

THE TABERNACLE OF DAVID

The Key to Discipling Communities and Nations

Dr T A Makoni



The Tabernacle of David: The Key to Discipling Communities and Nations

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Harare, August 2018

ISBN: 978-1-387-30490-5

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Preface

In this *Preface* I simply want to acknowledge the journey that I have walked towards this revelation, as well as acknowledge the key thinkers who contributed to this journey. Feel free to skip this portion and jump straight into Chapter One if you so wish.

Years ago God called me into the ministry with a twofold purpose and over the years on various platforms I have received prophetic words that have confirmed this dual nature of my calling which is, teaching the Gospel and funding the work of the Kingdom of God.

However for years I struggled to reconcile these apparently divergent callings until I got to understand the concept of bi-vocational ministry. My understanding of a bi-vocational minister was a pulpit minister who was not employed on a full-time basis by a Church to preach the Gospel. This minister would not necessarily be sustained from the altar in terms of her income as she ran her own businesses, which sustained her. I had challenges understanding the biblical basis of bi-vocational ministry (not that this does not exist, but only that I could not wrap my mind around it).

Then I was sold onto the message of the Kingdom and especially its reformational aspect. How the Kingdom of God should impact society and nations. The Kingdom mandate of Pastor Tom Deuschle clearly made sense of my call and place in ministry. But I was still looking for a theological framework that would give comprehensive meaning and the practical outworkings of this dual calling. I heard about the call to disciple nations. Landa Cope's seminal work "*An Introduction to the Old*

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Testament Template: Rediscovering God's Principles for Discipling Nations” shaped my initial thoughts on national discipleship. Darrow L. Miller’s *Discipling Nations*, introduced me to the concept of worldviews and their impact on believers.

I have often thought hard and long about the core mandate of the Church. I read widely on the Dominion mandate with the mindset of a practitioner and not a theorist. Some of the key influencers of my thinking processes were Dr. Mensa Otabil and Dr. Myles Munroe. I read Dutch Sheets’ classic work *“Intercessory Prayer”* in which he clearly showed that intercession is both a work and a prayer.

Later I was introduced to the Seven Mountains Strategy through Dr. Lance Wallnau. This made sense of what I was sensing in my heart. I thrust myself into reading and researching on this concept. However while I bought into the strategy I was not seeing how it could be operationalized. Maybe I was too slow of heart, or possibly I was simply not ready for the revelation.

A few years later I sat under the teaching of Dr. Francis Myles on the *Order of Melchizedek*. I was thoroughly impressed by the revelation. I believe that he has put his finger on some very powerful framework that organizes the whole of Scripture.

Slowly a thought began to crystalize in my mind. The restoration of the priesthood of Melchizedek requires a new tabernacle within which to minister. This calls for the restoration of the Tabernacle of David. I realized how the Tabernacle of David, the Order of Melchizedek, the Dominion Mandate and the concept of Worldviews all fit together in the fulfillment of the call to Disciple Nations based on a dual call of king and priest. I researched how competing worldviews (or belief systems) disciplined cultures. All of a sudden my dual calling made sense!

In this book I present the Tabernacle of David as a key to release kings and priests to disciple nations. I position this understanding in the light of the High

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Priesthood of Jesus Christ. I also place the whole revelation within the context of the Abrahamic covenant. I challenge kings and priests to lean and depend on God's grace and not on their intellect.

No work of this magnitude is accomplished without exceptional help from others. I express my gratitude to i) Bertha Masvingwa for transcribing some material used for this book, ii) Tsitsi Madzura Issa, Wadzanai Chitaukire, Gerald Chirinda and Dr Peter Chikumba for reviewing the first draft and giving critical input. Finally I thank Audrey, my friend, my partner in life and ministry for being an incredible co-labourer and support over the years and for challenging me to pursue the purpose of God for my life.

I dedicate this publication to the Discipling of the Nations of Africa as priestly kings. I trust that this journey will help you along the way to understanding your own purpose and calling. To God's Greater Glory!

Dr T A Makoni

August 2018, Harare

Chapter One: Tabernacle of David Restored

On June 26, 2015 the US Supreme Court made a landmark ruling about same sex marriage. In *Obergefell v. Hodges*, 576 US (2015), the Court held in a 5–4 decision that the fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same sex couples by the 14th Amendment to the US Constitution. This ruling requires all states to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples and to recognize same-sex marriages validly performed in other jurisdictions. This legalized same-sex marriages throughout the United States, its possessions and territories.

Many Christians were shocked by this development. At the same time a renowned minister of the Gospel, commented about this saying, *“I’m not really concerned about this issue as many people are. I think we should not lose our mind about the world being the world and the church being the church. This is not a newsflash. The world is gonna be the world and the church is gonna be the church and we should know the difference.”* In this very simplistic way, the celebrated minister dismissed the issue as immaterial and the ruling as inconsequential. With the greatest due respect, I believe he was wrong. He did not understand that God never intended for the church to be simply a church that is unaffected by what happens in the world. We are kingdom citizens representing the kingdom of Heaven and its interests here. The Kingdom does have an interest in ethical and moral matters that contradict Kingdom positions.

God’s intention has always been for the church to influence the world and not let the world be the world. This segregatory mindset has affected the Church and minimized its impact on communities and nations. Let’s re-examine God’s real

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intentions for the Church. I am a teaching pastor and am particular about creating distinctions that help solve some of the problems we have.

I recently read a book called “*Why Nations Fail*.” One of the things the authors discovered is that nations with more believers generally fail more than nations without believers. Their explanation was that the nations that have more believers have an *other-world* mindedness. They are trying to escape out of this world and have no intention of impacting this world. While they are here, their minds are elsewhere. Their energies are elsewhere. They are not productive citizens where they are.

While the Bible teaches us that we are citizens of another country, it also clearly emphasizes that we are in this world. We have been placed here by God for a purpose: to contribute and impact. But why are we failing to achieve that goal? I believe it’s because of a split mentality. The problem is that we have created a dichotomy in Christendom where we talk about priests or kings. We talk about priests as those who are in full-time ministry to preach the Gospel and are involved in sacred work. And we speak about kings as those who just serve to provide money to those who preach the Gospel while they are involved in secular (non-spiritual) work. We perceive the priests as the visionaries while kings are simply sources of provision for the visionary priests. That creates a problem of a two tier citizenship—first rate citizens who are involved in spiritual vocations and second-rate citizens who are involved in secular vocations. Shall we reconsider whether this presupposition is biblical?

Let’s start in Acts 15:16-17, “*After this I will return and I will rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen down, I will rebuild its ruins and I will set it up, so that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even **all the nations** who are called by my name says the Lord who does all these things*”

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In speaking about the last days God declares His intention to return and rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen down. Many times we have perceived of the restoration of the tabernacle of David as primarily the restoration of worship. That misses the mark. That is not what Acts 15 says. While the Davidic tabernacle includes praise and worship, it is not primarily about worship. Acts 15 declares that the purpose of the restoration of the tabernacle of David is so that mankind and nations may seek Him. Clearly the tabernacle of David is linked in this Scripture to national salvation and discipleship. The tabernacle of David takes us back to the very heart of what God has always wanted: national discipleship through a kingdom of priests.

What is this tabernacle of David? We know and are familiar with the tabernacle of Moses which he fashioned after the heavenly pattern shown to him by God Himself. And yet God does not say “I will restore the tabernacle of Moses.” Instead He says *“I will restore the tabernacle of David.”* Why is God interested in the tabernacle of David? What is the difference between these two tabernacles? To answer these questions let us take a closer look at, as well as review and compare these two tabernacles.

The fact of the existence of two tabernacles gives a clue to the possible existence of two priesthoods with different implications. Your view of these priesthoods will affect the way you approach the Kingdom of God and its influence on earth.

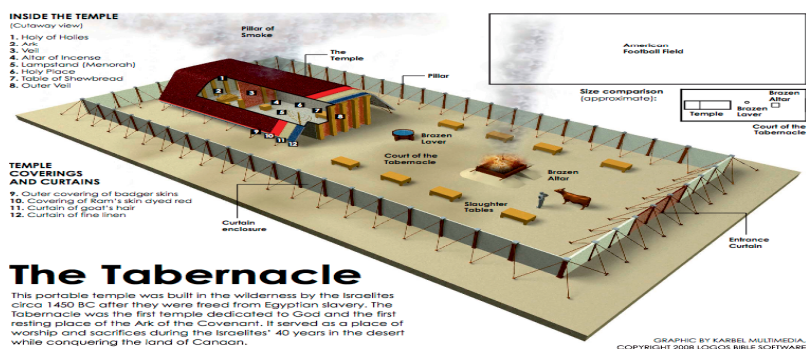
The Tabernacle of Moses.

The tabernacle of Moses was a complex structure consisting of the outer court, the holy place and the holy of holies. Only the High Priest had access to the Holy of Holies- the place of God’s Presence and that only once a year. Even then he went in

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with fear and trembling because if he made any mistake he would be dead. Generally Israel had no access to the very presence of God in the tabernacle of Moses. They had no access to the God they worshipped. In the tabernacle of Moses we are disenfranchised from the presence of God. In this tabernacle you approach with fear and trembling. In this tabernacle the priesthood that was ministering there were the sons of Aaron- the Levitical priesthood or the order of Aaron.

The tabernacle is associated with a complicated inherited priesthood that involves complex sacrificial rituals and ceremonies. It had elaborate rules that needed to be followed to the letter. It made a clear distinction between the priests who served at it and were devoted full-time to its service while the rest of the nation was involved in secular work. In the tabernacle of Moses two offices were anointed separately and for different functions. One could only be a king or a priest but not both at the same time. The priest was spiritual and the king was considered secular. The diagram below shows the structure of the Mosaic tabernacle.



Put simply the average believer had no access to the presence of God in the tabernacle of Moses. Anyone who came into the Presence of the Ark in the Holy of Holies, without being the High Priest on the Day of Atonement, would die

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immediately. Yet this well-known tabernacle (and yet without access to God's Presence) is the one that many still model their ministries around.

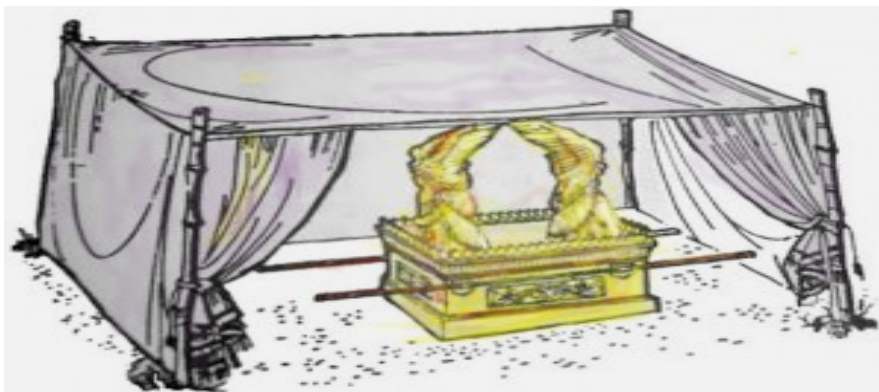
The tabernacle of Moses was a shadow or a type that finds its fulfillment and closure in Christ. That is why the veil was removed when Christ died. It cannot and should not continue to hold sway in a New Testament believer's life. We should therefore not model our lives and ministries after that which was simply a shadow.

Tabernacle of David

In 1 Chronicles 15:1, 3 we see the tabernacle of David. *“David builds houses for himself in the city of David (Mt Zion) and he prepared a place for the ark of God and he pitched a tent --- David gathered all Israel together in Jerusalem to bring up the Ark of the Lord to its place which he had prepared for it.”*

The tabernacle of David was a simple structure. It was a tent in which the Ark of the Lord was placed. The tabernacle of David was in clear view of everybody. Any worshipper could come into the tabernacle of David. There were minimal rules around it and there was no veil that separated the Presence of God from the people. Anyone could walk into the tabernacle of David and worship before the Ark of God. In that tabernacle everybody had access to the very presence of God. That is the tabernacle that God wants to restore in the last days. The tabernacle of David is clearly linked with the last days.

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I find this intriguing. David could create this tabernacle contrary to the specifications of Moses. He would do things that kings were not allowed to do. Under the tabernacle of Moses, if a king wanted to hear from God, he would call the priest and ask him to enquire from God on his behalf. But David was different. David would call the priest and request the ephod so that David, a king, would enquire before God himself not the priest. One king tried to get near the altar to offer sacrifice and became a leper. Saul tried to offer sacrifice, when Samuel had delayed. While he was trying to consult, God says *“I have rejected you because you have gone into a place where you don’t belong”*. In reality God accused Saul, as a king, of acting outside his jurisdiction (or sphere (range) of authority.)

But somehow God allowed David to access His Presence. The other time David passed through the temple and ate the sacred bread which was only reserved for the priests. (Mark 2:26.) Can I ask a few questions? Why would David get away with so much? Why did God not kill David for violating the procedures and processes of approaching Him in the Mosaic Tabernacle? Was God playing favourites with David?

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This used to worry me until I discovered a scripture that I believe is key to the power of the tabernacle of David. Please indulge me as I take you on a journey that may help shed light on the importance of the restoration of the tabernacle of David.

One day David, the sweet psalmist of Israel, while worshipping God, got so close and intimate with God, that he overheard a conversation in heaven. David literally eavesdropped into a heavenly conversation and caught an incredible revelation. Here is the conversation he heard in Psalm 110. This Scripture is the most quoted Old Testament text within the New Testament. The council of the Godhead was deep in conversation.

Psalms 110:1 says *“The Lord Jehovah said to my Lord “sit at my right hand till I make your enemies your footstool.”* Then in verse 4 it says *“the Lord has sworn and He will not relent, “You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.”*

God the Father is speaking to the Son saying, *“Son sit on my right hand until all your enemies are made your footstool.”* In 1 Corinthians 15:25 we are taught that when Jesus rose from the dead, God the Father caused him to sit on His right hand waiting for his enemies to be made his footstool. Clearly God is speaking to the time when the kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of our God. This intimates the colonization or discipleship of the nations. David heard this conversation thousands of years before it happened.

The Father further says to the Son, *“Today I have made you a priest according to the order of Melchizedek.”* Evidently God the Father is speaking to the priesthood of Jesus Christ thousands of years before Jesus even comes to earth. And He says *“I’m instituting a priesthood called the priesthood of the order of Melchizedek of which you are the High Priest”*. So David got a glimpse of a different priesthood. I suggest that David was not operating under the tabernacle of Moses with the priesthood of Levi. Instead he was

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operating under the tabernacle of David with the priesthood of the order of Melchizedek.

David would go into the tabernacle of David to worship God. As a worshipper he would get revelation in the Presence of God with which to go to war. He was a warring worshipper and a worshipping warrior. He was both a king advancing the kingdom and a priest serving before God. The tabernacle of David is a place for kings who are priests to worship God as preparation to extend the Kingdom of God. The tabernacle of Moses is a place of worship where only the priest could worship on behalf of the people. In this new tabernacle and under this priesthood David could be both a king and priest. There was no divide between the sacred and secular.

The tabernacle of David was on Mt Zion a place of rulership and dominion. This tabernacle is connected to national discipleship and conquering other kingdoms. Its governmental in context, character and nature. It's linked more to royalty than to the priesthood even though it encompasses both concepts at the same time.

I put it to you brethren that God created two different tabernacles – The tabernacle of Moses and the tabernacle of David. He created two different priesthoods- the priesthood of Levi and the priesthood of Melchizedek. The priesthood of Aaron comes to the tabernacle of Moses and its High Priest is Aaron who dies. But the priesthood of the order of Melchizedek comes to the tabernacle of David and its High Priest is Jesus Christ himself. So what is my point?

My point is this: the reason David was not killed for building this tabernacle is that he had seen a higher priesthood. He had seen the priesthood of Jesus Christ. The Bible tells us that Melchizedek was both a king and a priest. Jesus Christ is both a king and a priest. David operated as a king and a priest that's why he could access God. David would worship God as a priest in the tabernacle and then walk out of there as a

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conquering warrior (a king if you like). Those who serve at the tabernacle of David are both worshippers and warriors. The tabernacle of Moses had priests as ministers. The tabernacle of David has kings and priests as ministers. Once they have worshipped God, they receive a blueprint from heaven, then they get out into the marketplace and take dominion through warfare.

Summary of the Two Tabernacles

Tabernacle of	Moses	David
Key Players	Priests	Kings and priests (royal priests)
Priestly Order Of	Aaron	Melchizedek
High Priest	Aaron and his succeeding sons	Jesus Christ
Nature of High Priest	Subject to Death	Eternal High Priest
Under Law of	Moses	Christ
High Priest Appointed Through	Geneology	God's Decree
Tribe of Origin for H. Priests	Tribe of Levi	Tribe of Judah
Presence of God	Veiled and Inaccessible	Unveiled and Accessible
Tithes	An obligation	An honour
Access	By High Priest only Once a Year	By every believer anytime

Acts 7:44-46 (NKJV) declares *“Our fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as He appointed, instructing Moses to make it according to the pattern that he had seen, which our fathers, having received it in turn, also brought with Joshua into the land possessed by the Gentiles whom God drove out before the face of our fathers until the days of David, who found favor*

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before God and asked to find a dwelling for the God of Jacob.” To ensure that we do not miss the point here, let’s take a look at v45 in NIRV, “Our people received the tent from God. They brought it with them when they took the land of Canaan. God drove out the nations that were in their way. At that time Joshua was Israel’s leader. “The tent remained in the land until David’s time.” If I am reading this correctly we can say that literally the tabernacle of Moses remained in force until David’s time. I suggest that the tabernacle of Moses was replaced by the tabernacle of David under the order of Melchizedek. David was operating under the revelation of the New Testament. The Tabernacle of David under the Order of Melchizedek? This is a mouthful. In the next chapter let’s zero in on this.

Conclusion

We have established so far that in reality God established two tabernacles namely the tabernacle of Moses and the tabernacle of David. We have also established the existence of two different kinds of priesthoods under two different orders. The Levitical priesthood under the order of Aaron served at the Tabernacle of Moses. It required priest as ministers. It had indirect and limited access to God’s Presence. Another priesthood under the Order of Melchizedek ministered at the Tabernacle of David. At this tabernacle the ministers were both kings and priests in one. We shall pursue this in more detail in the next chapter.

Prayer

“Father I thank you for the revelation of the priesthood of Jesus Christ who is both a King and priest. I thank you that you have redeemed us and made us priestly kings and kingly priest to serve you on the Tabernacle of David. I am honoured to have full access to the very Presence of God in order to received strategies and revelations for national discipleship.”

Chapter Two: Jesus Christ and Priesthood of Melchizedek

We closed off the last chapter by introducing a new priesthood for the tabernacle of David. The Order of Melchizedek. I can almost hear someone say, “Order of what? Who is this Melchizedek anyway? I thought priests were after the order of Aaron as sons of Levi.” The mystery deepens. The plot thickens. Like all good theology we need the New Testament to clear this issue up for us. Is there a pattern that the New Testament established around this? Shall we pursue this thought and concept?

Hebrews 5:1, 4-6 says *“For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to represent men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. --- No man takes this honor for himself, but He who is called by God receives it, just as Aaron did. So also Christ did not glorify Himself to be made a High Priest, but it was He (God the Father) who said to Him (Christ), “You are my Son. Today I have become your Father and as He also says in another place: You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek.” (MEV).* Paul, whom I believe is the author of Hebrews, builds on what David overheard. Christ has been made a High Priest by God’s declaratory appointment. Not by inheritance through the bloodline of Aaron. Clearly Paul here makes the contrast between the priesthood of Christ in the order of Melchizedek and the priesthood Levi in the order of Aaron. Two distinct orders. Two distinct priesthoods. Now if Christ is a High priest, He needs a tabernacle upon which He could minister. He could not enter into the tabernacle of Moses to minister because he did not originate from the order of Aaron. So which Tabernacle was he serving on? Just keep that in mind.

Lest we forget Jesus Christ is not only a priest but is appointed by God as **High Priest** of the priestly Order of Melchizedek. This cannot be any clearer than

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Hebrews 5:10 (MEV) *“being designated by God a High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek.”* Not just a priest. But the High Priest of that order! Let’s call in a second witness to confirm this position. Hebrews 6:19-20 (MEV), *“We have this hope as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, which enters the inner place behind the veil. This is where Jesus has entered for us, since He has become the everlasting High Priest in the Order of Melchizedek.”*

In reality, for Him to become a priest He had to be a son. So God declared him a son in order that he could be a priest. Do you remember the promise of Psalms 2:8 that says *“Ask of me and I will give you the nations for your inheritance”* but we miss verse 7 which is key to that promise. It says *“God has made a decree and He says Today I have made you a Son and because you are a Son, ask of me and I give you the nations.”* (paraphrased). Dominion over nations is for sons. If you are not a Son you cannot take dominion. One can correctly argue that the Kingdom of God is an aristocracy which implies that the right to dominion and rulership is by being a son in the royal Family. We are sons of God in Christ.

Clearly both David and Jesus were not operating according to the Mosaic tabernacle. They were operating not according to the Levitical priesthood but under the priesthood of which Jesus Christ was a High Priest, which is the order of Melchizedek.

If we reflect back on Heb 3:1 (ESV) we read, *“Therefore holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in His house. For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses.”* We see the dual offices of Christ right here. Jesus Christ’s apostleship speaks to governance and kingly rule. Apostles were sent to conquer territory and enculturate their inhabitants to the King’s domain. That is the Kingly office. On the other hand Jesus Christ’s high priestly office speaks to his intercessory work. Therefore He just like Melchizedek is both a King and Priest.

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Another fact that we should observe here is the clear comparison that Scripture makes between Moses (and his tabernacle and the priesthood he inaugurated) and Jesus Christ (and the Davidic tabernacle and the priesthood He represents.). Christ is by far more excellent and glorious. It seems clear to me that the Order of Melchizedek really is the All-sufficient eternal priesthood of Jesus Christ.

In Hebrews 7:1-7 (MEV), we get further details on this Melchizedek. It says *“For this Melchizedek King of Salem, Priest of the Most High God who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of kings and blessed him. Abraham gave a tenth of everything. He was the king of righteousness and also the king of peace without father, without mother, without genealogy having neither beginning of days nor end of life but he was made like the Son of God and he remains a priest forever. Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils. Surely the sons of Levi who receive the office of priesthood, have a command to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is from their brothers, though they also come from the seed of Abraham. But this man, whose descent is not numbered among them, received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. Without question, the inferior is blessed by the superior.”* Some key ideas from this passage are: Melchizedek is both a king and priest. He has no known genealogy to qualify him for priesthood according to the order of Aaron. Abraham the father of faith considered him as his priest. He had no beginning or end. He is a priest forever. An interesting observation is that Melchizedek is likened to the Son of God. In the ESV verse 3 says *“resembling the Son of God.”* Jesus Christ (and not Melchizedek) is the point of reference here. Jesus Christ is the main point and has the preeminence in the order of Melchizedek!

Further down in Hebrews 7:8-11 the Bible says *“Here mortal men receive the tithes but there He receives them of whom it is witnessed that He lives. Even Levi who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham so to speak, for he was in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him. Therefore if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood for under it the people received the law,*

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*what further need would we have **for another priest** according to the order of Melchizedek who is not called according to the order of Aaron.”*

Now think with me a little. Let's digest this. What is the Bible saying here? It's saying there is a line of priests under the order of Aaron. Then there is a different line of priests under the order of Melchizedek. God changed the priesthoods because of imperfection in the levitical priesthood. I emphasize there has been a change of priesthood. And I suggest a change of tabernacles. So there are two priests – a priest according to the order of Aaron and a priest according to the order of Melchizedek. One priest receives the tithes here on earth while the other receives the tithe in heaven. These tithing systems are also different. (See my book *The Discipline of Giving*). For good measure the Scriptures state that the Order of Aaron (Levitical priesthood) is subservient to the Order of Melchizedek as Levi paid the tithe to Melchizedek (Jesus Christ) through Abraham. For the avoidance of doubt there are 2 priesthoods here namely i) Order of Aaron- the imperfect priesthood of Levi who minister at the tabernacle of Moses and ii) Order of Melchizedek - the eternal (or perfect) priesthood of Jesus Christ who minister on the tabernacle of David. Are we together so far?

Let's move on to Hebrews 7:12-24 (MEV) which says “*For the priesthood being changed of necessity there is also a change of law. For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe from which no man officiates at the altar, for it is evident that our Lord arose from the tribe of Judah of which Moses did not speak anything concerning the priesthood. And yet it is more evident if in the likeness of Melchizedek there arises another priest who has come not according to the law of the flesh but according to the power of an endless life. For He testifies: You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek. For there is an annulling of the previous commandment due to its weakness and uselessness. For the law made nothing perfect, but now a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God. And He was not made a priest without an oath. (Other priests were made without an oath, but this One with an oath by the One who said to Him: The Lord has sworn*

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and will not relent, You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek. Through this oath Jesus became the guarantor of a better covenant. And the former priests were numerous because they were hindered from serving because of death. But He, because He lives forever, has an everlasting priesthood”

Hebrews is saying that somewhere along the line there was a change of priesthood and a tribe that did not inherit priesthood, the tribe of kings was now allowed access to the priesthood. This is the priestly order of Melchizedek. Jesus Christ came and operated under the priesthood in the order of Melchizedek. Verse 12 declares *“for the priesthood being changed...”* Many times we miss that. There is a change of priesthood that happened. There was a priesthood under the order of Aaron in the tabernacle of Moses and then when Jesus came, there was a change of priesthood to the priestly order of Melchizedek. A change in priesthood necessitates a change of law. Again we see two different sets of laws: the law of Moses and the law of Christ. It clearly says that there is a change of law because of the change of priesthood.

For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe from which no man has ever officiated at the altar. The Bible tells us that Jesus is the lion of the tribe of Judah, not out of the tribe of Levi. Moses never said anything about the tribe of Judah being a priestly tribe. This distinction is critical. You understand what I’m saying? In verse 14 of Hebrews 7, *“For it is evident that our Lord Jesus Christ arose from the tribe of Judah of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. And it is yet far more evident if in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest who has come not according to the law of fleshly commandment but according to the power of an endless life. For He testifies: ‘You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek’”*. Hallelujah praise God!

In some circles there has been an overemphasis on “the order” as in Order of Melchizedek. This tendency leads to people glorifying the Order itself as something mystical with inherent power of its own rather than see the High Priest of the Order

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who is Jesus Christ. I think we are reading too much into Scripture here. The word “order” in Hebrew is *dibrab* with the following meanings: in the manner, in the fashion of or in the mode of (in the manner of Melchizedek), in the way or arrangement of. Similarly in Greek the word is translated “tasso” - in the arrangement or order- (*κατα τιν ταχιν*) meaning in the post, rank, position of – in the fashion, character, quality and style of. Clearly the intended meaning of the order of Melchizedek is simply that in the style, fashion, rank, character and in the manner of. It’s not intended to imply a specific order as the Franciscan Order for example. There is nothing mystical about the Order of Melchizedek. Our fascination should be about our Melchizedek, our High Priest, even the Lord Jesus Christ Himself and not the order itself as if it carries inherent power in and of itself.

Our contention is that this is the new priesthood that David saw and to which the Tabernacle of David points! This priesthood of Melchizedek provides a better hope and draws us into the very Presence of God. It gives access to God. There is no need for the veil that separates the ark from the people. In the person of Jesus Christ, God is now present with His people with unlimited access.

Hebrews 8:1-6 declares *“Now of the things which we have spoken this is the summary of it, “We have such a High Priest who is set on the right hand of the throne of majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the Sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord himself pitched and not man.”*

Jesus Christ is set on the right hand of the Throne speaking of royal rulership while He also serves as a Minister of the sanctuary, speaking of priestly function. The High Priest of the Tabernacle of David under the order of Melchizedek is both a king and priest. We have a High Priest in Jesus Christ who ministers at a tabernacle that was not made by man but by God Himself. I contend that this tabernacle is the tabernacle of David. The biblical reference here of God pitching the true tabernacle is so similar to the text on David pitching the tabernacle, that I am convinced that both Hebrews and Chronicles refer to the same tabernacle. The Tabernacle of David.

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Let's press in. We need to go back to Genesis 14 to understand this person called Melchizedek. In Genesis 14 Abram met Melchizedek who introduced himself as the Priest of the Most High God. Theologians agree that the Law of first mention prescribes the original meaning and definition of a theological concept. So when God introduced the concept of priesthood, He started in Genesis 14 by introducing Melchizedek to Abraham the father of faith. This priest was the king of righteousness and priest of the Most High God. He was both king and priest simultaneously. And yet under the tabernacle of Moses, you could not be a king and a priest at the same time. You either were a priest or you were a king. But when God came to the father of faith, He said *"Abram I want to introduce you to my priesthood. My priesthood is both a priest and a king. Not either a king or a priest, but a priest and a king."* I put it to you that because of the revelation of the order of Melchizedek, David could create the tabernacle of David which granted everyone at anytime unfettered access to God's Presence because he was a king and priest. This is crucial.

It is also pertinent to observe that Melchizedek as a priest is introduced first not in the Temple but at the trading floor of Kings (Valley of Shaveh) which was a centre of commerce. This alludes to the connection between this priestly order with commerce and yet the Levitical priesthood was excluded from commercial activities so that they could devotedly serve in the Temple. The priestly order of Melchizedek operates outside the Temple as well while the priestly order of Aaron operates exclusively within the Temple.

On the basis of Hebrews 7, I conclude that this Melchizedek is Jesus Christ who appeared to Abram before He became incarnate. In theology this is called a christophany meaning an Old Testament manifestation of the person of Christ before His earthly birth through Mary. This Melchizedek is patterned after Christ as a biblical type that overshadows and points to Christ. The priestly Order of Melchizedek is the

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priesthood of Jesus Christ. It stands to reason that the priesthood that Abraham served under, is not the priesthood of Levi because they were not yet inaugurated. No wonder Abraham is referred to as the father of Faith.

Abraham served the priesthood of Jesus Christ. That's why Jesus would say in John 8:56,58 when he was arguing with the Pharisees *"Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day. He saw it and was glad. --- before Abraham was born, I am."* (MEV). This was in response to their question whether Jesus was greater than Abraham. I ask you a question: When did Abraham meet Jesus Christ? It was when he met Melchizedek the priest of the Most High God, while coming from the battle. Melchizedek explains to Abraham the reason why he being outnumbered and outmatched militarily still won the battle. The Lord the Creator had blessed him. Hallelujah. So Abraham operated under the priesthood of Melchizedek. Melchizedek is our Lord Jesus Christ.

In Isaiah 51:1-2 the Bible says, *"Listen to me you who follow righteousness, you who seek the Lord, look to the rock from which you were hewn and look to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your Father and to Sarah your mother for I called him when he was alone and blessed him and increased him."* What is God saying? He is saying that we who are the seed of Abraham, (because we are of Christ) should look to our father Abraham. Imitate (and model) our father Abraham. If we are to imitate our father Abraham we are to minister at the tabernacle where he ministered. We are to have the High Priest he had. And yet the church has built around the tabernacle of Moses. We have built everything we do after Moses and yet the Bible is saying *"Look to Abraham your Father and follow him."* What was the prototype of his ministry? A ministry that combines both the Kingly and Priestly functions into one. He raised altars and then went out to conquer the enemy. Yet we still look to Moses for our prototype of ministry. A ministry that separates the priestly function and exalts it above the kingly function. It surprises me that most ministers view themselves as priests in the form of

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the levitical priesthood rather than model their ministry in the form of the Davidic kingly priests. That is why we often have the mindset that only the pulpit minister is anointed.

It is clear from Hebrews that Melchizedek is both a priest and a king. It is also clear that Jesus is our High Priest. You cannot have a High Priest without priests who serve under him. I am going somewhere with this. Please follow me if you will.

Melchizedek the priest of the Most High God was both a king and priest. David was both a king and priest. Jesus Christ is both king and priest. And we as believers who look to Abraham serve at the altar in the tabernacle of David as kings and priests. Hallelujah praise God!

Let me buttress that with Scripture. 1 Peter 2:4,5 says *“Come to Him as the living stone rejected by men but chosen by God and you also as living stones are build up as a spiritual house, a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifice acceptable to God through our High Priest Jesus Christ.”* Now look closely at verse 5. It says “you also”. In the English language if you add the word “also” it means you are following after someone. It says you also are a royal priesthood. Also like whom? Like Jesus Christ whom you are coming to. **We are a royal priesthood that serves God through our High Priest, even Jesus Christ.** We are kings and priests. We got the revelation of the holy priesthood offering sacrifices to God and are doing well in the tabernacle of Moses. But we lost sight of 1 Peter 2:9 which says *“but you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation his own special people.”* We are not only a holy priesthood BUT a kingdom of priests. Kings who are priests! This has to be at a new tabernacle since Moses’ Tabernacle had no provision for priest to be kings. Hallelujah praise God!

God calls us a kingdom of priests. We are kings and priests. Jesus Christ, the high priest of our profession, is a king and priest. Melchizedek is both king and a

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priest. The redeemed are both kings and priests. We have focused on our priestly function but lost our kingly function.

When a believer goes to work and spends his time reading the Bible, he is not being spiritual but rather he is robbing the employer of his time. He is a thief. Because when I am at work, I am paid to work. I am a king doing the work of God. I do everything as unto the Lord. A believer should be the best employee you can see anywhere because he represents the kingdom. Employers should be clamouring to hire believers. Not because they don't steal, but because they're the most productive. If we can't benefit our society as believers because we are spending time in prayer meetings, then we have gone back to the tabernacle of Moses. David spent time both in the battlefield and in the tabernacle. He was both a king and a priest. Is this making sense?

A kingdom of priests. A royal priesthood. Clearly we are not either priests or kings. It is not an either/or proposition. It is both. We are both kings and priests at the same time. I would prefer to use a new terminology that will capture this concept better. If we use the term "kings and priests," although it is biblical, it can be confused as meaning *either kings or priests*. So let's refer to these as "*priestly kings*" or "*kingly priests*." These two terms are basically the same. I however use them distinctly simply to capture the fact that although each person is both a king and priest, often one of the functions dominates. If you are predominantly a pulpit minister you still have to exercise some kingly authority so we call you a "*kingly priest*." My pastor, Rev Tom Deuschle is a powerful pulpit minister with a strong kingly anointing that helps him see business opportunities and enables him to build business people. On the other hand if your primary calling is outside the pulpit then you are a "*priestly king*". Some people will have almost equal proportions of the kingly and priestly anointing – they

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are bi-vocational ministers. This concept restores the doctrine of the priesthood of all believers to the Church in practical terms.

We need a few more Scriptural witnesses. Revelations 1:4-6 (MEV) says “*Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before His throne and from Jesus Christ who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead and the ruler of the kings of the Earth, to Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory, dominion forever and ever.*” Hallelujah!

Without a doubt there has been a change of priesthood. There has been a change of tabernacle. As New Testament believers, we don't operate under the Levitical priesthood in the tabernacle of Moses. Jesus Christ is King of kings while we are kings that serve under His authority. He is the High Priest while we are priests that serve under Him. We operate under the tabernacle of David. That's why God says “In the last days I will rebuild the tabernacle of David” because it's a tabernacle of kings and priests, of warriors and worshippers. People who worship God in the tabernacle and then do battle in the marketplace.

The tabernacle of David is about Kingdom expansion. Priests according to the tabernacle of Moses were exempt from bearing weapons in battle. But we are warriors for our God because we are kings. Our mandate is to enforce the will of the Father on earth. The church had its greatest impact when it was reaching out to the poor and needy, when it was building schools, when it was building hospitals. But we became too spiritual and spent too much time in the temple instead of touching people. God is about people. Kingly (royal) priests stay where the people are. They represent God and His people out in the marketplace. That is what the term “royal priests” means.

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One more witness. Revelations 5:9-10 *“And they sang a new song saying “you are worthy to take the book and open its seal you were slain and you have redeemed us to God by your blood out of every kindred and every tongue and people and nation and you have made us kings and priests to our God and we will reign forever and ever.” (ESV)* The purpose for which he made us kings and priests is so that we may reign in this earth. So that we may have dominion. We are kings and priests. Therefore as sons we are priests and kings under the order of Melchizedek. As sons we have the right to ask for nations as our inheritance. Nations are the inheritances of the King’s sons. Hallelujah praise God!

