Rhapsody of Realities

Chris Oyakhilome



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of

A KEY FOR OTHER BIBLE VERSIONS USED:

NKJV -New King James Version AMP -The Amplified Bible

AMPC -The Amplified Classic Bible TANT -The Amplified New Translation

TLB -The Living Bible

CEV -Contemporary English Version NASB -New American Standard Bible ISV -International Standard Version NIV -New International Version MSG -The Message Translation

WEB -The World English Bible TNI T -The New Living Translation ASV -American Standard Version TEV -Today's English Version RSV -Revised Standard Version

GNB -Good News Bible

WNT -Weymouth New Testament NRSV -New Revised Standard Version

MOFFAT -Moffatt New Translation WESNT -Wesley New Testament

EBR -Rotherham's Emphasized Bible

DRB -Douay-Rheims Bible TPT -The Passion Translation C.JB -Complete Jewish Bible

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Introduction

urray! Your favourite daily devotional, Rhapsody of Realities, is now available in all known living languages of the world! The 2024 edition of the devotional has been packaged to enhance your spiritual growth and development and position you for resounding success throughout the year.

The life-changing truths in this edition will refresh, transform and prepare you for a very fulfilling, fruitful and rewarding experience with God's Word.

- HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT -

- Read and carefully meditate on each article. Saying the prayers and confessions aloud to yourself daily will ensure the results of God's Word that you're speaking come to pass in your life.
- Go through the entire Bible in one year with the oneyear reading plan, or in two years with the two-year reading plan.
- You can also split the daily Bible reading portions into two parts—morning and evening reading.
- Use the devotional to prayerfully write out your goals for each month, and measure your success as you accomplish one goal after another.

Enjoy God's glorious presence and victory, as you take a daily dose of His Word! God bless you!

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GOALS FOR THE MONTH:	

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Rhapsody of Realities ... A DAILY DEVOTIONAL

www.rhapsodyofrealities.org



YOU'RE A VICTOR, NOT A VICTIM



But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:57).

God didn't bring you into this world to be a victim of circumstances, the economy, social structure, politics, or government of the day; no. You're not a victim of the town, city or nation where you live; you're more than a conqueror; you've overcome the world.

The Bible says, "...whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world..." (1 John 5:4). Hallelujah! In the preceding chapter four, verse four, it says, "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

You have to come to the understanding that God is no longer trying to give you anything, make you anything, or help you out of any predicament. That's because there isn't anything you require today that He hasn't already made available to you.

Many have only related to God with a victim's mentality, and that's wrong. They only see Him as the One who "brings" them out of trouble. So all their lives they're looking up to this great God who "will" help them out, lift them up, bless them, and so on, unaware of what He's already done.

Ephesians 1:3 says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." 2 Peter 1:3 tells us that His divine power has given unto us all things that pertain to life and godliness. Then in 1 Corinthians 3:21, Paul, by the Spirit, declares, "Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours."

It's time to wake up to the reality of God's Word and live in its present truths. Today, God doesn't have any plan to prosper you, because He's already done it. He's not planning to heal you, because He already gave you something greater than healing—the divine nature that comes with divine health. He gave you a life that's immune to sickness, disease, infirmity and death.

But if you don't know these truths, you'll live as a victim. God said, "My people perish for their lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6). Have the Christ mentality; you've been brought into the transcendent life in Christ. Talk, act, and live accordingly.

CONFESSION

I've been brought into the transcendent life in Christ; I'm not a victim of circumstances. I'm empowered by the Spirit to overcome every obstacle that comes my way. I have everything I need to live a triumphant life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Romans 8:31-39; 2 Corinthians 2:14

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 6:1-14 & Psalms 56-59

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:1-8 & Isaiah 52



FRIDAY 2

THE WORD IS YOUR COMPASS



Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path (Psalm 119:105 NKJV).

od's Word is light, and light gives direction. When you want to know God's purpose and His direction for your life, go to the Word; study God's Word. The Word is your compass; if you follow it, you'll never lose your way; you'll never fail. God's Word is truth; it's dependable; you can bet your whole life on it.

One of the things you gain from studying the Word of God is spiritual enlightenment and focus. Your spiritual eyes are open to what you should see, and then you're guided to be focused on the future that God has created for you.

With the Word of God, you're focused and know exactly where you're going and how to get there. Life ceases to be a speculation, a leap in the dark. It reminds of the words of Jesus: "...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). Remember, He's the Word made flesh; the way to follow Him is to follow His Word. Hallelujah!



Don't be afraid to believe and stay on God's Word. Our opening verse says, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105). The Word will never lead you astray. Proverbs 3:5 tells us, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart...." Joshua 1:8 AMPC says, "This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe and do according to all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely and have good success."

Fix your gaze on the Word of God and align your spiritual vision with what it reveals. Doing this will lead you to the fulfilment of God's purpose for your future. With unwavering focus, you'll gain clarity on your destination and the path to reach it. Praise God!

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for the gift of your Word, which serves as a lamp to guide my steps and a light to illuminate my path. I wholly trust in your guidance and follow your Word diligently. I keep my eyes fixed on your truth, knowing that's the sure path to success and unending prosperity, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Hebrews 4:12; Acts 20:32; Proverbs 3:5-6 AMPC

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 6:15-7:1-6 & Psalms 60-63

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:9-16 & Isaiah 53



SATURDAY 3

TALK TO YOUR BODY AND IT WILL HEAR YOU



For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned (Matthew 12:37).

Words are the most important things in the world. They're also the most potent forces on earth. God made everything with words and sustains everything with words—the word of His power (Hebrews 1:3). And as read in our theme scripture, words would determine where you live eternally. Death and life are based on words (Proverbs 18:21).

So, what have you done with words? How do you use words? One of the things you have to practise is talking to your body—using your words to keep your body in health and perfection. Every so often, declare that you're strong; you're in health; every fibre of your being and organ in your body is perfected by the Holy Spirit.

Talk to your body and it will hear you. The human body is like an "animal" that needs to be trained. Insist on what you want your body to do, and it will start yielding to you. Every part of your body has intelligence; give your body instructions and insist that it obeys you, and in the process of time, it'll get used to listening to you.

This is something you have to consciously practise if you haven't been doing it. Talk to your brain, your head,



your lungs, your liver, your kidneys, your heart, your blood, etc. If any part or organ in your body has been hurting or seems to have an issue, tell it to be healed and it will comply.

Remember what the Bible says in James 3; you can control and tame your whole body with your words: "For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us... Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things..." (James 3:2-5).

Keep your body in health by speaking life to it. The Bible says the wholesome tongue is a tree of life. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead lives in you and has given life to your physical body. He's brought you into life and immortality. Make these and similar affirmations every so often. You say, "The Holy Spirit is the life of my body; therefore, I live free of sickness, disease, infirmities and the elements of this world." Blessed be God!

CONFESSION

My physical body is alive and inundated with the pulsating life of God. As a result, I walk in divine health and vitality. I live free of sickness, disease, infirmities and the elements of this world. Hallelujah!

FURTHER STUDY:

3 John 1:2; Ecclesiastes 8:4; Mark 11:23

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 7:7-25 & Psalms 64-67

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:17-24 & Isaiah 54



SUNDAY 4

AN EXCELLENT MIND



Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things (Philippians 4:8).

As one who's born again, you have an excellent mind because the Bible says we have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16). That's a mind that's sanctified by the Word of God to think on things that are true, honest, just, pure, of good report, virtuous and praiseworthy.

An excellent mind doesn't begrudge anyone but genuinely loves people. It isn't a garbage dump for gossip and tale-bearing. An excellent mind is impermeable to negative information.

