tough on the mission field, and you do not know what to do. The challenges of what money can afford is posing on you. This miracle is for you; nothing is hard for the Lord to do. Peter's answer would be the response of anyone in their shoes. He was looking at what we can see.

Jesus asked Peter what he thought about the conversation on the tribute money. Peter knew the strangers were to pay and not the children of the house. We are the children of the Most High God, and Satan cannot make any demand on us. When he tries to recite the long list of what you don't have and cannot afford, remind him

of these scriptures:

*Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; Ephesians 2:19-20*

*But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: 10which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. 1 Peter 2:9-10*

Peter did not realise that being with Jesus transforms us from servitude to sons. God will supply all our needs.

*But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19*

Peter was a fisherman, and Jesus asked him to get the money from what was familiar. Don't stay up late thinking about what to do. Your blessings are hidden in what you know too well. If you are a carpenter, your blessings will come from the woods. If you are an administrator, your blessings will come from the office. Don't look too far. Peter would not miss the catching of fish and so will you not miss the possession of your blessings. What seems impossible to you is already within your reach. God knows who you are and has made provision. There is a jawbone of an ass in your hand to destroy the Philistines *Judges 15:16*, a sling and stone to kill Goliath. There are blessings all around you. Ask the Lord to open your eyes to see them.

Peter caught the fish that had enough money to pay for the tribute. You will have enough for your yourself, family, and business. Remember, the shoes of the Israelites did not get worn out through

their journey in the wilderness. They had manna, led by a pillar of cloud by day and fire by night. *Exodus 13:22*. Elijah was fed by a raven. The widow plate of food did not run out for three and half years. *1 Kings 17:4- 16*. Jesus fed the crowd with 5 loaves and two fishes.

God owns heaven and earth and all of them. We should remove all restrictions and tunnel vision and see things as His children.

Peter went in obedience and did not doubt. I am sure throughout his career, he had not seen money in a fish's mouth. If money were in the mouth of fish, people would permanently live on a boat.

God may ask you to do what may seem weird. Are you happy to obey? Peter could have argued at such a leading, as most of us would do, especially when we are experts in our fields.

The lesson from this miracle is not to be too quick to give an answer based on our present situation. Remember, we are children of Elohim and can do all things. There is something around you in which your blessings are stored. Go in obedience, and do not allow what you know to hinder you. We should not be too quick to say things or make conclusions.

**We continue in Part 2 to further explore more miracles.**

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## Reference

Thompson, F., 2011. The Thompson Chain-Reference.  
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We have used the King James Version Thompson Chain Reference Bible for thirty-one years, which has been a blessing to us as a family. This Bible offers no commentary on any subject in the Word, allowing the Holy Spirit to guide and speak to you directly. The chain-reference system gets one into the lifestyle of comparing Scriptures to Scriptures, which makes one appreciate the power of the Word of God.

The miracles had me jumping off my feet and asking myself “Why not me?” Hang on, ask no further. Do exactly what these people did, and you will get it. Alas, it works! The principles are laid out short and sweet. They are all up for grabs. Go for them!

Pastor Grace co-labours with her husband in ministry. A nurse by background with a BSc in Health Education, and Post Graduate studies in Management and Project Management. Pastor Grace is married to



Apostle George Akalonu and they are blessed with five children, Favour, Elect, Arise, Praise and Destiny.



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