Believers have been very good at being priestly. We have interceded a lot. But we have not been kingly enough. We have been very good in the Temple, but poor players in the marketplace. We have lost the concept of priestly kings. So the Tabernacle of David through the order of Melchizedek restores kings who are priests. That was always God’s intention. Kings know that their purpose is to advance the cause of the kingdom. They are about dominion. That’s why Jesus taught us to pray, *“Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is heaven”* and yet we are thinking about heaven and not thinking about the coming of the kingdom of God. That’s why believers are often poor citizens because they are thinking of heaven instead of thinking of kingdom. To make a difference, we need to be both priests and kings.

We have a dominion mandate both by creation and redemption, to rule on earth not in heaven. Priests don’t think dominion. They don’t think reigning. They don’t think impact. They don’t think community impact. They don’t think community-enhancing initiatives. The church has lost its impact because it thinks of the tabernacle of Moses as priests under the order of Aaron rather than the tabernacle of David under the order of Melchizedek. The church will be a blessing to our communities and our nations when it’s thinking kingdom, when it’s thinking

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dominion, reigning, and how it can make a difference. We need a paradigm shift. A mental realignment!

When you think as priests, you think being a businessman is ungodly. When we were growing up, anytime you were spiritual and loved God, you were encouraged to leave all the earthly vocations, and go serve God “full-time”. So we lost some of our most brilliant minds to the tabernacle of Moses and the nations were robbed. Who said God does not anoint scientists? Who said He does not anoint educationists? Who said God does not anoint politicians? The kingdom is about every sphere of society. If we want to make a difference, we must do the prayer of intercession, but we must also represent the kingdom by doing the work of intercession. How can we be the salt of the earth when we are in a saltshaker? We spend our time in church and yet expect to positively affect society. When you have prayed yourself up, go into the marketplace and make a difference. Hallelujah! So He has made us kings and priests for our God to reign.

Jesus Christ: King and Priest

Let me make another distinction. Many people mistakenly think that intercession is prayer. It's not. Dutch Sheets taught us that intercession is not prayer. Let me explain. There is a prayer of intercession but intercession is not prayer. Just like faith is not a prayer, but there is a prayer of faith. Agreement is not prayer, but there is the prayer of agreement. Intercession at its heart is a work. There is the work of intercession that goes hand in hand with the prayer of intercession. If you only know the prayer of intercession and you don't do the work of intercession, you have a problem. Before Jesus became the eternal intercessor who ever lives to intercede for us, He did the work of intercession on the Cross.

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The book of Job puts it this way, *“Would I have a man who could get hold of God and grab hold of me to reconcile us?”* An intercessor is a person who stands in the gap to bridge it. Jesus on the cross was interceding but not necessarily praying. He was doing the work of intercession. He grabbed hold of God as an intercessor and grabbed hold of man, and said “Be ye reconciled”. After He did the work of intercession, it then resulted in His prayer of intercession.

Jesus Christ is the High Priest of the order of Melchizedek. Now we understand that the greatest work He did was His work on the cross. When Jesus hung on the cross He was both a high priest and a king. In redemption at the Cross, a) Jesus stood before the Father as a High Priest to reconcile us to God as the only mediator, and b) at the Cross Jesus stood as a go-between Satan and man, thus exercising his Kingly authority to break Satan’s hold over humanity. Intercession has both a priestly and kingly function! It operates at the Tabernacle of David under the order of Melchizedek.

On the same cross He fulfilled two functions. As a high priest He met with God and reconciled us with God. On the cross of Calvary our Lord Jesus Christ as the High Priest grabbed hold of a holy God and grabbed hold of sinful man to reconcile us. He was the High Priest who was tasked with reconciliation between God and man. That was his priestly function. But at the same cross He was also a King. As a King He broke the power of the devil. He could not attack the devil as a priest because priests don’t go to war. You need a king to go to battle. So as He hung on the cross, He disarmed principalities and powers, and destroyed the devil who had power over death. On the cross He made it possible for man to meet God. That’s the function of a priest but He also made it possible for the devil not to meet man. Hallelujah!

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I restate as Dutch Sheets taught us: In redemption Jesus went before the Father as a High Priest to reconcile us to God as the only mediator, and at the Cross Jesus stood as go-between Satan and man, thus exercising his Kingly authority to break Satan's hold over mankind. That was His Work of Intercession.

Jesus' prayers of intercession are always and only an extension of His work of Intercession. Similarly our prayers of intercession are always and only an extension of His work of Intercession. Our intercession has both a priestly and kingly function!

Intercession requires both a priest and a king. As intercessors, we need to engage the community in intercessory work, representing the kingdom where we are. That's why we should not disengage from business, politics, and from the things that affect society. We are intercessors as we are at our workplace. I can intercede through prayer. I can intercede through the things I do. David would intercede in the battlefield as he waged war for our God and then he could also intercede in prayer. So intercession requires both prayer and work. Are we together? Kings and priests.

My prayers of intercession release His finished work of intercession. His work empowers my prayers, while my prayers release His work. Dutch Sheets in his epic book, *Intercession*, defines one of the Hebrew words translated intercession - *paga* - as meaning "to meet." In intercession I meet with God to effect a meeting [that He may meet someone at their point of need (priestly function)] BUT I also meet the Enemy to forbid him from meeting a certain person (Kingly function).

So in intercession as a priest I plead with God that He may meet somebody. In other words I am scheduling an appointment for God to meet somebody. You see intercessors are appointment schedulers. Our job as priests is to set appointments for people to meet God. When I pray for those in authority I am setting an appointment for God to meet the leaders of our nation. As intercessors we stand to schedule

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appointments. That's our priestly function. Is this making sense? So when I am interceding I am saying "Lord will you meet my friend." So we are setting up appointments.

But as a king in intercession I go to war. I meet the enemy so that I cancel a meeting that he had scheduled to meet somebody. Satan is in the business of arranging to meet people so that he can steal from them, destroy them, and even so he could kill them. But when I stand in kingly intercession I take authority over the devil and cancel his appointment with the person he wanted to destroy. I declare, "Devil I'm meeting you as a king and I'm cancelling your appointment with the nation of Zimbabwe. You can't meet Zimbabwe. I have cancelled your appointment." When I am praying in intercession I am cancelling appointments that the devil had scheduled to meet people and destroy them. Hallelujah! We are together so far? Part of our kingly function is to exercise rulership and dominion in various domains of life.

We, through prayers of intercession, meet the powers of darkness, to enforce the victory Christ accomplished when He met them in His work of intercession on the Cross. In that sense we place His enemies under His feet.

We cannot engage in intercessory prayer effectively, if we have not performed the work of intercession. An intercessor has to identify with the one he intercedes for. By disengaging from the world, we neutralise the power of our intercessory prayer.

Our definition for intercessory prayer has to change to capture the Tabernacle of David as follows: *"Intercessory prayer is an extension of the ministry of Jesus through His Body, the Church, whereby we mediate between God and humanity for the purposes of reconciling the world to Him, and/or between Satan and humanity for the purpose of enforcing the victory of Calvary."* Dutch Sheets. This captures both the priestly and kingly functions.

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Another way to view this is that as priests we pray and approach God to create a platform that enables us to be able to then issue kingly decrees. Without the priestly role before God that enables us to catch the mind of God, it is not possible to exercise the kingly role of issuing decrees. I recently heard Apostle Asa Gurupira teach from Rev 5, of the Lion in the lamb. He posits that the lion of the tribe of Judah only roars on the foundation of the Lamb of God. So the roar of the lion (kingly function) must be preceded by the sacrifices of the Lamb (priestly function.)

So let's return to David! David would worship God then go out to war. We look at the sons of Aaron; they just spent their whole life around the tabernacle. They never left to engage in warfare. They never engaged in strategizing for national transformation.

David worshipped and warred. Similarly we worship and we war! Our orders are to "March into the world and fill it with God's Kingdom". We intercede and strategise! We leave the altar and go out to engage the battle in the mountains.

Somebody is saying, "Are you talking of something new? Is this a new doctrine?" Not at all. As a matter of fact this kingdom of priests has always been God's intention. When God came to the children of Israel, He did not start by offering them the priesthood of Aaron. That was only offered when they failed in the first calling. Remember 1 Peter 2 says "you are God's chosen nation, a royal generation, a kingdom of priests." That was not offered to the church first. It was offered to Israel first. Turn with me to Exodus 19 vs 5-6. This is what God said to them before He instituted the tabernacle of Moses. The tabernacle was only introduced in Exodus 26 and the Levitical priesthood in Exodus 28. He said to them, "*Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant then you shall be a special treasure to me above all people. For all the earth is mine and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests in the holy nation*". God offered them a kingdom of priests under the order of

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Melchizedek. Only when they failed to enter that covenant, did he introduce the Tabernacle of Moses and the priesthood according to the order of Aaron as preparation of the priestly order of Melchizedek. Therefore God's original intention both for the church and for Israel has always been to be the kings and priests.

As long as we see ourselves after the order of Aaron in the tabernacle of Moses we spend our time in the church. We will never go to the mountains of influence because priests don't think about Kingdom expansion. It is kings who think about expanding the kingdom, who think about conquering new territories, who think about dominion. When we understand that we are kings and priests we understand therefore that when God said to Jesus *"Sit on my right hand until all your enemies are made your footstool,"* He was saying *"I have raised an army of kings and priests (the ekklesia) who are going to finish off the enemy, who are going to take dominion and they will bring the kingdoms of this world and lay them at your feet."* That dear friends is the mandate that we have been given by our Lord. But here is the problem; we have not done what we were told to do. Priests disciple people but it is kings who disciple nations because kings think kingdom.

After Morgan Tsvangirai became Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, I accompanied my Pastor and the Ministry CEO on a courtesy call to the Office of the Prime Minister. We were received cordially. After discussion when we were about to leave the Prime Minister asked what he could do for us. My pastor said, *"We don't need anything from you. We had just come to honour you as a leader in this nation. You hold the office of the Prime Minister so we just came on a courtesy call to pray for you."* The shocked Prime Minister said *"Really? You do not need anything or any favour from my office. In my time in this office, this is the first time a pastor has come seeking just to pray and bless me, not wanting anything"*. It gives the impression that the church is made up of chronic beggars. We are not kings. We don't think impact. We think: what can we get out of the system, not what can we give to the system. But if you understand that we are kings and

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priests, you know that kings are benefactors. They bless people. They are givers. They make a difference. They use their wealth as commonwealth to bless the community, not to take from the community.

Africa is being disciplined by Muslims while Christians are praying. When we begin to think kingdom, we realize that our main mandate is to extend his kingdom, we begin to think as kingly priests. Muslims come and “bless communities” as a penetration strategy. When a Christian builds a school, it will be an elite school for the rich and famous. When Muslims come, they bless the down and out. And I wonder what happened to the Church. Our Lord was known to be a friend of the poor, the down and out, but we now fraternize with the rich only. That’s why we have no influence. If we build a Christian hospital, it’s the most expensive. But Muslims will go to the back of beyond and build schools and clinics which will be cheaper than government service. They are thinking impact. They are doing the work of intercession that Christians should do. When are we going to stand in the gap between poverty and people and say we are going to do work that will stop poverty and eradicate poverty and we bless you in the name of the Lord? Isn’t it our Book which says *“How can you bless people and say be fed and you’re not doing anything tangible to make a difference in their lives?”* What happened to us? We need to do the work of intercession as kings and then pray the prayer of intercession as priests. We need both.

Revelations 11:15 declares *“Then the seventh angel sounded and there were loud voices in heaven saying ‘The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ and He shall reign forever and ever’*. What did God say to Jesus, the Messiah? He says “You are my son forever”. And He says to Him, “Now that you have been raised from the dead, sit on my right hand until your enemies are made your footstool”. So the Bible tells us He sat at the right hand of the Father waiting for His enemies to be

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made His footstool. Waiting for who? For the church to disciple nations. When the church thinks like kings and disciples nations, then He'll come. So we have a kingdom assignment to disciple communities.

Conclusion

In reality, rediscovering the Tabernacle of David is essential in rediscovering our true identity. If we perceive ourselves as priests only, this shapes our roles and function and affects our capacity to engage communities as Heaven's envoys. However if we make the shift that God is calling forth and see ourselves as priestly kings and kingly priests, then we can boldly engage the culture with a Kingdom expansion mindset. Our perception of our identity is robbing us of our royalty and pride in who we are. We are a royal priesthood.

Prayer

“Lord I thank you that as a priestly King I imitate Christ my King who on the Cross met with you to reconcile men to God and met the devil to stop Satan’s intentions for men. I declare that I intercede in priestly fashion for men in order to have them meet you. I also intercede in royal fashion to stop the devil from meeting people in order to move them away from God. I am an appointment scheduler as a priestly king. I reconcile my mountain of influence to God and I also intercede in order to forbid any demonic encounters happening in my sphere of influence. Thank you Lord for making me a worshipping warrior and a warring worshipper.”

Chapter Three: The Ekklesia- A Colonising Force

Think with me. 1.4% of the US population are Jews and yet they have significantly influenced American culture. I am told that no one can run for the presidency of the United States and win if at some point towards the close of his/her campaign s/he doesn't go to address the Jewish lobby community. They are a minority that influences. The Gays and Lesbians are less than 1.7% of the US community, and yet they determine policy for the whole nation. Why? These two people groups learnt to disciple society and yet the Church that was left with a mandate to "*disciple nations*" is failing. If you think like a priest, you will not disciple. If you think like a king, you disciple. What did they do differently?

I am one of those people who were so excited about Barack Obama's win in 2008. I loved his "*Yes we can*" epic campaign. But tragedy of all tragedies, a president who initially claimed to be a Christian, set his eyes on repealing the "Don't Tell, Don't Ask" policy in US Military when it came to LGBTQ and changed the policy for Gays and Lesbians openly serving in the US Military. This he achieved by signing a new law on 22 December 2010. A happily married man, as far as I know, was disciplined by gays and yet he was in church. The Church has distanced itself from the centres of influence. It distanced itself from media and the arts.

We have distanced ourselves from education. We have distanced ourselves from the things that make a difference and from the things that impact cultures, while others are focusing on them. So we are failing to disciple nations. Why are we failing? Because we have a tendency to make the temple the centre of all our activities. We are

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church-centric. We spend the whole week in church meetings. When do we touch the community?

We have lost our identity as the Church due to poor definitions of who we are. Let's endeavour in this chapter to redefine ourselves. Let's redefine the church. In theology the study of the church is called ecclesiology. I believe that we have over the years developed a poor vision and definition of the church (a low ecclesiological view) and this has reduced our effectiveness. We have allowed the world and other worldviews to define the Body of Christ. We are no longer a peculiar nation, a government and a kingdom of priests. We are too apologetic.

A kingdom-centric church knows it's not about gathering together, it's about being trained at a centre and being sent out to make a difference. So until we change from the tabernacle of Moses that draws us to the centre (the Temple) to spend time with incense, TO the tabernacle of David where we worship God and then go out to conquer, we'll not make a difference in this world and we will not advance the kingdom. David would worship and then go out to battle. We worship and we war. We intercede and we act. After you have prayed you need to act.

I answered the call to ministry in 1987 while at the University of Zimbabwe but was not commissioned because the church in which we served then would only accept full-time employed pastors. And yet I felt a strong pull towards the marketplace. I only felt comfortable to be ordained into pastoral ministry in 2004 as a bivocational pastor. At some point while pastoring in Bulawayo we owned probably the 3rd largest steel fabricating factory in the city which we later liquidated. We also ran three dental practices. Some people wondered, "How can you be a pastor who owns a business?" They thought I was backslidden. I was a pastor and a king. I recognized that my employees are not blessed by my prayers alone. They are blessed by my capacity to create employment and to pay them. Until we begin to think as people who are saying

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“What difference are we making in the city or nations? What businesses are we as a church beginning to create?”, then we cannot contribute to the nation-building. We have focused on the prayer of intercession and forgot the work of intercession. The work is never done in the tabernacle. It’s done out there. Where are we standing in the gap in the marketplace? Where are we standing in the gap to make a difference in our city?

Believers are supposed to fan out of the church, outward to impact the community. There is a Bulawayo church that has a slogan I love. They view themselves as “*A Going Church For the Coming King*”. That’s the spirit. The church is not meant to just be idle and centre in the tabernacle. We’re supposed to be going out making a difference for our King. We worship, we strategize and we work.

At the heart of everything is a concept of definitions. The reason the church has failed is because we have defined ourselves wrong. The church was never meant to be a temple. When Jesus said I will build my church, he did not create the word “church”. The Greeks had the word *ecclesia*. *Ecclesia* was a group of people who were called out of a community to sit at the city gates to rule the city. They were legislators. They were decision makers. The church is a legislative assembly, a governing authority. But we took that definition out and we started defining the church as the Temple. That’s why we are failing. What you call yourself will affect your destiny. Labels matter.

In Rome what they called the *ecclesia* was a group of people who were sent from Rome to go to another territory to change its culture, so that it would look like Rome, and smell like Rome. It’s like what the British did: a very small island calling itself Great Britain sent a few people to Nigeria, to Ghana, and to Zimbabwe. Those few people colonized our nations, taught us their language and their thinking. The British sent a few people to colonize us. We were more than them, yet they changed

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our thinking. They changed our education. They changed our language. They changed our culture. They changed our ways of doing things and convinced us that in our own eyes we were better as British. Although we boast that Zimbabwe will never be a colony again, yet we pride ourselves in speaking the language of the colonizer better than anybody else in Africa. So are we not colonized mentally? We laugh at our colleagues across the other nations of SADC because they don't speak the Queen's language like we do. We are too colonized, but we don't know it. But they sent just a few people to create a kingdom. It was called the Great British Empire. A little island – Great Britain; this was possible because it had people with a kingdom mindset!

What happened in 1979 after Smith's UDI was closing, the British sent one man (Lord Soames) at the head of a small delegation who pulled down the flag of Rhodesia, lifted up the Union Jack, re-established the authority of the Queen so that he could hand back power to the black majority. Just one man, a Governor, and a handful of people – a colonizing force.

So to colonize according to the Roman system was to go into enemy territory in order to change that culture so that it conforms to the culture of the colonizer. The Church is a colonizing force which has been sent by God into the world to change (colonize) the culture of the world so that His will may be done on earth as it is in heaven. So that His kingdom may come on earth as it is in heaven. The Church is sent by God to change the language and thought patterns of Earth so that these reflect the thoughts and language of Heaven. That is why the renowned preacher cited in our opening of Chapter One was wrong on the Supreme Court case.

Brethren, I put it to you that God's intention when He created a kingdom of priests was to send us as a colonizing force into our communities so that His will from heaven is done on earth. Just like the colonizing force, the ecclesia of Rome, was sent to the nations so that the will of Rome was done in the nations. Thy kingdom

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come thy will be done. We are a colonizing force. We are kings and priests. We must understand that we are a legislative assembly which decrees spiritually, which we've done well, but also stands in the gap and prays.

What is a colonizing force? A small minority representing a Kingdom coming to another Kingdom and molding the culture of that Kingdom to conform to the mother Kingdom through creating order, education and controlling commerce etc. A better way to express this is as the inimitable Dr Myles Munroe, declared, *“Colonization is a process whereby a government/ruler determines to extend his kingdom rulership or influence to additional territory with the purpose of impacting that territory with his will and desire. It transforms the colonized territory to a place where it reflects and manifests the culture, language, lifestyle and activities of the Colonizing authority.”*

Jesus' death on the cross which was His work of intercession is what empowered His prayer of intercession. Without the work of intercession on the cross, He could not pray the prayer of intercession. Until we are doing the work of intercession and touching people, representing the kingdom, our prayers of intercession are in vain. We are a kingdom of priests, kings and priests enforcing the kingdom of God.

Romans 12:1-2 says we should not be conformed to the world but should be renewed by the transforming of our minds through the Word of God. As priests we have prayed the prayers of intercession but we now need as kings to activate the work of intercession. Priests and kings. The enemy has robbed us by giving us a false dichotomy. Satan lied to us that we are either a king or a priest, when God has always wanted us to be kings and priests. We are of no use to nations if we as believers only focus on staying in intercessory prayer at the altar and we are not going out to make a difference. May the Lord give us the mindset of kings. Kings think kingdom

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expansion therefore they are outward looking. Priests are always looking upward, rather than outward. We are called to look upward and outward. Kings and Priests.

How are we going to take dominion so that the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdom of our God and of his Christ? This is how we are going to do it. In Isaiah 2:2 the Bible says *“It shall come to pass that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established on the top of the mountains and shall be exalted above the hills and all nations shall flow to it and many people shall come and say “Come and let us go to the mountain of the house of the Lord.”*

Mountains talk about kingdoms. We could read this scripture as saying that the mountain of the Kingdom of God shall be established above the mountains that influence society. Remember that the kingdom of God is established through a vehicle called the church. Mount Zion or the Church is a governmental and judicial authority with power to legislate and decree things into existence.

In Matthew 28 Jesus mandated the church to go and disciple nations. Go and make disciple **of** all nations. We seem to read it differently. We read as if it says “Go make disciples **in** the nations.” No! He says “Go and make disciples **of** nations”. Disciple the nations. Disciple Nigeria. Disciple Zimbabwe. Disciple Africa. But we say “make disciples in the nations.” Consequently we have focused on personal salvation and forgotten discipling nations. The job description He gave the church was this “Disciple the nations” and you do it by preaching the kingdom. When we preach the kingdom, we disciple the nation. When we penetrate the mountains of influence we disciple the nations. For example people who control our world are people who control media. If media is controlled by the ungodly; the nation is being disciplined by the ungodly. We are allowing the devil to disciple nations while we are praying (or is it playing) in the tabernacle of Moses. God’s mandate was to take dominion by discipling (colonizing) the mountains of influence.

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Let us revisit Isaiah 2:2. How do we disciple these mountains? We have been thinking like priests and inviting the mountain (domain) people to come out of those mountains to the church. We are church focused and church- centric. Yet the role of the church is to equip the saints and send them to the mountains. If the church does not do that, we will not be able to take dominion. As the Mountain of the Kingdom of God rises above the mountains (gates of influence) of society then nations are disciplined by the Kingdom. Every child of God is called to exercise dominion and influence on behalf of the King on one of the mountains of societal influence.

Some people pray themselves into revelation. But I think myself into revelation because I am primarily a person in the market place. I use what I call anointed logic. I believe in accordance to Isaiah 2 that the church should sit above the other mountains and send priestly kings into those mountains to conquer them for the Kingdom. The Faith in turn looks upward to the mountain of the kingdom of God to which it submits. We have allowed the devil to place the church at the same level with all the other mountains. That is a mistake.

I have a Zimbabwean brother who is a Director in the Ministry of Culture who deals with nations in cultural affairs. One time he said to me, *“I was in the Republic of Iran where I met some Muslims. They said “You Christians are foolish because you submit the Faith to the government of the nation. We Muslims understand that we are a government and the political leadership submits to the government of Islam.”* In reality they place their Religion above the political mountain. While we Christians look up to the political mountain. We fail to understand that we are a government.

The battle for dominion is not only about sending Christians into the mountains. We have sent so many Christians into those mountains with minimal success although they loved God. I realized that the battle is about the worldview - the way you view the world. The battle for control in this world is a battle of the Faith

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whose view of God will control the mountains of culture. Islam is not a religion it's a way of thinking, it's a way of seeing the world that will establish the kingdom of Islam. Once you have a Muslim person in power they are thinking about "how do I extend Islam." When we have a Christian in power he is thinking "how do I accommodate the others." They are not thinking kingdom. They are not thinking "I am here to extend my Father's kingdom." They are not thinking "I am here to take territory. I am here to rule."

I noticed that every international evangelist who was worth his salt in the last thirty years would want to preach an international outdoor evangelistic crusade in Kenya and Nigeria. However in the last 20 years, in both Kenya and Nigeria, Muslims without crusades have become a more powerful influence than Christians. Why? Because they think kingdom while we think tabernacle. Here is an example. The beginning of 2016, our Nairobi church was meeting in a museum called Louis Leakey. In a government reshuffle, a Muslim was appointed as Minister of Tourism, Natural Heritage and Museums. The first thing he did was to appoint Muslims as the directors of Museums. And when they were there, they looked around and said "*What is this little church doing, making noise in our sphere of influence?*" We woke up one Sunday morning to find the church locked out of our venue despite having a current and valid lease agreement. They argued that a new policy did not allow churches to meet in national museums. What were they thinking? When a Muslim gets into any place of influence, he thinks the extension of Islam. So he was saying what is this little church doing harassing us in our sphere of influence.

The Gays and the Lesbian agenda is a way of thinking (a worldview) that has influenced media, education, politics, religion etc. In reality discipling nations is a battle for worldviews. Which worldview will control the mountains? Is it a view of the kingdom of God or it's a view of Islam or it's a view of secular humanism with its

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LGBTQ agenda. So it's not about just sending Christians up the mountain. It is disciplined priestly kings who know that they are where they are to advance the kingdom. They think as kings who focus on expanding territory. They look at the place where they are and say *"I am here to establish the kingdom of God. Where I have arrived the kingdom of God has arrived because I am its representative and I cause it to be established."* So we take dominion by thinking as priestly kings. As priests we intercede with God to create reconciliation but as kings we engage the forces of darkness. As kings we deliberately seek to ascend up in the mountains of influence because it is those who are at the top of the mountain who influence the mountains. It is an issue of mindsets. I am a king and as a king I need to take a mountain. God asks a question in Malachi 1 *"if I am a Father where is my honor?"* What you should ask God is, "If I am a king where is my kingdom?" If I am a king where is my domain? If I am a king where is my sphere of influence?

I am not talking about where you are right now. I am not talking about your place of employment because it may not be the mountain you are called to. Your current station in life may simply be training ground in preparation of your call. Like Caleb of old, you should be able to say "Lord show me my mountain, show me my kingdom. I am ready to take this mountain, give me this mountain."

For fifteen years I served my country in the Zimbabwe National Army and retired as an army captain. I understand kingdom. I understand authority. Being an officer without an office is useless. A king without a kingdom is ineffective. So where is your kingdom? One day the kings of this earth are going to bring their kingdoms at the feet of the King of kings. When you stand at the end of the age, will you have a kingdom to offer Him? Do you have a mountain that you are going to put at his feet? Say to God, *"I know I am a king. You made me a king. But a king without a kingdom is not a king. How can you call me a king without giving me a kingdom?"*

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The Church has generally lost this mindset of dominion and being a colonizing force. We were created for dominion. To exert and enforce God's will upon the earth. We are God's vice regents.

In creating man and placing him on earth it was God's intention to extend the governing authority of the Invisible heavenly Kingdom to the visible earthly realm for the purpose of colonizing that domain to be like heaven. Man was placed on earth and given authority as His co-regents that would represent God's interests and rulership on earth.

Dr Myles Munroe defined dominion as the establishment of kingly rulership and authority over a designated territory with responsibility to control and manage that territory and its resources. He therefore argues that mankind was created as a kingdom of kings with corporate rulership over the earth. This kingdom of kings was meant to extend God's rulership on earth to colonize the earth with God's kingdom. That is what the church's main mandate is. It is created as a colonizing force to extend the domain (rulership) of heaven on earth!

The incisively insightful Dutch Sheets observes about the dominion mandate in Gen 1:28:

- So complete and final was Adam's authority over the earth that he, not God, had the ability to give it away to another – to Satan.
- So complete and final was God's decision to do things on earth through human beings that it cost God the Incarnation to regain what Adam gave away.
- God chose, from the time of Creation to work on earth through humans, not independent of them. Humans were forever to be God's link to authority and activity on earth.

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- He always has and always will, even at the cost of becoming one. Though God is sovereign and all-powerful, Scripture clearly tells us that He limited Himself, concerning the affairs of earth, to working through human beings.

Discipling nations is an issue of authority. It's about restoring the Kingdom authority that was lost in the Garden of Eden. That is our dominion mandate. Discipling nations implies administrating the Kingdom on earth to systematically change earth's culture to conform to the Kingdom culture.

While we watch and plead blissful ignorance satan is systematically changing culture through the spheres of influence to be against God. He is exploiting the Gates of hell that are located in places of influence to mold society while we sit haply playing with our charismatic rosaries (non-strategic priestly prayers). Lord have mercy!

The consequences are both dire and evident in our world today. While more souls are being saved and many are coming to faith, we are losing meaningful impact on society and culture. As the Church grows numerically, it is losing its influence on society. We are losing ground on enforcing God's will and proclaiming the Kingdom and yet this does not bother us at all. The enemy has lulled us into a false sense of peace and comfort while the storm clouds are gathering. We have misread our mission and mandate because we have viewed it with Church-eyes rather than Kingdom eyes.

Dr Myles Munroe reminded us that *"a kingdom is the governing influence of a king over his territory, impacting it with his personal will, purpose and intent, producing a culture, values, morals and lifestyle that reflect the king's desires and nature for his citizens."* That should define our role as Kingdom vice-regents. The Church is a colonising force for the King!

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I want to close this chapter with some comments made by His Worship, the Mayor of Bulawayo Councillor Moyo after he heard this teaching. He sums it better than I could ever attempt.

“This is a very practical lesson. --- Let’s be kings and priests. That is something that is missing. Zimbabwe is a Christian nation but we have tended in our Christianity to be passivist and escapist, escaping from the responsibilities of the kingdom. When you are running a kingdom, you are running people. People have needs. The needs may be spiritual requiring a priest. Or they may be other needs that like welfare matters, that require a king. ---- God created this earth for us and expects us to leave it in an improved condition rather than to leave it desolate and uninhabitable. God wants us to improve this earth. That is the kingly function. It is part of our responsibility. Some people might think this message is farfetched. It’s not. When I drive to my office every morning, I see people on the side of the road praying. When I go back in the evening, they are still praying out in that open space. Then the question in my mind is: Are they able to fulfil this kingly function of providing for their families? When and where do they find the time when they spend the whole day praying? When do they find the time to provide for their families if they are in church praying 24 hours a day? I don’t think that is God’s intention. --- I think this was the most constructive, practical and intellectual sermon that I’ve ever listened to. --- as (Christians) we have slept on duty. We have not been combative. We have not been aggressive enough. ---- I think that this teaching was lacking in our churches. Christians can’t just sit and allow other philosophies (religions) to overrun their sphere of influence without doing anything about it. I’m not saying we must wage war like they do but there ought to be other strategies that we can adopt that will effectively counter the spread of Islam as it encroaches. Zimbabwe is basically a Christian nation. This message needs to be amplified and broadcast to everyone so that we can fight for the kingdom as well as the priesthood. We fight for the kingdom --- I think that is important. --- And most importantly, let us become responsible Christians. Responsible Christians take the bull by the horns and do things that will benefit humanity, and promote the kingdom in Zimbabwe. I think, let me also just say, it’s high time that

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the church led the nation of Zimbabwe. Because then we would be catered for kingdom-wise then we would also be catered for spiritually and I think that that is important.”

Conclusion

The church of Jesus Christ is a legislative assembly ordained by God to enforce and decree his purposes. The church is therefore a governing authority, legislating and extending God's rule on earth. This can only happen when we are acting as both priests and kings.

The Islamization of the world and the conversion of the world to liberal secular (violently anti-God, anti-christian, anti-Bible) humanism are major concerns for Kingdom citizens. This is particularly worrying when one considers the waning influence of the Church on society. Heaven is losing influence because the Church has lost the art of colonisation (national discipleship) because it has defined itself wrongly.

Prayer

“Father I come before your Presence fully aware that you have made us kings and priests after the order of Melchizedek within the Tabernacle of David. Even as Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords, you have made us kings and priests and given us dominion over mountains. Father if I am a king, where is my mountain? If I am a king where is my sphere of influence? If I am a king where is my mountain of dominion? Father give me my mountain. I am ready to colonize it. I am ready to take it for the kingdom. I am ready for my own mountain. Father as I worship show me a blueprint of the mountain for which you have called me. Show me the mountains you have called me to scale. Father I am ready, I am hungry, I am eager I want to move into my mountain right now in the name of Jesus.

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My God and my Father, may you raise up warriors, kings, and the generals of God. May you raise up people who are hungry to capture new territory to colonize new territory. May you raise up a generation of redeemers who will redeem our nations, who will subdue kingdoms in the name of Jesus. Father I declare now: may your kingdom come, and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven in Jesus name.

Give me my jurisdiction; give me my sphere of influence that I can influence for God that I can influence for the kingdom in the name of Jesus. I don't want to spend my life around the tabernacle of Moses. Father I know that as a priestly king when I come before your very presence I receive an anointing, a grace, insight, counsel, strategies so that I can go and take the mountain in the name of Jesus. I declare by the enablement of God as a priestly king under the order of Melchizedek, we have to bring the enemies of Jesus at his feet. Father I need some enemies of Christ that I can bring under his footstool in the name of Jesus. Father I thank you for dominion right now. I walk into all authority now as a son, as a priestly king. We worship you because you are King of kings. You can't be King of kings if there are no kings under you. Father as we stand before the tabernacle of David we bring your enemies and place them at your feet. In Jesus name I declare it forth. Amen"

Chapter Four: The God of Grace

Often God takes us further than our past experience can carry us and higher than our competence can sustain so that we depend on His grace and not ourselves. In the process of scaling the jurisdictions (mountains) of influence we will quickly discover how daunting the task is. It is therefore important that we quickly realize like Paul that in our weakness, His grace is sufficient. In order to ground ourselves in this calling we need to focus on the greatness and grandeur of our God of Grace and not be intimidated by the giants in the land. The mistake that the ten spies sent by Moses to scout the land of Canaan made, was that they compared their challenge (the giants) to themselves rather than join Joshua and Caleb who compared the giants to their awesomely able and faithful God. In this chapter before we delve into the immensity of the kingdom assignment we refocus on understanding our King who backs us up. We should never lose sight of who our King is and what He is capable of.

Though we are priestly kings and kingly priests, in reality we are NOT the ultimate authority. We derive our authority and mandate from the King of Kings. We wage war in His name. We conquer territories under His command. It is necessary therefore to re-calibrate our minds to this fact. Many a dear saint has ventured into the domains not understanding that he is entering into contested territory and suffered great pain and defeat. Discipling nations, colonizing cultures and extending the Kingdom is an intensely spiritual battle that requires a reliance on the King of Kings.

In 1 Peter 5:10 we read, *“But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little while, perfect, establish, strengthen and settle you.”*

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NKJV. Let us try it again in the Amplified Version: *“And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace (who imparts all blessing and favour) who has called you to His own eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will Himself complete and make you what you ought to be, establish and ground you securely and strengthen and settle you.”*

I like this Scripture because it realigns us. We talk a lot about the grace of God but often forget the God of grace. Our God is the source of all grace. All the grace we need to scale the heights and dominate the mountains of influence is found in the God of all grace. The God of all grace is able to make all grace abound towards us in all things. My strength is in the grace of God. But for the now let us focus on appreciating the God of all grace. Understanding His character and attributes goes a long way in stabilizing us into being who He has called us to be. The God of grace is the One who called us to an eternal glory in Christ. Our God establishes, grounds us and settles us into who He called us to become--- kingly priests and priestly kings for our God. Our mandate for dominion is clearly predicated on who He is.

Often as we scale the domains of influence, we are intimidated by the giants of the land and we lose sight of the greatness of our God and His unwavering promise. The kingdoms of this world are under the control of the demonic and therefore all attempts to scale them and take them for our God will be fiercely contested. Many believers have been covered by the principalities that control their areas of assignment. Just like Caleb and Joshua we should fix our eyes on our God and His promises rather than be intimidated by the giants. My intention in this chapter is to ground you, priestly king, in the greatness and awesomeness of our God.

God is **Omnipresent**

To be able to climb the domains of influence I need to fully appreciate that God is omnipresent. That means God is everywhere present with the totality of His being.

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There is no mountain that I can scale in pursuit of the Kingdom assignment that God is not present in. Because God is present with me in my Kingdom assignment I know that He is always accessible and always attentive. I will never scale these domains alone. His presence goes with me and before me.