One of the decisions you must make for yourself is to think the right thoughts. Make up your mind to only give hearing to the right things so you can think the right thoughts. You must filter your thoughts if you want to live an excellent life.



Furthermore, an excellent mind is creative and innovative; it completely shuns mediocrity. It does excellent things as a personal policy; no half-measures. Don't say, "I'm just the cleaner where I work"; let your mind soar. Become more innovative, forward-thinking, and inventive in the way you clean. Do some more research on the best cleaning techniques available. Then, most importantly, pray a lot in tongues about your work, and the Holy Spirit will flood your mind with the most creative measures and strategies to deploy in taking your work to the next level.

God wants to commit so much into the hands of excellent characters. Therefore, show yourself worthy through your appreciation and application of His Word, and you'd be excellent in all things and ready for the much more that the Lord will entrust to you. Amen.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I yield my thoughts and mental processes to your Word and Spirit, choosing to focus on things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of good report. I maintain an excellent mind that is creative, innovative, and free from negativity. My thoughts and actions reflect the excellence of my divine nature, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Romans 12:2; Proverbs 17:27; Daniel 6:3

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 8:1-17 & Psalms 68-69

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 5:25-33 & Isaiah 55



PREPARING FOR OUR ETERNAL CITY



And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband (Revelation 21:1-2).

Did you know that the major reason we're in this world is to prepare for another world? This world was never God's final dream. This is the place of preparation. Everything we do here, in this earth, is all in preparation for the eternal city. We will be moved into this eternal city, which will come from God and be established in the new earth.

God's intention was never for us to relocate to heaven and live there forever. God's plan is to have another city and another earth. The Bible tells us that this current earth will be burnt up—completely destroyed and replaced with a new one—with new heavens over it to regulate its conditions.

There'll be a city in that new earth where you and I will be with the Lord and his holy angels forever—a massive city. The height of the city is as the length of it; think about that. The height is like taking a six-hour flight; that's the

distance, both in length as well as in height. What a city! Everybody isn't going to be there; it's for only the saints of God.

There'll be natural men and women who'll populate the earth outside the city. There'll be nations of men. The Bible says they will come regularly through the gates of the city to worship the King. But we, the saints, will always be with Him in the city, the New Jerusalem. Hallelujah! That'll be the headquarters, and we'll be functioning with Him at the headquarters.

So, your life here on earth is in preparation for that city, that eternal city. Keep working for the Lord. Keep doing what He's asked you to do, and don't be found wanting. Do everything He's called you to do, and finish it. The most important thing to Him is the human soul. That's why Jesus came. So, keep winning souls and impacting the lives of those in your world with the Gospel. Prepare them to also live eternally with the Lord in our great and eternal city when the time comes.

PRAYER

Thank you blessed Father for the blessing, privilege and honour of serving you and living soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world as we look forward to the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Thank you for the grace to fulfil your destiny for my life and finish the work that you called me to do, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Revelation 3:12; Revelation 21:1-4

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 8:18-39 & Psalms 70-73

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 6:1-9 & Isaiah 56



TUESDAY 6

YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT



Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the... Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father...Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied (1 Peter 1:1-2).

Something very remarkable in all of Paul's epistles is his consciousness of the grace and peace of God. At the beginning of each of the epistles he wrote to the churches, you'd find expressions such as the one in Romans 1:7: "...Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ."

You also find the same with Peter and even John; they understood the importance and power of grace and peace in the lives of God's people. But then Peter takes a step further to show us something quite striking about this. At the beginning of his first epistle, as read in our theme scripture, he said, "...Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied."

But at the beginning of his second epistle, he pinpoints how this grace and peace can be multiplied in your life: it's through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord: 2 Peter 1:2: "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you"



through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord."

Multiplied grace in your life means increased capacity, speed, and accuracy to perform. It means more favours and greater excellence in your life with prosperity, dominion and power over adversity. Hallelujah!

But for these to happen, you have to have the knowledge of God; knowledge here is "epignosis" (Greek), which is correct and precise knowledge: a knowledge that relates with that which is known.

It's up to you how much prosperity with peace you want to enjoy. It's not going to happen by you praying, "Oh God, multiply your grace and peace in my life; no! He's already shown you what to do: get to know God more intimately. Study and meditate on His Word. Be deliberate about this. Hallelujah!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for the abundance of grace and peace that you have made available to me through the knowledge of your Word. My knowledge of you deepens as I meditate on your Word, thus causing your grace and peace to be multiplied in my life, leading to increased capacity, dominion and prosperity, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

1 Corinthians 1:3; Philippians 1:2; Colossians 1:2

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 9:1-29 & Psalms 74-77

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 6:10-20 & Isaiah 57



WEDNESDAY 7

OUR LIMITLESS WEALTH



Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ (Ephesians 3:8).

The term "unsearchable" in Greek encompasses a depth that is difficult to properly communicate in English. The Amplified Classic version offers a more comprehensive understanding. It says, "...the unending (boundless, fathomless, incalculable, and exhaustless) riches of Christ [wealth which no human being could have searched out]." This description paints a vivid picture of the amazing magnitude of Christ's wealth, "...the riches of Christ!" These are extraordinary riches beyond the grasp of human exploration.

How can we even begin to search out Christ's riches? Where would we start, and where would we end? It all depends on the one being described. And if Christ is indeed God, then we are dealing with riches that are truly beyond measure. Remember, we're one with Him. Thus, our heritage is one of unimaginable wealth and abundance in Christ!

The Lord Jesus is designated as the heir and lawful owner of all things: "[But] in the last of these days He has spoken to us in [the person of a] Son, Whom He appointed Heir and lawful Owner of all things,

also by and through Whom He created the worlds and the reaches of space and the ages of time [He made, produced, built, operated, and arranged them in order]" (Hebrews 1:2 AMPC). According to Matthew 13:44, He purchased the entire field, and thus, the entire world belongs to Him.

In Romans 8:16-17, the Bible says, "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ...." This means everything that belongs to Jesus belongs to us. This is our inheritance, and it's important that you lay hold of it. We walk in the footsteps of Abraham, for the Bible says, "...if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29). The entirety of the earth belongs to us in Christ. It clarifies Paul's bold assertion in 1 Corinthians 3:21 that "...all things are yours."

CONFESSION

I walk in the fullness of the unending, boundless, fathomless, incalculable and exhaustless riches of Christ; I was born into it when I was born again. I have unlimited access to all the treasures and resources of the Kingdom, which is beyond the grasp of human exploration. I live in abundance and manifest the glory and righteousness of the Kingdom of God everywhere I go. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Romans 8:16-17 NIV; Ephesians 3:8 AMPC; 1 Corinthians 3:21

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 9:30-10:1-21 & Psalms 78

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Ephesians 6:21-24 & Isaiah 58

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THURSDAY 8

APPLY THE WORD AND PUT THE SITUATION RIGHT



But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves (James 1:22).

Did you know that today, in the New Testament, it's no longer a question of what God can do but what YOU can do? He made the change in Christ and gave us the dominion, the authority and the power to change anything. So it's up to you today to make your life as glorious as you want it to be; the key is acting on the Word—applying the Word of God.

Many have remained in distressing conditions because they're "waiting" for God to come into their situation and change things. Even if you shout or sing from sun up to sun down that God will make a way where there is no way, this won't change your situation. That's because He already made a way almost two thousand years ago and made you "the way" when you were born again.

You're "the saved"; you need to get the real picture. He calls us "saviours" (Obadiah 1:21); He saved you and made you a saviour. Many of God's children need to become more acquainted with this truth. They're inspired and excited to know what God can do, but they need to be



more acquainted with what God says they can do.

