



PREPARATION



TEXT: EPHESIANS 2:10 (AMP)

"For we are His workmanship [His masterpiece, a work of art], created in Christ Jesus [reborn, renewed in Him as believers] for good works, which God prepared beforehand, so that we would walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made possible]."

WHAT IS PREPARATION? Preparation is the action or process of making something ready for use or service. We are either being prepared for service or preparing others for service. You don't just prepare for nothing, you make preparation because you have been called for service.

Why is it important you prepare?

It is important to know that Preparation started with God. When God wants to use a man, he prepares him. God prepared men like Simeon, Anna the prophetess, John the Baptist for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ also prepared his disciples for the coming of the Holy spirit.

God had a plan for man, his plan was to have direct relationship with man, but when Adam and Eve fell, he needed an alternative. This brought about faith, as he could no longer relate with man. God used Abraham to establish (prepare) the concept of faith, which is an important requirement for the new life in Christ. Through faith, we believe in the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus.

LOOKING AT THE ACCOUNT OF DAVID

David was prepared by God while attending to his father's sheep, he fought and killed different animals while caring for the sheep. When it was time to fight Goliath, these were what he told Saul when he was asked 'what can you do'. If he could conquer the lion and the bear, who is that uncircumcised philistine. He was prepared.

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER Matt 13:20-25 (TPT): key verse, 'while everyone was asleep, the enemy came and planted weed like wheat among the wheat' this does not necessarily mean you were lying on the bed with your eyes close, it means when you were idle doing nothing.



PREPARATION

You can be in a place but not united with that place, for example you are in a meeting hearing an ongoing teaching but not actually listening (paying attention) to what is being taught. That implies that you were asleep to what was happening in that meeting regardless of the fact that your physical eyes were open.

Are you asleep or awake?. You can be awake concerning the things in the “world”; your work, business but asleep on the assignment given to you by God.

The key Scripture (vs 25-30) shows that the seed planted was similar and attached to the tares, as such If you are not careful you will uproot the good one and the bad one. This parable unveils that a person can start a Journey well, very good and vibrantly doing the work of the Lord, but all of a sudden, starts depreciating because the devil has sown a bad seed in their heart.

We must be alert and sensitive to the times. The disciples of Jesus were found sleeping, when Jesus told them to pray and watch with him because they were ignorant about the time.

THE PARABLE OF THE TEN (10) VIRGIN: MATTHEW 25:1-10(AMP):

It is imperative to keep in mind that the five foolish virgins were actually VIRGINS, but they were referred to as foolish because they were ill-prepared. Conversely, the five wise virgins were prepared because they carried extra oil with them which sustained them till the end. The wise virgins were practical, sensible, they understood the script and the mandate.

This teaching is coming at this time because the kingdom of God is for those who are awake and not for those who are sleeping, for the wise not for the foolish. Foolishness is not just about sleeping physically but can also be a lack of information.

In our day to day life we must be vigilant and alert, in this work that the spirit of God has given to us, so we don't become victims of circumstances. The bible says that we should be careful how we live not as unwise (lack of knowledge) but wise.



PREPARATION

WHAT IS YOUR GUARANTEE FOR TOMORROW?

When it comes to the Kingdom, anyone can be called home; the young and the old can go as long as you are done with your work. Your relevance in the kingdom and your commitment to the assignment is your guarantee for tomorrow.

What are you doing for the kingdom?. Are you dispensable or are you indispensable?

Is the work of God your priority? Have you given yourself to God's work?

As an intercessor do you select the instructions to obey and ignore other instructions?

Do you decide for yourself when to fast and when not to?, you have to check that.

As a gatekeeper in all your plans, where is God standing? What are your plans with God?

You have to be prepared at all times, as we are preparing the church, you also need to be prepare.

CONCLUSION

Jeremiah 1:5 (paraphrased) the bible says before I formed thee I knew you, I planned your coming, I prepare your coming right from your mother's womb.

As a gate keeper, God has prepared you. He did not send you to this world without preparing for you. But it is your responsibility to write the vision and make it plain. You must reflect on yourself for it is the work of God, that guarantees your life. Prepare yourself, prepare your mind and body for the assignment. Be ready at all times and season.