The God of Grace is so omnipresent (- present everywhere) to ensure that all the parts of the puzzle fit together neatly. By leaning into His presence I will never feel alone or lost in the maze of the alien territory that I am called to conquer and disciple. He makes all things fit together. Sometimes in that hostile environment I can easily feel overwhelmed. Yet the God of grace is so present everywhere that there is no gathering together against me that He is not aware of and ready and capable to thwart. When I have this consciousness I can march on boldly into the callings and purposes of God because of the assurance of His Presence. The Presence of God is so powerful that God had to become flesh so that He could be present with us (aka Emmanuel). Emmanuel means that God is there with us in the thick of battle. The Omnipresent God is Jehovah Shammah whose presence does not leave us alone. Kingly priest, march on with the full confidence of God's assuring Presence.

As a priestly king I am aware that the Omnipresent God is present everywhere to influence things in various offices for my good. Because of that presence He is able to raise people who will champion my cause and favorably mention my name in the ears of the influencers in the domains of my calling. I have powerful insiders who are raised and positioned by God to champion my cause.

God is **Omniscient**

The Omniscient God of all grace is all knowing. There is nothing beyond his perception and knowledge. God knows all things past, present and future and therefore nothing surprises Him. I can lean into His omniscience and gain some

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knowledge about my sphere of influence. He will download ideas, thoughts and concepts that become powerful solutions within my domain.

He knows all things real and possible such that He cannot experience problem solving. God does not stammer at my challenges or stutter at my obstacles. There is no mountain too high and no problem too hard for him. He knows all things. Without a doubt there is nothing too hard for my God.

My omniscient God is so all knowing that there is nothing and none that He does not know. In terms of my business transactions He knows all the people necessary to make my breakthrough possible and knows all the possible ways to effect my miracle. There is no obstacle that can stand in His way. He is the God of Grace.

I had an encounter with the Omniscience of God some years ago. We were running a Steel Fabricating Company in Bulawayo. At that stage an opportunity arose to acquire a complementary business in the form of a trucking and haulage company. The opportunity was attractive and pleasing. It would create powerful synergies with our existing business. The trucking company had a full-fledged steel fabricating unit that could be merged with our existing operations. We felt this would help us immensely. After prayerful consideration and some financial engineering we signed the agreement of purchase on the back of some three financial institutions having assured us that they would fund the acquisition. This was really exciting stuff. We thought we could sense the favor of God during the process. However on completion of all other processes without any explanation all the financial institutions mysteriously balked at the transaction. Only one bank approved the structure but had no financial capacity to fund it. We were disappointed at this development. We prayed, fasted and bound the devil but nothing changed. Although we could not understand this at that time, it sounded like it was God who was closing the door before us. Just six months later the economy went into a tailspin and we suddenly

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realized two things which were material but were not evident to us at the time of structuring the deal namely a) the seller was actually selling the company because he had started another company off RSA which would have taken over all the major customers, so his real purpose for selling was to capitalize that new company with the disposal of Zimbabwean assets and b) with the collapse of the economy and with the consequent loss of clients there was no way we could have managed to service the loan facility and stay afloat.

While at that time it was painful to let go of this transaction, it is obvious that the God of all grace in His Omniscience knew that this transaction would be a problem and so He simply closed the door in our face. He knows all things real and possible. He knows all the options and their consequences. I thank God for His all-knowing nature that saved us from a disastrous transaction. Indeed as 1 John 3:20 declares “*God...knows all things.*” I only wish however that the God of all grace would also inform me when He decides to close a door in my face – or is it that I am sometimes too dumb to hear him.

God is **Omnipotent**

The God of all Grace is all-powerful (omnipotent). As the Bible clearly teaches there is nothing too hard for our God. Luke 18:22 declares, “*That which is impossible with man, is possible with God*”. A significant portion of the calling of priestly kings entails impossible assignments. That is why it is critically important to be fully persuaded of the Omnipotency of the God of all grace. God is all-powerful and He does not experience degrees of difficulty. God does not look at the challenges that face kingly priests and say, “Ummhhhh, this is a tough one!” My God is omnipotent, so powerful and all-powerful that there is nothing He cannot do. He can move mountains for my breakthrough. The Eternal and Omnipotent God is not limited to and by time. Your deadline is not His deadline. As a matter of fact I heard a preacher

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say that God is not in the habit of dealing with deadlines but in the habit of throwing lifelines to your supposed deadlines. I have often faced seemingly tough deadlines, which in retrospect I realise that the Omnipotent God chose instead to quietly move the deadline rather than provide a miracle. I thank God for both miracles and the moved deadlines that gave me breathing space until I could find a way.

As you heed God's call to invade the gates of hell, a consciousness of the God who is all-powerful who goes with you is essential. We should realise that we will conquer these mountains and subdue these domains not by our own power or might but by the Omnipotent Spirit of God. I have watched in amazement as my Pastor, Rev Tom Deuschle attempt numerous near impossible tasks. I could not understand what drives him to dare and do the impossible until I realized that his eyes are always focused on the Omnipotent God of All grace. As a kingly priest this understanding of God anchors his vision and drives his pursuit of God's kingdom reformation mandate.

God is **Omnisapient**

The God of grace is all-wise (omnisapient) and therefore is a great strategist. *"Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory for ever and ever."* 1 Tim 1:17. *"To God our Savior who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen"* Jude 1:25

My God is omnisapient, so all-wise that there is no strategy, counsel or tactic that is beyond His comprehension. There is no plan or machination against His counsel that prevails. As a kingly-priest I live with the consciousness that to disciple nations requires wisdom and incredible strategies. Within the realm of domains of influence, strategy is critical. Sometimes as believers we are too naïve and just plunge into "exploits" without strategic foresight and so undermine ourselves. So I choose to

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lean into the Omnisapient God for practical wisdom. The God of Grace is the Chief strategist who is devising strategic ways to effect my victory and success.

Many years ago God called me into the finance jurisdiction as a strategic end time financier of the Gospel. However I could not understand how to enter into this terrain. I have given to God's work. I have worked as a corporate board member of a bank. I have even researched and written a book on the financial sector in Zimbabwe. However as I studied the world of finance and its intricacies I believe that God has opened my eyes to a model of finance that will make a huge difference. In trying to structure and make this model work my team and I have had to think strategically many times. We have also realized that the fact that you have a solution does not necessarily mean it is acceptable to those who need it most. A wow moment came when I realised that the fact that a market need does not automatically translate into a market demand. If you have a novel solution in a conventional world like finance, it's a struggle to penetrate the market. However the Omnisapient God has been opening our eyes to strategic moves which are now yielding fruit. Without strategic insight from the Chief Strategist all our prayers would be in vain. So we pray and strategise. Thank God for the Omnisapient God of All Grace.

Conclusion

1 Peter 5:10 (AMP) declares *“And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace (who imparts all blessing and favor) who has called you to His own eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will Himself complete and make you what you ought to be, establish and ground you securely and strengthen and settle you.”*

Divine grace depends on the God of all Grace. By understanding His attributes we realize that there is nothing impossible for the God of Grace. In our Kingdom assignment we need to lean hard into the God of Grace. As we train our eyes upon

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those mountains of influence that we should subdue for our King, we will lean upon the God of all grace. The size of the mountains should not intimidate us. We should compare the domains of influence irrespective of how steep the ascent needed, to our God and not to ourselves. So we need a proper theology (understanding of who God is) in order to courageously scale the domains of influence and go conquer the territories. An appreciation of the character and power of our Commander in Chief is critical in executing His orders!

Prayer

“Father I thank you that even though you have called me and mandated me to climb the mountains of influence, I am not afraid of the giants in the land because you are greater than them all. I ascend the mountain of influence with full confidence in your awesomeness. You are Omnipresent, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnisapient. So I lean on who you are for this assignment. I have no fear. For greater, more powerful and more strategic is the God who goes with me than the wicked ones I have to face.”

Chapter Five: In Search of a Discipleship Strategy

Strategy is critical for any military campaign to be effective. As we depend on the Omnisapient God who is our chief strategist and commander in chief, we should expect a coherent strategy for discipling nations. I believe that strategy is hidden in the Mountain of the Lord's House. As the Mountain of the Kingdom of God rises above the mountains (domains of influence) in society then Nations are disciplined by the Kingdom.

"Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on top of the mountains and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, "Come and let us go to the mountain of the Lord." Isaiah 2:2

As we have already established: Mountains represent kingdoms or domains of rulership! A domain is an area of control, rulership and sphere of influence. It's a place where your dominion is exercised and felt. One could call it your jurisdiction- the area where your authority is exercised and felt.

The longer that I live the more convinced I am that: Every child of God is called to exercise dominion and influence on behalf of the King in one of the domains (mountains) of societal influence.

Martin Luther was quoted as saying, *"A Gospel that does not deal with the issues of the day is not the Gospel at all."* A church that cannot address the issues of the day is excluded from the national conversation as people try to solve these problems. No wonder to a greater extent the Body of Christ has become irrelevant because it disconnected itself from the national conversations since it was too spiritually minded

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to be of any earthly value. We have to regain our place at the table of power brokers. We are kings not only priests! Our voice should be heard and our influence felt.

Moslems, secular humanists, liberal Jews and the LGBTQ people have all mastered the strategy of using the domains of influence to assert control on cultures. To illustrate how the strategy of discipling the seven domains of influence in order to colonize society, I will examine closely the impact of Jews, Moslems and LGBTQ liberals on our world throughout this book.

As Jewish author and political science Professor Benjamin Ginsberg pointed out: *"Since the 1960s, Jews have come to wield considerable influence in American economic, cultural, intellectual and political life. Jews played a central role in American finance during the 1980s, and they were among the chief beneficiaries of that decade's corporate mergers and reorganizations. Today, though barely two percent of the nation's population is Jewish, close to half its billionaires are Jews. The chief executive officers of the three major television networks and the four largest film studios are Jews, as are the owners of the nation's largest newspaper chain and the most influential single newspaper, the New York Times ... The role and influence of Jews in American politics is equally marked ... Jews are less than 2 percent of the nation's population and comprise eleven percent of what this study defines as the nation's elite. However, Jews constitute more than 25 percent of the elite journalists and publishers, more than 17 percent of the leaders of important voluntary and public interest organizations, and more than 15 percent of the top ranking civil servants."*

Stephen Steinlight, former Director of National Affairs of the American Jewish Committee, similarly notes the *"disproportionate political power"* of Jews, which is *"pound for pound the greatest of any ethnic/cultural group in America."* He goes on to explain that, *"Jewish economic influence and power are disproportionately concentrated in Hollywood, television, and in the news industry."*ⁱⁱ

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Vanity Fair magazine in 2007 published a list of what it called “*the world’s most powerful people*” – a lineup of the one hundred most influential personalities who determine how we view ourselves and the world, and who – directly and indirectly -- shape our lives and our futures. Jews made up more than half of the powerful men and women on that *Vanity Fair* list, as reported by a leading Israeli newspaper, *The Jerusalem Post*.ⁱⁱⁱ

A closer observation of these comments show that Jews strategically positioned themselves into various influence centres such as business, education, entertainment, finance, law, media and politics. From these privileged positions they have influenced America and the world. Could it be possible that they have identified the key cultural levers of influence and exploited them efficiently?

The Seven Domains of Influence Strategy

In a miraculous way and independent of each other, God showed two of his servants, around 1975 that there are seven domains that represent every aspect of a nation’s culture that need to be disciplined (colonized) in order to influence, shape and mold that culture for His Kingdom. These sectors individually and collectively shape the way people think and behave. Consequently they shape and determine the culture. When each one is left unoccupied and undisciplined by Kingdom people it is then overrun and controlled by demonic strongholds (mindsets, worldviews) that mold the minds of people in order to influence nations. Contrary to popular belief a stronghold is in the mind and not necessarily a demonic principality or power. Whichever worldview controls that domain of influence (mountain) controls that mountain’s influence on a nation’s culture.

God has a strategy for transforming society through kingly priests invading the marketplace in each of these mountains. This is essential because those people

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who occupy the highest places on those mountains have influence on the prevailing worldview in that domain. So if believers fail to occupy these mountains, other worldviews will.

An understanding of these seven domains of influence:

- Helps us understand how the enemy is working to disciple nations
- Helps us strategically identify different aspects of society that can be used as leverage to influence society.
- Helps us infiltrate every area of a culture with the power of the Kingdom of God. We need priestly kings in positions of influence in these domains in order to impact communities with the presence of the King and His Kingdom.
- Helps us understand the spiritual structures behind our culture. The strongholds on each mountain are thought structures fortified with spiritual reinforcements that shape a culture and frame the spiritual and moral climate of a nation.
- Each mountain has a unique structure, culture and stronghold of thinking- a worldview of its own. The battle on each mountain is over the ideas and worldviews that will dominate that Mountain.

Identifying The Domains of Influence

Various authors have identified these domains and arranged them differently. I list below the domains as I visualize them and then we discuss them in detail in the following chapters:

- Domain of Faith – includes religion, church and worldviews
- Domain of Family
- Domain of Education

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- Domain of Finance
- Domain of Business
- Domain of Law and Government/Politics
- Domain of Celebration and Communication (Arts, Entertainment and Media)

It is easy to see that these domains are the same that have been targeted successfully by the Jews. Even the LGBTQ proponents have identified these domains and deployed people strategically to advance their cause from the different mountains of influence. For example having read Hillary Clinton's *Hard Choices*, it was clear that one of her major agendas in her failed 2016 Presidential bid was to promote the LGBTQ agenda. This also explains the massive media, entertainment, legal and educational support she was getting. A significant number of her most avid and vocal supporters were clearly entrenched within these spheres of influences. They unashamedly promoted her and demonized her opponent. This was about the agenda.

Kingdom Expansion

The Kingdom of God will rise as a mountain of influence and power as priestly kings discover their purpose and then invade the domains of their divine assignment to assert the will of our Father. Once we are clear that we are kings we view the discipleship mandate as a charge to kings to expand the territory of the Kingdom. We realize that we are in a battle for Kingdom expansion. As you may have noticed ours is not the only Kingdom contending for discipling and colonization of cultures.

Jesus taught us to pray and work for the coming of His Kingdom and the execution of His will on earth as it is in heaven. Matt 5:10 declares, "*Your Kingdom come and Your Will be done.*" Because we have viewed ourselves primarily as priests we have failed to enforce the Kingdom. Priests focus on worship and spiritual matters while

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kings focus on Kingdom expansion. We have generally performed well in our priestly function but poorly in our kingly function. That is why the tabernacle of David needs to be restored. We are worshipping warriors.

I have visited Israel at least twice at the time of this writing. I have been intrigued by Mt Zion. The Temple Mount is a contested area as three powerful worldviews (or religions) contest for its control. Jews, Moslems and Christians, all claim it as one of their most holy sites. Mt Zion is a governmental altar which serves as a metaphor of Isaiah 2:2 and as a commentary of the battle for worldviews in these last days.

In the clash of worldviews for Kingdom expansion, the biblical worldview approaches Kingdom expansion differently. The Moslems are prepared to wage a jihad and kill in order to extend the rule of Allah. They are prepared to use the sword to force submission to Allah. However priestly kings, just like Christ, will serve and rule with the heart of a servant. They dominate and seek influence through serving. They do not dominate others dictatorially. As Pastor Bill Johnson aptly expresses it, *“Royalty is my identity. Servanthood is my assignment. Intimacy with God is my life source.”* We serve our way into influence and dominion. We use the sword of love and service. We do not protest and burn down abortion clinics etc as a discipleship strategy. This alienates rather than disciple. We do not use the weapons of flesh.

Dr Francis Myles summarizes a biblical worldview in this manner: *“The redemptive theme of the Bible is about the breakdown of the King’s royal Family and what the King did to restore His royal Family, His Kingdom and His priesthood. It is about restoring the Kingdom and Royal Priesthood to His Royal Family.”*

Once you discover your domain of influence and your place on it, you begin the adventure for which you were created. You were created and redeemed for a

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Kingdom assignment. The capacity to execute your dominion mandate is directly related to your geographical location on the domain of influence. How strategically positioned are you to influence the worldview of that domain? We should not be comfortable with positions that do not maximize the leverage of influence. Your location may be as a high level bureaucrat influencing policy, a professional or business executive or a servant who has the ear of the king. It's not the rank only that matters but the ability to leverage influence even if it's simply by proximity to the power brokers in the domain of influence.

God chooses, gifts and anoints people for specific domains of influence. Find your place! Your kingly authority is linked to your place of assignment. To miss your purpose is to miss your assignment. To miss your place of assignment on the domain of influence is to miss your source of sustenance. Former President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique is famed as having stated, *"The goat eats where it is tethered!"* This was in response to a question on low civil servants salaries. It spawned corruption as it was viewed as a tacit endorsement of corruption by civil servants. However despite its unethical application, it is a Kingdom principle! You do not muzzle the ox that ploughs the field.

I Cor 9:6-14 (ESV) declares *"Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruits? Or who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say these things on human authority? Does not the Law say the same? For it is written in the Law of Moses: "You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does He not certainly speak for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of sharing in the crop. If we sow spiritual things among you, is it too much if we reap material things from you? ---- Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at*

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the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the Gospel should get their living by the Gospel.”

No soldier works at his own expense! Similarly those who disciple the kingdoms of this world get their living and sustenance from the mountains in which they serve. God foots the salary of His employees. If God employs you for a Kingdom assignment, He ensures that inherent in the assignment is both the provision for the assignment and your sustenance. I can put it this way: *your domain of influence can be monetized!* Julian Young in *The Marketplace Paradigm* observed that in the Kingdom of God your Kingdom assignment is intricately linked to your source of financial provision thereby connecting your divine call to your provision. In other words our kingdom provision is tied to our Kingdom mandate.

One of the key purposes of the Church is to equip and train priestly kings to take their assigned mountains for God. If we are to win the battle for the expansion of the Kingdom, then the Church has to become a boot camp. Dr R. Kenneth Strachan correctly observed that, *“The successful expansion of any movement is in direct proportion to its success in mobilizing and occupying its total membership in constant propagation of its beliefs.”* The Church must of necessity and as a matter of urgency mobilize, equip and deploy its membership for the battle of discipling nations and enforcing God’s will on earth. It is in this light that RaphaCare Trust envisions a training institute that mobilizes, equips, trains and helps deploy priestly kings for the task of colonizing the kingdoms of this world.

The Church has often failed because it is based on the tabernacle of Moses which is temple focused. By being temple-centric many saints spent their energy, finances, time and lives around the church building. The net result is that the church expects people to come from the mountains of influence to the church. It is an invitational model. The Church invites the mountain- dwellers to the temple. The

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Church lacks cultural influence and power because it tries to change the world through the Church Mountain rather than releasing the Church into the marketplace to be salt and leaven to all the seven mountains of influence. The Church's mandate is to equip the saints with a biblical worldview and dominion mandate then releasing them to go take the mountains.

Instead from a Tabernacle of David perspective priestly kings seek God in the Faith domain i.e. the Church and are disciplined and equipped and then march into the battlefields of the domains of influence to wage war. The church and its structures is the rallying point where believers are mobilized and trained for effective ministries and then sent out to the world (marketplace) to minister. Believers fan out of the church outward to impact and influence the community. Within the Tabernacle of David worldview, Church is viewed as an outgoing aggressive body of priestly kings.

As a priestly king your presence in the marketplace is an excuse that God needs to have His influence in society. He positioned Joseph, Daniel, Mordecai etc. within the marketplace as an entry strategy. For nine years we were deployed for training to the nation of Greece by the government of Zimbabwe. During that time my wife and I took time to minister the Gospel. Our mindset was that the Government was simply an excuse that God needed to position us in Thessalonica, Greece. Consequently it was easy to get involved in ministry work ostensibly being funded by the Government of Zimbabwe. Kingly priests and priestly kings are fully aware that their employers may be used by God to position them for Kingdom purposes. The employer or their business funds their Kingdom deployment. God does not waste resources.

An analysis of the strategy of Islam clearly shows that they have used a multi-pronged approach to take over Europe for example. Consider the following issues: Europe is now a dying post-Christian population. They have few younger families and these are having fewer and fewer children. The Moslems used the guise of refugee

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crisis to flood Europe and aided by carefully positioned media and academics they are daily flooding Europe. Most of the so-called refugees are not coming from Syria as posited but from across the Moslem world. This massive influx of refugees being assimilated into European citizenry will produce numerous offspring. Within a decade or two Moslems will comprise the largest proportion of Europe's population. Then they will form political parties that will contest and win elections due to the changing demographics of Europe. They exploit democratic freedoms to win elections and then once in power close the democratic space. In my view the Islamization of Europe is now at a very advanced stage. The strategies used include refugees, acquisition of significant business structures within Europe, radicalization of frustrated European Youth and proselytization through active recruiters. In reality we see them actively mobilize their people for this cause. At the same time the Church is unaware of the war being waged because we have kept our eyes on just soul winning. Up until now the Church has been losing the cultural and worldview battle. It is time to change that as priestly kings arise in this hour.

As someone has correctly observed, in the final analysis the Church and not the world has the ultimate responsibility of the state and condition of the world. If the economy and culture of nations is declining, it's an indictment on the church that has failed to colonize the earth into a province of Heaven. I emphasize that it is the Ekklesia's mandate to disciple the nations by transforming the culture of earth until it resembles the culture of Heaven. Julian Young correctly notes that the solution that God placed on earth to address the socio-economic challenges of this world is the church.

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Prayer Strategies

1. We should join Caleb and pray: Give me this mountain! If I am a King where Lord is my kingdom? Where is my place of jurisdiction? Pray that God opens your eyes to your Mountain. Give me this Mountain!

2. Pray for people who are in places of influence in these mountains that they are: either converted and disciplined to use their influence for the Kingdom OR that God may use them as Cyruses to propel His agenda.

3. Pray for priestly kings with a Kingdom mindset to occupy positions of influence in these Mountains. They must then demonstrate Kingdom power and unashamedly attribute it to God. E.g. Daniel, Joseph

4. Pray for Christians in positions of influence that they may boldly represent the Kingdom agenda, take uncompromising stand on Kingdom issues and use their influence to serve the Kingdom and people. Pray their protection from the corrupting influence of the demonic powers.

5. Pray for God to raise people up the mountains of influence who have a biblical worldview and who have the capacity to capture the mountain and effect Godly worldviews on those mountains.

Chapter Six: Domain of Faith I: The Clash of Worldviews

From the public press it seems that two African Presidents who publicly professed to be Christian, namely President Chiluba of Zambia and President Moi of Kenya, have been accused of allegedly having led extremely corrupt governments. How could this be? After all they were good and well-intentioned men. If these accusations are true then there is a clear dichotomy between their professed Christian faith and their actions, behaviors and values within the spheres of government. This has been a puzzling paradox to me for a long time. How do men who went into politics to make a difference end up being conformed rather than being transformers? Does that mean we should now avoid politics as kingdom citizens as it will soil us?

Similarly I have often been perplexed to see a Christian businessman who loves God with all his heart, act in his business in very unchristian ways. Sure he proclaims that his business is a Christian business but in ethos, value, and way of acting the business is very unchristian. I have heard of Christian businesses which bribe to get their way, which demand prompt payment from debtors but delay paying their debtors so that they use their credit management system as a way of funding their business even if they have capacity to pay their creditors in time. In some cases this has happened even when they were aware that the small creditor would collapse if the big company did not pay timeously. What happened to Jesus' words on the Golden Rule? What happened to the challenge by Scripture to avoid use of unbalanced scales in business? What has been more concerning was that because the business was run exactly like the one for non-Christians, the unbelievers have no respect for believing businesspeople.

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After much soul searching I believe I have found the answer. I finally concluded that although the kingdom citizen is born again in his heart, his mind and business philosophies are not born again (*read* renewed) from the vain philosophies of this world. Remember we are a spirit that has a soul and lives in a body. Our spirit can be born again while our soul and body are not. These have to be conformed to the dictates of the Word of God and the Spirit of God in order to be transformed, otherwise they lag behind. We each possess a mindset, paradigm or worldview that shapes our choices and how we live.

According to scholar Samuel Huntington, *“In the back of our minds are hidden assumptions...that determine how we perceive reality, what facts we look at, and how we judge their importance and merits.”* This I believe is the heart of the matter. It is the belief system that shapes our values and actions. The Domain of Faith is the custodian of these belief systems.

Most people view this as the Mountain (domain) of Church or Religion but I would rather call it the Domain of Faith as this term is more comprehensive. By definition it is the domain of societal influence where there is battle over who one directly and intentionally worships as God. Since your worship determines your culture and your view of life, this domain is the battleground for worldviews. Many do not realize how powerful this domain of influence is. It is a gatekeeper. This domain of influence is not at the same level as the others but is actually higher than them and influences them all. Whoever controls this domain has significant control on the rest of the domains and therefore on culture and society.

Worldview Definition

In theology we learn that orthodoxy (right believing) precedes orthopraxy (right behavior). Meaning? What you believe determines your way of life and your manner

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of acting and behaving. To fully appreciate what this is about I will try to define and explain the concept of worldview comprehensively.

A worldview is a philosophy, ideology or religion that provides an overarching approach to understanding and interpreting God, the world, and man's relationship to both. It is a deeply ingrained organizing principle to life and culture that makes up the total set of beliefs, assumptions (or presuppositions) and ideas that we hold (consciously or unconsciously) and comprise the mindset of an individual that provides an overarching approach to determining how they view and interpret reality or the whole world. The ideas (assumptions) which make up a worldview reach into every area of life: Theology, Celebration & Communication, Education, Law & Government, Finance, Business & Economics, and Family.) Put simply a worldview is a framework by which we make sense of the world. It literally forms who we are.

A worldview is therefore a framework through which we view the world, our calling and future in it. This need not be fully articulated. It may be so internalized that it is largely unquestioned. It may not be explicitly developed into a systematic conception of life and it may not be theoretically deepened into a philosophy. Nevertheless, this framework is a channel for the ultimate beliefs which give direction and meaning to life

A worldview is a commitment, a fundamental orientation of the heart, that can be expressed as a story or in a set of presuppositions (assumptions which may be true, partially true or entirely false) that we hold (consciously or subconsciously, consistently or inconsistently) about the basic constitution of reality, and that provides the foundation on which we live and move and have our being.

The term worldview comes from the German *Weltanschauung*, meaning a view or perspective on the world or universe that describes one's total outlook, including

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beliefs and assumptions about reality, human nature, and the meaning and nature of life itself. In the largest sense, we all have an interpretative lens or filter we use to understand our reality and existence, and this lens develops over time.

Put simply then: Worldview is therefore the overall perspective from which one sees and interprets the world. It is a frame of reference where the color of the lenses determines how one sees the world and makes decisions in life. Your worldview matters.

Research has demonstrated that a person's behavior is consistent with her worldview. Your worldview reflects your basic belief system concerning all of life. It establishes your value system: what is important to you. Your worldview and value system are publicly displayed by your behavior. Behavior, then, is the outward display of your worldview. Put differently your behavior is the consequence/result of your worldview. This now explains the paradox of the Christian President or business executive who behaves contrary to his professed faith.

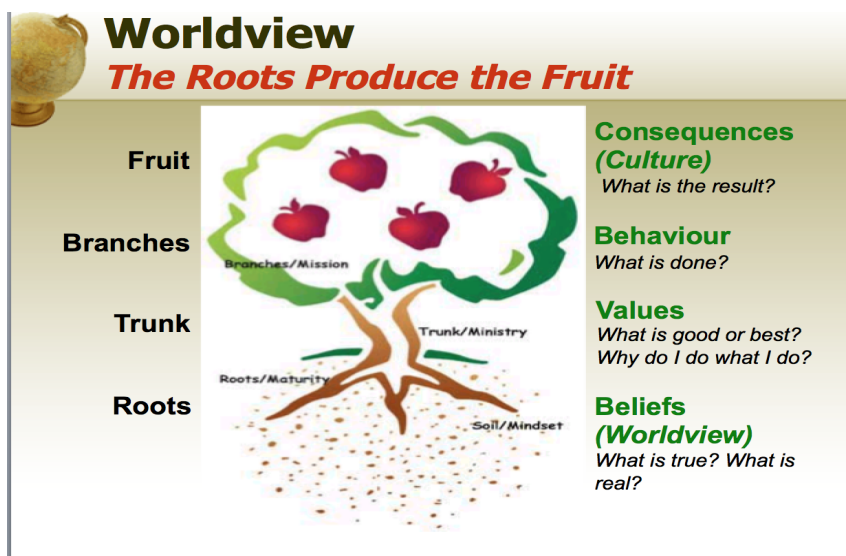
So the worldview that the Christian brother is using as an organizing principle of his business/political activities is not a biblical one but one shaped by a non-kingdom culture. One's worldview determines how the events and circumstances of life will be understood, accepted and acted upon.

Christians who have a Biblical worldview by which they make sense of the world according to God's standards as set down in the Bible are more effective in discipling nations. The greater challenge is that because the Church has not taken its role in defining and shaping the biblical worldview seriously, we have many believers who love God but have been disciplined by the wrong Faith and accepted the wrong worldview. Consequently although they are believers in Christ, their worldview and guiding philosophies work contrary to the Kingdom agenda.

Ideas Have Consequences

It is critical for priestly kings to examine their own worldview to ensure that they are conducive to Kingdom purposes and Kingdom expansion. My worldview largely determines how I live, how I function within my family, how I run my business, the role I play in my community, and the type of Kingdom that I advance.

In the diagram below we compare a worldview to a fruit tree. The roots are below the ground and invisible and yet they determine the kind of fruit produced. Just like you can recognize a tree by its fruit, you can only definitely recognize a worldview by its fruit as well. For simplicity to discern a person's governing worldview, check the fruit produced in the behavior and actions of that person. Worldviews just like roots are not readily evident until one sees the actions and behaviors being produced.



Source: www.coramdeo.com

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The things we value, the decisions we make, and our daily actions reflect and grow from the assumptions we hold about the big questions of life. Our worldview produces consequences in our everyday lives. A healthy worldview—one based on biblical truth—produces productive consequences. An unhealthy worldview—one based on lies—produces destructive consequences. A person who has a worldview that does not see any difference between human and animal life will be seen by his willingness to kill human beings to save animals. This person does not recognize the sanctity of life and so does not see anything wrong about killing unborn babies.

The battle of worldviews is about discipling societies by controlling their cultures. The world runs on ideas, and these ideas have godly or ungodly consequences. We should not be taken captive by the attractive and yet erroneous ideas of unbiblical worldviews! A nation runs on a worldview. As a reminder a worldview is the sum total of the ideas (assumptions) which function as its base. The ideas (assumptions) which make up a worldview reach into every area of life: each domain of influence. And yet we know from research methods that your assumptions determine your conclusions! You see what you already believe (or assume to be reality.) Your starting premise determines what you find from your search.

George Grant in *The Micah Mandate* argues, “According to Augustine, culture is ----- an outworking of a people’s creed. In other words, culture is the temporal manifestation of a people’s faith. If a culture begins to change, it is not because of fads, fashions, or the passing of time, it is because of a shift in the worldview – it is because of a change of faith.” So we can see that the change in contemporary culture from its godly moorings, is a result of a shift in worldviews (towards secular humanism) because of a change of faith (notice how the western world would rather believe any strange religion than believe the Bible).

Worldviews on the Move

In the marketplace of ideas worldviews clash! On Mount Carmel we see a clash of worldviews, with Elijah representing a biblical worldview while the prophets of Baal represented an ungodly animistic worldview. 1Kings 18:19. These two worldviews could not coexist. When Elijah demonstrated the power of God there was a change of worldviews as people proclaimed *“The Lord, He is God.”*

In Matt 16:13 we see another battle of worldviews. When Jesus challenged the disciples to proclaim his identity at Caesarea Philip at the foot of Mt Hermon, Peter responded, *“You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.”* Mt Hermon was the headquarters of the god Pan and Caesar worship. This was a clash between a worldview that recognized only one true God and polytheism. Jesus established His church right at that place where people worshipped a false god – at the place they called the gates of hell. In this case Jesus was demonstrating that the Church is birthed to contend against ungodly worldviews and impose the supremacy of the Kingdom worldview.

Similarly Paul took the battle of worldviews to Mars Hill in Athens which was the intellectual and spiritual capital of the world. Here one would find the humanists and the pantheists. See Acts 17:16. Right in that place he proclaimed the Risen Lord.

How Worldviews Spread



Source: www.coramdeo.com

The Intellectuals

Worldviews often originate in the minds of intellectuals, philosophers, and theologians. These are usually highly educated thinkers -professors, religious leaders. Normally these ideas start at the fringes were people disregard them but slowly gain traction and move to the centre of public discourse. There are Christians in your church who are intellectuals – is anyone listening to them? Unfortunately the Church at large has belittled these thinkers and discouraged christians from thinking. The erroneous view in the church is that to use your mind is being carnal. In most cases we are taught to check out our mind, thinking and logic at the entrance of the church building as we come for worship. There are often highly educated believers who are not afraid of asking questions, love to reflect and look for the answers to questions that people have.

The Balladeers

These are artists such as singers, songwriters, painters, poets, book writers, film makers, dancers who take up the ideas from the intellectuals and then illustrate and showcase them. If you want to know how the next generation will live, study the art and music of today. This is the Celebration and Communication domain at play.

The Church should be the wellspring for the arts for the nation. Pastors should support the artists and see the potential for community discipleship through the Celebration and Communication Domain. Unfortunately we have restricted this domain to corporate worship or evangelism only.

The Professionals

Worldviews then spread to other educated professional people, such as teachers, lawyers, doctors, journalists, and politicians. Eventually the worldview is “institutionalized” as laws, governing policies, and educational curricula.

These professionals are needed by the church to speak, model and promote systems for the biblical truth to be incorporated into our culture. These biblical ideas get cemented into culture by this group. Who is shaping laws in your area, are you involved in this process?

The Common

As they continue to penetrate the culture, they eventually affect the everyday behavior and lifestyle of the common people. These are the ones that get hurt the most by the lies or blessed the most by the truth. As the church, are we consciously encouraging, commissioning and sending out members to be missionaries to our culture?

Three Scenarios

Let us consider three scenarios of the recent past where we can track the development and impact of worldviews.

Scenario One

Marx and Lenin taught that, given a chance, European workers would overthrow capitalist governments and replace them with communism. However attractive as this principle was, practically this was not happening. Two Marxist theorists (Italian, Antonio Gramsci and Hungarian, Georg Lukacs) studied the situation and realized that the Christian faith as a worldview based on its moral and ethical boundaries was the reason that the Communist worldview was failing. They concluded that the biblical worldview needs to be destroyed for Communism to succeed. So Lukacs advocated for the introduction of sex education in Hungarian public schools in 1919, theorizing that once sexual lusts were aroused these children's passions would overpower their Christian morals. With this approach Gramsci and Lukacs laid the groundwork to transform the discourse from viewing communism in economic terms (ownership of private property is evil) into cultural terms. (tolerance, sex education, drug addiction, etc.)

In 1923 at Frankfurt University (Germany) the Institute for Social Research was established (aka The Frankfurt School). It transferred to New York City in 1933 where theorists like Wilhelm Reich, Eric Fromm, Max Horkheimer, Herbert Marcuse invented "Critical Theory" whose goal was to demonize all traditional institutions such as family, fatherhood, patriotism, Bible-believing churches, etc. It published "*Studies in Prejudice*" which taught that anyone who believes in traditional Western Christian culture is a prejudiced "racist", "sexist" or "fascist" or is mentally unstable. This is still the predominant view in the public media. They perfected the technique

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of psychological conditioning. At the same time Hollywood started conditioning people to accept homosexuality as normal and Christians as intolerant fools. Herbert Marcuse, working with Hollywood friends, became a leading “evangelist” of Cultural Marxism (Political Correctness) especially on US university campuses. In his book *Eros and Civilization*, he argued that by freeing sex from any restraints, he could elevate the pleasure principle over the reality principle thereby developing a society with no work but only play. Marcuse coined the phrase, “*Make love, not war*”. He also argued for what he called “liberating tolerance,” which he defined as tolerance for all ideas coming from the liberals and intolerance for any ideas coming from conservatives. In the late 1960’s Marcuse became the chief “guru” of the New Left, and he injected the cultural Marxism of the Frankfurt School into the baby boomer generation, to the point where it is now America’s state ideology.