The ball is in your court. You're the one to do something about your situation. How? By learning the Word of God and applying it to the situation you're facing. When you study the life of the Master, His words, His prayer life, and the instructions He gave, He never suggested for one moment that we should whine, beg and cry to God for anything.

Rather, He put the keys in our hands. He told us to speak to the mountain; in other words, solve the problem; use your mouth; speak faith-filled words. Mark 11:23, "For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for the authority and power you've given me to change any situation through your Word. I'm a doer of your Word, and with my faith-filled words I alter circumstances and cause them to align with your perfect will for my life. I apply your Word effectively in every circumstance, and I walk in victory always, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

James 1:22-25; Mark 9:23; Joshua 1:8 AMPC

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 11:1-24 & Psalms 79-81

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 1:1-8 & Isaiah 59



FRIDAY 9

THINGS HAVE CHANGED



And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15).

The Lord Jesus sent us to preach the Gospel; the Gospel is good news. It's not exactly good news when all you know or hear is "God is going to change things for you"; that's hope. But the good news is that "things have changed." So, stop hoping for things to change because they've already changed! Hallelujah!

This should further help you understand what the Bible says in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." You're not the weak seeking strength. The Lord Himself has become your strength (Psalm 27:1).

Perhaps you were sickly before you were born again; now, that has changed! Old things are passed away. You're a new creature in Christ with an incorruptible life that's sickness-proof.

The same change occurred in your finances. Your state and estate changed when you came into Christ. 2 Corinthians 8:9 says, "For ye know the grace of our Lord"



Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." You've been made rich. Glory to God!

Furthermore, you don't have a problem with sin now that you're in Christ. You've been justified to walk in newness of life: "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4).

The sin-nature was supplanted by God's nature of righteousness when you were born again. You're now, not just righteous, but also the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. See yourself in this light. You weren't merely set free from sin; you have a life, a nature that's sin-free.

These are some of the realities for the one who's born again. You didn't do anything to achieve any of these; it's simply the result of what Christ has done; and that's good news. Hallelujah!

CONFESSION

I continually walk in the reality of my heritage and identity in Christ. I'm righteous, healthy, prosperous and victorious. I walk in the newness of life, enjoying the fullness of the blessings of Christ.

FURTHER STUDY:

2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Ephesians 2:4-9

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 11:25-36 & Psalms 82-84

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 1:9-14 & Isaiah 60



SATURDAY 10

THE "MIGHTY" AND THE "GODS"



Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? (John 10:34).

When you read the first six verses of Psalm 82 from where the Lord Jesus quoted the verse above, you'd observe something remarkable. It says, "God standeth in the congregation of the mighty.... Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked. They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course. I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High" (Psalm 82:1-6).

Notice that God calls His people, "the mighty"; and also He says, "Ye are gods." But then the passage goes further to outline our responsibilities: we're to "Defend the poor and fatherless..." (Psalm 82:3). We're to "... do justice to the afflicted and needy." Don't turn away from the plight of the needy; you're the one to deliver them out of the hand of the wicked. You can understand why He calls us saviours in Obadiah 1:21.

The fifth verse of that Psalm is painful; it says, "They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness...." In other words, because these "mighty,"



these "gods," are ignorant of who they are, the earth is in a chaotic condition: "...all the foundations of the earth are out of course" (Psalm 82:5).

It reminds me of a certain young man I met who said He didn't believe in God. When I asked him why, he said because there were too many poor and suffering people around us. "If there's a God," he asked, "why would He allow so many to be wallowing in poverty, pain and misery? It's not right."

Then I said to him, "You're correct; it's not right. But it's not God's fault. Those whom He has sent to save and help the needy aren't doing it and that includes you." Thereafter, I preached the Gospel to him, and he was gloriously saved.

You're the one to rid the poor out of the hands of the wicked. You're the saviour of the needy. Get to know who you are, and take your place as the helper and the deliverer, the one who's been endued with power from on high to impact and change your world. Hallelujah!

CONFESSION

I'm empowered by the Holy Spirit to make a positive impact in the lives of others and make a difference in the world around me. I walk in the wisdom and courage to defend the poor and needy, to do justice to the afflicted, and to rid them out of the hand of the wicked, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

1 Peter 2:9; Matthew 5:14-16; Psalm 82:1-6 NKJV

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 12:1-16 & Psalms 85-88

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 1:15-22 & Isaiah 61



SUNDAY 11

IMMUNE TO POISON



And these signs shall follow them that believe...if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover (Mark 16:17-18).

Are you aware that now that you're born again, it's not possible for you to be poisoned? No infection can thrive in your body. The life of God in you will nullify and neutralize the effects of any venom in your body. Paul proved it. While on the island of Melita, he was bitten by a venomous viper. The people expected him to swell, fall down suddenly and die as a result of the venom from the snake, but the Bible says, Paul shook off the viper into the fire and felt no harm (Acts 28:5).

It doesn't matter how venom is injected or ingested into your body; it'll have no effect on you. That's what the Lord Jesus meant when He said, "...if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them..." (Mark 16:18).

The word "drink" in the Greek is "pinō," which means to imbibe, suck in, absorb or assimilate. That means



the deadly thing doesn't have to have gone in through your mouth; if your body absorbs, ingests, assimilates or receives any deadly thing, in whatever form, such substances will have no effect on you.

Someone says, "I got malaria because I was exposed to mosquito bites." No! The life in you destroys parasites and disease-causing pathogens; it's poison-resistant. Have this consciousness; live every day with the understanding of who you are in Christ. You're of the "uninfectable" breed, immune to any venom or poison. Glory to God! Amen.

CONFESSION

I'm immune to every form of toxins, poison or venom. I walk in the reality of who I am in Christ, a new creation with the indestructible and "uninfectable" life of God in me. I walk in health, strength and victory, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Acts 28:1-6; Isaiah 54:17; Luke 10:19

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 12:17-13:1-14 & Psalms 89

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 1:23-30 & Isaiah 62



MONDAY 12

HE'S ALREADY "LIFTED"



And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die (John 12:32-33).

Sometimes, Christians sing certain hymns or songs that don't make spiritual sense. For example, some think they're praising the Lord when they sing, "We lift Jesus higher" or "We lift Him up!" You might say, "But Pastor Chris, what's wrong with that? Why can't we lift Him up?"

First, He's already in the highest and most exalted place in the heavenly realms; so, where else do you want to lift Him to? Secondly, if your inspiration to "lift Him up" or "lift Him higher" is coming from what He said in John 12:28-33, then you've completely misunderstood the context.

In those verses, the Lord spoke about the judgment of the world and the casting out of the prince of this world. Then in verse 32, He said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." The very next verse 33 captures exactly what He meant by that statement. It says, "This he said, signifying what death he should die."

When Jesus spoke of being "lifted up," He was referring to His crucifixion, not exaltation. Therefore, singing such hymns may inadvertently imply a call for Jesus to be crucified again, which goes against the very



essence of the Faith.

Even if the lyrics suggest exalting Jesus to draw people to Him, such an interpretation overlooks the context of Jesus' statement. It's essential for you to study and know the Scriptures for yourself to gain a deeper understanding of God's Word. You can read the same verses in the Amplified Classic version, which says, "And I, if and when I am lifted up from the earth [on the cross], will draw and attract all men [Gentiles as well as Jews] to Myself. He said this to signify in what manner He would die" (John 12:32-33 AMPC).

2 Timothy 2:15 says, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Studying the Word will help you know the right songs to sing in worship so you can praise the Lord in Spirit and in truth as He demands. Without proper knowledge, many walk on in ignorance and misunderstand the true message of the Bible. Therefore, diligently seek and pursue the knowledge of God by studying the Scriptures.

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for the insight and understanding that I receive from your Word. Thank you for flooding my spirit with light to know and walk in the truth of your Word, rightly applying the Word to my life and circumstances, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

John 12:28-33; 2 Timothy 2:15 AMPC; John 5:39

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 14-15:1-4 & Psalms 90-93

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 2:1-11 & Isaiah 63



TUESDAY 13

THE MASTER'S CLAIM AS SON OF MAN



The people answered him, We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up? who is this Son of man (John 12:34).

In various instances, the Lord Jesus referred to Himself as "the Son of man," and the Jewish people understood the profundity of those words. They knew that He claimed to be the Christ. For example, in Matthew 8:20, He said, "...The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head." Also, in Mark 14:62, He said, "...I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." Luke 9:26 tells us, "For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed...."

However, it's crucial to understand that in these various instances where Jesus referred to Himself as "the Son of man," it wasn't a generic term denoting His humanity. He wasn't describing Himself as "a son" of man but as "the Son" of man, indicating a specific reference to Daniel's prophecy in Daniel 7:13, "I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven..."

Daniel's vision of "the Son of man" coming with



the clouds of heaven is closely connected to Jesus' proclamation during His trial before the high priest in Matthew 26:59-66. The high priest had asked Jesus if He was the Christ, the Son of God, and He replied: "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. "...But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven" (Matthew 26:64 NIV).

The high priest immediately accused Jesus of blasphemy, tore his clothes and declared that Jesus was worthy of death. The council agreed, affirming that Jesus should be condemned to death. By calling Himself "the Son of man," Jesus was actually asserting His identity as the Christ.

This distinction was clear to the Jewish congregation who recognised the weighty implications of the Lord's claim. The 'Son of man' was a title of the Christ. Jesus is God in human flesh, our great God and Saviour who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works (Titus 2:13-14).

CONFESSION

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for revealing yourself to us as God in human flesh. I acknowledge and confess that you are the Christ, the embodiment of Deity, my Lord and my God, and the reason for my existence. Thank you for your everlasting love, grace and tender mercies. Hallelujah!

FURTHER STUDY:

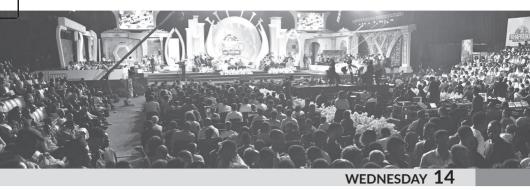
Matthew 16:13-16; Mark 8:38; Luke 5:24

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 15:5-13 & Psalms 94-98

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 2:12-18 & Isaiah 64



POVERTY ISN'T GOD'S DESIGN



O let not the oppressed return ashamed: let the poor and needy praise thy name. Arise, O God, plead thine own cause: remember how the foolish man reproacheth thee daily (Psalm 74:21-22).

psalm 74 contains a beautiful, emotive prayer from the psalmist Asaph. He prayed, "Have respect unto the covenant: for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty. O let not the oppressed return ashamed: let the poor and needy praise thy name" (Psalm 74:20-21).

Asaph's prayer reflected a shared concern for the oppressed. The oppressed could only hope in God for deliverance from those more powerful than themselves. Thus, Asaph's plea for their protection from shame underscored their reliance on God's intervention.

Some time ago, we heard of wildfires that ravaged homes and endangered many families, giving them very little chance of escape. The victims, facing powerful perpetrators who sought to silence them, epitomised the poor and needy for whom we should pray. Through our fervent prayer and actions, we can repel the evil and bring hope to the oppressed. Financial aid alone is insufficient; education and training are essential.



Most importantly, we must intercede for the poor, invoking God's favour and grace to open their eyes to opportunities and empower them to rise above poverty. Psalm 33:5 says, "He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD." Poverty is not God's design.

In Luke 4:18-19, Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Wherever the Gospel has free course and is preached, the people are transformed and the poor cease to be poor. So, be committed to taking the Gospel everywhere, and more and more lives will be changed. Amen.

PRAYER

I'm empowered as an agent of change in this world and an instrument of God's love and compassion to bring hope and relief to those in need. I pray for those who're oppressed to experience divine protection, provision, and empowerment as they receive the light of the Gospel and walk in God's will for their lives, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Isaiah 58:6-7; 2 Corinthians 8:9; 3 John 1:2 NKJV

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 15:14-33 & Psalms 99-101

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 2:19-30 & Isaiah 65

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THURSDAY 15

SUSTAINED BY THE SPIRIT



But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you (Romans 8:11).

By the Spirit, the Apostle Paul explained something profound in Ephesians 5:30. He said, "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones." This statement goes beyond us being the members of a local church. By referring to us as members of Christ's body, of His flesh, and of His bones, it describes our inextricable oneness with Him—our unity and intimacy with Christ Himself.

But did you notice that Paul didn't say, "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, his bones, and of his blood?" You need to understand that Christ's body doesn't have any blood anymore. Jesus gave His blood as a sacrificial offering during His crucifixion. His blood was entirely drained out when a Roman soldier pierced His side with a spear, causing blood and water to gush out (John 19:34). By the time Jesus was buried, there was no blood



left in His body.

However, on the third day, the Holy Spirit came upon Him, quickened His dead body and brought Him back to life. Therefore, Jesus' resurrected body does not contain blood but is sustained by the power of the Holy Spirit. And as He is, so are we in this world (1 John 4:17).

Before you were born again, your body lived by blood. But now that the Holy Spirit lives in you, even though there's blood in your body, your sustenance is by the Spirit. No wonder Paul asserts in Romans 8:11, "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."

Often, you should declare, "I don't live by blood. I live by the Holy Ghost. Therefore, cancer, blood disorders, or any form of infection can't thrive in my body because I am sustained by the Holy Ghost."

PRAYER

Dear Father, I thank you for the Holy Spirit who lives in me and gives life to every fibre of my being, keeping me in divine health. Every part of my body is vitalized and strengthened by your Spirit, from the crown of my head to the soles of my feet, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Romans 8:11; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Galatians 5:25

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Romans 16:1-27 & Psalms 102-103

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 3:1-12 & Isaiah 66



FRIDAY 16

AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE



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 4:41).

Not only did Jesus live an extraordinary life of the miraculous while He was on earth, even His death, burial, and resurrection were extraordinary. It normally takes at least thirteen hours for a crucified man to die. But when Jesus was crucified, He commanded His own death after six hours.

On the Cross, the Bible says He cried with a loud voice to the Father and said, "...into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost" (Luke 23:46). When He said those words, He released His spirit to die.

To confirm if He was really dead, a soldier took a spear and thrust it into His side. To the amazement of the soldiers and the Jews who were watching, blood, mingled with water, gushed out, showing that His heart had ruptured. They were shocked that He had died within that space of time.

His resurrection was also extraordinary. Upon the request of the Jewish leaders, the Romans had sealed



the grave where Jesus was buried with a great stone and assigned armed soldiers to watch it. On the third day, an angel, glittering like the sun, came down from heaven. The angel moved the great stone away and sat on it, and Jesus gloriously came out of the grave. Hallelujah! He was later with His disciples for forty days and forty nights.

On the day He was to leave, He didn't suddenly disappear. While talking with His disciples and giving them instructions, He levitated from the ground, defying the law of gravity. His disciples watched in utter amazement as He kept ascending, until He went all the way into the clouds. This was a most extraordinary moment.