It is evident that this worldview is now the commonly accepted worldview from the West. That is why one can easily find a born again Christian quickly coming to the defense of homosexuality and abortion etc. Why? Because they have been disciplined by this ungodly worldview. They are born again but are conformed (discipled) to this world rather than being transformed. Whoever shapes your worldview controls your actions and behavior. No wonder immorality now abounds in the Church.

We should unmask multiculturalism and Political Correctness and tell the people what they really are: cultural Marxism. Its goal remains what Lukacs and Gramsci set in 1919: destroying Western culture and the Christian faith. [see: Wm. Lind, “Cultural Marxism” *The Schwarz Report*, vol. 46, No. 4, p 4. www.schwarzreport.org]

Scenario Two:

Let's trace this from another angle and see that ideas and worldviews have consequences.

In 1636 John Harvard and Thomas Sheppherd founded Harvard University as an Evangelical Christian College. However due to thoughts contained in such essays like John Locke's *Essay on Human Understanding*, academic thoughts and ideas began to move away from a biblical worldview. By 1805 Harvard denied the divinity of Christ and became Unitarian (= denial of the Trinity). In 1839 Horace Mann (a Unitarian) established government-sponsored education (Public Education) in Massachusetts. In 1859 three critical publications were published namely:

a) Charles Darwin published the *Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favored Races In the Struggle for Life*,

b) Karl Marx and Engels' *Das Capitol which advocated for Socialism and abolition of private property* and

c) Richard Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde* = (Immorality and Materialism).

These were followed by Nietzsche's proclamation that God is Dead. These ideas which commenced as fringe concepts in academia started bearing ungodly fruit because ideas have consequences.

In 1929 the First Humanist Church of N. Y. City was established by Charles Francis Potter and by 1930 John Dewey, an atheist, and humanist advocated for human secularism to be accepted in public education and fought for the abolition of religious education. In 1933 *Humanist Manifesto I* was published followed by "*A Common Faith*" authored by John Dewey who posited that humanism was a religious

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faith. All these were laying the philosophical beliefs for the secular humanist worldview. John Dewey's disciples started discipling students at Teachers' Colleges.

These humanist graduates went on to disciple the next generation of leaders through schools. Consequently the educational establishment was disciplined to a humanistic worldview while the Church was napping. As a result these schools were releasing multitudes of humanists in all the domains of influence- Celebration, Business, Law etc. It is true that whoever controls education in this generation controls the nation in the next generation.

After the educationists the discipling of a culture moves to the Balladeers. Note how in the 1960s the Celebration and Entertainment took over the humanistic worldview.

- *Mad Magazine* and Johnny Carson: There is nothing sacred!!!!
- Frank Sinatra: "I did it my way."
- Debbie Boone: "How can it be wrong when it feels so right?"
- *Invictus*: "I am the master of my fate. I am the captain of my soul."

As expected the final onslaught was through professionals like lawyers. Note the following significant legal landscape change from a biblical worldview to a humanistic one. As this trend continued the USA moved from a nation whose laws and morals were built on biblical foundations to a basically secular humanistic and atheistic nation.

- 1961: (Torcaso vs Watkins) Humanism is declared a religion protected by 1st Amendment (501c 3)
- 1962: (Engel vs Vitale) Prayer was banned
- 1963: (Abington vs Schempp) Bible reading was forbidden in schools.

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- 1968: (Epperson vs Arkansas) Laws against teaching Evolution were now unconstitutional
- 1973: Humanist Manifesto 2 was published and the Roe v Wade Judgement which allowed wholesale abortion was passed.
- 1980: (Stone vs Graham) 10 commandments thrown out of schools

1982: (McLean vs Arkansas). A Federal district judge overturned the Arkansas law requiring "balanced" classroom treatment for the theories of evolution and "creation science." In stopping the state from carrying out the law, Arkansas Act 590, Judge William Ray Overton of the United States Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas declared in a sharply worded 38-page opinion that "*creation science --- has no scientific merit or educational value.*" He ruled: "*Since creation science is not science, the conclusion is inescapable that the only real effect of Act 590 is the advancement of religion. It was simply and purely an effort to introduce the biblical version of creation into the public school curricula.*"

1987: (Aguillard vs Edwards), 482 U.S. 578 (1987), was a US Supreme Court case concerning the constitutionality of teaching creationism. The Court ruled that a Louisiana law requiring that creation science be taught in public schools, along with evolution, violated the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment because the law was specifically intended to advance a particular religion. It also held that "*teaching a variety of scientific theories about the origins of humankind to school children might be validly done with the clear secular intent of enhancing the effectiveness of science instruction*". In support of Aguillard, 72 Nobel prize-winning scientists, 17 state academies of science, and seven other scientific organizations filed *amicus* briefs that described creation science as being composed of religious tenets.

2003: Texas law against sodomy was overturned and homosexuality is in!

2005: Euthanasia is in (Florida-Terri Schiavo).

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It is now evident that in the USA the secular humanist agenda now rules the media, politics, education and legal domains of influence. From there it is obvious that US culture has been disciplined by secular humanists. All this while the Church either watched, was napping or closing its eyes in prayer. How was this possible? Because we were lulled by the enemy to believe in the separation of sacred and secular. Separating the priestly function from the kingly function. While the church was accepting this divide the Secular humanists were proclaiming the fact that humanism itself was a faith or religion which was all encompassing in controlling the whole culture.

Scenario Three: Alice Bailey's 10-point plan.

I happened upon this concise summary on this on a blogsite which I cannot not reference as I lost track of it. I extract it almost verbatim from that blogsite as it thoroughly demonstrates what we have been discussing. Nothing is by accident. The state of our world was intentionally planned years ago. Although Alice Bailey died in 1949 she had developed a plan that would usher in the new world order. Going through this plan shows that the things happening in our world are not coincidence but strategically planned to disciple the world into ungodliness. Here are the points of her 10-point plan to move society into a godless worldview:

Point #1: Remove God and Prayer from the Education System.

“Change curriculum to ensure that children are freed from the bondage of Christian culture. Why? Because children go to school to be equipped to face life, they are willing to trust and they are willing to value what is being given to them. If you take God out of education, they will unconsciously form a resolve that God is not necessary to face life. They will focus on those things the school counts them worthy

to be passed on and they will look at God as an additional, if one can afford the additional.”

Point #2: Reduce Parental Authority over the children

“Break the communication between parent and child.”

Why? So that parents do not pass on their Christian values and morals to their children. She argued that children must be liberated from the bondage of their parent's moral instruction.

How? a) Promote excessive child rights; Child rights legislation – UNICEF Charter; Today a child is able to say to parent ‘I do not want to hear that, I don’t want to (or have to) do what you are telling me. If you beat me I will call child protection services.’

b) Abolish corporal punishment; (this has been made law). On the other hand the Bible says ‘Do not withhold correction from a child, for if you punish them with a rod, they will not die. Punish them with the rod and save them from death.’ (Proverbs 23: 13-14) Educators are no longer able to discipline children physically [in some cases by talking to them either]. Jesus said in the last days – wickedness will increase, there will be rebellion and children will not obey their parents. It is not a trend-it is organized (Matt 10:21)

c) Schools are the agents of implementation – liberal teachers tell children "you need to discover yourself"; self expression, self realization, self fulfillment are all buzz words.

Point #3: Destroy the Biblical Family Structure.

“Liberate the people from the confines of this structure. It is oppressive and the family is the core of the nation. If you break the family, you break the nation.”
Why? So that the youth will not grow up with a sense of belonging, identity or structure.

How? a) Promote sexual promiscuity – free young people to the concept of premarital sex, let them have free sex, lift it so high that the joy of enjoying it (sex) is the highest joy in life, fantasize it, that everybody will feel proud to be seen to be sexually active, even those outside of marriage.

b) Use advertising industry, media – T.V., magazines, film industry to promote sexual enjoyment as the highest pleasure in humanity. (Propaganda)
Have they succeeded? Have they done it? Today almost no advert comes out without a sexual connotation. Even when they advertise ice cream, they must show you a thigh of a woman and a bikini, they must do something to set off a trail of thoughts.
Why? Because, that is what must be in the minds of the people.

Point #4: If Sex is Free, make Abortion Legal and easy.

“Build clinics for abortion and put health clinics in schools. If people are going to enjoy the joy of sexual relationships, they need to be free of unnecessary fears. In other words, they should not be hampered by unwanted pregnancies and diseases.”
‘Abortion as told by Christians is oppressive and denies our rights, we have a right to choose whether we want to have a child or not. If a woman does not want the pregnancy, she should have the freedom to get rid of that pregnancy in the easiest and painless way possible’. Besides, if you carry the unwanted pregnancy, then give them up for adoption, that system is so unkind to them - so just get rid of them and spare them that life and the hindering of yours.

This also ties into the strategy to curb population control together with the use of condoms and 'pill' (Eugenics).

Point #5: Make Divorce Easy and Legal

“Love has got a mysterious link called the love bond. It is like an ovum that comes out of the ovary, as it travels through your system, it clicks a love favor in you and there’s one other person in the world who can respond to that love bond, when you see that person, everything within you clicks, that is your man/woman, if you miss him, you’ll never be happy until that love bond cycles past, for many years, so for you to be happy get that person at whatever cost. If it means getting him/her out of that marriage, get him/her that is your man/woman. It’s a mistake for him/her to be elsewhere. And if you go together for sometime and find that love has died, don’t be held in bondage by the Christian values. It will never come back, what you need is an easily arranged divorce and allow another love bond to come forth, just like an ovum comes up, and when it comes forth you’ll enjoy life again.”

Why? So the youth will not feel they must stay tied down to one person. This will also promote multiple sex partners. We must be free to enjoy life, not tied to one person for eternity. This will also produce broken homes and possibly broken children who will carry the brokenness forward.

How: Degrade the value of marriage over time. Decrease the difficulty of getting a divorce by advertising divorce law and making it an easy and understandable process to obtain one. People ENTER into marriage having signed contracts of how they will share their things after divorce. In other words, people enter with one foot and another behind. Divorce is way more common today that it was, say, 50 years ago. Marriage is now treated like a high school relationship - easy come...easy go.

Point #6: Make Homosexuality an alternative Lifestyle.

“Enjoying sexual intercourse is the highest pleasure in humanity. No one must be denied or restricted in how to enjoy themselves. People should be allowed to experience sex however they want, whether it is homosexuality, incest or bestiality, as long as the two agree.”

WHY: to demolish the restraint of tradition that establishes sex between a man and woman, to further the agenda of population control, to abolish creation roles and to incorporate the satanic mantra "do what thou wilt"

HOW: Preach tolerance and acceptance. Give the homosexuals a voice in numbers, as the numbers grow: tolerance and acceptance will too. Pass laws and implement legislation that legalizes gay marriage and shuns "hate speech". Silence the voice of the preacher in the pulpit through 501c3. Put it everywhere it is now forbidden: on tv, on billboards, in church. Advertise it! Encourage foods that increase estrogens in males (like soy). Males will no longer grow to be strong fathers in a traditional home as they will have no desire.

Point #7: Debase Art and Make it Run Wild

“The arts are one of the primary keys to changing culture.”
WHY? To break down social norms of what is acceptable and forbidden. To encourage creative expression of self outwardly and inwardly in whatever way is pleasing to the individual. To corrupt the minds of the youth into accepting what was once forbidden as normal.

HOW? Promote new forms of art which will corrupt and defile the imagination of people because art is the language of the spirit, that which is inside, you can bring it out in painting, music, drama etc.

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Look at the quality, spirituality and message of the art, music and the films that are coming out currently and think about how that has degenerated throughout history.

Point #8: Use Media to Change and Promote Mindset (read Worldviews)

She said: The greatest way to change human attitude is media (again, the arts).
WHY: To foster groupthink around normalizing deviant behavior; to encourage pleasure over social norms; to revise the social norms in accordance with the New World Order.

HOW: Use the press, the radio, T.V, cinema, any form of public media to influence people in the way you want them to think! Break up the traditional home by using media to encourage females to be independent and to "have their own" or to "not need a man". This will further deteriorate the traditional "long-term" family structure.

So much money is pumped into media and advertising and the spreading of violence, pornographic material and other sources. Sex outside of marriage is thrown in your face 80-90 times more than sex in marriage through media. Promiscuity is being promoted as natural, you watch gay sex on T.V. in homes where children's minds (and yours) are being neutralized to sensitivity to these things. Everything is promoted in a sensual way. So those who believe it is just art, it is art, but with an agenda!

Point #9: Create an InterFaith Movement.

“Promote other faiths to be at par with Christianity, and break this thing about Christianity as being the only way to heaven, by that Christianity will be pulled down and other faiths promoted.”

WHY: To increase the levels of tolerance & acceptance among man that all religions are equal thereby promoting a false peace; to employ the thought that all

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religions/spirituality lead to God; to lay the groundwork that will usher in the one-world religion.

HOW: promote the importance of man in determining his own future and destiny” – HUMANISM. “Tell man he has the right to choose what he wants to be and he can make it happen, he has the right to determine his cause.”

Point #10: Get Government to Legislate These Points and Get the Church to Endorse Them.

SHE SAID: “the church must change its doctrine and accommodate the people by accepting these things and put them into its structures and systems.” How?: mainly through the implementation of the points 1-9 and 501c3s. Convince people to grow numbers and the rest will come.

Why? To usher in the new world order in an almost seamless effort. Have they succeeded?

Today, some may wonder why our governments are legislating laws contrary to the Bible and why the church is compromising the Word of God. It is the process of implementing This 10 Point Plan - A 50 year strategy of the New World Order to fulfill its ultimate goal to establish a One World Government, a One World Economic system and a One World Religion. Today the strategy, almost in its entirety has been adopted by the United Nations and today a lot of it is already law in many nations. This deception has crept up by increments, unobserved by most people.

It can best be demonstrated through the well-known analogy of the frog in the pot of water. If you put a frog in a pot of boiling water, it is smart enough to know that it is in terrible danger and will immediately jump out to safety. But if you turn up the heat very slowly, a little at a time, it doesn't notice the changes that are taking place and will

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slowly cook to death. Many people today are slowly cooking to death and don't seem to realize how far they have come from where they once were.

The Church

The Church is built and owned by Christ. It is the love of His Life. Its main mandate is to steward (advance, manage and usher) the Kingdom of God. Priestly kings are redeemed from a culture and brought to the Kingdom to sit under the feet of the Master for enculturation, then they are deployed back to the domains (mountains) of influence to impose the Kingdom agenda and culture upon society. One could view the church of Jesus Christ as a legislative assembly ordained by God to enforce and decree His purposes. The church is therefore a governing authority, legislating and extending God's rule on earth.

Remember the friend of mine who worked closely in cultural matters with the Republic of Iran and was chastised by an Islamic leader thus *"You Christians don't understand that the Faith is a government and so it cannot submit to earthly governments. In our Faith, Islam is above the government."* It is true that the Kingdom of God, that the Church acts as an embassy for, is higher than earthly governments. The Church is above governments in terms of authority and influence. This however does not mean that churches should not fulfill all righteousness by obeying God's delegated civil authority.

As a refresher we have already stated the following: The Ekklesia is God's vehicle to expand the Kingdom and extend the King's domain. To the Romans an ekklesia (the church) was a group of people sent into a conquered territory as a colonizing force to alter the people's culture and make it look like Rome. They infiltrated the culture and education system and re-programmed them until the people thought and behaved like Romans. The Church is a colonizing force and must

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therefore begin to perceive itself as such. Remember that a colonizing force is a small minority representing a Kingdom coming to another Kingdom and molding the culture of that Kingdom to conform to the mother Kingdom through creating order, education and controlling commerce. Similarly the Church should mold the culture of society to reflect the culture of Heaven! That was Jesus' prayer: Your will Father, be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

The late Dr Myles Munroe was on point when he stated, *"Colonization is a process whereby a government/ ruler determines to extend his kingdom, rulership or influence to additional territory with the purpose of impacting that territory with his will and desire. It transforms the colonized territory to a place where it reflects and manifests the culture, language, lifestyle and activities of the colonizing authority."*

The Ekklesia is such a powerful army that the gates of hell that guard the domains of influence cannot withstand its onslaught. That was Jesus' promise at its establishment. Matthew 16:18 *"I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."* When the Church loses sight of its Kingdom expansion mandate it loses its influence, impact, significance and relevance to society and its culture.

The Church disciples priestly Kings to the image of Christ so that they can disciple nations by taking the Kingdom of God to the domains of influence. It takes disciplined disciples to disciple nations! Part of that discipling involves pledging a clear allegiance to a Kingdom worldview! That is why priestly kings should be vitally linked and planted within a local church for discipleship and accountability.

When the world's hunger for the supernatural isn't satisfied in the Church, they seek satisfaction in false imitations of the real thing. The spread of false religion is testament of the Church losing its demonstration of Kingdom power and anointing.

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Infiltration of Eastern religions and Islam is an indictment on the Church having lost cultural relevance.

The church has become a cultural hermit. While we were staying in Thessalonica, Greece we visited the beautiful monasteries of Meteora. They are simply stunning. I was however stunned by another fact: they were nearly inaccessible to society at large. Take a closer look at the beautiful photograph of one the monasteries below. In the photograph one sees the silhouette of the local village. The monks climbed up 300-550m limestone formations to build the monasteries and stay there, divorced from the community. I assume they were trying to concentrate on worshipping God and giving themselves to seclusion to avoid being tempted by the world. They were avoiding the world when Jesus asked them to engage the world. To them the world was evil and should be shunned.



Meteora is a beautiful but sad metaphor of the Church. It is so difficult to ascend that monastery. It is nearly inaccessible. The monks separated and isolated themselves from the world so that they would not be corrupted by the world. The church is still doing that. We get into our monasteries called the church and avoid any meaningful contact with the world. We have become cultural hermits. Just like the

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monks retreated from the world and huddled in monasteries, the Church has similarly retreated into its own cultural monastery of Christian schools, villages, hospitals etc. Yet the enemy is not shying away from the church at all. He has planted many of his own in the CHURCH! Are we being ignorant of his schemes and devices?

The salt has been removed from contact with the society that it should salt. Are we not the salt of the earth? Salt requires contact with society to have its effect.

Are we not supposed to be the light of the world? According to Matt 5:14-16 one could say:

- The Plan – God’s plan was for the Church to be the light of the world. This would drive out darkness and works of wickedness through exposing them to the light of truth.
- The Process- The Church through its the good works for which we were created for in Christ would be a beacon of light.
- The Purpose- was that God may be glorified. *Ad Majorum Dei Gloriam* (AMDG)

The Church has withdrawn its influence from the culture and society that needs it most. As the Church disengaged the world, it left a vacuum for the devil to fill through secular humanism, Islam, New Age and other vain philosophies authored in Hell. Priestly king I plead with you: Get out of your monastery! Don’t disengage the world and society. Engage them in the name of the Lord and for kingdom purposes!

Most Christian teachers want to teach in a Christian school. Who is going to disciple in the public schools? Who is going to take dominion in the public schools? We are giving them up to the devil. Christians want to be in church and not in

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politics. They say politics is dirty. Of course it's dirty because the salt is refusing to go into politics. Take dominion in politics. Don't look down on those who are in politics. Encourage them, disciple them so that they can take dominion. So as priests we seek God in the tabernacle of David, and then we go into the mountains as conquering kings to colonize and disciple them for our King.

What Went Wrong?

The Church adopted the wrong model of ministry. It built itself around the tabernacle of Moses whose focus was the Temple as the centre of worship and gathering place. This model makes the church the centre of focus. The Levitical model of priesthood in the Temple made the priest the superstar who did ministry. So we have developed a professional clergy that is sacred and does the ministry at the Church facility. The focus of church is on church meetings and activities at the church building. No wonder most churches have church services daily and leave priestly kings with no time to engage the community at all.

Consequently the Church lacks cultural influence and power because it focuses on changing the world through the Faith Mountain rather than releasing the Church (its people) into the marketplace to leaven all the other six domains of influence. The Church's mandate is to raise priestly kings who will invade the spheres of influence with God's Kingdom, anointing, presence and power.

The Church should move from a Tabernacle of Moses approach to a Tabernacle of David approach. In this approach the priestly king comes to the tabernacle to experience God and worship Him and then once he gets divine strategies he leaves to battle for Kingdom extension outside the tabernacle.

The church and its structures are not the centre of focus but are the rallying point where believers are mobilised and trained for effective ministries and then sent out to

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the world (marketplace) to minister. Believers fan out of the church outward to impact and influence the community. The Church is viewed as an outgoing aggressive body of priestly kings. Remember the Bulawayo church whose slogan is, “*A going Church for a Coming King!*” So when the Church is about Kingdom business it is not staying in the Church building but aggressively going out to engage the world for the King in preparation for the day when the Kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdoms of our God and His Christ.

The church is awfully non-strategic at times. During the Zimbabwe National Constitution making process in 2012-13, most Christians approached the Constitutional Commission as Christians and so they were relegated to the thematic committee of Religion. This almost excluded the voice of the Church from other domains of influence. The priestly kings from various domains could have just presented themselves as representatives of the various domains so that they would be placed within the thematic committees relevant to them for contribution and input.

The church is to be **in** the world but **not of** the world:

- to be salt
- to be light
- to be filled with people of the Book wherever they are – Christians on Monday as well as Sunday and
- to be externally focused in order to disciple the nations. It gathers for worship and equipping but scatters to serve and disciple nations.

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Conclusion

The Church because of a poor worldview and weak theology of Kingdom has failed to engage the domains of influence and therefore lost its impact and discipling power. We must reclaim our mandate and reassert our right as power brokers within the six domains of influence.

The Church must:

- 1. Prepare people for heaven and
- 2. prepare the earth for a heavenly invasion

Prayer

“Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Matt 6:9-10. Lord I pray that I may be both salt and light. May I engage as a colonizing force that superimposes your will into my area of influence. Help me Lord to represent you well. I seek to engage and not disengage the world. I repent of being a cultural hermit. So help me Lord!”

Chapter Seven: The Faith Domain II: A Diversity of Worldviews

Throughout history there has been - and will continue to be - a wide range of worldviews. In this chapter I want to take time to briefly summarize the key worldviews at work in the Faith Domain and assess their impact on the Church.

Biblical Worldview

According to the Bible, reality is comprised of both physical and spiritual reality. The physical universe was created by the pre-existent and uncreated God who sustains it. Human beings (both male and female) were created with dignity and given a mandate to exercise dominion on the earth and yet be submitted to the authority of God whom they were created to serve and worship. When our minds embrace this biblical worldview, we begin to see the world as it really is—as God created and sustains it.

The Bible teaches that human nature is fallen therefore we cannot clearly see true reality without God's help. Naturalism, animism, and some forms of theism are distortions of the truth that prevent us from clearly viewing all of reality. Either they allow us to see a portion of what is real or they distort the portion that we see. Though in some cases, they do both. The biblical worldview, by contrast, allows us to see all that is real. When we “put on” the biblical worldview we can understand God as He truly is—and ourselves and creation as we were made to be.

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Islamic Worldview

The Islamic worldview is grounded in Allah (God), Mohammad (who they believe is the ultimate and final prophet of Allah), and the Qur'an (the Word of Allah delivered through Mohammad beginning in about 610 AD). Islam means submission to Allah and a Muslim is one submitted to Allah. The Islamic Worldview is more than a religion. Islam covers all aspects of life for its followers because it is an all-embracing social, political and legal system.

The Islamic strategy is based on the following principles: Infiltrate a culture, Educate the people on Islam to create an Islamic consciousness, Populate to change the demographics (form political and social organizations and engage society through these) and Eradicate all opposition. I understand that they have a 500 year plan in place to thoroughly take over the world which they have started implementing already. Yet as far as I know the Church has no coherent strategy to disciple nations.

Secularism.

Secularism encompasses a set of beliefs that denies or ignores the existence of spiritual reality. According to secularism, the physical universe is all that exists. There is no God, or gods, and no spirit within human beings. All phenomena in the world can be explained through the science-defined "laws" governing the physical universe and chance combinations and interactions of matter. Today secular humanism is the dominant worldview in much of the West. It gained supremacy through the widespread acceptance of British botanist Charles Darwin's (1809-1882) theory of natural evolution. Secularism underpins the modern faiths of scientism and postmodernism.

According to Secular Humanism, all reality and life center upon human beings. In fact, humans act as God. The Secular Worldview is a comprehensive view of the

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world from a materialistic, naturalistic standpoint. Therefore, the Secular Humanist sees no place for the supernatural or immaterial. There is no place in the Humanist worldview for either immortality or God.

Postmodernism

Postmodernism is the philosophical proposal that reality is ultimately inaccessible by human investigation, that knowledge is a social construction, that truth-claims are political power plays, and that the meaning of words is to be determined by readers not authors. Postmodern theory sees reality as what individuals or social groups make it to be. In the view of postmodernism the following hold: “There is no such thing as absolute truth and no absolute moral standards. Belief in objective reality is rejected. There are no “truths” which apply to all of us. What is true and right for you may not be right and true for me. All you have is your personal opinions based on your personal perspectives. There is no God and therefore no absolute ethical considerations. For example you cannot, based on ethics, judge someone for being homosexual. You should simply accept and respect his choice.”

Irrationality of Postmodernism

In this section I will consider the irrationality of postmodernism as a worldview by examining three most used phrases by its proponents:

- **Everything is Relative!** Really?? The undeclared intent of this sentence is that it is an absolute principle. If everything is relative, then this sentence is part of everything that is relative. It therefore is a self-defeating statement. If the principle that “Everything is relative” is true then that principle itself is also relative and therefore cannot apply in all cases. It therefore cancels and negates itself. It is therefore an invalid and illogical statement. God and His Word are objective truths to be accepted. He is the standard for life.

- **There are no absolutes!** You are kidding me? This sentence is also intended to be an absolute statement and infallible principle. If there are no absolutes, then this sentence is not absolute and it negates itself and therefore means nothing! So absolutes can and do exist. God is an absolute and so is His Word.
- **There is no right or wrong!** Come on now! The major assumption behind this sentence is that the person saying it is claiming he or she is right in saying that there is no right or wrong! Again, we have a statement that negates itself.

Animism

Animism is a set of beliefs that sees the world as full of (or animated with) spiritual beings. Animism is the belief that personal spiritual beings and impersonal spiritual forces have power over human affairs and, consequently, that human beings must discover what beings and forces are influencing them in order to determine future action and, frequently, to manipulate their power.

The twin pillars of animism are fatalism and spiritism. There are scores of gods, demons, and angels. According to animism, ultimate reality is fundamentally spiritual. There is an integration between spiritual and physical. Life is viewed as a seamless whole and not in a dualistic manner of the Greek inspired worldview that strictly separates the spiritual from the physical. The actions of animistic gods are often arbitrary, capricious and unpredictable. These gods need to be appeased through sacrifices. The life of a person living with an animistic worldview is built around the fear of angering the unpredictable gods.

A high cosmic god created life and the world but is impersonal and distant. The spirits mediate between the cosmic god and everyday human life. They can be malevolent or benevolent and control a power sphere such as wealth, health, fertility, etc. Humans must cooperate with and appease the spirits and gain their favor. The

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mediums have power to influence the spirits for good or for bad. So the mediums are feared as they become the spirit's power brokers.

African Church's Challenge

The Church in Africa failed to present an all-encompassing worldview because of the dichotomy espoused in the dualistic worldview. This was a significant failure because the animistic worldview was all-encompassing to the African. The net result is that we have born again hearts and non-born again (non-renewed) mindsets. So many African Christians continue living their lives unconsciously and subconsciously controlled by their animistic beliefs and the resultant value systems. In that case when they are challenged by troubling issues of life they revert to their animistic worldview that is comprehensive enough to cater for the spiritual reality of life. No wonder well educated Christian people revert to either ancestral worship or cultic religious groups that fill the role of the witch doctor in the animistic worldview. This explains the explosion of some questionable prophetic movements as the prophets now serve as surrogate witchdoctors granting access to God just like the spirit medium would do.

This animistic worldview has had a really big impact on Africans because it is so subconsciously embedded in their minds. It also creates fearful, fatalistic and passive Christians who view their locus of control as mysterious spiritual forces that determine behavior, circumstances and destinies, leaving them with no control over what happens in their lives.

In Summary

While it's helpful to understand these worldview categories as distinct from one another, it's common for people and societies to combine elements from each. Typically, one of these categories will be dominant within a culture; however, there will likely be elements of all three categories evident to some degree. In the West for

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example, naturalism is the dominant worldview, yet Christianity continues to exert an influence. Likewise, the animistic beliefs espoused by some in the New Age movement are exerting an increasing influence. In addition, today many Europeans are rediscovering and worshipping the same pagan gods that their ancient ancestors once worshiped.

Some have argued that part of the challenge of corruption in Africa emanates from animistic beliefs whereby a deity (god) is appeased (or bribed) for things to go well. Consequently people tend to think that the policy of appeasement of authority figures in order to get what they want is normal. Corruption becomes part of the culture and culture is informed by your worship. Or put simply who you worship informs and shapes your culture.

Understanding the Sacred/Secular Divide and Its origins

In my view the separation of spiritual from natural was a key reason why the biblical worldview was overtaken by secular humanism. The “social gospel,” abandoned the biblical teaching of human sinfulness and the need for spiritual redemption and argued that the Kingdom of God could be established on earth through human efforts and progressive social reforms. Evangelism was derogatively referred to as “*proselytizing*” and viewed as intrusive, insensitive, and ultimately unnecessary.

In response there developed 2 camps namely: i) those who believed that evangelism alone should define the mission of the Church (the evangelicals) and ii) Others who no longer believed in the need for evangelism, arguing that humans were masters of their own destiny and that social reorganization held the key to establishing God’s Kingdom (the liberals). In this argument there was no room left for the biblical vision of holistic ministry that met both spiritual and physical needs of people.

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While the liberal church was busy working to usher in the kingdom of God through social programs based on human wisdom, the evangelicals were busily ignoring or downplaying the physical needs of the poor and focusing almost exclusively on evangelism and church planting. This narrow, spiritual-only mindset led to a proliferation of churches around the world today that are characterized by superficiality. Many of these churches are numerically strong but culturally impotent and marginalized, having little or no impact on their surrounding society.

In Belvedere, Harare, Zimbabwe, where the population is mainly Indians and Moslem, they supply borehole water to the community throughout the day. They have modified the taps to suit the growing numbers of people from the community in search of water as the Harare City Council water becomes scarce. This supply of water to the community is very intentional and draws people to Moslem households. This is part of creating a perception of Islam being a good religion with caring people. In contrast generally Christians within the same neighborhood have not even thought about meeting people's felt needs like this.

Many contemporary Christians, because of this divided mindset, live compartmentalized lifestyles. They live in a "*spiritual world*" when they are involved with the church, in Bible study or prayer. The rest of the time, particularly in their vocational lives, they live in the "*secular world.*"

Over the years I had a serious discomfort with the teaching of kings and priests which made pastors "priests" and business people and professionals as "kings" whose primary function was to be providers of finances to the holy pastors. This was resolved for me with the understanding that under the Order of Melchizedek or the priesthood of Jesus Christ, I am both a king and priest simultaneously and not either a king or priest.

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Unfortunately church maturity is now judged either by numerical size or by popularity with seekers rather than by disciplined followers committed to impact society through Kingdom expansion.

Conclusion

It is clear that the issue of worldviews in conflict is a major issue that the Church must contend with in order to disciple nations. The Church has to appeal to the mind. It has to contest for role prominence in terms of worldviews in order to shape society.

When Christians adopt a divided mindset instead of the biblical worldview, they lose their desire to engage the culture and therefore do not obey Christ's command to "*make disciples of all nations.*" When the church has this divided mindset, Christians no longer shape the domains of influence. They no longer disciple the nations; rather, they are disciplined by the nations. The Church should understand that church history demonstrates that whatever it failed to disciple and bring under the Kingship of Christ, ended up discipling the Church away from Kingdom values. They allow the prevailing trends, beliefs, and practices of the secular world to set the agenda.

Prayer

"Lord help me in asserting a biblical worldview in my jurisdiction. May I be able to discern opposing worldviews and have strategies to counter them."

Chapter Eight: The Domains of Influence 1

Let us take a closer look at the remaining six mountains (domains, jurisdictions or gates) of influence. In this chapter we will cover the first three domains namely Family, Finance and Business. In doing that we will examine some case studies from opposing worldviews on how they are exploiting these domains of influence in order to shape the culture. Please note that while I highlight the inroads made by opposing worldviews like Islam, LGBTQ liberals or Jews into spheres controlled by the Church previously, I have no hatred for these worldviews or persons within these worldviews. I am simply highlighting how they have lulled us to sleep while taking our position. The Church should therefore arise and by approaching the Tabernacle of David regain lost ground nonviolently. The Church in the process should also learn from the enemy's tactics in exploiting a God-ordained strategy of discipleship. I caution priestly kings from adopting carnal means to correct the error of the past. Demonstrations, burning down abortion clinics or vilifying advocates of opposing worldviews is not what we are advancing. This does not align with the King of Kings. There are strategic ways of influencing the domains.

Domain of Family

By the grace of God we have been blessed with two lovely children, Emmanuel Wanesuishe and Faith Wimbanaishe. From the start we purposed to seek God in terms of how we should name them. We wanted their names to reflect what we believe God was saying about their destinies. My wife and I have labored to create a family environment that would nurture them in the fear of the Lord and mold them for their callings. The journey has been exciting and challenging. As ministers of the

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Gospel we sought to model the Gospel rather than just preach it to them. We have sought ways for God to use our lives as ministry to them. Looking back now that they are both adults we see the hand of God on their lives. We marvel at their love for God and continue to pray for them and seek to guide them towards their Kingdom assignments. We have taught them to love their biological family and to connect to their spiritual family. They are proud of both their natural and spiritual heritages. As we observe them mature, my wife and I, are thrilled to have been honored by God to be the incubators of these world changers!

The family is the bedrock of community and nation. God created it as the first institution. Family is the place for righteousness and godliness to be taught, personal character developed, integrity modeled and Kingdom assignment discovered and nurtured. It is a place of being accepted for who you are. It has been proven that rejection within the family is a root of wayward behavior later in life. This is the reason Satan works feverishly to destroy the family because once the family is dysfunctional the offspring is vulnerable to sexual promiscuity, homosexual attraction etc.

The family unit is an essential bridge upon which the former generations communicate the faith, beliefs, values and worldviews to future generations. Therefore the family represents an educational environment for identity formation, social awareness, spiritual nurturing and intellectual development. The family is the first place for discipling a person into a coherent Kingdom worldview. The Bible teaches us to train a child in a way he should grow and he will not stray from it. No wonder the other worldviews are working tirelessly to destroy or pollute the Kingdom influence on the domain of family because this opens the floodgates of hell and destroys the foundation of a culture.

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In the second quarter of 2017 I spent a month in North America. I was shocked by the intensity of intrusion that liberal secular humanists have made into the family structure. For example they have completely destroyed the authority of parents over their children and disempowered them from exercising moral training on the children. Most fathers I spoke to in North America had resigned to the liberal agenda. For example a parent cannot discipline his child without risking being arrested for child abuse and yet a sexual pervert can induct that minor child into homosexuality or lesbianism with State encouragement. The parent is placed in a situation where he/she cannot train up his/her child in biblical sexuality and yet ungodly people are authorized to introduce through education and seminars the children to sexual perversions. If the parent tries to counter this he is considered to be committing a crime. What most parents do not realize is that the scheme of the devil in this strategy is to weaken parental authority and supplant it with ungodly authority figures whose sole agenda is to induct godly children into the LGBTQ lifestyle. In Canada for example when it comes to this agenda democracy ceases, and this minority lifestyle now dictates what is proper to the majority.

The father in a family is a symbolic representation of God the Father. So if fathers do not take their roles seriously and live according to biblical principles when the children grow up they have a warped vision of God the Father. Similarly mothers are to represent God's loving and nurturing heart to the children. If a mother fails to love her own offspring it embitters them to God and to life.

God created the institution of family to model a sense of belonging. This is a picture of belonging to the Family of God. It allows people to learn how to relate and work together within a context of relationships. The family allows people to grow into their destinies with healthy self-esteem and self-identity.

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The family has been under siege. God is calling fathers and mothers (both spiritual and biological) to bring order to the chaos that the enemy has unleashed against families. He wants to bring healing to marriages and relationships within families in order to maintain a moral foundation for children in the future to stand upon. Satan seeks to control this domain of influence and destroy the sense of family as God intended so as to unleash an avalanche of deviant behaviors.