The Bible says one day, and it's no longer far away, this same Jesus will return again in an extraordinary fashion, and the whole world will see Him. It's going to be glorious; and we're all getting ready for the Master's soon return. He's called us to an extraordinary life of glory and wants us to make this life of excellence and grace known to others and prepare them for His glorious return.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you for the extraordinary life of miracles, power and glory that we have in you. Thank you for making me a vessel to spread the message of salvation and prepare the hearts of men for your soon return. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Matthew 27:50-54; Acts 1:10-11

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 1 & Psalms 104-106

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 3:13-21 & Jeremiah 1



SATURDAY 17

NO CONTRADICTIONS IN THE BIBLE



All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16).

The Bible is a trustworthy material that contains the inspired Word of God and provides guidance and direction for us to live by. Some people however try to discredit it by claiming some of its details don't add up.

An example is about the resurrection of Jesus; the Bible says He resurrected on Sunday morning after being in the grave for three days and three nights. So, they ask, "How could it have been three days and three nights from Friday to Sunday morning? It doesn't add up."

Well, the Bible never said Jesus died on Friday. Some religious people assumed this to be so because they read in the Bible that Jesus died the day before the Sabbath and they knew that Saturday was Sabbath. What they didn't know was that the Sabbath the Bible was referring to wasn't the weekly Sabbath but the Passover Sabbath.

This Passover Sabbath was a special event that took place on the 14th day of the month of Nisan every year. It therefore wasn't fixed to any particular day of the week. It's just the same way Christmas is on the 25th of December for most of the world, but the 25th of December doesn't fall



on a Monday every year.

That year, the 14th day of Nisan fell on a Thursday. And so, Jesus was crucified on a Wednesday, the day before the Passover Sabbath. The gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke didn't mention that this was Passover Sabbath, but John clearly stated it, "...the Jewish leaders didn't want the bodies hanging there the next day, which was the Sabbath (and a very special Sabbath, because it was Passover week)..." (John 19:31 NLT).

The purpose of this isn't to criticize the celebration of Good Friday; no. Rather, it's to show that Jesus was accurate when He said, "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:40).

He was crucified on Wednesday, and before dawn on Sunday, He had risen. This also shows that the Bible is trustworthy. You can trust its writings because it's more than a religious book; it's the testimony of God.

PRAYER

Dear Father, your Word is trustworthy and true; it's a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. I'm strengthened, firmly grounded in the accuracy and reliability of the Scriptures, for it's profitable for every aspect of my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Psalm 33:4; Psalm 119:160; Romans 3:3-4; Hebrews 4:12

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 2 & Psalms 107-108

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 4:1-7 & Jeremiah 2



SUNDAY 18

HE'S "THE WAY," NOT "A WAY"



Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12).

The Bible says there's no salvation in any other, for there's no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved. This statement gives us no chance to think that there might be some other means for salvation. Salvation is only in the Name of Jesus; the Lord Himself was definite about this.

Some people think otherwise and believe there's more than one way to get to God. In fact, they claim that Jesus is one of the many ways to God. Before taking their claim seriously, one first has to ask them how they came about what they're saying and on what authority it is based.

They also need to tell if they've ever successfully gotten to God. If they can't answer these questions, then their claims are false, and they have no idea what they're saying. In John 14:6, Jesus unambiguously declared: "...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

He didn't say, "I am one of the ways," neither did He say, "I am a way." He said, "I am THE way." So, to answer the question, "How many ways are there to God? The



simple answer is: There's only one way, and that's Jesus Christ. There's no other way besides Him.

How do I know this? It's because Jesus said so, and the same Jesus went to heaven alive. The people who founded the various religions of the world don't have a similar testimony. When they died, their adherents could only hope they went to heaven. But Jesus went up into heaven alive in the presence of 120 witnesses; they saw Him go. They saw Him levitate and ascend into the clouds before their eyes. Hallelujah!

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. He's alive and His Name still has power today; that's why we see so many mighty miracles happening around the world. These miracles are a testimony that He's alive. Salvation is only in His Name, and you can receive it today if you're yet to do so by praying the "Prayer of Salvation," which you'll find on page 76 of this devotional.

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for the blessing of salvation and for the gift of eternal life, which is available to all in Christ. I boldly proclaim the message of salvation to those around me, with conviction and demonstration of the Spirit, such that many may come to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Romans 10:8-13; John 3:16; 1 John 5:11-12

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 3 & Psalms 109-112

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 4:8-13 & Jeremiah 3



MONDAY 19

IT'S YOUR JOB TO LET THEM KNOW



For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved...and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher (Romans 10:13-14).

Many around the world are still living under the dominion of sin, unaware that Jesus Christ came to set them free from the power of sin. They don't know He came to give them life so they can live righteously as God wants them to. It's however our job to let them know.

We've been given the Holy Spirit to help others find truth and to lead them in the way of salvation. That's why you're here; the Spirit of God has filled your life with the presence, power and the grace of God to make His Word known through you to your world.

Everyone has his world. There's a world you live in, your sphere of contact. When someone comes into your world, they should learn about Jesus. Only through you will they know how kind and gracious He is and all that He's done for them.

Your world should be a place where people come to hear and receive God's Word to transform their lives.



So, I ask you: What's happening in your world? Are you making Christ known to your world or are you prioritizing some other things? Talk about Him and make His presence available to others.

Understand that though the Holy Spirit is here on earth, He doesn't have His own body, so He uses our bodies. When Jesus walked the earth, the Holy Spirit lived in the body of Jesus. He was the one Jesus called, "my Father that lives in me" (John 14:10). That's the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit needs your body to function. If you'll yield to Him, He'll come into your world and bless it. He'll change their lives; He has the power to do it. The Bible says, "...for with God all things are possible" (Mark 10:27). He can do anything, but He needs you to express Himself.

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for the privilege to share the message of salvation with those around me, and to be a conduit of your eternal blessings. Through me, many more will come into the knowledge of the truth, their lives will be transformed, and they'll become fully aware of their inextricable oneness with you, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Mark 16:15-16; Mark 5:18-20; John 4:28-30 NLT

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 4 & Psalms 113-116

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Philippians 4:14-23 & Jeremiah 4



TUESDAY 20

WE'RE THE LIMBS OF CHRIST



For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones (Ephesians 5:30).

This is amazing! The Bible says, "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones." That means we're the limbs of Christ; that's what the word "members" means. Therefore, your legs are Christ's legs; your hands are His hands. You're inseparably fused as one with Him.

This is the meaning of 1 Corinthians 6:15 where it says, "Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ?..." That's the same thing we read in Ephesians 5:30; it addresses individual members of the Church. In you, Christ is fully represented, expressed and manifested. He walks in you, talks in and through you, works in and through you.

Wherever you are, you're the "body" of Christ—the limbs of Christ. This should be your daily consciousness. Being born again, you've come into union with Christ: that's the biggest thing about our salvation. Not only has



your spirit been recreated, you've been immersed into Christ; you became literally joined together with Him as one divine creation.

1 Corinthians 12:13 says, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body...." Now you can understand when the Bible says your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19; 1 Corinthians 3:16). This isn't a religious talk; it's the reality of your life. You're a Godcarrying vessel. Divinity is at work in you and revealed in and through you. Give attention to these truths; meditate on them and live accordingly every day.

CONFESSION

I acknowledge my divine union with Christ; every part of my body functions perfectly, reflecting the life and power of Christ within me. I walk in this consciousness, knowing that Christ is fully represented, expressed and manifested in and through me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

John 15:5; Ephesians 1:22-23; Galatians 2:20; 1 Corinthians 6:19

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 5 & Psalms 117-118

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 1:1-8 & Jeremiah 5



WEDNESDAY 21

REIGNING IN THE MIDST OF ADVERSITIES



For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet (1 Corinthians 15:25).

Some read the verse above and assume it means all enemies aren't yet under Jesus' feet, but that's not what it's saying. Observe that it doesn't say that Christ will reign "when" He has put all enemies under His feet. Rather, it says, "...until He has put all enemies under His feet." In other words, He reigns in the midst of His enemies.