The family from a natural perspective is a weapon for dominating the world through fruitfulness. Christianity overran the Roman Empire because while the Romans were allowing their babies and the sick to die, Christians nurtured them to health resulting in an increasing Christian population and decreasing Roman population in Rome. Moslems are using the same strategy in Europe. They come into a country in the West with low birth rates and they produce children profusely resulting in a re-adjustment of the demographic makeup of the country. Within a short period of time they are the majority. In the meanwhile in the West people are discouraged from having children through advocating abortion, population control and homosexual activity.

Moslems have noted this family-centric deficiency and are exploiting it. They take care of street kids and raise them in the context of a strong discipling influence of an Imam who now acts as a surrogate father to the unfathered street kids. They are raised in Mosques and given a sense of identity and a cause to fight for. It used to be the mandate of the Church to take care of the poor and vulnerable in the name of Christ. The Church cannot afford to allow the domain of family to be disciplined by either the Moslems or the secular humanists. The Secular humanists have raised an army of angry and bitter women acting for the cause of feminism because the church became insensitive to the cause of women.

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I find it interesting that while men are being emasculated and encouraged to be more feminine by humanism, women are being challenged to be strong and masculine. The result is that we are producing strong masculine women and feeble, weak-kneed feminine men. This role reversal is not accidental. It is deliberate in an effort to destroy the family domain. The biblical worldview teaches that men and women were created equal in dignity and dominion but given differing roles. Christianity was never meant to denigrate the woman but actually to lift her up, unlike Islam which denigrates them. Recently the Nigerian President, General Buhari, a Moslem, was quoted as denigrating his wife when she had made a passing political comment and he caustically responded that the place for his wife was in the kitchen, and bedroom.

Family connection is critical within worldviews. Within the animistic cultures people would do anything to please the family. So family has a strong control on a person. Some Christians though born again are compromised into demonic worship because of family pressure or fear that is threatened by the family. Although I do not agree with a wholesale condemnation of totems, these can also be used to spiritually manipulate a believer. I believe that in and of themselves totems are stronger symbols of identification that do not necessarily imply ancestral worship. It is important however for believers to know that while they definitely need to remain linked identificationally to their natural family to enable them to intercede and bring salvation, their primary family is now the Kingdom covenant family.

By not understanding the dynamic of family I believe that we have lost a key New Testament concept of household salvation. People were not only born again as individuals but as whole households. We should as church begin to believe and work again for family salvation. Scripture plainly declares, *“Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you and your household will be saved.”*

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Many challenges are occurring in this domain. Including the different kinds of sexual perversity like homosexuality, paedophilia, bestiality, abortion. In some Western countries you cannot register gender until the child is 14, when the child chooses which gender they want to be. During that time concerted efforts will be made to condition the children to accept abnormal gender definitions. Some are even recruited into these perversities under the guise of exposing them to who they really are. I am informed that in some nations there is a slot for the different sexual orientations on birth certificates and driver's licences.

For example when I was visiting Canada recently I bumped into an Alberta Government Guideline on Best Practices for Educational establishments in dealing with people of different sexual orientations. It insists that *“an individual's self-identification is the sole measure of their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. All individuals have the right to be addressed by their chosen name and to choose pronouns that align with their gender and/or gender expression. This is true whether or not the individual has obtained legal documentation of a change of name or gender designation (e.g. birth certificate). Further verification, such as medical records, is not required.”* Really? Is it not a scientific fact that gender identity is determined at birth and confirmed medically through anatomy? This document further advocates for use of pronouns like “ze/zir” rather than “he/she” OR “Mx” rather than “Mr, Mrs or Ms.”

Divorce was once frowned upon but now almost acceptable in the church as well. This is all part of a grand strategy to destroy the family domain. The Church needs to return to the concept of marriage as a reflection of the relationship of Christ and the Church.

In America, Islamic strategy will accelerate Islamic demographic growth via:

- Massive immigration (100,000 annually since 1961).

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- Use no birth control whatsoever – every baby of Muslim parents is automatically a Muslim and cannot choose another religion later.
- Muslim men must marry American women and Islamize them (10,000 annually). Then divorce them and remarry every five years – since one can't legally marry four at one time. This is a legal solution in America.

Domain of Finance

Many practitioners in the 7 Mountain Strategy do not recognize Finance as a separate domain from business. My view is that it has to be treated separately. Let us start by defining it.

According to Investopedia, Finance describes the management, creation and study of money, banking, credit, investments, assets and liabilities that make up financial systems, as well as the study of those financial instruments. It can be divided into public, corporate and personal finance. Public finance includes tax systems, government expenditures, budget procedures, stabilization instruments, debt issues and other government concerns. Corporate finance involves managing assets and debt for a business. Personal finance includes proper management of an individual's income and expenses so enough money is left over for savings. Finance is a simple task of providing the necessary funds (money) required by the business of entities like companies, firms, individuals and others on the terms that are most favorable to achieve their economic objectives.

From the definitions above it is clear that finance is not business but actually assists businesses, governments and people to fund their activities effectively and efficiently. So whoever controls the domain of finance can control businesses, churches and governments. In a Kingdom one of the critical departments is that of finance. God also shows the importance of finance and its use by having one of His

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redemptive names linked to financial provision- Jehovah Jireh. It is for this reason that I believe that Finance is a domain in its own right.

This is the richest and most influential of the Seven domains of influence and wields so much power to fund the other domains or to constrain them. Anyone who can shut off the capacity to finance any agenda has effectively killed its progress. The strength of any Kingdom is dependent on its financial muscle.

This domain results in affluence for influence. The Kingdom mandate has created a whole financial system to ensure that resources are created and generated to further the cause of the Kingdom. Satan also works extra hard to control financial systems and markets in order to constrain the Kingdom advance. Have you ever wondered why it seems the greater part of the financial system is controlled by freemasons who in most cases are Jewish?

The Domain of Finance should unleash massive funding for Kingdom purposes in terms of financing the invasion of mountains of influence. End time strategic financiers should arise and pour wealth into Kingdom-minded and Kingdom-motivated leaders who will take their bold positions in places of influence. Dr Peter C. Wagner correctly observed that, *"It will take money to finance the reformation. God wants this money in the hands of Kingdom minded reformers."*

The Islamic worldview is fully conscious of the power of the domain of finance that they have created a whole system of Islamic Finance that they use to promote their agenda. Similarly the LGBTQ agenda is heavily funded. What strikes me as odd is that despite our prosperity preaching there is not much in terms of Biblical Finance structures that are established to finance the Kingdom.

In Zimbabwe from 1994 there was a great inflow of financial resources into the Kingdom as Christian banking entrepreneurs rose to take up places of influence in the

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domain of Finance. However an attack was mounted which I believe to have been spiritual as it aimed to frustrate Kingdom expansion and endowment. The net result is that there was a massive shaking of the structure of financial services which saw the majority of priestly kings losing their banking assets. The impact on the Church in Zimbabwe was both direct and immediate.

Whoever controls the domain of finance is able to manage the creation, distribution and allocation of financial resources. Kingdom purposes often suffer because while we understand business we often are dependent on ungodly people to finance our godly dreams. Yet our God clearly declares that He owns all the gold and silver.

I am involved at a Board level with a powerful initiative to launch Maranatha Christian University which is being spearheaded by a bold priestly king, Dr Samuel Mudavanhu. I remember being told that as a Christian University we could not be funded by philanthropists as long as we clearly stood out as a Christian institution opposed to the LGBTQ agenda. This raises the following questions: Why do we not have Christian institutional funders who would insist on biblical foundations in any organization that they would fund? Why do Christian initiatives have to be beholden to institutional funders who subscribe to a secular humanistic philosophy and demand that these godly endeavors should espouse ungodly values in exchange for funding? One will notice that because of certain worldview dominances, the world of finance is hostile to Christian causes but very generous to anything that is both immoral and ungodly. This has to be corrected as godly priestly kings rise up the Domain of Finance.

To underscore the critical role of finance see how the natural seed of Abraham controls the levers of finance. A few years ago the U.S. Federal Reserve was in the hands of Jewish chairman Alan Greenspan, the World Bank in the hands of Jewish

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chairman James Wolfensohn and his top deputy Josef Stieglitz was Jewish, and the IMF was under Jewish director Stanley Fischer. Since then the following Jews held the following key finance roles: Paul Wolfowitz -President of the World Bank, Dominique Strauss-Kahn MD of IMF, Ben Bernanke took over the U.S. Federal Reserve, Robert Rubin was the US Treasury Secretary and his top deputy Lawrence Summers (who later succeeded him as Treasury Secretary).

And with countless Jewish moguls dictating the financial markets, one can really talk of an international Jewish predominance in the highest positions of finance. This trend continues even right now and I believe the natural seed of Abraham will continue to do so. Would to God that the spiritual seed of Abraham in Christ become aware of their calling and capacity to do the same in order to advance the Kingdom of God? Are we not beneficiaries of the same Abrahamic blessing and covenant?

The quote below clearly shows that these Jewish financial wizards had a purpose in exercising their influence: *"I consider that all Jews in the Diaspora, and thus it is true in France, should everywhere they can lend their support to Israel. This is why it is also important that Jews take political responsibilities. [...] In sum, in my functions and in my everyday life, through the whole of my actions, I try to make sure that my modest stone is brought to the construction of the land of Israel."* - Dominique Strauss-Kahn, Jewish former chief of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), in *Passages*, No 35 - February/March 1991. I believe that the heart of God pulsates with a desire to have priestly kings who would acquire the skill to create wealth for purposes of funding the Kingdom agenda.

It can be argued that modern banking originated with Jews in 19th Century Europe with the rise of the House of Rothschild. The five Rothschild brothers had banks in Frankfurt, London, Paris, Vienna, and Naples, Bleichroder in Berlin, Warburg in Hamburg, Oppenheim in Cologne, and Speyer in Frankfurt. Individual Jews founded banks from London (Hambros) to Bombay (Sassoons) to St. Petersburg (Guenzburg),

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and a number of points in between. The old Court Jew had primarily raised money for local rulers to cover his expenses, his personal diplomacy, and his extravagances. The new bankers floated state loans to finance emerging industries and railroads.

While I could not conclusively confirm this, there are indications and claims that the following European commercial banks were partially founded by Jews as well: the Deutsche Bank and the Dresdner Bank, two of Germany's big three, Banca Commerciale Italiana, Credito Italiano, and Banque de Bruxelles. Similarly in the USA the following Jews also founded credible banks: Arthur, Herbert, and Percy Salomon of Salomon Brothers, Isaac Moses who with Alexander Hamilton, co-founded the Bank of New York in 1784, Goldman Sachs; J.W. Seligman; Kuhn, Loeb; and Lehman Brothers.

So critical is the finance domain that even LGBTQ proponents (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer) have created platforms of funders for their cause and have consistently lobbied for both private and government grants for the promotion of this abnormality. Reports have been published showing that while the USA claims that it will not fund Christian causes it is openly funding LGBTQ candidates and agendas using taxpayer funds^v. And yet I am not aware of any concerted effort by Kingdom minded people to endow the Kingdom cause apart from pledges, tithes and offerings.

From the discussion and the case study on Jews and finance above it is clear that we need priestly kings who will stay in the tabernacle of David until they get strategies to climb up the Domain of Finance to overtake it for the Kingdom. Unless and until we control the levers of finance, it will remain difficult to execute the dominion mandate. Kingdoms are known for the economy and wealth they control.

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I believe that God is raising in these last days a new breed of priestly kings who will ascend the domain of Finance and seat at the table of financial power brokers and exploit this system for financing the Kingdom agenda. I declare prophetically that we are going to see a massive transfer of wealth creating systems to priestly kings who will be substantial kingdom funders.

Based on God's call on our lives we believe that as RaphaCare Trust we are part of that strategic army of end time financiers of the Kingdom. These are people whose main agenda is to structure financial transactions that enable the funding of the Church, the Kingdom and God's nation-discipling agenda. They intentionally rise through the mountain of finance and seat at tables where financial resource allocations at national and global level are determined. The Church cannot and will not remain outside the game. There is serious contention for the control of financial levers. Strategic end time financiers of Kingdom purposes will be catapulted into the domain of finance. It cannot remain the territory of freemasons, Moslems and LGBTQ proponents. We as RaphaCare Trust will play our part as we become a pan African wealth generator and wealth distributor for Kingdom purposes. I see by the eye of the Spirit an army of strategic end time financiers – institutional funders of the Gospel and the Kingdom agenda. The Domain of Finance is being recaptured by the priestly kings and they will use that influence to fund the capture of the other domains.

Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. (Matthew 6:9-10 ESV)

Kingdom advancement requires significant financial resources. Kingdom advancement requires a significant outflow of Kingdom resources. Lord empower the church with financial muscle. Every time the church is financially endowed it exercises influence. Schools, businesses and hospitals run by the Church should be fully

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endowed to be cheap enough for ordinary people to afford. We cannot influence only the elite. Buy the truth and sell it not. Kingdom advancement requires the church to be well endowed to be able to fund the Gospel. When Kingdom people are financially endowed through a wealth transfer they can fund nations and push back the forces of Islam, Chinese idol worship and ungodly agendas from the West.

Whenever the agenda of God had been under a demonic onslaught Africa has always been a place of refuge and the preservation of the Kingdom purpose. Abraham, Israel and Joseph, Jesus Christ all found refuge on Africa's shores in tumultuous times. Africa always rises as a bastion of preservation and defense of the Kingdom agenda. It is time for an Africa that is endowed by Kingdom resources to stand up against secular humanistic agendas. The Church in Africa is anointed but currently ineffective because the anointing of a poor man is despised!

Domain of Business

The domain of business is a powerful platform for influence and wealth creation. The ability to literally create wealth through ingenuity, enterprise, creativity and effort is a God-given gift and universal impulse. Creating businesses that meet genuine needs is part of God's way of discipling nations. Kingdom businesses express the integrity and ethics of God in how business is done. It's a place of serving markets with ethical business models for God's glory.

It provides a platform for excellent business executives to serve as role models. Those who excel in business and acquire wealth gain a platform to speak to society. Wealth gains you an audience. Eccl 9:16 observes, "*Wisdom is better than strength. But the poor man's wisdom is despised and his words are no longer heeded.*" Numerous wealthy people have been provided a platform through Media to speak to the nation and communities. Their business acumen opened the door for them. Because the LGBTQ

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proponents know the power of influence in business, they especially target to recruit and disciple key executives to their cause. Once they are sold out to this cause they position them as champions of the cause and become role models for this ungodly humanistic view.

Notice this media article: *"While I have never denied my sexuality, I haven't publicly acknowledged it either, until now," writes Cook. "So let me be clear: I'm proud to be gay, and I consider being gay among the greatest gifts God has given me." Cook becomes the first openly gay CEO of a Fortune 500 company, according to gays rights group Human Rights Campaign, who applauded the Apple chief's essay.*

"Tim Cook's announcement today will save countless lives," says HRC President Chad Griffin. "He has always been a role model, but today millions across the globe will draw inspiration from a different aspect of his life."^{vi}

Tim Cook used the pulpit of his Apple executive position and his social standing to advance an ungodly agenda. And the secular humanistic media feeds on that to promote the LGBTQ agenda. Are we kidding? Does he really believe that he saves lives by accepting an abnormal and unnatural lifestyle? Really?

Yet often as believers we shy away from publicly proclaiming our faith because the secular humanistic worldview that controls the media will embarrass any Fortune 500 CEO who unashamedly stands out as Christian, while hypocritically applauding unbiblical lifestyles to be role models. The place of Kingdom believers in the domain of business is to realize that the platform affords them an opportunity to be role models and mouthpieces of the Kingdom agenda. Would to God that priestly kings realize that the admonition to not speak about religion publicly because it is too controversial and is viewed as being non-tolerant, is in fact a demonic agenda to silence believers from being envoys of the Kingdom?

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When I was practicing as a dental practitioner I did not shy away from living and speaking about my faith. I would comfortably pray for people who needed help. I remember praying once for a lady who was barren and was in tears as she spoke about her pain. Within a year the barrenness was broken and she gave birth. My surgery was my pulpit. Why are we shy of our faith when all ungodly worldviews speak out boldly? Why are we defensive?

Those who are diligent in business can rise to the occasion where they get audiences with policymakers and can influence them for the Kingdom. Notice how the Bible puts it explicitly: *“Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve (other versions: stand) before kings; he will not serve before obscure men.”* So business provides a platform for priestly kings to stand as counselors and advisors to kings. When the Church fails to do this, the key advisors to civil authorities become ungodly men/women with ungodly agendas. It is important to use the domain of business to gain influence and access to decision makers in order to disciple nations.

Where are the Daniels of today who become prophetic counselors to governments? Where are the Josephs of today who become “fathers” to Pharaohs? Because we have reneged on this mandate we have failed to disciple nations. Joseph and Daniel by discipling the rulers through servant leadership disciplined whole nations. That is the power of the domain of business.

Another powerful function of the domain of business is that of creating wealth and using those resources to finance worldviews. Which worldview and agenda does your business promote? *“Remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth and so confirms His covenant, which He swore to your forefathers as it is today.”* (Deuteronomy 8.18). Priestly kings in the business domain gather and generate wealth which they should by God’s grace deploy for Kingdom advancement.

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It is amazing how institutions that are pro-humanism have numerous Charitable Trusts and donors who raise funds from businesses that are pro-*“their agenda”* to finance their cause. I dream of a day when we will see a proliferation of kingdom businesses whose primary social responsibility is taking care of the poor and vulnerable in the name of Christ and simultaneously advancing the cause of the Kingdom.

Despite the power of this domain, it is prone to corruption, idolatry, greed and covetousness. In response, the Church must embrace its responsibility to train up those who are called into the marketplace to manage businesses and provide leadership with integrity and honesty. Priestly kings understand that the scepter of God’s Kingdom is a scepter of righteousness and justice and so they deal with justice. I heard one preacher talk about a place for good bribes in Kingdom ministries but not in church ministry. There is no justifiable bribe in the Bible for priestly kings. 2 Chron 19:7 (MEV) declares, *“Fear the Lord and judge with integrity, for the Lord our God does not tolerate perverted justice, partiality or the taking of bribes.”* The Bible clearly teaches that kings (which we are) should not accept or give bribes to pervert justice. Even Paul stayed in prison because he would not bribe the Roman governor Felix (See Acts 24:24-27).

Our Family Trust acquired and ran a manufacturing factory which primarily serviced large mines. On numerous occasions we were told point blankly that we would not acquire new contracts because we would not bribe. We told our staff that we were willing to lose the business rather than acquire contracts through bribery and corruption. Our stand cost us the business and we ultimately had to fold it. This was painful but it is the price of doing business God’s way. If I accept a bribe or pay one, I am declaring that I do not trust God to provide righteously so I make the corrupt system my source of supply and my provider. One of the reasons God is raising priestly kings in the Business Domain is to model integrity in business.

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We believe it is the Lord's will to make his people prosperous and that He desires for His Church to use its wealth to finance the work of Kingdom expansion. Simply put: this is prosperity with a purpose. But this should be done righteously in honour of our King.

Business should be viewed as a place to worship God through the area of our calling. May we worship the King of Kings through our gifts, talents and resources to build His Kingdom. It has been argued correctly that the Hebrew word *"avodah"* means both work and worship. Our vocation is a calling to use our business enterprise as worship to God. *"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ."* (Col 3:23-25, ESV).

Priestly kings bring godly influence, the example of Christlikeness and godly stewardship of resources to the Domain of Business

Many priestly kings are already in the domain of Business but are clueless as to its potency and to their Kingdom assignment in it. They have been duped into thinking that the business realm is only about making profit. I should live with the consciousness that my business or job is God's excuse to invade the domain of Business in order to disciple the community and the culture. The respect and honour that the community bestows upon me as a business executive is to be used for God's glory and for Kingdom expansion. I am on the mountain for a Kingdom agenda. I am an ambassador representing my King's interests on earth.

One of the things that I learnt recently is that as a priestly king I am responsible to pray and bless my clients and the people I deal with. Think about it: If I want my clients to be able to pay for my services and products, should I not be praying for their success so that they have disposable income to afford them? We are called to be

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a blessing. The people that you trade and deal with should be blessed because of you. That is the testimony of Scripture. Daniel was a blessing to the kings he served. Joseph was a blessing to all the people he came in contact with.

Sometimes Stealth is Better

There are two kinds of approaches to ministry in the domain of business or any other domain for that matter. One can be overt, namely being outward, aggressive and openly and unashamedly Christian. Or one can be covert (i.e. is subtler and hidden) especially when infiltrating enemy territory. Many priestly kings overexpose themselves and their agenda prematurely and therefore are neutralized before they can influence. Covert ministry is not hidden because of cowardice but through prudence. It works within worldly systems to bring about Kingdom change by re-establishing proper norms of thought, belief and relational boundaries. One can lie low and blend in while having a Kingdom agenda which one then boldly pursues once entrenched in the domain of influence. Wisdom is critical.

Although it is prudent not to prematurely declare your identity and to act as a secret agent in order to infiltrate the domain of Influence, once you are entrenched, it is important to transform to a bold ambassador and not be ashamed of your Kingdom assignment. Premature self-disclosure has led many to be sidelined and benched before they could exercise their God ordained influence. Remember that even Esther did not disclose that she was Jewish until her role required her to step into the gap and make a difference. Please note that this should not be used as a cover up for being timid of your faith and ashamed of your Lord.

My gift and anointing is specifically designed for my Kingdom assignment in a specific domain of influence. When I am generous with my God-given resources and gifting for the Kingdom's benefit, then God will be generous towards me in deploying

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His heavenly resources for my benefit. The question you should ask yourself is this if you are in business, *“Is my business an earthly outpost of a heavenly initiative?”*

Conclusion

We have discovered the power of the domains of business, family, and finance in this chapter. We have noted how opposing worldviews are aggressively taking positions where the Church is retreating. The call of this chapter is for priestly kings who will stand in the gap and make a difference by pursuing these domains to disciple culture. In the next chapter we examine the remaining three domains.

Prayer

Lord open my eyes to the domain of influence that you are calling me to. Show me my mountain of influence. Help me to discern the wiles of the enemy in the various domains so that I do not give Satan any room.

Chapter Nine: Domains of Influence II

It is important to appreciate the different domains of influence because this helps us understand the potency of the domains and also may open our eyes to the domain that we are being called to. I hope that this discussion will also help the kingly priests and priestly kings to appreciate some of the key aspects that characterise each domain. In this chapter we discuss the remaining three Domains of Influence namely Celebration, Education and Law, in order to position ourselves as priestly kings to disciple nations.

Domain of Celebration and Communication

This domain that controls the means and medium of communication, is the most vocal and visible of the Seven Domains. It is very influential in shaping the culture of a nation.

In this domain we find some of the most influential forces shaping our society. Music, filmmaking, television, social media, and the performing arts drive the cultural tastes, values and standards of a nation's citizens, particularly its youth.

With a heavy reliance on the strong appeal of sex, drugs and alcohol, the arts and entertainment industries wield significant influence.

Media refers to the news sources and outlets that create and report the news. They can take a non-story and make it a big story or a big story and make it a non-story. Because most secular media is under the control of people sympathetic to unbiblical worldviews and openly hostile to biblical purposes it ignores anything

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Christian that is big and focus on minor mistakes of Christians and magnify them so that Christians look weak and foolish. In the Information Age where media is king, we are constantly being bombarded with communications promoting godless worldviews.

The natural seed of Abraham has disproportionate influence on the media; the press, internet, TV/Satellite channels, radio stations, publishing houses, and also in the film industry. Their dominance over Hollywood is used to disciple nations and re-format culture. Kevin McDonald observes *“By all accounts, ethnic Jews have a powerful influence in the American media far larger than any other identifiable group. The extent of Jewish ownership and influence on the popular media in the United States is remarkable given the relatively small proportion of the population that is Jewish.”*

One of the largest media companies AOL-Time Warner led by CEO Gerald M. Levin^{vii} has holdings in:

- Television (e.g., Home Box Office, CNN, Turner Broadcasting),
- Music (Warner Music),
- Movies (Warner Brothers Studio, Castle Rock Entertainment, and New Line Cinema), and
- Publishing (Time, Sports Illustrated, People, Fortune).

The second largest media company is the Walt Disney Company, once headed by Michael Eisner (a Jew) with holdings in:

- Movies (Walt Disney Motion Pictures Group, under Walt Disney Studios, includes Walt Disney Pictures, Touchstone Pictures, Hollywood Pictures, Caravan Pictures, Miramax Films);

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- Television (Capital Cities/ABC [owner of the ABC television network], Walt Disney Television, Touchstone Television, Buena Vista Television, ESPN, Lifetime, A&E Television networks) and cable networks with more than 100 million subscribers;
- Radio (ABC Radio Network with over 3,400 affiliates and ownership of 26 stations in major cities); and
- Publishing (seven daily newspapers, Fairchild Publications [Women's Wear Daily], and the Diversified Publishing Group).

The third largest media company is Viacom, Inc., headed by Sumner Redstone, and has holdings in:

- Movies (Paramount Pictures);
- Broadcasting (the CBS TV network; MTV, VH-1, Nickelodeon, Showtime, the National Network, Black Entertainment Television, 13 television stations; programming for the three television networks);
- Publishing (Simon & Schuster, Scribner, The Free Press, and Pocket Books),
- Video rentals (Blockbuster);
- Satellite broadcasting,
- Theme parks, and
- Video games.

Another major media player is Vivendi Universal, whose major shareholder is the Bronfman Family, and controls the:

- Universal Studios, a major movie production company, and
- Universal Music Group, the world's largest music company (including Polygram, Interscope Records, Island/Def Jam, Motown, Geffen/DGC Records).

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Other major television companies owned by Jews include:

- New World Entertainment (owned by Ronald Perelman who also owns Revlon cosmetics), and
- DreamWorks SKG (owned by film director Steven Spielberg, former Disney Pictures chairman Jeffrey Katzenberg, and recording industry mogul David Geffen). DreamWorks SKG produces movies, animated films, television programs, and recorded music.

In the world of print media, the Newhouse media empire owns:

- 26 daily newspapers, including the Cleveland Plain Dealer, the Newark Star-Ledger, and the New Orleans Times-Picayune;
- Newhouse Broadcasting, consisting of 12 television broadcasting stations and 87 cable-TV systems, including some of the country's largest cable networks;
- The Sunday supplement Parade, with a circulation of more than 22 million copies per week; some two dozen major magazines, including the New Yorker, Vogue, Mademoiselle, Glamour, Vanity Fair, Bride's, Gentlemen's Quarterly, Self, House & Garden, and
- All the other magazines of the wholly owned Conde Nast group.

Mortimer B. Zuckerman owns and publishes:

- The newsmagazine, U.S. News & World Report, with a weekly circulation of 2.3 million, and
- New York's tabloid newspaper, the Daily News, the sixth-largest paper in the US.

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Peter R. Kann is the Chairman and CEO of the Dow Jones & Company Inc which owns:

- The Wall Street Journal - the largest-circulation daily newspaper in the U.S
- publishes 24 other daily newspapers and
- the weekly financial paper Barron's.

The Sulzberger family owns the:

- New York Times Co., which owns 33 other newspapers, including the Boston Globe.
- 12 magazines (including McCall's and Family Circle, each with a circulation of more than 5 million),
- Seven radio and TV broadcasting stations;
- a cable-TV system; and
- Three book publishing companies.

The Google co-founders, Sergey Brin and Larry Page (on his maternal side) are both Jewish. Consequently Google has numerous Jewish executives. Sun Microsystems co-founder Andy Bechtolsheim (a Jew), having been impressed by the demo view of Google wrote the first cheque as seed money amounting to \$100,000 to Google, Inc. Some of Facebook's founding members namely Mark Zuckerberg (Founder and CEO), Dustin Moskovitz (VP Engineering) and Eduardo Saverin (co-founder and CFO) are distinctly Jewish. Larry Summers who was President of Harvard University during Mark Zuckerberg's time was accused of having protected Mark from his initial twin non-Jewish partners who accused him of stealing their idea. The first funding for Facebook amounting to about \$500 000 seems to have come from the German-born Jewish technology entrepreneurial venture capitalist

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(President of Clarium Capital Management) Peter Thiel^{viii}, one of the founders of PayPal.

In the spring of 2014 Facebook bought the influential internet messaging service WhatsApp, a messaging platform for smartphone users, one of its founders and present CEO being the Ukrainian Jew Jan Koum. There have also been claims that the founders of MySpace, Larry Ellison CEO and co-founder of Oracle and Jeff Bezos of Amazon are all Jews.

Islamic Strategy for Media

Just like the natural seed of Abraham, the Moslems also have a carefully laid out strategy to control media coverage. That is why one finds that any coverage on Islamic radicals is always couched with qualifiers about Islam being generally peaceful apart from a few radicals. In late 2016 while in Dubai my wife and I visited the Grand Jumeirah Mosque for a commercial tour. It is the only Mosque that is open to non-Moslems in Dubai and runs a programme called “Open Doors, Open Minds.” The presentations were led by a British lady who converted to Islam. She spent most of the time trying to portray Islam as peaceful and misunderstood.

The Islamic 20 year US plan through media seeks to :

- wage a war of words using black leaders like Louis Farrakhan and other visible religious personalities who promote Islam as the religion of African-Americans while insisting Christianity is for whites only. What they fail to tell African-Americans is that it was Arab Muslims who captured and sold them as slaves.
- To engage the American public in dialogues, discussions, debates in colleges, universities, public libraries, radio, TV, churches and mosques on the virtues of

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Islam. Proclaim how it is historically another religion like Judaism and Christianity with the same monotheistic faith.

- Take control of as much of Hollywood, the press, TV, radio and the Internet as possible by buying related corporations or a controlling stock.
- Yell "*foul, out-of-context, personal interpretation, hate crime, Zionist, un-American, inaccurate interpretation of the Quran*" anytime Islam is criticized or the Quran is analyzed in the public arena. Let the entire world know through propaganda, speeches, seminars, local and national media that terrorists have hijacked Islam, when in truth, Islam hijacked the terrorists.
- Nullify America's sense of security by manipulating the intelligence community with misinformation.
- Periodically terrorize Americans with reports of impending attacks on bridges, tunnels, water supplies, airports, apartment buildings and malls.
- Unify the numerous Muslim lobbies in Washington, mosques, Islamic student centers, educational organizations, magazines and papers by Internet and an annual convention to coordinate plans, propagate the faith and engender news in the media and
- Send intimidating messages and messengers to outspoken individuals who are critical of Islam and seek to eliminate them by hook or crook.

There seems to be a clear strategy to reshape, through the mass media, the global modern values from being conservative and pro-family based on Christian values. J. J. Goldberg notes "*During Hollywood's pre-second World War Golden Age it was commonly argued that Jews were insensitive and hostile to Christian values and were shaping an American culture that offended the American Christian majority.*" Hollywood under the control of these natural seed of Abraham began to commercialise vice, commodify sexuality and market immorality.

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Luke Ford points to a strong Jewish influence across American culture that helped swing open the doors to increased sexual permissiveness, an overhaul of traditional moralities, and, ultimately, increased popular tolerance of pornography, observing that *"(t)hose who pushed America to a more liberal view of sex were mainly male non-Jewish Jews (Jews alienated from Judaism and Jewish life as well as the Christian culture embraced by a majority of Americans)."*

The control of the opinion-molding media is nearly monolithic. All of the controlled media -- television, radio, newspapers, magazines, books, motion pictures - - speak with a single voice, each reinforcing the other. Despite the appearance of variety, there is no real dissent, no alternative source of facts or ideas accessible to the great mass of people that might allow them to form opinions at odds with those of the media masters. They are presented with a single view of the world -- a world in which every voice proclaims the inerrant nature of the liberal secular humanistic and ungodly agenda. It is a view of the world designed by the media masters to suit their own ends -- and the pressure to conform to that view is overwhelming. People adapt their opinions to it, vote in accord with it, and shape their lives to fit it.

The media has the potential to sway popular opinion on current issues based upon its reporting, which is not always truthful or accurate. In the 2016 USA elections, the liberal "elite" media played a vital role, especially in the Presidential race. They were generally very supportive of Hillary Clinton to the extent of hiding her flaws and viciously attacking her opponent. The main battle here is again for worldviews that the candidates espoused. The attacks against President Trump even now are based on this worldview difference.

There has been a rise in Christian news services, which is needed. However, to bring transformation to the domain of media, Christians who are gifted for and called

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into this type of work must be willing to report righteously and truthfully in the secular marketplace.

The body of Christ needs powerful, righteous men and women who are not afraid to take their God-given talent into the arts and entertainment arenas. People ready to further His purposes, while impacting those who are lost in darkness and would not otherwise be interested in any kind of Christian message in traditional forms.

Celebration and Communication should reflect the glory and majesty of our Creator. In reality these are expressions of worship and therefore should be used for God's Greater Glory. May we be instruments to celebrate His creativity in the arts, music, sports, fashion, entertainment, and every other way we celebrate and enjoy life.

When we disengage media or confine ourselves to the Christian media subculture, we forfeit the opportunity to influence society. Christian media is good but fails to penetrate society with the sword of truth. Consequently the Church has no power in media's true place of influence.

"All of us who professionally use the mass media are the shapers of society. We can vulgarize that society. We can brutalize it. Or we can help lift it onto a higher level." William Bernbach

Impact of Media

The power of media to control people's views should not be underestimated. Many tabloids, like H-Metro in Zimbabwe, that publish gossip are used as tools to desensitize and condition people to accept the unacceptable. The more they publish bizarre happenings as entertainment the more people move from shock to acceptance of these social aberrations.

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The challenge we have as the Church is that we are reactive. We complain about how others are controlling the media and using it to advance the kingdom of darkness instead of realising that we are kings who are mandated to expand the Kingdom's territory by strategically pursuing this domain. We should take the initiative to capture this domain and exercise power to positively influence people.

The Celebration and Communication domain is addictive because it presents an intoxicating environment, with intoxicated personalities. It is therefore critical for priestly kings and kingly priests assigned to this domain to realize that they will be people of influence and will be viewed as celebrities. They should allow their celebrity status to be used as a platform to use their popularity to extend the Kingdom and speak for Kingdom values and purposes. They should remain accountable to God and the church to avoid being addicted and swallowed up in a secular worldview. Priestly kings in this domain should model godly moral values and demonstrate them humbly.

Communication domain has been used to desensitise people's conscience and prepare society to accept wrong things. For example witness the way that scripts in Hollywood were slowly changed to promote homosexuality and other moral vices based on the secular humanist worldview that there are no absolute moral standards. This was further enhanced by educational domain promoting this worldview and advocating in conjunction with the liberal media the LGBTQ agenda. The desensitisation has been so effective that some Christians find themselves defending these positions without realizing that they have been disciplined according to the wrong worldview not to the biblical worldview. These domains of influence that have been captured so thoroughly led to the domain of Law in many countries legislating in line with this worldview. In most western countries to state the biblical position against the LGBTQ agenda is now considered as intolerance akin to hate speech. And yet

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these people can bash Christians anytime with no media or social backlash. And yet in principle more than 70% of the Western population still professes to be Christian.

Celebration and Communication Domain can be seductive in that it encourages people to make decisions without moral consideration. It is therefore critical in this season for Kingdom expansion that God-called and God-appointed kings begin to take positions of influence within mainstream Celebration and Communication domain so as to reassert the consequences of moral choices.

Godly Example

A great example of priestly kings invading this domain are the Kendall brothers who have produced powerful movies like *Fireproof*, *Courageous* and *Prayer Room*. In 2016 Stephen Kendrick visited our nation and church and amazed us with powerful behind the scenes stories of what God is doing through these bold Kingdom people. The testimonies clearly demonstrate the concept of priestly kings who go to the Tabernacle of David to be intimate with God and then come out with war strategies for expanding the Kingdom and conquering territory. Their movies are biblically sound, morally ethical and values-laden and yet engaging enough to appeal to both believers and non-believers. They are not created for the Christian market only but as wholesome family entertainment. Their story is so powerful that it bears re-telling here^{ix}.

The Kendrick brothers grew up in Atlanta as sons of an ordained minister and schoolteacher. Shannon, Alex, and Stephen developed a passion for creative arts. As preteens, they began shooting movies on Super 8 mm film. Their parents encouraged a love for both film-making and the Word of God.

After graduation from University all three attended seminary, and were ordained as ministers. They served on staff at a church in Marietta Georgia before

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Alex and Stephen joined Sherwood. Together they continued to create videos to support ministry needs.

In 2002, senior pastor, Michael Catt, approved Alex's idea to make a low-budget, full-length movie as an outreach to the community on condition that he continues to fulfill his normal responsibilities and that the money be "prayed in."

This was the genesis of *Flywheel* – the story of a dishonest, used-car salesman who comes to grips with his need for repentance and places his faith in God. Despite numerous challenges *Flywheel's* first full rendering was finished only hours before its premiere at Albany's Carmike Cinema. Incredibly with minimal advertising *Flywheel* unexpectedly sold out multiple show times and was the week's second highest-grossing movie of the cinema's sixteen screens. The response thrilled both the Kendricks and the church. Though the theater had only planned to screen *Flywheel* for one weekend, the movie was extended for six weeks. A decision was made to offer it on DVD as well. Consequently the movie later aired on five television networks and garnered seven film festival awards including the *Gold Crown Award for Best Screenplay* from ICVM.

With this success and after months of prayer, they wrote the script for *Facing the Giants* – a high school football story about facing fear with faith. They prayed for \$100,000 and a high-definition camera to improve production quality. The resources were miraculously provided.

On completion with no theatrical release in sight they petitioned God for a way forward. Through a string of God-incidences they ended up with Sony signing up for distribution of the movie nationwide in 441 theaters on September 29, 2006.

Unexpected publicity occurred when *The Drudge Report* posted that *Facing the Giants* had received a PG rating for "explicit Christian content". To Hollywood's

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surprise, it exceeded box-office expectations, earning \$10.1 million in theaters and selling over 2.5 million units on DVD. Once again, the Kendrick brothers and Sherwood were thrilled and pointed to God as the clear source of any success. The DVD was released in 57 countries and Sony added *Flywheel* to its video catalog where it would later approach a million units sold. There were incredible responses as people turned to Christ because of this movie. Thomas Nelson Publishers requested permission to publish the two as novels.

Following a season of prayer, Alex and Stephen were inspired with a marriage-themed storyline called *Fireproof*. Partnering with Provident Films and armed with a half a million dollar budget, the cameras rolled. On completion of the movie they developed a 40-day challenge called *The Love Dare*. On September 26, 2008, Provident Films released *Fireproof* in 905 theaters while Thomas Nelson Publishers published the *Fireproof* novel and B&H Publishers simultaneously released *The Love Dare*. *Fireproof* became the top-rated movie on Yahoo, generated \$33.4 million at the box office, and became the 2008 #1 independent film. Both the *Love Dare* and *Fireproof* novel landed on the New York Times Bestsellers List. The *Love Dare* was #1 for 14 weeks and remained a New York Times Bestseller for four years. The *Fireproof* DVD would sell over 3.5 million units in 75 countries.

Sherwood Church was flooded with testimonies of marriages been saved and families being restored. Proceeds from the movies were used to build an 82-acre sports park and fund mission work and new church plants.

After some months of research, Alex and Stephen wrote the script for *Courageous* – the story of four police officers and the struggles they face at work and at home. This \$1 million production was released by TriStar Pictures in 1,214 theaters on September 30, 2011. With a message that challenges men to lovingly lead their families, *Courageous* opened to the highest per-screen average of the top 40 movies and received an A+

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CinemaScore rating. Generating \$34.5 million at the box office, TriStar expanded the theatrical release to 20 countries where viewers drove up to four hours to see the faith-based drama. In January 2012, the *Courageous* DVD was released and became the top selling DVD in the USA. On the back of this success three related books were published:

- Novel *Courageous* authored by Randy Alcorn
- The *Resolution for Men* by Alex and Stephen Kendricks and
- The *Resolution for Women* by Priscilla Shirer.

Miraculously, all 3 books appeared on the New York Times Bestsellers List and thousands of men participated in study groups and resolution ceremonies around the world.

Their next production *War Room* on prayer was another sensational production. The Kendrick brothers plan to continue investing in the next generation and producing films and books intended to change lives and honor God.

In Summary

David Kupelian, the author of *The Marketing of Evil* captured the negative impact of this domain this way, “*We’ve been lied to so thoroughly and consistently that we no longer perceive the meaning of what we see nor understand what we hear.*” Michael Maiden^x observes, “*The media has the power to threaten or even destroy people. Because of the media bias against all things Christian, believers need to be ready to stand up to the media’s abuse of its power and be willing to risk their reputations to do what is right and righteous. The Church must be uncompromisingly righteous plus outrageously fearless---*” in confronting this domain.

Media wields the enormous power of words either for good or for evil. It all depends on who controls it. “*Whoever controls the media controls the culture*” declared

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Francis Schaeffer. It is therefore crucial that the Church as the custodian of Kingdom mission and values should regain control over this domain. Lest we forget that there was a day in the past where the Church was the gatekeeper of this and other domains of influence. It is unfortunate that we were lulled to sleep and abandoned our post because of a split-mentality that invaded our theology.

Celebrities

Because we live in a sight and sound generation this sub-domain appeals to the base sensual nature of people and the devil uses it as a propaganda tool to condition society to immorality and unhealthy lifestyles. This is the reason that many celebrities have been recruited into drugs, Satanism, eastern religions, homosexuality and other sexual deviations. The enemy uses them as role models to entice the younger generation into these unbiblical lifestyles. My pastor often defines modern entertainment as “detained for entry” of demonic influences. Similarly music is often used to condition people for things they would ordinarily not accept.

A sub domain of the Celebrations and Communication domain is that of sport and art. Celebrities in these fields are role models. That is why culture shapers want to influence these balladeers. A great Christian model is the athlete Tim Tebow. He started with football and faced many challenges for openly attributing to God his success. After successive times when he was released by big football teams he finally settled for Minor League baseball. He is the son of a missionary and is passionate about his faith in Christ. He was often booed both by fans and the media when he expressed his faith publicly. They consider it imposing his faith and his worldview upon others. But this has not dampened his faith or stand. However when a celebrity gets a transgender operation to change from male to female or vice versa and speaks about it, the world applauds. This is viewed by a conditioned and complicit media as being courageous and yet when a believer stands up for her faith she is maligned.

Music

One advantage that has made Jews influential in music is the fact that their involvement is not always fully visible. Most times they are in the background and minimal traces of their involvement can be tracked: *"The Jewish presence in hip-hop is huge, and, for the most part, offstage"*.

Indeed, some of the biggest names in the music business are Jewish-- Lyor Cohen of Def Jam, Steve Rifkind of Loud Records, David Mays of The Source, to say nothing of those who course throughout the industry as label executives, entertainment lawyers, agents, publicists, producers, clothiers, and jewelers.

Paul Rosenberg is a giant in the industry being Eminem's manager, president of Goliath Records, and vice president of Shady Records, to which both Eminem and 50 Cent are signed. Larry Schwartz is the CEO of Lugs, a company that has cooled off since its heyday in the 90s, but was then near-ubiquitous in the hip-hop world, having been endorsed by such rap icons as Funkmaster Flex, Rakim, Snoop and EPMD.

Their influence in music is not limited to labels, production and publishing, but it also spreads across other aspects of the music industry such as fashion. Larry Zimmer, the president of a clothing line called Johnny Blaze, is an example of Jews who have been influential in the hip-hop culture by helping shape its fashion. The following quote demonstrates this point: *"Like other Jews who produce hip-hop fashion at companies like FUBU, Phat Farm, Lugs, Zimmer and his ilk are basically schmatta salesmen who now deal in baggy jeans and retro-sports jerseys"*. The garment industry has always been a go-to for many Jews, and is nothing out of the ordinary: *"I think if you go back to our European origins, we all had to have a trade and Jews had a flair for clothes"* (Zimmer).

Levin, the director of Slam, Whiteboyz and Brooklyn Babylon, is a middle-aged, middle-class Jewish guy who has made some of the most honest and searching

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films about hip-hop. *“Gangster culture is about being an outsider. You have a white Protestant culture, and you have the immigrants. The entertainment world was seen as somehow below what respectable people would do, so it opened up to the outsiders. Being gangsters was outside. Gangster capitalism was how many Jewish businesses started, Italian businesses started, black businesses started. These guys ran the whorehouses and the dives, the jazz clubs, and the speakeasies. There has always been an intersection between the creative and entertaining, and the muscle, the mob and crime, because they were both outside what was considered legitimate. Jews were --- a big part (of it).”* This gangster aesthetic is all over rap music-- a whole subsection of the music is called ‘gangsta,’ of course, and artists name themselves after Capone, Gotti, Murder Inc. and Meyer Lansky. This system celebrates the triumph of the outlaw-- a world where determination, ruthlessness, and boundless energy have a fighting chance against the barriers put up to keep outsiders out.”

After many generations since migration, Jews have a foot-in-the-door in many industries and has caused them to be influential while working behind-the-scenes. *“The drive to succeed in spite of the mainstream's barriers is no longer as relevant to Jews now that, generations into our American experience, we enjoy unfettered access to virtually all the hallways of power”*. It could be said that the Jews are influencers in the hip-hop culture because they saw the African Americans like them when they first came - outsiders. Supporting the culture may be a way of fighting the *“barriers put up to keep the outsiders out”*. Music has been used to a great extent to condition people to accept the unacceptable.

Have you ever wondered why Hollywood, Madison and the Fashion Industry are dominated by LGBTQ-oriented players? So who is defining our entertainment and our fashion styles? The ungodly. No wonder even dressing and lifestyles in the church are becoming questionable. We have preached at people instead of discipling them through a proper understanding of both domains of influence and worldviews

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controlling those domains. The Church of Jesus Christ needs to urgently re-tool, re-train and march in, aggressively, to invade the gates of hell standing guarding over this domain of Celebration and Communication.

I contend that if the Church is to disciple the nations and extend the kingdom mandate then it has to move away from its current philosophy of giving a wide berth to the domain of Celebration and Communication and actively engage it. If the church will not use this domain to disciple the nations, the devil will use it to disciple the church into an ungodly worldview.

The current fascination with Christian television and radio while laudable for Christian growth has no material impact on discipling nations. We need a strategy for invading secular media and entertainment to reassert Kingdom values and morals.

Domain of Education

In years gone by most of the great schools that shaped Africa were mission schools established by the church. I studied at mission schools myself. They powerfully impacted my life. These schools were known for teaching excellence, affordable tuition and character building. However over the years across Africa the Evangelical and Pentecostal churches gave up the passion for education, leaving education in the hands of ungodly agendas.

This domain controls and shapes the minds of our youth. It has been properly observed that whoever controls the educational philosophy of this generation will control the levers of power in the next. The Church's approach to education has been pitiful. We have avoided public schools and focused on our elitist and expensive Christian schools. These are good for our children as cities of refuge from the contaminated educational system. However we are not doing anything to remove the poison from the system. We are not salting the educational system. I contend that

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invading the domain of education is essential as this shapes the minds and expectations of the younger generation. We need to reassert a Kingdom mindset in this generation. We need priestly kings in positions of control of teacher education curriculum, policy making and in public schools.

At one time the education system of America unapologetically incorporated the Bible, prayer to the God of the Bible, and biblical values in every aspect of school life. Not coincidentally, this system produced a people that produced the most powerful and prosperous nation the earth has ever seen. Now, the children of that nation are inundated with liberal ideologies, atheistic teaching and postmodern principles in public schools and in most universities. Put simply they are being indoctrinated with false, biased and anti-biblical information. The enemy has used education to create strongholds of hopelessness and a fortress of perversity of mind that is influenced by the demonic. A re-introduction of biblical truth and Bible-centric values is the key to renewal and restoration in the failing educational system.

Within Africa Moslems are actively targeting the educational sector through building schools and running them on an Islamic worldview. In some cases they offer to build schools for bankrupt African governments in return for Mosques being built and Islamic studies being introduced into the curriculum. This way they are setting the stage for taking over African nations. And at the same time the Church is hiding itself in its “monasteries” instead of advancing the Kingdom mandate of discipling society and culture.

I recently heard a story of how Moslems are stealthily taking over Christian schools in South Africa. They send some of their children to Christian schools and after they have grown into significant numbers they attend School Annual General Meetings and vote for a Moslem Chair to the School Board. Once they control the school board they slowly replace the Christian Headmaster and teachers with

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Moslems until they have taken full control of the School. They obviously have observed the disinterest in Christians attending school AGMs and are exploiting this. The Church needs to rise and be on the offensive. Similar strategies have been noted from pro-LGBTQ lobby groups.

There is an active process being used to disciple children into ungodly lifestyles through Professors who teach ungodly principles. While Christian professors and educators are hiding their godly convictions, the ungodly are becoming more ungodly and daring. In 1995, Prof Nadine Strosse of New York University Law School, wrote a book entitled *Defending Pornography* in which she poses as defender and champion of free speech. *"My father was a Holocaust survivor. I am a Jew. I know from logic and from observation and from experience that the more powerless you are as a group, gender or ideology, the more you should defend your freedom of speech."* Seriously linking the holocaust and pornography? When did pornography become a lifestyle or human rights issue that needs to be defended?

In 1999, Jewish Professor Hope Weissman, at the Wesleyan University in Connecticut, courted controversy for her class, *"Pornography: Writing of Prostitutes."* In 2001, Princeton professor Peter Singer (*"son of Viennese Jews who escaped to Australia in 1938, shortly after Hitler's invasion"*) made national news, and national ridicule, for a book review titled *Heavy Petting* in an online magazine, *Nerve* in which he openly endorsed bestiality. These are not accidental writings. It's a coordinated attempt to destroy our children by moving them away from their moral moorings so as to trap them in demonic perversions. The church by ignoring how worldviews are spread, fail to realise that these Academics are setting the stage for Balladeers to popularise these abnormalities.

The late liberal scholar, Richard Rorty, is quoted in this chilling statement as saying *"It is also the one which was used by American schoolteachers who had read Dewey and were*

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concerned to get students to think 'scientifically' and 'rationally' about such matters as the origin of the species and sexual behavior [sic] (that is, to get them to read Darwin and Freud without disgust and incredulity). It is a concept which I, like most Americans who teach humanities or social science in colleges and universities, invoke when we try to arrange things so that students who enter as bigoted, homophobic, religious fundamentalists (read "believers") will leave college with views more like our own. ---- The fundamentalist parents of our fundamentalist students think that the entire "American liberal establishment" is engaged in a conspiracy. ----. These parents have a point. Their point is that we liberal teachers no more feel in a symmetrical communication situation when we talk with bigots than do kindergarten teachers talking with their students....When we American college teachers encounter religious fundamentalists, we do not consider the possibility of reformulating our own practices of justification so as to give more weight to the authority of the Christian scriptures. Instead, we do our best to convince these students of the benefits of secularization. We assign first-person accounts of growing up homosexual to our homophobic students for the same reasons that German schoolteachers in the postwar period assigned The Diary of Anne Frank. --- So we are going to go right on trying to discredit you in the eyes of your children, trying to strip your fundamentalist religious community of dignity, trying to make your views seem silly rather than discussable. We are not so inclusivist as to tolerate intolerance such as yours."

I don't know about you dear priestly king in the education domain. For me this unashamed admission by a liberal educator is both scary and attested to by the shared experience of many believing parents who lost their believing children to this hideous and unapologetic anti-Truth agenda. Is there not a cause for a David to rise and challenge this Goliath?

The Islamic 20 year Agenda on Education in the US plan strategies aim to:

- Get Moslem membership in local school boards.

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- Train Muslims as medical doctors to dominate the medical field, research and pharmaceutical companies. (Ever notice how numerous Muslim doctors in America are, when their countries need them more desperately than America?)
- Make sure reading, writing, arithmetic and research through the American educational system, mosques and student centers (now 1,500) should be sprinkled with dislike of Jews, evangelical Christians and democracy. There are currently 300 exclusively Muslim schools in the U.S. which teach loyalty to the Quran, not the U.S. Constitution. In January of 2002, Saudi Arabia's Embassy in Washington mailed 4,500 packets of the Quran and videos promoting Islam to America's high schools – free of charge. Saudi Arabia would not allow the U.S. to reciprocate.
- Provide sizeable monetary Muslim grants to colleges and universities in America to establish "Centers for Islamic studies" with Muslim directors to promote Islam in higher-education institutions
- Raise interest in Islam on America's campuses by insisting freshman take at least one course on Islam.

In Belvedere, Harare, Moslems are paying fees for non-Moslem primary school children in return for the children attending Islamic lessons on Wednesdays at the local Mosque. This way the children are disciplined into Islam. The parents are not required to attend the classes, so it appears harmless. But the attendance of the children is a prerequisite for funding to continue. They are exploiting the parents' lack of financial resources to islamize the children.

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Now let me juxtapose this strategic mindset of both the Moslems and Secular liberals to the lack of strategic foresight often exhibited by the Church by relating a recent Zimbabwean experience.

Bible Studies Curriculum Experience

Some kingly priests in Zimbabwe became aware of an attempt to change the Religious and Moral Education (RME) Curriculum in Zimbabwe. They hatched a project to stop this as the aim of the review was to dilute the biblical foundation of this course. The project started in 2012 by engaging the Curriculum Development Unit of the Ministry and were mandated to draft the textbook to be used for the curriculum. A textbook on Christian values and worldviews would help students maintain their Christian roots and help them to know the Lord more.

The panel was composed of a small group of believers from different churches who would contribute to the content of the book. They got sponsorship from a Christian Foundation. The main point was to upgrade the textbook to a position where it would become the recommended RME textbook enabling every child to read it. The argument was that if it was a textbook it would become an academic piece of work that highlighted biblical instruction while comparing it to other religions. This strategy would have fulfilled the requirements of the curriculum and yet benchmark all religious teaching to the Bible since the nation is predominantly Christian.

This project failed because of conflicting interests and aims among the small stakeholder group and also from the funder who seemed to have his own agenda. The net result is that the Church lost an incredible strategic advantage to shape the RME curriculum because of pettiness. This failure created an opening for a pro-Islamic Minister of Education to effect a curriculum that promotes other religions to the detriment of Christianity in Zimbabwean schools. What a strategic blunder?

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Church's Mistake in Education

We have distanced ourselves from education and focused on Christian schools leaving public schools under the control of people with ungodly agendas and hostile worldviews. We need educators who will build affordable Christian schools for the masses. Africa was initially disciplined by missionaries who did exactly that. Their only mistake was a disempowering worldview that split the sacred from the secular. We can correct for this mistake and pursue role-prominence in education.

This sector provides a vast opportunity as African governments are cash-constrained and are failing to build schools. I believe God for a mushrooming of affordable Christian Mission schools across the villages of Africa run by charismatic churches not for profit but for purposes of discipling nations. In these schools we need to re-educate people back to a Biblical worldview. The Church needs to play a prominent role in teacher education and educational philosophy development.

Christian schools do not have to be elitist. It is a documented fact that whoever wants to start a revolution has to control and influence the minds of the young generation through Colleges and University Campuses. I repeat: The ideology that controls education in this generation will control government in the next.

Domain of Law

The Domain of Law is the most powerful of all seven mountains. I agree with Dr Francis Myles who argues that Government is not a Mountain (domain) but that it is an Institution under the Mountain of **LAW**. That is why governments should submit to the rule of Law.

The Source of Law in any system is the god of that system. The current source of liberal judicial decisions is the secular humanistic worldview with a pro-LGBTQ

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and pro-abortion bias. The 2016 Presidential elections in USA was really a battle of who controls the US Supreme Court. This is really a battle of which worldview would control the domain of Law in the USA. I understand that a significant number of Supreme Court justices will retire and need to be replaced during this Presidency. So the current president of the USA will through his nominations shape the future of the US Constitutional rulings. The Democrats generally and their 2016 candidate in particular favoured liberal judges and object to any conservative judge because they want liberals with a liberal secular worldview to control the Constitution. On the other hand Republicans and Donald Trump in particular are pressing for Conservative Judges. Witness the way that many Senators are so obsessed with blocking any conservative God fearing Justice from appointment. They promote liberal humanistic judges because these would guard their interests and reframe law and so shape government. The fight is to safeguard the rulings that are pro-LGBTQ and pro-abortion by retaining liberal judges on the bench.

I have observed that the pro-LGBTQ agenda is very strategic in the US in terms of setting legal precedents. They gather top lawyers who are sympathetic to their cause, lobby for installation of judges who align to their worldview and then seek to sponsor precedent setting cases that would advance their cause. They are very intentional in this. They even have Media that will monitor issues relating to them and publish profusely in defense of their cause.

Similarly the pillars of the Islamic 20 year US plan within the Domain of Law include

- Terminate America's freedom of speech by replacing it with statewide and nationwide hate-crime bills.

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- Nominate Muslim sympathizers to political office to bring about favorable legislation toward Islam and support potential sympathizers by block voting.
- Form riots and demonstrations in the prison system demanding Islamic Sharia as the way of life, not America's justice system.

On the contrary the Church generally is reluctant to engage the legal system despite the fact that the foundation of most Western legal systems were biblical. At times the church resorts to making noise through protests but does not strategically conceptualize ways to protect Kingdom interests. Consequently we are losing ground. This has to change. May God raise for us an army of attorneys and judges who are passionate about advancing and protecting the Kingdom agenda through legal processes.

Government

The concept of Government is from God. His organized kingdom is the model for earthly governments. Rom 13:1-6 shows that God has given mankind the organizing philosophy of governments and has released authority to whatever governmental system the nation chooses. I believe that the nature of government is not as important as the righteous manner of those in authority. Although the US is a democracy numerous times it has circumvented democracy when it is politically expedient. For example when the LGBTQ agenda failed to gather support through statewide referendum in the US, they circumvented democracy by going to the Courts for a decision. So the Supreme Court Ruling on same sex marriages was legislated by the Courts because they would not have won it using democratic means. Now the minority holds the majority to ransom.

Within the sub-domain of government the Islamic 20 year US plan envisages the following initiatives:

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- Nominate Muslim sympathizers to political office to bring about favorable legislation toward Islam and support potential sympathizers by block voting.
- Yield to the fear of the imminent shut-off of the lifeblood of America – black gold. America’s economy depends on oil and 41 percent of it comes from the Middle East.
- Encourage Muslims to penetrate the White House, specifically with Islamists who can articulate a marvelous and peaceful picture of Islam. Acquire government positions
- Appeal to the historically compassionate and sensitive Americans for sympathy and tolerance towards Muslims in America who are portrayed as mainly immigrants from oppressed countries.
- Applaud Muslims as loyal citizens of the U.S. by spotlighting their voting record as the highest percentage of all minority and ethnic groups in America.
- Convert angry, alienated black inmates and turn them into militants (so far 2,000 released inmates have joined al-Qaida worldwide). Only a few ”sleeper cells” have been captured in Afghanistan and on American soil.

Prov 29:2 says *“When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice, when the wicked rule people mourn”*. Proverbs 14:34 states that, *“righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.”* Many times, as exemplified in the Old Testament, a nation’s moral standards are dependent on those exhibited by its leaders (or predominant political party). While each individual is responsible for his or her own sins; the fact remains that people are greatly influenced by those moral (or lack thereof) that popular leaders adopt.

The progressive liberal agenda, empowered by well-known men and women in the arts and entertainment industries, have made significant gains in the political arena

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over the past few decades. In fact, many liberal groups seek to remove anything related to God or Christianity from the governmental and educational systems because of a misapplied interpretation of the phrase, “separation of church and state.”

We must see a shift in this arena in order to preserve our Christian heritage. The goal is to put in place righteous political leaders that will positively affect all aspects of government. God gave man government to establish freedoms and boundaries. May we reflect His loving-kindness and righteous judgments in our governments.

Conclusion

In the last three chapters we reviewed the Seven Domains of Influence that we as priestly kings are called to climb and establish God’s Kingdom and impose His will. We have attempted to showcase how Jews, Moslems and the pro-LGBTQ agenda have exploited these mountains of influence. The Church needs to contend and regain territory in these centres of influence.

I pray and hope that while you read through these Chapters on the Seven Mountains you:

- discovered the Mountain (or domain of your calling)
- saw how other worldviews are being strategic in their approach to discipleship of nations
- were shocked by the shortsightedness, lack of intentionality and strategy of priestly kings in this respect and that
- you got so angry that you feel that you have to stand up and do something about discipling nations

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Charles Spurgeon correctly observed that *“God is glorified by our serving Him in our proper vocations. Take care that you do not forsake the path of duty by leaving your occupation, and take care you do not dishonour your profession while in it. Think little of yourselves, but do not think too little of your callings. Every lawful trade may be sanctified by the gospel to noblest ends.”* I can only but shout a hearty, “Amen and so be it!”

Chapter Ten: The Cyrus Anointing

Favour is an asset that a kingly priest cannot afford to ignore. Kings traffic in favour. When you operate under the pleasure of the King you obtain favour and freedom to operate in his kingdom. I would like to address a critical concept that priestly kings and kingly priests should grasp in order to be effective in discipling nations. The Tabernacle of David requires that we engage battle in hostile environments to conquer territories for our God. This sometimes requires having interesting strategic alliances that at face value may look strange. God often gives priestly kings favour with people who should ordinarily be hostile to them. Shall we explore the concept of strategic relationships with key personnel within the mountains of influence that will propel priestly kings forward?

Isaiah 44 :24, 28 declares,

“Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, He who formed you from the womb, I am the Lord who makes all things, who stretches out the heavens all alone, who spreads abroad the earth by Myself---- I am the Lord who says to Cyrus He is my shepherd and he shall perform all my pleasure saying to Jerusalem You shall be built and to the temple your foundation shall be laid”

Isaiah 45:1-4

“Thus says the Lord to His anointed to Cyrus whose right hand I have held, to subdue nations before him, to loose the armor of kings, to open the doors before him so that the gates will not be shut, I will go before you and make the crooked places straight, I will break in pieces the gates of bronze and cut the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I the Lord who call you by name am the God of Israel, For Jacob my

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servant's sake and Israel my elect, I have even called you by name I have named you though you have not known me."

Many of us love Isaiah 45:3 to the extent that we claim it for ourselves, while being oblivious to the fact that in reality this Word is not spoken to a believer, or to a Jew. God clearly states that He is speaking to Cyrus who does not know Him. So what is Cyrus like? Cyrus is an unbelieving Gentile King. And yet God anoints him. He does not even know God, yet God says to him *"I have chosen you to be a shepherd of My people while you are an unbeliever. Even though you don't serve me I have anointed you to shepherd My people and to lead them into building the temple"*. Cyrus is an intriguing character indeed. Let's study him a little.

Isaiah who spoke this prophecy, lived 200 years before Cyrus. Clearly this prophecy was spoken before Cyrus was even born. God knew him and named him before even his parents were born. Isaiah foresaw Cyrus invading Babylon and then sending the Israelites back home. History informs us that God kept his promise. We realize in Ezra 1 that Cyrus actually made that decree for the rebuilding of Jerusalem because the mission that God had for him was:

- a) to subdue the nations and to punish Babylon which had taken the Jews into captivity
- b) to rebuild Jerusalem.

Now at the same time Daniel, the God-fearing Jewish bureaucrat, who served many kings, including Cyrus, was alive. He understood that he was a priestly king so he would seek God and solve problems in the nation. While studying the Bible, he understood from Jeremiah 25 that God had decreed that Israel would go into bondage for seventy years. Daniel also recognized that the 70 years were accomplished. So in exercising his priestly function, he began to pray in the promise of God so that it may be fulfilled. But he was also conscious that as a king he was

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responsible to make happen what God had said. Daniel clearly understood the need to balance prayer (a priestly function) and action (a kingly function). Many times as believers we pray but do not take any action towards what we are believing for. We somehow believe that a miracle is solely up to God and fail to realize that often God wants us to co-labour with Him in bringing His purposes to pass. We forget that we were created and redeemed to be God's co-regents on earth.

As Daniel continued to study and meditate on the Word he happened upon Isaiah 44 and 45. He was amazed that God had spoken about Cyrus whom he was now serving as a top civil servant. Intrigued at the calling and destiny of Cyrus he realized that his serving Cyrus at this point was a divine orchestration. Jewish tradition claims that Daniel took the book of Isaiah to Cyrus and explained the prophecy to him. He explained that the God of heaven had chosen Cyrus and spoken to his assignment 200 years before his birth. Bolstered by this prophetic word, Cyrus attacked and defeated Babylon. Jewish history claims that the very day that Cyrus defeated Babylon and signed the decree for the rebuilding of Jerusalem and the temple, his soldiers unearthed treasures of silver and gold that had been hidden in the river Euphrates by the Babylonians. So God fulfilled His promise to Cyrus "*I will give you the treasures of darkness and the wealth stored in secret places.*" That is the background and context of our Scripture passage.

Just like a diamond that when viewed from different angles produces different shades of beauty, I am going to look at this passage in four different ways.

Take One

We see that God gave Cyrus treasures so that he could fulfill the assignment of rebuilding Jerusalem and the temple. When Cyrus obeyed God he received the treasures of darkness. What that means to me is that the treasures of darkness are

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provision for your assignment. So you cannot claim treasures of darkness when you have no assignment. When people tell me that they are believing God for the treasures of darkness, my first question is: *“What is your assignment?”* My second question is *“For what purpose?”* In case you did not get it: What is the assignment that you are carrying out for which the treasures of darkness are provision? If you have no assignment there are no treasures of darkness for you. When you begin to walk as a priestly king towards the assignment of God then you can claim the treasures of darkness as provision for that Kingdom assignment. When you pursue your kingdom assignment and ascend those mountains of Influence you can expect God to open your eyes to the treasures of darkness. As a priestly king you should therefore be expectant of treasures of darkness as provision for the vision. What comes first is the assignment. Pursue the assignment and then the provision will follow. Often we are hesitant to pursue God-given goals until we see the provision. My experience is that provision always follows the assignment. Take the first steps of obedience and the provision will follow.

Secondly we see that Cyrus was given these riches as reward for his obedience to the divine assignment. He obeyed God who told him to go and release the Israelites. He sowed obedience when no one was noticing. Your obedience to the call to invade the domains of influence is your license to access the treasures of darkness. It's when we are going towards our mountains that we will access the treasures of darkness. So we need to sow ourselves, sow our energy, sow our effort to obey the call of God. The Bible says seek ye first the Kingdom of God and all these things will be added to you. We have to move toward the plan of God which He has ordained for us even though we don't see how it is going to work out. Somebody said, *“Traveller walk on, though the path is not there; for paths are made by walking.”* God is calling us to places we have never gone before. As we trust Him and walk into what He is calling us to, then the treasures of darkness will be opened to us.

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Let me summarize Take One. There is wealth and treasures that are hidden for our benefit but they can only be discovered as we pursue our divine assignment. If we are sensitive to God's whisperings and sow our time, our effort and our talent in times of recession then God will meet us. The treasures of darkness are therefore provision for the vision and reward for obeying the call of God.

Take Two

Now let's change our vantage point and look at it from another angle. God says, *"I have called you Cyrus for the sake of Jacob my child, for the sake of Israel."* Cyrus was a critical cog in God's agenda. How do I know? In Daniel we see that the eschatological history of the world and the agenda of God is marked by the decree to rebuild Jerusalem. See Dan 9:24-27. Cyrus is a critical piece in God's puzzle of eschatological history. When we speak about the end-times it starts with the decree to rebuild Jerusalem. God raised this man Cyrus and anointed him to shepherd His people. God made him a pastor over Israel even though he was not a Jew. Do you know that God does anoint unbelievers? You will find that throughout redemption history He raises people for a specific purpose. God often raises unbelievers to create a platform for His people. In order for Jerusalem to be rebuilt and Israel restored to its place from the bondage of Babylon, God needed a Cyrus to effect His plan.

I put it to you that the riches and the treasures of darkness were not only financial. In actual fact Cyrus himself, was a treasure of darkness to the people of God. He was a king in a realm that does not know God and yet God raised this treasure of darkness to be a blessing to Israel and an agent for the acceleration of God's agenda. God can raise up a Cyrus who is a stepping stone or platform for your elevation. God can raise people of influence who are high up in the mountain who will champion your ascend up the Mountain of Influence. They have been strategically positioned by God. They are powerful insiders who invite you to the table of

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opportunity and the table of influence. God can position a Cyrus who once you connect with, you are elevated into that mountain of influence. If there is no Cyrus who has been positioned by God it will take you longer to climb that mountain. But if you have a powerful insider who has been anointed by God, your ascend up the domain of influence is easier. You are thinking that this pastor has gone crazy. Let me run you through a quick bible study that demonstrates this principle.

Think of Daniel. Daniel could not have survived without Ashpenaz the chief of eunuchs. In Daniel 1:9 it says *“God gave Daniel favour with Ashpenaz”* when he asked the chief of eunuchs to disregard the king’s command concerning their diet. Ashpenaz allowed him not to compromise himself with food dedicated to idols as prescribed by the king. This was daring of Ashpenaz. It could have led to his own death. Because of this favour Ashpenaz guided Daniel and helped him navigate the protocols of the palace in preparing him for his assignment. Next God gives Nebuchadnezzar a puzzling dream so that Daniel could interpret it. All the other wise people and magicians failed to interpret it. This dream was purposely crafted for Daniel’s elevation. Daniel needed a Nebuchadnezzar as a treasure of darkness for his elevation. You remember in the days of Belteshazzar, they saw the writing on the wall and God raised a Cyrus who was the queen mother. She said *“Oh King don’t worry there is a man in your kingdom in whom lives the spirit of the living God.”* Daniel would not have made it to Belteshazzar without the favour of a powerful insider like the queen mother. Do you understand what I am talking about?

Remember Darius, who had a sleepless night because Daniel had been thrown in the lion’s den. Daniel was so valuable that Darius could not sleep in fear of losing him. Would your employer/employees have a sleepless night if he/they were to lose you? What value are you adding? In the domains of influence you are not respected for your anointing. You are respected for the value that you contribute. Daniel

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demonstrated his value such that every kingdom that came into place kept him as a top bureaucrat because he added value. The domains of influence respond to diligence and reward excellence. Proverbs 22:29 says this *“Do you see a man who is diligent and skillful in his work, he will stand before kings, he will not stand before mean people.”* So Daniel had all these Cyruses who accelerated him, who helped him forward.

Think about Joseph. He finds himself in the house of Potiphar after betrayal by his envious brothers. He finds favour with Potiphar. As a result Potiphar is blessed. After rejecting the lustful advances of Mrs Potiphar, he then finds himself in prison for a fault not his own. Potiphar was a necessary Cyrus even if he lands Joseph in prison. Consider this: If Potiphar believed his wife, Joseph would have been dead before day end. I think Potiphar gave Joseph a benefit of the doubt and so sent him to prison rather than having him killed.

While he is in prison he finds favour with the prison officer. Finally God gives a dream each to the baker and the cupbearer. God is positioning Joseph. The dreams are fulfilled as per Joseph’s interpretation. Despite Joseph’s plea to be remembered, the cupbearer forgot him. Until God gave Pharaoh a dream. When Pharaoh had that dream the cupbearer as the powerful insider - a Cyrus- was right by Pharaoh. He was Joseph’s elevator towards his destiny. After Joseph is called before Pharaoh he interprets the dream and walks straight into his destiny. Pharaoh could have said this *“Thank you for interpreting the dream but we now need the chief protocol officer to supervise this.”* But God had prepared Pharaoh as a Cyrus- the powerful insider in the mountain of politics- who extends his hand and invites Joseph to become second in command. Pharaoh was a treasure of darkness to Joseph. He was a Cyrus.

We can talk about Hegai in Esther 2:9. *“Esther pleased him and won his favour and he quickly provided for her and advanced her to the best place.”* God raised this Hegai and positioned him at the right place. He has the ear of the king. This guy favors Esther

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and gives her an unfair advantage over others. So Hegai was to Esther a treasure of darkness- a Cyrus, if you will.

Think about Mordecai. For Mordecai to accomplish the purpose of God, the King had to have a sleepless night and then he had to read the book of records. While he was reading that book God prepared him to save Mordecai from Haman. The King became a treasure of darkness to Mordecai- a Cyrus. Without the King's favor and sleepless night, Mordecai was dead.

I can speak about the king of Gath how he was a Cyrus to David. Time would fail us if we continue pursuing this. Let me take a New Testament case to establish the patterns that demonstrates this principle of a Cyrus for priestly kings.