The Greek word translated reign is 'basileuō' (a verb), and it means to rule or to king. To truly grasp this, let's review an aspect of Romans 5:17, the part that says, "... much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ."

The Lord Jesus, who must reign or "king" as read in our opening verse, is in heaven where there are no enemies to reign over. This means the place to reign is here on earth, and how is He to reign? It's through the Church; it's through us.

Colossians 1:18 NIV says, "And he [Jesus] is the head of the body, the church...." Jesus is the head, the Church is His body, and the feet, as highlighted in the theme text, are a part of the body. Thus, Jesus continues



to reign in the earth until all the enemies are subject to every member of the body of Christ.

That must happen before Jesus comes back. Can you see that the Lord isn't coming for a beggarly, weakly, feeble or frail church? No! He's coming for a triumphant Church (Ephesians 5:27). The Bible says He has "...made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth" (Revelation 5:10).

No wonder the Lord Jesus said in John 16:33, "... In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." We're born of Him and our faith in Him is our victory over the world. Now you see why James 1:2 says to count it all joy when you go through diverse tests. That's because we reign in the midst of adversities.

It reminds of what David said, "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies..." (Psalm 23:5). The enemies don't count. In their midst you reign, you rule, you celebrate. Glory to God!

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for the victory we have in Christ Jesus. I'm a member of the body of Christ, empowered to reign, rule and walk on in victory in this world. I reign in righteousness, walk in victory and manifest your Kingdom here on earth, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Romans 5:17 AMPC; Colossians 1:16-18; Romans 8:35-39

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 6 & Psalms 119:1-112

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 1:9-18 & Jeremiah 6



THURSDAY 22

YOU'RE GOD'S PROPERTY



What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price... (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

The Bible says you were bought with a price; that means you're God's treasure, His property. How amazing this is. 1 Peter 1:18-19 says, "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."

Your value is the precious blood of the Lord Jesus because that's the price God paid for your salvation; always remember that. Your spirit, soul and body belong to God; that means no trespass for Satan and his cohorts of darkness. Satan has no business in your life and in the quarters of your body because you legally belong to Christ.

Now that you're born again, you're far above Satan's domain or jurisdiction: "giving thanks to the Father for having made you fit to share in the inheritance of his people in the light. He has rescued us from the domain

of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son. It is through his Son that we have redemption - that is, our sins have been forgiven" (Colossians 1:12-14 CJB).

Moreover, because you're God's property, He's fashioned your life for glory and excellence (read Ephesians 2:10 AMPC). Satan has no claim over your life. You're "untouchable" because you're protected by the great and mighty God! Colossians 3:3-4 says Christ is your life and your life is hidden with Christ in God. Now you can understand why He says, "...nothing shall by any means hurt you" (Luke 10:19); "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper..." (Isaiah 54:17). Hallelujah!

Have this consciousness and live in absolute dominion over the adversary and all adversities every day.

PRAYER

Dear Father, I'm grateful for the assurance that my spirit, soul, and body belong to you and that Satan has no claim over my life. I am protected and fashioned for glory and excellence, and I walk in the paths you've prepared for me, living the good life you prearranged and made ready for me to live, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

1 Peter 1:18-19 AMPC; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NIV; Ephesians 2:10 AMPC

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 7 & Psalms 119:113-176

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 1:19-29 & Jeremiah 7



DOMINION OVER SERPENTS AND SCORPIONS



They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover (Mark 16:18).

Observe that the Lord Jesus, in the opening text, listed the attesting signs that'll accompany those who believe. He said they "shall take up serpents." What does it mean to take up "serpents"? Was Jesus talking in literal terms or metaphorically?

The truth is, the phrase can be interpreted both ways. In its literal interpretation, it refers to the ability to handle physical serpents without harm, as demonstrated by Paul in Acts 28. Then, in Matthew 12:34, Jesus confronted certain people, whom He called "a generation of vipers," indicating their deceitful and malicious nature: "O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

In another instance, He condemned the hypocrisy of the scribes and Pharisees and likened them to "serpents." He said, "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell" (Matthew 23:33). So, metaphorically, "serpents" can symbolise spiritual adversaries. However, irrespective of their form, whether

physical or spiritual, "you can take up serpents" signifies your control and dominion over them.

Therefore, be it physical threats from venomous snakes, spiritual adversaries who oppose truth and righteousness, or the ones who concoct deceits, manipulations, lies, tricks and schemes, you have authority and dominion over them all.

The Lord made a beautiful statement in Luke 10:19 (AMPC), saying, "Behold! I have given you authority and power to trample upon serpents and scorpions, and [physical and mental strength and ability] over all the power that the enemy [possesses]; and nothing shall in any way harm you." He thus reiterates your blessed authority and dominion over "serpents and scorpions", literal and metaphorical. Hallelujah!

CONFESSION

Dear Father, thank you for the authority and power you've given me over all the works, tricks, schemes, manipulations and deceits of the enemy. I walk in confidence and boldness, knowing that nothing shall by any means hurt me as I stand firm in the truth of your Word. I've been vested with power and authority in heaven and in earth to subdue, dominate and take charge of my world. Hallelujah!

FURTHER STUDY:

Luke 10:19 NIV; Matthew 12:34 AMPC; Mark 16:17-18 AMPC

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 8 & Psalms 120-127

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 2:1-7 & Jeremiah 8



SATURDAY 24

KINGDOM VALUES AND PRINCIPLES



Neither shalt thou go up by steps unto mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered thereon (Exodus 20:26).

The scriptures help us to gain insights into God's thinking and character. Take for example God's instruction to the children of Israel regarding the construction of the altar. He instructed them not to build altars requiring steps to ascend. Why? It's simply because He didn't want anyone who may be watching from below to see their nakedness: "Don't use steps to climb to my Altar because that will expose your nakedness" (Exodus 20:26 MSG).

It illustrates God's attention to modesty and decency, even in architectural details. Such instructions reveal His character and way of thinking, and as such, a caution against cultural trends and fashion that tend to promote indecency or compromise personal dignity. Don't adorn or condone indecent, revealing outfits. Uphold values of modesty and respect in your dressing.

Let the Word of God be your guiding light. By choosing to dress modestly, we not only honour God but also set a



positive example for others. It's about making choices that align with the principles of God's Word and bring glory to His Name.

Always remember that, as Christians, we have a higher life and uphold higher standards. There're things we don't do, places we don't go, and things we don't say. The Bible says, "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate..." (2 Corinthians 6:17).

So, be different; you're a child of the Kingdom with a different life. You were sanctified by the Spirit; He's separated you and declared you holy and undefiled. Therefore, let everything about your life glorify Christ. Maintain the values and principles of the Kingdom.

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for your Word, which guides me in all aspects of life. I uphold the values of our Kingdom in all that I do, expressing righteousness and reflecting the character of Christ in my daily life. I stand firm in my commitment to honouring you. I embody and practice the principles, values and teachings of the Word by your Spirit, and live according to your will, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Romans 12:1-2; 1 Timothy 2:9-10 NIV; Exodus 20:26 NIV; 1 Peter 3:3-4 NIV

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 9 & Psalms 128-134

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 2:8-15 & Jeremiah 9



SUNDAY 25

FOLLOW HIM



And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men (Matthew 4:19).

Notice what the Lord said in the verse above: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Your responsibility is to follow Him, and He'll make all your dreams come true. Follow Him, and He'll see to it that you fulfil God's calling and destiny for your life. But how do you follow Him?