Think about Paul. God commissions him to be a light to the Gentiles to stand before kings. Interestingly Paul tried so hard to preach to the Jews. Every time he did this he was either arrested, stoned or almost killed. It is only when he turned back to the Gentiles that nobody stoned him, nobody tried to kill him because now he was back in his assignment. While he was in Ephesus there was an uprising and people came against him and wanted to stone him. See Acts 19:21-40. God raises a Cyrus called the City treasurer who simply says "*Guys go home this demonstration is illegal and unnecessary.*" Paul was protected by a powerful insider. And the crowd dispersed.

So this is my point: If you are going to take the mountains as a priestly king or kingly priest, you are going to need a Cyrus whom God has raised, anointed to shepherd you into the mountains of influence, to teach you the power plays in the mountains of influence and to protect you from those who want to harm you in the mountains of influence. Cyrus favors your righteous cause and provides a platform for your elevation.

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Here is contemporary example of the same principle. Billy Graham was born again in 1934 under the preaching of Mordecai Ham. He started preaching the gospel on radio and in crusades etc. But God raised a Cyrus, a treasure of darkness, called William Randolph Hearst, a renowned newspaperman. He just sent a cable to all his newspapers saying *“Blow Graham up.”* Suddenly every newspaper across the United States started talking about Billy Graham and his crusades. Overnight he became a household name. He had influence because of a Cyrus. He became a pastor and a confidante to numerous American presidents. But for him to have that worldwide platform, he needed a Cyrus raised by God to shepherd him and elevate him to his destiny. Hundreds of thousands are in heaven today because of a Cyrus called William Randolph Hearst.

In summary: God still uses Cyrus to launch you into your destiny. You will notice that these priestly kings needed favour. One of the key aspects of priestly kings is that they walk in the FOG (favour of God). God gives them favour with powerful insiders in the domains of influence. Favour is your greatest asset in the pursuit of your place of influence on the Mountains of Culture. May God grant you favour with an influential unbeliever who will release his network of resources to elevate you into the mountain of influence!

Prayer

“God show me the Cyrus you have called me to. Show me my Cyrus whom you have positioned as my hidden treasure. Grant me favor with my Cyrus.”

Take 3

A quick review first. The treasure of darkness that you get is provision for your assignment and reward for your assignment obedience. We also said there is a Cyrus who is a treasure of darkness who God has positioned at the right place to elevate you. So let's change vantage points and examine this Scripture again.

When you read our text scripture it says, "*Cyrus I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches so that you may know me.*" Do you realize that getting money to an unbelieving king does not give him a saving revelation of God? It was natural to expect plunder and loot as part of any military victory. There was nothing special about that. So here is my suggestion: Is it possible that the treasure of darkness or the treasure of the hidden riches which had been prepared for Cyrus was not money but that it was a person. It was Daniel himself. Daniel would become a source of influence to Cyrus and would show him the knowledge of God. Does the Bible not say in 2 Corinthians 4: 7 "*But we have this treasure in earthen vessels so that we can demonstrate the surpassing power of God's glory?*"

If you want to establish a principle you have to understand the patterns in the Bible. I put a theory to you that Daniel was the treasure of darkness promised to Cyrus. Let's see whether this stands up to scripture. I am concerned that we are disengaging from the world instead of engaging it and getting involved with the world.

Joseph has been elevated and Pharaoh describes him as second in command. Listen to what Joseph tells his brothers in Genesis 45:8 "*So it was not you who sent me here but it is God because he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house.*" In the mind of Joseph he was not second in command. He was the father to Pharaoh. He was the counselor of the head of the domain. He was discipling Pharaoh, telling him

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what to do, guiding him on what to do. Joseph did not allow his job description to define his assignment. He says, *“I am here to influence Pharaoh. I am here to add value to him.”* God is calling people who will engage the world, who will be fathers and counselors to people of influence. If you are faithful in sowing your life to being that value to the kings in the mountains of influence, you will guide them. May God raise up for us Daniels, Josephs and Esthers who will be fathers to Presidents, and fathers to captains of Industry.

Take Four

Allow me to explore this same concept from the perspective of kingly priests whose main call is winning souls to Christ and establishing churches in unreached people groups. It will greatly help in scaling the Mountain of Faith. This concept will with necessary adjustments apply to priestly kings as they scale the mountains of influence in the other domains as well. The setting is Jesus’ instruction to the disciples as he commissions them to go preach the Gospel.

Luke 10:1-9

“After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’”

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Interesting Instructions

In Matthew 10, when Jesus is sending out the Twelve, He says, “Whatever town or village you enter, search for some worthy person there and stay at his house until you leave” (Matt. 10:11). A casual reading of the text makes you think the disciples simply went to a village and preached. Actually, they didn’t do that at all. Jesus instructed them to go look for the person of peace, and when they found him, to stay there. Based on these scriptures, there is *one* person in every people group that we’re being called to reach, a person who has been prepared in advance.

Jesus’ instructions can be summarized as follows:

- Go out in pairs for accountability
- Recognize that it is harvest time.
- Go look for only one person, the man of peace.
- The person will welcome you and let you stay with them.
- “Stay with them, and do not go house to house.”
- Only then can you preach and demonstrate the Kingdom through miracle encounters.

In other words, once you’ve found the person of peace, work with their network and mine out the field of gold that is, the responsiveness in that person’s group. Just as God has prepared the Gospel for people, God has also prepared people for the Gospel. The Man of peace is a person already prepared by God to be the key link to reaching a community and culture. He opens up entire families and communities who can be brought into a discipleship relationship for Christ. A man of peace is a strategic relationship for church growth and so is discovered through prayer and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

The Man of Peace has the following key characteristics:

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- Is receptive to the Gospel or the Kingdom agenda and will open his home/heart to those who come in the name of the Lord.
- Has an open heart to hear and obey the Gospel or to open his heart to Gospel carriers.
- Has a great reputation with an effective and open network of family, friends and associates whom he introduces to you.
- Effectively refers that network to you

Man of Peace and Kingdom advancement

The Gospel spreads more effectively through lines of social similarities and through networks of relationships. As we enter a new place we are to be looking for those people that can serve as bridges to that place, people, tribe, or culture.

Follow this testimony from a veteran missionary: “When I served in Tanzania, we went to a particular village where our person of peace was an elderly Muslim man. He never accepted Christ and has not as far as I know, but there is a church meeting in one of his homes with many of his family in attendance. He would invite me into his home, and we would drink tea and talk, but he would never accept Jesus. Yet he gave us permission to share Christ with his village and family. He allowed us to host an evangelistic meeting and show the Jesus film in his front yard. Although he is not a believer yet, God has used him to bring salvation to many people in his village.”

The principle of the person of peace applies to our neighborhoods, businesses, and societal structures. We need to be constantly seeking those people that are persons of peace that will help us to build bridges to lost people so that the gospel can be presented clearly. Even for priestly kings in business once you locate the man of peace in your mountain of influence, he will champion your cause and act as a Cyrus for you.

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Some Case Studies

Are there patterns in Scripture for this?

In Matt 9:9-13 Matthew opened the door to tax collectors.

“As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him. And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.””

In Mark 5:19-20 the former demoniac of Gadarenes opened a whole region to Jesus’ ministry.

“And he did not permit him but said to him, “Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.”

The same applies to the woman at the well in John 4:39

“Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.””

In Acts 10:1-2, 24-27, Cornelius is also a man of peace who opens the Gospel to the Gentiles.

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“At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort, a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God. --- And on the following day they entered Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. But Peter lifted him up, saying, “Stand up; I too am a man.” And as he talked with him, he went in and found many persons gathered.

Cornelius, *“a righteous and God-fearing man ... respected by all the Jewish people,”* (Acts 10:22 NIV). Encouraged by a divine vision, he invited Peter into his home, warmly welcomed him and called together his family and friends to hear the apostle's words. [As a] result, Cornelius, his family and many others believed and were baptized. Wolf contends that Cornelius' "sphere of influence" -- his "oikos," as the Greek New Testament calls it -- was the normal focus for the first evangelists. Michael Green, agrees that the oikos, *“consisting of blood relations, slaves, clients and friends, was one of the bastions of Graeco-Roman society. Christian missionaries made a deliberate point of gaining whatever households they could as lighthouses ... from which the Gospel could illuminate the surrounding darkness.”*

In Acts 16 both Lydia and the jailer were “man of peace”

“13And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. 14One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. 15And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.”

29” And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. 30 Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” 31 And

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they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." 32 And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. 34 Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God."

In summary we can conclude that

- The Man of Peace is God's contact for us to reach various people groups.
- A man prepared by God as our bicultural bridge.
- The Man of Peace is discerned. There is no clear way of identifying him apart from Holy Spirit guidance.
- Leverage his network of contacts and disciple them.
- Once you reach the man of peace demonstrate the Kingdom through signs and wonders.

In reality a man of peace is Cyrus to a kingly priest who opens the door for the Gospel to a different culture and sphere of influence by extending favor to the kingly priest despite their differences. May the Lamb of God slain receive the reward of His sufferings.

Conclusion

We have discovered that the treasures of darkness are provision for your assignment. That there is an influential unbeliever who is high up on the domain of influence who has been positioned strategically by God to be your Cyrus and we need to discern that Cyrus. Finally we said you yourself as a Daniel are a hidden treasure. You add value to kings up on the mountain so that they have an interest in you. We have also discovered that the man of peace, your Cyrus, is a critical bridge to reaching

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the mountains of influence to which you are called. With those four concepts in mind let's take it one step further.

In Luke 1:80 it says, *“So John the child grew and became strong in spirit and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation.”* The KJV says *“until the day of his showing.”* Daniel served all the other kings unrecognized but waiting for Cyrus. His assignment was Cyrus. He went through the process so that he could get to Cyrus. John the Baptist is called by God. He stays in the wilderness where he labors unrecognized, unknown, unappreciated until the day of his showing. You know there is a day called the day of your manifestation. There is a day called the day of your showing. God will process you until the day of your showing. I prophesy to you priestly king: Your day of showing is coming! Continue being faithful to the call of God.

Prayer

“Lord you have prepared me. I have diligently sowed in times where people didn't recognize me. Lord let the day of my showing appear. Let the day of my manifestation appear because when that happens I get into my destiny. Father we pray my God for a day of manifestation of that which you have put in our hearts, that which you have put in our lives, the giftings of God, the calling of God, and the assignments of God. May the day of manifestation come even as the world is waiting and groaning for the manifestation of the sons of God. Father let there be a manifestation of the sons of God who have been sowing themselves in times of preparation”.

Chapter Eleven: Spiritual Jurisdiction

As an observer of history I have watched many successful people ruin their legacy by venturing into new territory, new businesses or new ministry ventures that seemed not to fit their character and profile. They assumed that because they had authority they could continue stretching the limits of the reach of their influence. As I kept studying this I believe that a book I read on jurisdictions helped me understand the problem.

From my reading of church history, Rev William Marion Branham was an anointed healing evangelist with a powerful prophetic gifting. He was the major voice behind the Voice of Healing Movement in the late 1950s. History records that when the teaching movement began he desperately wanted to be a teacher despite being warned by God through various prophetic voices to remain within his jurisdiction of prophetic healing evangelism. I believe that his operating outside his range of authority spawned the movement called the End Time Message with its problems.

Let's explore this concept of jurisdictions in light of our callings as priestly kings assigned to domains of influence.

Jurisdiction is defined as a boundary, scope and range of authority. In other words jurisdiction is the right to exercise authority within a specific region or territory. A specific jurisdiction is the range, scope, boundaries or region in which one has the right to command, enforce or intervene in a matter.

All spirit beings have a range or region within which they do have the right to exercise and enforce power. Consequently:

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- God has a spiritual jurisdiction
- Satan has a spiritual jurisdiction.
- Man has a spiritual jurisdiction

The exercise of every being's authority is limited by the boundaries of its jurisdiction. As a priestly king you can only exercise your regal authority within certain boundaries that are prescribed by your life assignment and purpose.

Paul speaks to this in 2 Cor 10:13-15. *"But we will not boast of things without our measure, but according to the measure of the rule which God has distributed to us, a measure to reach even to you. For we stretch not ourselves beyond our measure, as though we reached not to you: for we are come as far as to you also in preaching the gospel of Christ: Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men's labours..."*

Boundary Lines

There are boundary lines that govern the scope of operation of every ministry gift. Paul speaks here of a definite region within which he had the right to operate legitimately. It is his jurisdiction. Can I propose that there are jurisdictional borders that govern your assignment? There are boundaries or limits that God assigns to your domain of influence and field of assignment. I am fully persuaded that God not only calls people to the ministry, but also specifies boundary lines that define their callings. His callings are geographical. I have seen ministers or business people leave places where they were thriving and then go elsewhere and bomb out. God expects us to stay within the boundaries of our assignments and get the job done!

The measuring line that defines the jurisdiction of a priestly king's activity is the commission God has given. The boundaries of your jurisdiction are determined by

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what God has called you to do. Your authority never goes beyond the boundaries of your God-given commission. Our sphere of influence is determined by the limits God has assigned to us. It is vitally important for priestly kings to know that they have a jurisdiction and to know what their jurisdiction is.

Encroaching

Priestly kings must remain within their jurisdictions not only in order to effectively complete their divine assignment, but also to avoid the mistake of encroaching upon another man's God-given assignment. Paul clearly states that he does not want to encroach into someone else's sphere of assignment and domain. When I encroach into another king's territory it leads to territorial wars apart from wasting Kingdom resources because we are on the same team. This encroachment also makes me less effective. We must stay within the boundaries of the commission and calling God has placed upon our lives.

Let me be clear that I am not talking about being in the same industry or market. Priestly kings can be in different or the same political party and still remain brethren. This is not encroachment. I am not against healthy competition. There is room for all. What I am talking about is pushing for a placement and assignment that belongs to someone else. For example as a minister of the Gospel I may be a pastor by calling and gifting but I admire someone who is an apostle so I encroach into an apostolic office.

Staying in Your Lane

Every ministry gift and calling from God has boundary lines and limits of responsibility that must be recognized and adhered to. Priestly kings have been given responsibilities and, therefore, have authority to carry out those responsibilities. But just as responsibilities are limited by calling, so also authority is limited by calling. 2

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Corinthians 10:13, declares, "...but according to the measure of the rule which God has distributed to us..". Let us take a closer look at this Scripture. The *metron* [measure] is the length of one's ministry course and the *kanon* [rule] is the boundaries of one's lane. No matter what one's ministry gift or commission, no matter how far God has called one to run, each must stay in their own lane! Do not cross the white line that defines the boundaries of your course!

Don't Step Out of Bounds.

II Corinthians 10:14 proceeds to say, "*For we stretch not ourselves beyond our measure, as though we reached not unto you, for we are come as far as to you also in preaching the gospel of Christ*" It is possible to go beyond what God has given you as an assignment and, thereby, go beyond your spiritual jurisdiction as a priestly king.

Let us allow other translations to clarify v 14. "*For we are not overstepping the limits of our province (territory)...*" (Amp). "*I am not overstepping the limit, as if you lay beyond my sphere...*" (Moffat). "*Nobody can say that we are encroaching...*" (Knox).

Paul did not encroach on another man's labors because he stayed within the boundaries of his own mandate. It is essential that priestly kings do not trespass the limits of their own jurisdiction and thus, encroach upon another man's territory. You definitely want to avoid territorial disputes as a priestly king.

Let's ask a few questions to survey the boundaries of our jurisdiction. This may help clarify the issue of ranges of your authority as a kingly priest.

Question 1. What domain of influence am I called to?

This question helps you identify what you are authorized to do and limited to in your assignment. The basic God-given assignment acts as border lines that define the jurisdiction of your calling. Which mountain of influence am I called to? Many

have erred and pursued rabbit trails that resulted in them losing their Kingdom effectiveness. In some cases a person can be called to a number of domains of influence at the same time. For example at this point of my life I am actively involved in the Faith Domain as a church statesman passionate about the concept of worldviews. I am called into the domain of Finance in order to finance the Kingdom, recruit, equip and empower an army of Kingdom financiers. But I am also actively involved in the domain of Education where I train and equip priestly kings. It is vitally important to establish the mountain to which you have been called in order to serve the Kingdom.

Question 2. What is the Purpose of My Call?

Within the same domain of influence there can be different purposes. Two individuals may be called to the same mountain, but have different tasks they are to accomplish within that common domain. In pulpit ministry Paul contrasted his ministry with that of Apollos. One planted and the other watered [I Corinthians 3:6].

God often calls different churches within the same city to do different things. The call of God upon local churches can be different based upon the purpose for which God has raised that church up. Though the two ministries are both local churches and have local pastors and local believers, the purpose and, therefore, the thrust of the two churches may be different.

Let me illustrate. John, Ruth, Michael and Reuben may all be called to the domain of Education and yet they have different boundaries in terms of their callings and assignment. John may be a policy-maker determining the value systems and worldviews that will control education. Ruth may be called as an entrepreneur in education to establish elitist Christian schools that are for profit and yet molding godly principles and values in the students. However Michael may be called to be an

educationist who gives his life to touch lives in public schools and models godly values. Michael through this calling may stem the inroads being made by ungodly agendas into education. And yet Reuben may be called to the domain of education as a rich philanthropist who establishes a network of low costs non-profit schools for people who could never afford even a government education. His schools help meet a significant need for education for the vulnerable.

God assigns specific mandates to specific individuals. If He does so, then that assignment must be adhered to. What is my specific mandate in the mountain of influence? Coach, policy maker, model, influencer, executer, counselor.

Question 3. Who am I called to serve?

You must be clear as to what exactly you are called to and for. Listen to Paul. He is comparing his ministry with that of Peter. In Galatians 2:7-9 he declares *‘On the contrary when they saw that I had been entrusted with the Gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised. (for He who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised, worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles. And when James, Cephas and John who seemed to be pillars, perceived that grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.’* There were clear boundaries of their jurisdictions in terms of calling assignments. Paul was called to the Gentiles while Peter was called to the Jews. However Paul learnt it the hard way. God called him *“to be the light to the gentiles”* but when Paul started preaching he did not go to the gentiles first. He went to the Jews. He went from synagogue to synagogue preaching. An interesting phenomenon happened: every time in the biblical record that Paul went to preach to the Jews, he was beaten up and/or left for dead. I suggest that this was because he was outside his range of authority (his jurisdiction) and the devil could touch him. When the Jews rejected him and threw him out, it finally dawned on him and he turned to the

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Gentiles. From that day onwards you do not hear of people touching him because he was now within his range of authority. So when he says Peter was called to Jews, he had learnt his lesson through the School of Hard Knocks. When he was in Ephesus and the silversmiths rose up to harm him, they could not touch him because God raised a town clerk who protected him. When he was targeting the Gentiles they could not do him any harm. There is a price for not knowing what you are called to. Sometimes we bind the devil and he says “It is not my fault you came into my territory. You are within the range of my authority”. Ask yourself where you are called to serve? What is your jurisdiction?

One day a certain lady came to me after ministry and said, *“Dr Makoni you are the reason why I am in this church.”* Under my breath I said to myself, *“Makoni know your range of authority. While she means it for a compliment, do not take it seriously. When she came to this church she did not even know you. This church is associated with the founder and visionary Pastor Tom Deuschle. So don't allow people to raise you to the wrong pedestal.”* Satan will try to blow you up, make you look and sound bigger than your jurisdiction. Be careful. Within our ecclesiastical ministry I am not called to be the visionary, I am called to serve one. I know my place. I am a helper. When you don't know that, that's when you break away and start your own. If God has called you to start your own go ahead and do it without disrupting another's vineyard. But if God has called you to serve somebody else's vision, serve faithfully because that is your place of jurisdiction. Don't allow people to come and stoke your ego. It is not about you but it's about the place of jurisdiction. I know exactly where God has placed me.

In my business I am the visionary but in church, He has placed me to serve my pastor's vision. I don't draw people to myself. I point them to my two fathers- my Heavenly Father and my spiritual father. Sons draw attention to the father. They don't draw to themselves. If you are in a corporate organisation, you should direct

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people to the vision. Don't draw people to yourself. Don't use your position in the organisation as a platform to create your own company in order to break away with employees and customers. Know your place. Even if you are the star employee, don't break away. Leave if you have to. Have the guts to start alone. Do not build on another's foundation.

When my wife and I were deployed to plant our Bulawayo church we were mandated to plant churches across Matabeleland and Midlands. In the process we planted a church in Gwanda. A pastor from another movement approached us wanting to merge this local assembly with Celebration Church. He was not the founder of that church. I said, *"No Pastor, you were sent here by that movement. This church is not yours. You have no authority to do what you are talking about. If you are thinking of joining Celebration Church, write to your head office telling them that you are transferring your membership to Celebration and request them to send a replacement pastor. The congregation is not yours. You need to understand your jurisdiction."* Did we not want the numbers? It would have made us a great movement, and it would make me look good to my peers and superiors. But in terms of spiritual jurisdiction I would be outside my range of authority. I would be encroaching into another's lane. So we told him to give back what was not his. As a steward over this work, he had no right to merge it with another. So he had to surrender it back to the movement where it belonged.

When we talk about authority among priestly kings, there is an order to it. New Testament believers operate under the order of Melchizedek. An order means there is rank and protocol. You need to respect rank and protocol, you cannot just go and do whatever you want. Some people abuse their liberty in Christ to do as they please. No you don't have liberty to do as you please. Not everything is permissible to you. When you understand rank and authority there are things you cannot delegate to somebody else. If you have been called to start your own ministry, you do not use your current

deployment as a platform to launch out on your own. That way you are sowing seeds of your own destruction. If you have to go and start your own go to the leadership and say, *“I have served with you. I have walked alongside you for a while but I sense God is calling me to something else, please release me to what God is calling me to. I am not going with your members. I will start alone.”* If you use another’s work as a mobilisation centre to finance your own agenda, you are outside your range of authority. If a kingdom has no order it becomes divided and confused. Where am I called to serve?

Question 4: How am I called to serve?

When you answer this question you sharpen your area for service. Am I called to write books? Am I called to go on television? Am I called to start businesses? Am I called to finance opportunities? Am I called to just intercede? Am I called to intercede and take action? What exactly am I called to? What is my specific jurisdiction? When you establish that, it helps. I believe that God called me to be part of the end time strategic financiers of the Kingdom. That places me on the domain of finance. The particular emphasis is arranging financing for strategic Kingdom agendas. So at this stage of my life it is not a focus on establishing and running businesses (even though I own a number of businesses through our family trust) but mostly to serve as a consultant and coach. Initially I didn’t understand. I said “Lord I also want to run a big business”. But He said *“I called you to be a teaching minister. If you own a business that employs people, then you will need to work at it. That will drain your energy and dilute your focus from the things I am calling you to do.”* So with this kind of business it does not matter where I am as long as I have connectivity I am working on my Kingdom assignment. I am linking projects with required financing. So my office is where I am as long as I can connect. This enables the itinerant aspect of my calling to train and educate priestly kings while financing Kingdom causes. My office travels with me. But not all of us are called to travel with our offices. Some people because of the nature of their

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assignment need to have specific geographic locations as offices. Though we are all financiers we are different. You need to know what exactly God is calling you to. Some may be funders of church outreaches. Others may be called to fund social causes and take care of the vulnerable. Others will finance government programmes to assert the Church's influence on politics.

My pastor, Rev Tom Deuschle narrates an encounter he had with God at a critical point in his ministry. It answered the question of how he is called to serve. The ministry had just started a television ministry that was flourishing. Pastor Tom has a magnetic television presence. Apparently some well meaning investors approached him with a once in a lifetime deal to sponsor him into a television ministry that would take him away from his home church and ministry. After prayer, God spoke to him and said, *"Your ministry is to Zimbabwe but your message is for the world."* (free recall quote). This was a boundary setting jurisdictional question that settled the matter for him.

Question 5: When am I called to serve?

Many Christians don't understand that timing is critical to God. If you try to become what God is calling you to, before time, you will make mistakes. Moses heard the call of God and understood that he was called to be a deliverer. However when he tried it prematurely, it transported him to the University of the Wilderness for forty years. When the time came he made it. There is a difference between calling and commissioning. God speaks the end from the beginning. Many just feel the call of God and start running. They don't even take time to prepare. God spoke to me about what we are doing now in a little office at the back of the Anglican Church at Bernard Mizeki College, Marondera in 1984. As I was fasting, praying and studying I sensed God say, *"I am calling you to be part of the end time strategic financiers of my kingdom."* From that time until 2016 I was engaged in many different things but could not sense the release into my assignment. Finally just before I turned 50 in September 2015, I

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sensed a direction from the Lord to officially retire from clinical dentistry and focus on my life mandate. So timing is important. Part of understanding my jurisdiction is understanding God's process and timing. He will tell you now it's time to go. Many people hurriedly go into things that they have been called to before the time and they pay a heavy price. Even the Lord Jesus had to be born in the fullness of time and then wait for 30 years until the Father pronounced the season of commissioning. There is a difference between calling and commissioning.

Like I said before, I was called to the ministry of the preaching the gospel in 1987 when I was at the University of Zimbabwe. I had the call to ministry but I could not bring myself to a place of actually going into full time ministry. I struggled. Many people put me under pressure to let go of what I was doing and go preach the Gospel. But somehow I just knew it was not the right time. The calling was there. The willingness to do was there but the release was not there. The commission was not there. God took me instead on a journey that wherever I went I just served Pastors close hand. So I learnt pastoring not from Bible School, but by sitting and serving pastors. Without consciously putting any effort (in fact at the end I avoided pastors), they just found me and pulled me towards themselves. I served Pastors in Mutare, Rusape, and Marondera. When we went to the nation of Greece I served my Pastor to the extent that although I was merely an African student, for one year he left the Church under my care as he went to Uppsalla, Sweden for Bible School.

However when in 2001 God moved us to Celebration Church, I met Pastor Tom Deuschle at a Victory Business Forum (VBF) Conference, whereupon he asked me to meet the Director of the College and help teach in the Bible School. He had never heard me preach or teach. So true to my new found philosophy of avoiding pastors, I did not go to the Director of the Bible School. The following May at the next VBF Conference he chastised me for not having done what he asked me to do.

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He further instructed me to go to the Bible School Director. Fortunately this time the new Director was somebody I knew, so I went. The Director appreciated my going to see him but didn't do anything about it.

In November of that year my friend Dr Matthew Wazara asked me to co-teach a seminar in Bible School on the *Ministry of Preaching and Teaching*. My mandate was to cover the aspect of teaching and yet Matthew had never heard me speak. Stranger still he informed me that the seminar would start on a Friday evening while he was away. So he wanted me to start the sessions in his absence. Get this: He had never heard me preach and he did not even know that I am a teacher and yet he asked me to open his seminar. I could have killed his seminar. I could have spoiled it completely.

Six months later I got a letter from Pastor Tom informing me of a new programme of licensing ministers. He stated that the leadership recognised the gift and calling of God on my life and had nominated me for licensing subject to passing an interview. Somehow to my dismay I passed the interview and was licenced. A year later I was ordained as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This was now 2003. Called in 1987, but ordained and commissioned in 2003.

Later I asked God, why He would not release me these many years, when the church was calling and Pastors were putting pressure. I felt like He said that in that movement I needed to be a full-time employed pastor whereas His calling upon me was to be a bi-vocational pastor with a primary assignment to be a financier in the marketplace. I was wired for business so if I had become a full-time Pastor I would have missed my main calling. While I answered to the call, God could not commission me until I was in the place where I could be a bi-vocational Pastor. So timing is important. Even though you are called, do not pressure the leadership to deploy you. Wait for God's time.

Conclusion

When you understand that you are a priestly king, you appreciate that as a priest you raise your hands to worship God, but as a king you extend the sceptre of rule. However your sceptre of rule though powerful in authority and dominion, has boundaries within which it is effective. That is what we call a jurisdiction. Do not encroach outside your authority. When you remain in your sphere of rule, you bring glory to God and you extend the kingdom.

Prayer

“Lord you have made me a king and priest. Please open my eyes and show me clearly the boundaries of my range of authority. Show me the jurisdiction or sphere of dominion into which you called me. Show me my exact place and function in that mountain of influence. I do not want to overstep into another’s territory. I don’t want to get into the devil’s territory. I don’t want to act like God junior. Though I am a king, I fully recognise that I am not the King of Kings. I know my place. I know my range. I know my assignment, open my eyes that I may see.”

Chapter Twelve: Spiritual Warfare in the Domains of Influence

In an active warfare the most critical information is not what you know BUT what you do not know, especially if your enemy is aware of your ignorance. Most marketplace believers are ignorant that to engage the marketplace they need knowledge of warfare. Similarly it is fatal to step in a war zone unawares and ignorant of boundaries of the battlefield. The marketplace is a war zone. To engage and win on the marketplace we need to confront and dislodge the hordes of demonic forces under satan's command which hold the marketplace under their control. Satan loves trade and controls it through the Babylonian system.

Our real enemy is the devil. He knows that he has no authority to defeat us but he compensates by using schemes which are dependent on our ignorance, which he actively promotes. (2 Cor 2:11)

The Battlefield

The Bible describes the battlefield as the spiritual realm where the angels, demons and the Church operate. It is called the heavenlies. Eph 3: 10 says, *"to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places."* To further reinforce the identity of this battlefield Eph 6: 12 declares *"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."* Our warfare is in the heavenlies. That is the battlefield. As priestly kings we need to maintain this awareness. We do not fight against people.

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We understand from Eph 2:2 that our primary enemy is the prince of the power of the air. He is a princely being who had jurisdiction/authority to reign in the heavenlies before Christ' death. This title explains both rank and the domain or jurisdiction of his influence. At this stage the principalities were ruling over the heavenlies and man was under the jurisdiction of the enemy. That is why in Luke 4: 6 he could brashly *"I will give you this domain for it has been given to me and I give it to whomever I wish."* He is also known as the "god of this world". It is unlikely this prince would give access to this domain to believers willingly. In the marketplace you engage this world with the mandate to "Occupy till (He) comes". This immediately brings you into violent confrontation with the god of this world.

In Eph 1:3-4 the Bible says, *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world."* If my reading is correct then it means God seeded the heavenly places with all spiritual blessings for our benefit and hid them in Christ. Our wealth and success is seeded in heavenly places. Could it be the reason that satan wants to control the heavenlies and block our empowerment and destiny?

Col 2:14-15 teaches us that Jesus having *"disarmed principalities and powers, --- made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it (the Cross)."* Jesus destroyed the power of the prince of the air and placed him under His feet and he was raised to the place of authority far above all principalities and powers for the benefit of the church.

Eph 1:20-22 declares *"which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the Church, which is His Body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all."*

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Dutch Sheets perceptively observes, *“When it comes to warfare, the issue has never been a question of who has the greater power between God and Satan. God is all powerful. When Satan tried a coup in heaven, there was a flash of lightning and Satan was gone. (Luke 10:18). No battle. No time delay, no sweat or exertion of God’s power – just a release of His Glory. The cosmic battle has been an issue of authority and not power. The same with our struggle with forces of darkness. Satan’s power did not change at the Fall or at the Cross, but his authority to use his power was withdrawn. The Cross dealt with Satan’s authority and not his power. Therefore we need to deal with him as a usurper, rebel and thief. We need to exercise our God given authority over the devil’s illegitimate authority and exercise of power.”*

We learn from Eph 2: 6 that God *“raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ”* far above all principalities and powers. With this move believers are now exercising rulership over principalities and powers having been redeemed from the jurisdiction of the enemy and translated into the jurisdiction of Christ (Col 1:13)

As noted before Eph 3:10 tells us that through the church the manifold wisdom and purpose of God is made known to principalities. The Church becomes an example and witness to principalities of God’s grace. Through this witness the church decrees and declares the defeat of the devil at the Cross and enforces it on earth.

From the foregoing we can conclusively claim that Satan’s jurisdiction over the heavenlies was broken and he is deprived of any legitimacy to operate in that sphere. Satan and his hosts are evicted from the heavenlies and placed under the feet of Christ. The church is now empowered to evict the devil and his host using weapons described in Eph 6:12 bearing in mind that our warfare is not carnal but uses spiritual weapons in heavenly places to dislodge the enemy.

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1 Cor 15:25-28 declares of Jesus after His resurrection, *“For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. For “He has put all things under His feet.” But when He says, “all things are put under Him”, it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”* Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God waiting for all his enemies to be made his footstool under his feet. By whom? The church.

Satan’s main weapon is deception. He deceives the church to think that he is too powerful and that the church is weak. He deceives the church to give him room (place) – *“topos”* (– means office or jurisdiction or place of influence.) (Eph 4:27). This would reinstate the devil and his demons into the heavenly places where they had been dislodged by the church.

Dealing with Strongholds

2 Cor 10:4-5 declares, *“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds, casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.”* (MEV).

Rev 12:11 we overcome by: (i) the blood of the lamb (a constant), (ii) our testimony (variable) and (iii) risking our lives to death (variable). Satan attacks us on the two variables.

Satan attacks priestly kings through three weapons namely:

- (i) Sin – he uses temptation. Active.
- (ii) Accusations –passive

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- (iii) Spiritual strongholds are generally dormant. These expose inconsistencies in our testimony and invalidate our effectiveness. The efficiency of strongholds depends on their concealment. Strongholds deal with speculations, knowledge and thoughts and therefore are located in the mind.

Ed Silviso defines a “spiritual stronghold as a mindset impregnated with hopelessness that causes us to accept as unchangeable, situations that we know are contrary to the will of God.” While Os Hillman describes a stronghold as a “fortress where satan and demons find protection, which exist in the thought patterns and ideas that govern people and communities.”

In a stronghold, you know the will of God but find it difficult to do it due to a hopelessness ingrained in the mind that incapacitates faith. Strongholds create a doublemindedness (James 1:6-8) that generates instability thereby preventing a believer from effectively using his divinely powerful weapons. (2 Cor 10:4) A satanic scheme (1 Cor 2:11) is a surreptitious operation of the devil that allows him to harm the unsuspecting believer without being detected.

Os Hillman describes how strongholds form. Satanic inspired thoughts are introduced into a person’s mind. The person entertains these thoughts which bring certain emotions. Giving in to those emotions leads the person into acting on that thought. Continual participation in the action develops a negative habit. As the habit develops, a stronghold is built. Once a stronghold is established the person feels hopeless and unable to change both his thoughts and the resultant actions. I want to emphasize to priestly kings and kingly priests that this state of hopelessness that is contrary to the Word of God is a lie.

We should also note from Hillman’s observation that strongholds are located in the mind and often develop in the shadow of our strengths. We are constantly aware

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of our weaknesses but relax around our strengths. Our greatest failures happened because we never thought we would fail in that area. Strongholds. Let him who thinks he is strong take heed lest he fails. They may be activated by painful trauma because of abuse that happens along areas of God given ability. Strongholds create a double mind that results in spiritual and emotional instability.

Warfare in the Marketplace involves four aspects namely:

1. Dismantling strongholds in our minds that provide a foothold and protection for demons to operate
2. Breaking generational bondages that provide demons a foothold on our lives by creating vulnerabilities
3. Warring against demonic forces and their schemes
4. Being conscious that we are seated in heavenly places and fight from that place where Satan has been dislodged. Because of that we fight from a position of victory that was already won.

Principles

The battle is in the heavenlies. Whoever controls the heavenlies wins. That is why most African and European business people understand much to the chagrin of the church that business and marketplace is a spiritual ground and they seek spiritual cover.

It always takes a power encounter of some sort to gain ground from the enemy on the marketplace and displace the hordes of Hell.

When believers fail to defend conquered territory, the devil mounts a counter attack and regains ground.

Chapter Thirteen: The Blessing of Abraham

Once while we were responsible for Celebration Church Bulawayo, we spoke to a Jewish businessman with the intention of leasing his property for our church services. We were surprised when this seed of Abraham confidently declared, 'I am blessed and so if you do business with me you have no choice but to be blessed.' Many believers admire the business acumen of Jews but do not realize that this same blessing is their inheritance as they are partakers of the Abrahamic blessing.