If you had lived in Jesus' day in Israel, you might have thought that following Him meant physically accompanying Him from street to street, village to village, or town to town. It's however beyond that. Judas, who followed Jesus physically, ultimately betrayed Him and lost out with God, proving that following Him physically wasn't enough.

The first aspect of following Jesus is to follow Him in the Word, for He is the living Word. John 1:14 tells us, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." When you follow Him in the Word, you're following Jesus Himself. The written Word is all about Jesus.

Secondly, you must follow Him through the Word. As



you study the Word, you'll find Jesus and understand His mindset, His beliefs, and observe His actions. You'll see how He responded to everything. You'll read, for example, how He reacted to a billowing tempest; He demonstrated authority over nature and His ability to bring peace even in the midst of chaos (Mark 4:38-39).

Everything about Jesus is revealed in the Word. Learning how He responded in various situations provides valuable insights for our own lives. When He got hungry, what did He do? When He felt tired, what did He do? He did all He did to show us how to live. Therefore, we must follow Him in, through, and by the Word. Following Him by the Word means to act on His Word, to do what He says. James 1:22 NIV says, "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for the privilege to follow Jesus in, through, and by the Word. I immerse myself in your Word daily, and I'm granted deep insights to understand its mysteries, deep secrets, and apply the principles and teachings in my life. I'm a doer of the Word, and I experience victory and triumphs in every aspect of my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

John 8:31-32; Luke 9:23; James 1:22-25 NIV

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 & Psalms 135-138

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 2:16-23 & Jeremiah 10-11



MONDAY 26

EXTRICATED FROM DEATH



...who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel (2 Timothy 1:10).

The Bible records that in ancient times, humans lived for exceptionally long periods with lifespans exceeding 900 years. However, as sin increased, lifespans diminished. Genesis 6:3 says because of sin, man's lifespan was limited to 120 years.

Moses, in his psalms, made an observation that due to sin, the typical lifespan of man was seventy years or eighty for those who were stronger. Even in old age, man's life was filled with toil and sorrow, ultimately ending in death (Psalm 90:8-10). The Lord Jesus, however, came to address the root cause of this limitation, which is sin.

Through His sacrifice, He provided salvation from sin and made eternal life possible. Eternal life includes "deathlessness." When you were born again, you passed from death to life (John 5:24). Recall what we read in our theme scripture; it says Jesus abolished death and brought life and immortality to light. To abolish means to do away with, to get rid of, or to cancel. The Lord Jesus cancelled death; He got rid of it and gave us a life that's superior to death; a life that's death-proof.

Now you can understand why the Bible says in 1 Corinthians 15:55, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" The Lord Himself proved



that death has no sting or victory when, after three days in the grave, He arose triumphantly back to life. Why then do Christians die? For many, it's a result of ignorance (Psalm 82:5-7) and also because of the consciousness and fear of death. We'll learn a bit more about the fear of death in our next study.

You might ask, "Pastor Chris, are you saying we are not supposed to die?" Absolutely! We have the potential to live beyond the confines of earthly limitations. The Bible lets us know that many of us will be alive and physically raptured from the earth when the trumpet sounds (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17). The Church needs to grasp and walk in the light of this truth.

The life you have is the God-life, the divine life; it's not subject to Satan, sickness, disease, death and the corrupting influences of this world. 2 Peter 1:4 says we're partakers of the divine nature and have escaped the corruption that's in the world. Death is one of those "corruptions" from which you've been extricated. Hallelujah!

CONFESSION

I refuse to be bound by the consciousness of death or the limitations of this world. I walk in the fullness of the life and victory that Christ has obtained for me, and I live in health, strength and vitality. I live out the transcendent life, demonstrating the power and glory of God in all areas of my life, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Hebrews 2:14-15; Mark 9:1 NIV; 1 Corinthians 15:51-56

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 10:14-11:1 & Psalms 139-141

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 3:1-11 & Jeremiah 12



TUESDAY 27

HAVE NO FEAR OF DEATH



The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death (1 Corinthians 15:26).

There's a distinction that I'd like you to observe in Paul's expression in the theme verse. It's the fact that he didn't say, "The last enemy that shall be defeated is death." Rather, he used the word "destroyed"; this is because death has been defeated but not yet extirpated.

Since this is the case, why then are many still afraid of death? Hebrews 2:14-15 provides a solution: "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

The Lord Jesus, through His vicarious death, rendered the devil (who once had the power of death) powerless, effectively abolishing his authority and ability to kill. So, Satan doesn't have that power anymore. What does he do now? He employs his deceptive strategies and makes people afraid. Fear is why many are subject to death; it puts people in bondage; it makes them tremble and refuse to do what they should do.

But thanks be unto God; Jesus delivered humanity from death completely. You have to come to that place in your Christian life where you have no fear of death; where you lose your fears. Jesus has the keys of hell and of death; He has authority over death so there's nothing

to fear anymore. Read His reassuring words: "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).

In John 5:24, He said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." You've passed from death to life. You're in the arena of life. This isn't a promise. Physical death is the result of spiritual death. If there is no spiritual death in you, there ought not to be physical death in you.

John reiterated the same words in his epistle when he said, "We know that we have passed from death unto life..." (1 John 3:14). Hallelujah! Always remember, the devil has nothing—death, sickness, weakness, feebleness—in you just like Jesus said in John 14:30: "Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me."

CONFESSION

Blessed be God for the victory over death that we have in Christ. The life I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of Jesus Christ my Lord, who loved me and gave Himself for me! I live fearlessly, knowing that I have passed from death to life. The God-life in me makes me supernatural and impregnable to sickness, disease, failure, death and the devil. Hallelujah!

FURTHER STUDY:

Romans 8:35-39; Hebrews 2:14-15 AMPC; John 5:24 AMPC

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 11:2-34 & Psalms 142-145

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 3:12-25 & Jeremiah 13



WEDNESDAY 28

SPIRITUAL OVERSIGHT AND STEWARDSHIP



And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation (Luke 19:44).

want you to observe the word "visitation" in our theme scripture. Some have the idea that Jesus was talking about a mere "visit," but that's not it. That word is translated from the Greek "Episkopē," which conveys the meaning of "bishoprick" also spelt as "bishopric" or the office of an overseer. An overseer has something to watch over and take care of.

This sheds light on the Lord's statement. The Jews weren't watchful, hence missed the time of their visitation. It also brings to mind God's command to Adam to "dress and keep" the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:15), signifying their responsibility to watch over and care for the garden.

Similarly, the Lord Jesus urged His disciples to "watch and pray" (Matthew 26:41, Mark 13:33). As the Church of Jesus Christ, we must be vigilant and attentive to our spiritual responsibilities. Individuals and nations today may face dire consequences if we neglect our responsibility to watch over their spiritual condition by interceding for them.

Matthew 26:41 AMPC says, "...Keep awake (give strict attention, be cautious and active) and watch and pray...." 1 Timothy 2:1 says, "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and



giving of thanks, be made for all men." To not carry out this instruction from the Lord means you're not fulfilling your "bishopric," your responsibility to watch over your nation and the people.

We have an understanding of God's Word and can discern the signs of the times; therefore, we must be watchful! Remember what the Bible says in Ezekiel 3:17, "Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me." We're watchmen and women, and one of the ways we watch over and take care of God's creation is through prayers. Paul reiterated this when he said in 1 Thessalonians 5:17, "Pray without ceasing." Also, in Colossians 4:2, he admonished, "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving."

Through prayer and spiritual discernment, we thwart the plans of darkness and usher in God's peace where there had been turmoil. Never undermine the importance of your spiritual oversight and stewardship in these last days!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I recognise the significance of my role as a watchman, and I thank you for the authority you've vested in me to keep the devil and his cohorts in check. I terminate their evil, vicious and malevolent activities in my environment and declare that only your peace and prosperity reign in and around me, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

1 Timothy 2:1-4 NIV; Acts 20:28; Ezekiel 3:17 NIV

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 12 & Psalms 146-150

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 4:1-9 & Jeremiah 14

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THURSDAY 29

PRAYING FOR ALL PEOPLE



I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men (1 Timothy 2:1).

There's a profound difference between praying for a nation and praying for its citizens. When we pray for nations, it carries a distinct weight, but praying for the individuals of those nations adds depth and specificity to our intercession.

When I pray for all Ghanaians, for example, it's different from praying for the nation of Ghana. Praying for the nation of Ghana implies focusing on the government, its structures and the people within its borders.

But when you say, "I'm praying for Ghanaians," you're extending your prayer to every Ghanaian, wherever they may be in this world. Your prayer touches each individual who identifies as Ghanaian, regardless of their location. This personalizes your prayer and enables you to connect with the people on a deeper level.

That's what Paul meant when he emphasized that



prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks should be made for "all men" everywhere; and by that, he meant every man, woman, boy and girl. There's a profound significance when you pray this way; it helps cultivate love for them.

Praying for nations alone could feel distant and impersonal, but when you pray for the people of those nations, it becomes personal. Approaching prayer in this manner endears you to people in a way that makes your intercession for them more impactful.

PRAYER

Dear Father, thank you for the privilege of prayer and intercession. Even now, I pray for every citizen of my country who's yet to receive salvation, irrespective of their geographical location, that their hearts be open to hear and understand the Gospel to receive salvation today. Thank you for the massive harvest of souls into the Kingdom around the world today, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Ephesians 6:18 NIV; 1 Timothy 2:1-4 GNB

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 13 & Proverbs 1-2

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

Colossians 4:10-18 & Jeremiah 15



FRIDAY 30

HIS JUSTICE ALWAYS PREVAILS



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

In Esther 3, the Bible tells us the story of Mordecai, a Jew, and Haman, one of the king's officials who had risen to a position of great honour. The Bible described Haman as "the enemy of the Jews" and an Agagite, a wicked man who harboured intense animosity towards Mordecai and the Jewish people.

Haman, being wealthy, assured the king that he would personally finance the operation of annihilating the Jews. He deceived the king into believing that the Jews were a threat to the kingdom's stability. However, by God's divine providence, Haman's evil plans ultimately backfired, and it was he, Haman, who eventually got hanged on the very gallows he had prepared for Mordecai.

The Bible says, "The wicked watches the righteous, And seeks to slay him. The Lord will not leave him in his hand, Nor condemn him when he is judged. Wait on the Lord, And keep His way, And He shall exalt you to inherit the land; When the wicked are cut off, you shall see it" (Psalm 37:32-34 NKJV). The immutable truth of Scripture assures that the "Hamans" of this world and their likes would ultimately face God's righteous judgment.

God's justice will always prevail over the schemes of the wicked such that the fate they intend for others becomes their lot. The Bible says in Psalm 125:3, "For the rod of the wicked shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous...."

It's also one of the reasons we pray for fellow Christians, ministers of the Gospel, and Christian leaders around the world to be protected and shielded from wicked and unreasonable men as they carry out their works of righteousness. Always pray for pastors to be shielded from all evildoers, and affirm that they're equipped with wisdom, strength and discernment as they lead God's flock and propagate the Gospel.

There're Christians who are courageously spreading the Gospel in places and territories that are still hostile to the message of Jesus Christ. Always pray that such Christians be strengthened and remain resilient, guided by the Holy Spirit away from harm, and to continue to be effective instruments of His love and truth. Hallelujah!

PRAYER

Dear Father, I pray for pastors, fellow Christians, ministers of the Gospel, and Christian activists around the world today, that your mighty hand of protection rests upon them; they're imbued with divine wisdom, discernment, and courage as they stand for righteousness and truth in the face of any kind of opposition. I pray that you strengthen their resolve and embolden them to continue their work with unwavering faith and determination, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

Psalm 91:9-12; Psalm 89:13-14; 2 Thessalonians 3:1-3

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 14 & Proverbs 3-4

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 & Jeremiah 16



SATURDAY 31

SPEAKING IN TONGUES HELPS FORFEND DANGER



For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries (1 Corinthians 14:2).

Speaking in tongues is very important to every child of God. Make it a conscious habit to speak in tongues every day. That's where the power is. Once, a gang of ruthless kidnappers accosted a young girl and dragged her away. As they did, she spoke vigorously in tongues. They threatened to kill her, but she continued speaking in tongues. The more she spoke in tongues, the bolder she got. To her utter amazement, not long afterwards, the ten armed men suddenly threw away their weapons and fled. They ran away from one unarmed young girl. Why?

The Bible says "...he that speaketh in an unknown tongue, speaketh not unto men but unto God...." God only knows what those criminals saw or heard that made them scamper off in terror. Don't take speaking in tongues lightly. Before you go out of your house every day, speak in tongues.

A truck driver was speeding down the road when, suddenly, his brakes failed, and his truck started hurtling dangerously towards a young guy. A fatal accident seemed inevitable, and the driver closed his eyes, expecting the



worst to happen. When the vehicle ground to a halt, he opened his eyes, only to discover the young guy was still standing, unscathed and unruffled.

Quickly, he alighted from his truck and said, "Young man, I thought I hit you." The young man said, "No, you didn't; as you came close, the power of God picked me up in the air. When your truck sped past, the power of God brought me back down."

Then the young man narrated how before he came out that day, he had been speaking in tongues until his whole body was saturated with the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, when danger came, the power of God lifted him over and above the hazard.

The blessings and benefits of speaking in tongues are much more than you can imagine. The utterance may sound foolish or unintelligible to you or anyone listening to you, but that's where the power is. Glory to God! Even now, lift your hands and speak in tongues about your life, your ministry, your family, your job, your finances, your academics, and your health.

PRAYER

Dear Father, as I speak in tongues today, I align myself with your perfect will; my life is transformed and I'm empowered by the Holy Spirit, walking in victory in every area of my life. Thank you Lord, for the supernatural protection and safety, transcendent blessings and benefits of speaking in tongues, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FURTHER STUDY:

1 Corinthians 14:2; Jude 1:20 AMPC; Romans 8:26-27 AMPC

1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Corinthians 15:1-34 & Proverbs 5-7

2-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

1 Thessalonians 2:1-9 & Jeremiah 17

PRAYER OF SALVATION

We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying thus:

"O Lord God, I believe with all my heart in Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. I believe He died for me and God raised Him from the dead. I believe He's alive today. I confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life from this day. Through Him and in His Name, I have eternal life; I'm born again. Thank you Lord for saving my soul! I'm now a child of God. Hallelujah!"

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please get in touch with us through any of the contacts below:

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Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, the President of LoveWorld Inc., a dynamic, multifaceted, global ministry, is the author of Rhapsody of Realities, the world's #1 daily devotional, and more than 30 other books. He's a dedicated minister of God's Word whose message has brought the reality of the divine life to the hearts of many.

Billions have been affected by his television broadcasts such as "Atmosphere For Miracles," "Your LoveWorld Specials," and the "Healing Streams Live Healing Services." The scope of his television ministry extends throughout the world with LoveWorld satellite television networks, delivering qualitative Christian programming to a global audience.

At the world-renowned Healing School, he manifests the healing works of Jesus Christ and has helped many receive healing through the operation of the gifts of the Spirit.

Pastor Chris has a passion to reach the peoples of the world with God's presence—a divine commission he's fulfilled for over 40 years through various outreaches, crusades, as well as several other platforms that have helped billions experience a victorious and purposeful life in God's Word.



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