Abraham met Melchizedek on his way from battle with the kings who had taken Lot captive. In Gen 14 Melchizedek the priest of the Most High God and King of Salem blessed Abraham. One minister explains that: In Genesis 12 God promised that if Abraham would leave his father's house and follow God's leading to the land of promise then God would make him a great nation and bless him and make his name great so that he would be a blessing. However this was not a blessing, it was a promise of the blessing. So the minister contends, and I believe him, that God used Melchizedek to bless Abraham. So the promised blessing in Gen 12 is actualized in Gen 14 with the appearance of Melchizedek priest of the Most High God. The blessing was pronounced on both Abraham and his seed. The Abrahamic blessing is vitally linked to the high priesthood of Jesus Christ. Secondly the very fact that Melchizedek first appeared to Abraham links this revelation of kingly priests and priestly kings to the blessing of Abraham.

There is no doubt that Abraham's natural seed is blessed with significant prosperity and influence. However sometimes as we have seen the natural seed of Abraham has abused this blessing to pervert rather than bless the world. If the

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natural seed is failing to be a blessing then surely God's Word that cannot be broken has to have made a provision for the fulfillment of this Abrahamic blessing. This He has done through the spiritual seed- the Church ministering from the tabernacle of David.

I believe on the testimony of Scripture that Abraham is our father. Romans 4:16b-17 (NLT) says, "*For Abraham is the father of all who believe. That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him "I have made you the father of many nations." This happened because Abraham believed in God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing.*" A few verses before this Paul argues convincingly that the blessing of Abraham was not restricted only to his natural seed, the Jews, but extends to the spiritual seed as well. Listen to his logic: "*Now is this blessing only for the Jews, or is it also for the uncircumcised Gentiles? Well, we have been saying that Abraham was counted as righteous by God because of his faith. But how did this happen? Was he counted as righteous only after he was circumcised or was it before he was circumcised? Clearly, God accepted Abraham before he was circumcised! Circumcision was a sign that Abraham already had faith and that God already accepted him and declared him righteous- even before he was circumcised. So Abraham is the spiritual father of those who have faith but have never been circumcised. They are counted righteous because of their faith. And Abraham is also the spiritual father of those who have been circumcised, but ONLY if they have the same kind of faith Abraham had before he was circumcised.*"(Rom 4:9-12)

Let's press into this concept some more. Gal 3:6-7 declares "*Just as Abraham, believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.*" We are sons of Abraham as believers. Paul pushes his argument further; "*So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.*" NKJV or as the KJV puts it, "*So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.*" I therefore argue that not only are we spiritual children of Abraham, we are blessed with the blessing of Abraham just like natural Israel. Indeed Paul contends that it has

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always been God's intention that *"the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus."* Gal 3:14.

Let's zero in on this thought some more. *"Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "and to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "and to your Seed", who is Christ. And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God, in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect."* Gal 3:16-17 (NKJV). If I read this correctly Scripture here is stating categorically that the blessing is in a covenant form and was established in Christ before the Law. How did that happen?

I can only suggest that this happened when Abraham was blessed by Melchizedek who represented Jesus Christ. Remember Jesus Christ clearly stated that Abraham rejoiced to see His day. (John 8:56). If this reading is correct then we cannot escape the fact that the Abrahamic blessing belongs to the spiritual seed of Abraham. In other words we are partakers in Christ of the Abrahamic blessings. We are blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ. Paul proceeds to unequivocally confirm this in Gal 3:29 which declares, *"And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."* (NKJV). As if to seal it Paul further states in Galatians 4:28, *"Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise."*

Now that we have fully established the biblical basis of our being partakers of Abraham's blessing in Christ together with Isaac, let's take a closer look at the fullness of the Abrahamic blessing.

Blessing of land.

Land is a primary aspect of the Abrahamic blessing. That is why the natural seed of Abraham values the land (*Eretz Israel*) so much. Since 1948 they have turned what was once a desert into prime agricultural land. They realize that God gives them

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land but it is up to them to develop the property. They have a property development mindset that adds value to what initially appears useless. Gen 15:7 declares *“I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land.”*

One day I was struck with the impact of the issue of land. Do you realise that Abraham was promised a son and seed as numerous as the stars when he was very old and incapable of bearing a child, and yet he believed God – no questions asked. Check Gen 15:1-6. In fact when he believed the promise of a child the Bible says, *“God accounted it to him as righteousness.”* However when God in verse 7 promised him land (real estate), he stumbled. That is when he asked God, *“Lord God, how shall I know that I will inherit it (the land)?”* Abraham the father of faith could believe for a son and numerous seed BUT could not believe God for land. So he demanded an assurance. In response God initiated the covenant. So the covenant was a guarantee for possession of land. If you doubt me let us read together v18 that explains the purpose of the covenant God initiated with Abraham, *“On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I have given this land.”*

Once I realized how important land is to God, I have advocated for priestly kings to desire and pursue all legitimate means to acquire real estate. It is an undisputable fact that he who controls land controls the economy. Kings are wealthier when they control vast chunks of real estate. Although I cannot explain it biblically I have come to the persuasion that land that belongs to believers is redeemed land while land under the control of unbelievers is open to Satanic abuse including blood sacrifices. I believe that Satan fights land getting into the hands of priestly kings because land that belongs to believers is redeemed and no longer available for ungodly and demonic sacrifices.

Our church, Celebration Church completed a magnificent and majestic church auditorium in Borrowdale, Harare after 14 years of work. Once the building was

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completed the church exploded in authority, growth and influence. I realized that ownership of land gives you both authenticity and authority. The Catholic Church realised this and is arguably one of the largest landowners worldwide. It is of vital importance that as priestly kings, after the manner of our father of faith, Abraham, we appropriate this Abrahamic blessing and own land. Even churches increase their authority through land ownership.

In Zimbabwe there was a concerted fight on the issue of land ownership. This was the heart of the liberation struggle. A slogan was coined I believe by Prof Jonathan Moyo: *The land is the economy*. It is true. Real wealth is in the land. Land ownership is the basis of power and wealth. It creates an economic structure and system in its own right. Whoever controls the land controls the economy. That is why landowners are called landlords. The first thing given to Adam was rulership and dominion over earth (land). The first thing that man lost after the fall was access to a piece of real estate called the Garden of Eden. Ever since salvation history shows that whenever Israel was in favour with God they stayed in their land or they had their land restored to them. Having land was a sign of God's blessings and favour. Every time they broke the covenant and God was angry they lost land. So the Jews clearly understand that land ownership is a blessing while loss of land is a curse. Real wealth is in the land.

Dr Samuel Mudavanhu, the indomitable entrepreneurial founder of Maranatha Christian University and Maranatha Group of Schools once told me that he stumbled on a message that I had preached on the Doctrine of Land. He reports that after that message God spoke to him about acquiring land. He instantly obeyed and bought two large pieces of prime land in Mabelreign, Harare. At that stage he had no clue why God was directing him to acquire real estate. A while later God directed him to start Maranatha School. Now it's a whole Group of Schools that is raising children with a

biblical mindset. They are tackling the domain of education for God's glory. A while later God through Maranatha parents challenged him to proceed and start a University. In response he went out by faith, not knowing where he was going, and bought almost 220 ha of land upon which the University Campus is currently being built. His story is a challenge to all kingly priests and priestly kings to believe God in response to the Abrahamic covenant and acquire land.

The following prophecy was given by Rachel Hickson in 2002, *"We have to have the title deeds to have dominion. Dominion is always on land.---- There needs to be a lot of title deed taking. That is why ownership of land is so important at this time."* I can only declare, "Amen and so let it be." Robert Allen quips, *"Don't wait to buy real estate. Buy real estate and wait."*

Blessing of Promise.

Abrahamic blessing includes being an heir to God's promises. It includes being a covenant person. God entered a covenant with Abraham in which He made promises of eternal faithfulness. In the person of Jesus Christ, this covenant was ratified. We as priestly kings are not ordinary people we are covenant people. Though some of us who were gentiles were once afar off and strangers to the promises, we are no longer alienated from those promises. The Scriptures declare plainly, *"Therefore remember that once ---- you were at that time separate from Messiah, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Messiah Yeshua you who were once far off are made near in the blood of Messiah."* Ephesians 2:12-13 (WMBBE). It is critical that priestly kings live, walk and work with the consciousness of the covenants of promise.

You would recall that the thing that emboldened David when confronting Goliath, was the consciousness that David was a covenant person while Goliath was uncircumcised (a "no covenant man"). The Goliaths that challenge believers and defy

God are un-covenanted and so can only be defeated by people who walk in the blessings of covenant-promises. You cannot take mountains which are infested by the demonic without a faith anchored in the covenant-keeping God.

Blessing of increase and fruitfulness.

Increase and fruitfulness are part of the dominion mandate. Gen 1:28 declares, *“And God blessed them. And God said, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion.”* To conquer a mountain or a jurisdiction one needs the power of numbers. There is no dominion without multiplying and being fruitful. As a pastor I have heard many ministers comfort (or console) themselves saying that it is not about the numbers but the spiritual depth that matters. I disagree. For the marketplace and thought leaders to take a priestly king or kingly priest seriously they need to see fruitfulness and market power. In the battle for influence your market share matters. If you are in the jurisdiction of finance and your economic or financial muscle is small, this limits your influence. Aspire to be a major player in your domain of influence because this multiplies your influence. Imagine how the fruitfulness and increase of the USA gives it enough muscle to be considered the world leader. Never mind the fact that China is slowly overtaking them. Numbers matter for priestly kings. For priestly kings increase and fruitfulness speak of influence and power.

God gives this increase much weight. Listen to His promise to Abraham in Gen 17:1b-2 *“I am God Almighty. Walk before me and be blameless. I will make a covenant between me and you, and I will multiply you exceedingly.”* (WMBBE). God takes this fruitfulness issue seriously. He had to make a covenant with Abraham to multiply him. I call it a covenant of increase and multiplication. Of Jesus, Isaiah declares, *“of the increase of His Government, there is no end.”*

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God further reinforces this in Gen 17:5b-6 by declaring, *“for I have made you the father of many nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful and I will make nations of you. Kings will come out of you.”* (WMBBE). Not just being fruitful but exceedingly fruitful. In Gen 22:17 he states to Abraham and to his seed. *“I will bless you greatly, and I will multiply your offspring greatly like the stars of the heavens and like the sand which is on the seashore.”* As part of the Abrahamic blessings of which we are heirs, we have a right to fruitfulness and multiplication.

Do not dream small. Kings think expansively. They think growth of territory. Whatever you do on the mountain of influence, aim for increase and fruitfulness. Abraham was so blessed that even when he was not a king by earthly standards the kings he encountered treated him as royalty. Hebrews 6:13-14 declares this blessing of increase in this way. *“For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he could not swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you and multiplying I will multiply you.”*

Didn't Jesus himself say to us, *“You didn't choose me, but I chose you and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain; that whatever you will ask of the Father in my name, He may give it to you”?* John 15:16 (WMBBE). We have a covenant of fruitfulness. Jesus' intention is that the fruit of our labour in the domains of influence be lasting and enduring.

We should pursue making an indelible mark in our spheres of influence for Christ irrespective of who succeeds us. As priestly kings whatever we pursue, can and should be marked by increase and fruitfulness. We should not be comfortable with smallness. For the sake of the Kingdom we need to have an increase mindset. I have stopped having small dreams. Whatever endeavor I am involved in I recognize that I have a covenant mandate to pursue increase and multiplication. When you consider those who currently control the mountains of influence they have this increase

mindset. They are fruitful. Even though most of them pursue increase for the wrong reason.

Blessing of Prosperity

Part of the Abrahamic blessing is a covenant blessing that makes rich. The natural seed of Abraham is fully conscious of this fact. They expect to prosper wherever they are planted.

Rabbi Daniel Lapin in his book, *“Thou Shalt Prosper”* details some concepts about prosperity and productivity that make up the psyche of Jews from biblical perspective as follows:

1. In the book of Genesis he argues that the eighth declaration of things that God pronounced good is about money. *“Amazingly, the eighth appearance of the word good is applied to nothing other than the eternal symbol of money- gold. Right there in the very beginning of the vast volume of the Torah, no more than 43 verses into the constitution of the Jewish people, gold, the ultimate medium of exchange, the metal of monetization, is described as good by God Himself.”* p 26. He further argues that this has established in the Jewish subconscious mind that the business of jewelry and the business of finance are noble. That way he explains the Jewish passion for Finance and banking. They therefore have no doubt about the moral goodness of money and wealth. Many priestly kings sabotage themselves from the Abrahamic blessing for prosperity because subconsciously they are not convinced about the morality of wealth and profit in business.
2. Rabbi Lapin also states *“It is perfectly kosher to ask God for money. If you are comfortable with prayer, go ahead and include a request for prosperity in your prayers. What you are really asking for is the opportunity to serve your fellow human beings.”* p 27. He contends that the table of showbread was intrinsically linked to material

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prosperity and so devout Jews were urged to pray for prosperity while looking south to the place where the table of showbread would have been positioned. Many priestly kings are not too sure about praying for their material prosperity and wealth accumulation. They have unfortunately been taught that this amounts to selfishness and greed.

3. The Jews bless their children every Sabbath stating, “May God make you like Ephraim and Menasseh.” Because according to Rabbi Lapin, *“The Oral Torah fills in the gap by explaining that Ephraim represents spiritual steadfastness and Menasseh represents economic creativity. The two belong together, and Jews wish their children to embody both.”* p 27. As we all know God proudly describes the wealth of the patriarchs in Genesis.
4. Rabbi Yochanan in the Talmud said, *“God only allows his Divine Presence to rest on someone who is strong, wealthy, wise and humble.”* Lapin then adds, *“The wise king Solomon said, ‘The crown of the wise is their wealth,’ and Jews have always understood that sentence to mean that God is happy with wise behavior and rewards it with wealth.”* p 28. If I may add the same Solomon also states in Proverbs 10:22 *“The blessing of the Lord makes a person rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.”* (NLT). Clearly they viewed wealth as a blessing of God.
5. Rabbi Lapin finally argues that the very fact that God instructed the children of Israel to borrow gold and monetary wealth from Egypt as they left during the Exodus has always linked redemption and wealth acquisition in the minds of the Jews. In reality he is arguing that wealth is part of redemption.

I believe that one reason for our failure to succeed as priestly kings is a poor theology of wealth and prosperity. A poor king is looked down upon by other kings.

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Paul in 2 Cor 8:9 states *“You now the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though He was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.”* (NLT). This Scripture squarely confirms that financial prosperity and wealth are intrinsically linked to redemption. Jesus became our substitute on the Cross. He the King of Glory who was so very rich, on the Cross became poor and wore a crown of thorns instead of the well-adorned crown of gold, in our place. That is why the Romans jeered him. A king with a crown of thorns was both a disgrace and shame. But that was grace NOT disgrace.

He became poor for my sake, so that as a priestly king I can wear a crown of wealth. Because of his substitutionary work on the Cross, I am redeemed from poverty. The Abrahamic blessing entitles me by grace to prosperity and productivity.

The Abrahamic blessing declares that we are blessed to be a blessing. This ties in with the Jewish mindset that wealth is meant to bless and enrich others. It’s not intended for selfish purposes. The wealth of the King, as we have been so correctly taught by the inimitable late Dr Myles Munroe, is commonwealth for the benefit of the whole domain of the king.

2 Cor 9:7-8 powerfully declares, *“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.”* (ESV). It is abundantly clear to me that God wants us to walk as priestly kings in the Abrahamic covenant of prosperity, that we abound in every good work and that at all times and in all things we will be abundantly supplied to all sufficiency. That is the privilege of priestly kings. We should not be ashamed of acquiring wealth for Kingdom purposes.

Blessing of Royal Influence and Dominion

Abraham would associate with and walk among royalty. Although he was not a king he walked among the mighty of the earth who treated him royally. God has called us a nation and a kingdom of priests. As priestly kings we are called to influence shapers in the mountains of influence. That is our role and calling as kings and priests. We are called to disciple nations and to administrate the kingdom of God on earth.

Without Abrahamic influence we cannot systematically change culture to conform to the Kingdom. The Gates of hell are located in places of influence and in accord with Jesus' words they will be invaded by the Church (Matt 16;18) – and the good news is that they cannot withstand the onslaught from a Church that walks in its Abrahamic blessing of dominion. The influence that is required to affect culture is at a high level nationally and in various domains of influence.

The priestly kings that will help make a difference in reshaping culture are those who are willing to pay the price to scale the heights so that they rub shoulders with greatness. We have to have access to the gatekeepers of culture. We need to show up where the mountains are and occupy territory. The Ekklesia should sit at gates of the culture to determine what comes and goes into the territory. We have to be aware that where the church does not go the Kingdom does not go.

May God raise us up with assignments that take us to the gates. I pray that we divorce the theology of segregation that discourages priestly kings from engaging culture through its domains of influence. Someone told me that my unfinished assignment is the greatest argument for preservation and deliverance from pre-mature death. I have to fulfill my assignment through Abrahamic influence. *“Lord open up territorial influence for your people with business and governments.”*

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When you operate from a perspective of the Abrahamic blessing of royal influence you are not obsessed with striving for provision but rather your focus is on managing the provision.

Blessing of His Presence.

When God entered into covenant with Abraham, embedded within that covenant was a powerful promise that becomes more explicit when God speaks to Isaac and Jacob. It's the promise of His presence. "I am with you." Listen to the promise as made to Jacob, *"Behold I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."* Gen 28:15 (ESV). I have come to the conclusion that the greatest promise of the Bible is the promise of His Presence.

Well before the need for redemption, the need for healing, the need for resources and provision were felt, man needed God's presence. And well after all these other needs are met, we will still need God's presence. When the presence of God was lost in the garden of Eden, God planned redemption so that God would be with man (Emmanuel). The Most powerful manifestations of God's desire for Presence is in the name Jehovah Shammah –(God who is there. God who is Present.)

In the person of Emmanuel, God came near and became present. And the biblical record closes with the tabernacle of God being with man- God being present. This speaks to God being present with us wherever we are. Without a doubt going into the domains (mountains) of influence without God's Presence is suicidal. But we need not worry about that because within the Abrahamic Blessing is the promise of His Presence.

Personally I derive lots of comfort and courage simply through knowing that I will never walk alone. As I climb the mountains of culture and engage the entrenched

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systems that intend to colonize the world and ruthlessly attempt to defend their turf, I am assured of God's Presence.

Many believers confuse God's silence with His absence. Many times He keeps quiet to see whether I would trust Him even though I do not feel His presence. I may not hear His voice clearly some days but I still know beyond a shadow of doubt that He is always present. He promised never to leave nor forsake me. He is Jehovah Shammah. That is enough for me.

Blessing of victory in battle.

Gen 22:17 declares, *"Your seed shall possess the gates of his enemies."* This powerful Abrahamic promise is premised on the Abrahamic seed having the covenant-keeping God as covenant partner who has promised to fight the seed's battles. As priestly kings who come out of Abraham's loins (Gen 17:16b) we have the promise to possess the gates of our enemies. To me this goes beyond the promise of victory in any battle. It means to me that as the seed of Abraham I have a covenant right to climb the jurisdictions of influence and dislodge the enemy that has established its gates above those mountains.

I expect priestly kings just like David before them to dislodge God's enemies on the domains of influence and convert those gates to cities of our God. As we wage war spiritually in prayer and strategically by advancing up those mountains, we will establish the Kingdom of God. We will become part of that army which shall cause the kingdoms of this world to become the kingdom of our God and of His Christ. The promise to take over those gates and control the kingdoms already exists in the eternal covenant promise made to our father Abraham.

The Domain of Finance has always been dominated by Jews and freemasons all over the world. However, as previously mentioned, from 1994 in Zimbabwe priestly

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kings made significant inroads into controlling the banking sector and the gates of finance. At the close of 2003 there was a sudden onslaught on entrepreneurial banks with the net result that major Kingdom players in finance were dislodged and the influence of the Church was significantly compromised. From that time on the Church has not had any meaningful control of the gate of finance. It was left leaking its wounds. Unfortunately the majority of the Church did not realize that these bankers had raised a fist in the heavenlies and challenged the gates of hell.

So the church joined the world to vilify these gallant sons of the Kingdom instead of strategizing a come-back. I believe that some people reading this book are going to be angry enough to fight back and possess the gates of our enemies over finance. We have the promise that cannot be broken that the seed of Abraham will possess the gates of our enemies. Would to God that He gave us one more chance to possess these gates and allow the flow of finances for kingdom purposes? I do not believe that the blessing of Abraham that has led Jews to develop finance and banking was meant to be restricted only to Abraham's natural seed. I dare the spiritual seed of Abraham to claim the promise of God since we are no longer strangers to these promises of covenant and go raging to possess the gates of the enemy over finance.

Blessing of a Great Name.

Are you beginning to realize the power of the Abrahamic blessing? In Gen 12:2 God says to our father Abraham, "--*I will make your name great.*" I am fully persuaded that in these last days God is raising men and women of renown who as priestly kings will have such a reputation that they will leverage to advance the Kingdom of God. Abraham's name was known throughout the Middle East. To this day I hear that even in Saudi Arabia his name is still known and respected. Priestly kings will distinguish themselves in their domains of influence. I dream of a day that priestly kings who are

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spiritual descendants of Abraham are going to be the celebrities in Celebration Domain, in Finance, In Government etc.

A great name comes from distinguishing oneself through continuous development in your sphere of calling, through diligence, through excellence of character and integrity and finally through innovation that comes from divine insights and strategies that enable priestly kings to provide life-changing and game-changing solutions to hitherto unsolvable problems. Can I remind you that priestly kings both pray and act?

May the names of my readers be renown in the earth! May your reputation be a platform to honour God and extend His Kingdom! I am tired of the unrighteous seed making a name for themselves and then allowing the devil to use that reputation to disciple culture into ungodliness.

Blessing of Fathering nations.

Abraham was without seed. Satan wanted to rob him of the blessing to father. However when he prayed for seed, God heard his cry and promised him to be a father of nations. In Gen 17:4-6 God covenants with Abraham declaring, *“Behold my covenant is with you and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram (lit- exalted father), but your name shall be Abraham (lit- a father of multitudes), for I have made you a father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful and I will make you into nations and kings shall come from you.”* He was to be a source of blessing to nations. Just like our father Abraham we are called to father and disciple nations through discipling the influencers.

A classic example of this is Joseph who became a father to Pharaoh. By fathering the most powerful man in the land Joseph in reality was a father to the whole of Egypt. He disciplined it. In Gen 12:2-3 God says to Abraham, *“I will make you*

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a great nation ---- and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” God has called the seed of Abraham to be a nation. A holy nation. A peculiar people. As a nation we speak to nations.

Where are the fathers of Law, Celebration, Finance, Family, Education? Why is the voice of the King not heard in these domains? Is it possible we have not understood our high calling and our covenant privilege to father nations?

Personally I have set my eyes on the nations of Africa. I no longer see myself as just a preacher but as a father and a discipler of nations. The way I envisage it is that as I climb the domains of influence that I am called to namely Faith, Finance and Education, my name will be renown and I will advise, consult and coach nation-changers. As I do this by God’s grace I will hasten travellers along the journey and help shape the future of Africa. So help me God!

Blessing of Having Jehovah as your God.

One of the most powerful of the Abrahamic promises of which we are heir to, is found in Gen 17:7. *“And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”* By an eternal covenant God has vowed to be my God. Many people do not realize that one cannot do business or exercise influence without a god. Many believers try to climb the mountains of influence and without realising that these mountains are controlled by demonic forces and false gods. These demonic powers intend to guard and defend their jurisdictions of influence.

One can only successfully climb those domains of influence and dislodge those demonic forces when he is conscious of God as His God. El Elohim made an eternal covenant to be my God. I can scale those heights without fear because God is my God. This God has dealt with the gods of Egypt in the past and dislodged the gods of

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Canaan. He is an expert at dealing with those who are non-God but claim to be gods. Priestly kings have to realise that as they climb the domains of influence they have the King of Kings and Lord of Lords for their God. The God of Sabbaoth (Hosts) goes before them into the field of battle. Fear not warrior!

Blessing of Divine provision.

There is no battle that can successfully be waged without finances. So God empowered Abraham's seed with a blessing and to ensure that this blessing stands He even named Himself after His ability to provide. Gen 22:14 says, "*So Abraham called the name of the place, Jehovah Jireh (lit the Lord will provide): as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord, it shall be provided."*

There is no question that the battle to disciple the domains of influence is going to require significant financial and non-financial resources. But in the process we have a declaration that Jehovah Jireh will ensure that provision will be found on the mountain of the Lord. We dare not fear the costs of going to battle. Does not the Bible teach us that no soldier wages war at his own cost? The Commander in Chief is responsible to finance the costs of war. Is this not the reason why Paul could confidently say, "*And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus*"? Phil 4:19 (ESV).

Conclusion

Priestly kings after the form of Melchizedek truly believe that the Abrahamic blessing is a reality in their lives. Backed by this powerful blessing made by the God who cannot lie, they march on to take territory and advance the cause of the Kingdom. They are fully persuaded just like David that God Himself has sworn saying, "*I will not violate (break) my covenant or alter the word that went from my lips.*" Ps 89:34 (ESV). God has spoken it and so it is.

Chapter Fourteen: Grace Extravaganza.

Grace for the Assignment

Everyone is created with a life purpose and life assignment. No one is here by accident or by mere chance. Each life assignment is accompanied by a spiritual gift and grace for it. Every spiritual gift comes from the Cross and yet every spiritual gift has its own cross. And every cross has its own resurrection. Every life assignment comes from the grace of God and yet every assignment has its own grace to empower its fulfilment. The work that kingly priests are called to accomplish cannot be achieved unless one depends on the grace for the assignment.

In this chapter I want to examine the place of grace in priestly kings' assignment. This should not surprise us because Abraham – the father of faith was simply a Chaldean in Ur of the Chaldees when God called him. His calling and life was marked by grace. So is ours.

In this section I will use Paul's life as a portrait of grace for the assignment. In Eph 4:1,7 we read, *"I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ---- But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift."* We are encouraged to walk worthy of God's calling. We need as priestly kings to understand our calling and order our lives, plans, purposes and pursuits in line with that calling. That is walking worthy of our calling.

I pray that God burns Ephesians 4:7 into your heart as a priestly king. *"But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift."* (ESV) This speaks to your

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jurisdiction, your place of assignment, your place of dominion. There is no one who has been called and gifted by God to operate in a sphere of influence who doesn't have the grace for that assignment. Together with the calling and assignment, grace was given in proportion to the measure of the calling.

You have all the grace that you need to achieve your assignment and purpose. It says but to each one of us...not to some of us. But to each one of us grace was given (that *was* is past tense). So you have sufficient grace for your assignment. Yet many believers are still praying for grace to be given to them. Listen saint, you already have the grace. It was given! The word *according* means proportional. The grace upon your life is proportional to the calling of God. He gives you grace that is sufficient for the task and the mandate.

As I travel around the world, I am training myself to walk with dignity because I know that the grace of God will open doors for me to stand before the mighty. To structure financial resources for the Kingdom will require higher level authorizations in the nations of the world, so I am preparing myself on how to address His Excellencies and His Majesties. A day is coming when I will walk into State Houses.

Paul was very clear that His calling was a product of God's grace. Listen to him. Gal 1:15-17 declares, "*But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone; nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.*" He was clear that God chose him and called him by grace to preach to the Gentiles. Every priestly king should have this clarity of his place of assignment as a calling and vocation from God which emanates from God's grace.

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In Eph 3:7-9 we read, “*Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things.*” As we ascend the mountains of influence we need the same clarity of assignment. This clarity leads to focus resulting in greater effectiveness.

Paul knew not only his calling but also his ranking. He was not just a builder but a wiser master builder, a foundation-layer and apostolic leader. He built wisely and skillfully. In the domains of influence skill is a requisite. We need to sharpen our skills and distinguish ourselves. 1 Cor 3:10 aptly puts it, “*According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it.*” I notice that grace and skill worked seamlessly within Paul. Depending on grace does not mean just making do. It is unfortunate that for most believers when they say, “It’s now only by grace”, they mean it is now hopeless and we can only wait for whatever God will do. That is not the understanding of grace that priestly kings have. They are aware of the co-operation between God’s grace and the human person.

In case some think this relates to an apostle but not to them listen to what Paul says in 1 Cor 1:4-9, “*I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*” (ESV). Paul clearly says that even ordinary believers at Corinth were called according to the grace of God. These verses make a long and complicated sentence structure which may cause you to miss one of Paul’s

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key points. Let me restructure it to bring that point out for emphasis: *“I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him ----- so that you are not lacking in any gift.”* Here is the point. We believers have received grace from God in Christ Jesus that enriches us, so that we do not lack any gift. Grace makes the giftings of Christ available for our assignments.

The gifts that we receive differ according to the grace that has been given to each of us. They should be exercised in proportion to the measure of faith that we have. Rom 12: 6-8 puts this concept this way, *“Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us exercise them: if prophecy, in proportion to the faith; if ministry, in ministering; if one is a teacher, in teaching; if one exhorts, in exhortation; if one contributes, in generosity; if one is over others, with diligence; if one does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.”* This also means that we should minister in accordance both to the grace and the faith given. Some people think they are punching above their weight when they extend themselves past their level of “gracing” and faith. This often causes problems.

Within different jurisdictions and spheres of influence we need to operate with the knowledge that we maybe in the same mountain but we do not have the same gifting, grace or assignments. Here is a Scripture that explains this. 1 Cor 12: 4-7 declares, *“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.”* We have already discussed this at length when we discussed the issue of jurisdictions.

Peter on joining the discussion, advises us that the way we minister our gifts of grace to one another is really an act of stewardship. The key thing is that grace gifts are given for the benefit of others not for self-benefit. Hear him for yourself in 1 Peter 4: 10. *“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the*

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manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen." From this Scripture another key principle for priestly kings to appreciate is that we minister the grace gifts with a God-provided ability (i.e. we do not depend on ourselves but on divine empowerment), so that the end result is glory and honour to God. Grace gifts are not about drawing attention and glory to myself but for the purpose of God's greater glory.

It is crucial to lean into the grace for your assignment, labour according to the grace that empowers your gifting and calling, and to minister that grace gift for God's glory and mankind's benefit. I charge you not to let God's grace upon your life be in vain.

Sufficiency of Grace

I have served God for nearly 3 decades now and I have been taught to love and forgive people. I however have this one lady that I absolutely cannot stand. I really hate her. The crazy thing is that I have never met her. I don't even know her. Yet she speaks to me often especially when I least want to hear her. Worse still she doesn't even give me an opportunity to speak back. I often hear her say, "*You have insufficient funds to make this call.*" This lady annoys me. My frustration with her led me to understand that the challenge of life is a challenge of insufficiency.

We are called as priestly kings with a divine assignment to disciple nations through conquering the domains of influence. Yet many times we hear this lady saying, "*You have insufficient anointing to do what God has called you to do. You have insufficient resources to do what God has called you to. Even though you are a king, you have insufficient people to labour with you. You have insufficient structures.*" The problem of the work of God is the

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problem of insufficiency. I have no doubt that the devil has often whispered in your ears just like that annoying lady saying “You are insufficient.”

When God visited Moses and assigned him to go deliver his people, Moses heard a voice in his ear saying, “You have insufficient speaking capability for you to do the work of God.” God spoke to Jeremiah appointing him to be a prophet to the nations. He declared that He had known Jeremiah when he was still in his mother’s womb. The notorious lady spoke insufficiency into his heart and he started to say, “I am just a youth. I am insufficient.” The problem of the work of God is a problem of insufficiency. Think about Isaiah. God asks the question: “Who shall I send, who shall go for us?” Influenced by that lady who is an expert at insufficiency he says, “I am man of unclean lips.” Whenever God assigns people their mandate, the first challenge they face is a challenge of insufficiency.

When He called Paul to be a light to the Gentiles, Paul had this nagging fear of his past and the blood of the saints on his hands. Yet God called him and assigned him nonetheless. Paul just like you had a challenge of insufficiency. Let’s deal with challenge of insufficiency.

2 Corinthians 9:8 says, *“And God is able to make all grace abound to you so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every work.”* (ESV). Take a closer look at that Scripture. God is able to make all grace abound toward you. It doesn't say He is able to make *some* grace abound toward you but to make ALL grace. That is powerful because everything we need is a product of His grace. Everything we need: the anointing, the calling, the capacity come from the grace of God. The gift of God comes out of the grace of God. The callings of God come out of the grace of God. Spiritual gifts come out of the grace of God. Financial resources come out of the grace of God. Everything you need to fulfill your Kingdom assignment is wrapped in that one thing called the grace of God. Not only is God able but He is also willing and

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ready to give you all grace. Ever since Jesus came we are not looking for grace, we have all received grace according to the gift of Christ. And yet we spend our times as Christians praying for a grace which has already been given. We already have grace. If you are a child of God you have received grace according to the calling and the purposes of God. I repeat we already have the grace. God makes grace available that is sufficient for all our needs.

He makes all grace abound. Not just enough grace but an overflow of grace. Not to someone but to you. Wherever you are and whoever you are, kingly priest, God is able to make all grace abound toward you. He did not say “He is able to make all grace abound towards you *sometimes*”, rather He says “He is able to make grace abound toward you so that you always at all times in all places, may have all sufficiency.” (not some sufficiency). Yet the devil tells you that you are insufficient.

The greatest challenge of the Church in Africa is financial insufficiency. The moment God calls you, the first thing you think is, “How am I ever going to make things work? Where are the financial resources?” Yet out of His grace we receive all sufficiency. We are sufficient for every good work in all things. We need to change our mind-sets. We need to think sufficiency through grace.

While my wife and I pastored in Bulawayo, we determined never to present needs to the congregation. We reasoned that if you are always presenting needs, you create a need-consciousness and people think the church is always in need. This draws needs to you. Have you ever noticed that churches that are need-conscious are always needy? We simply challenged people to give based on the Word of God. Our offering messages were never need-focused but Word-focused. The saints were not giving out of the needs of the church but because of the word of God. I believe the work of God should be funded from a place of sufficiency not from a place of lack or need. I wanted them to understand that sufficiency comes from the grace of God.

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When it comes to financial resources you will understand that financial supply is a product of grace. 2 Corinthians 8:9 says *“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ that though He was so very rich, yet for your sake He became poor so that you by His poverty might become rich.”* When you know the grace of the Lord, you can access what He did for you on the cross of Calvary. He wore a crown of thorns instead of a crown of glory that we may prosper. The King of glory became a pauper so that we might become priestly kings. He was cursed on the cross that we may walk in blessing. All that happened because of grace. Not because I qualify, but because of His grace.

When I know the grace of God and when I increase my knowledge of the grace of God, then I benefit from the working of the grace. One of the workings of grace is financial sufficiency. A kingdom is as strong as its financial wealth. When people visited kings in the Bible they were taken on a tour where the king would parade his wealth and treasure. The strength of a kingdom is in the strength of its economy. Yet the kingdom of God, (the kingdom of the King of kings, the kingdom of the Lord of Glory, the kingdom of the Lord who owns everything, the kingdom of the God who owns all the gold) suffers lack. That is why the world looks down on the church because when you think kingdom you think wealth. Why do you think Buckingham Palace’s gates are adorned with gold? It is parading the wealth of the kingdom.

When believers understand the sufficiency of the grace of God they pray, *“We are not depending on our intelligence, or on our own capacity to generate wealth but rather we are depending on the grace of God. Lord cause the grace of God to work in us, in our ministry, in our business. Let the grace of God give me the financial capacity to finance the assignment and the domain of influence that you have called me to.”* Then they are financed.

When Ezra and his team were returning to Israel on the king’s commission to rebuild Jerusalem, they were embarrassed to ask the king for sustenance. They depended on God’s grace. Yet so many priestly kings borrow money from the world

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to finance the work of God. No wonder the world does not look up to the church. We are a poor Kingdom. We have listened too long to the voice that says “insufficient”. Let us stretch ourselves to depend on the sufficiency of the grace of God. Whatever God has called you to, He is able to finance. Just as your calling comes out of grace, the financing of that assignment comes from and through the grace of God.

Let us explore this further. In 2 Corinthians 12:8-9 Paul is looking at his weakness and afflictions - the thorn of flesh. *“Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”*

Not only do you have sufficiency that comes from the grace, but His grace is sufficient. It is adequate for everything you need. It is competent to help you. It is enough to meet your every need. The grace of God is able to strengthen you. As priestly kings sometimes you feel a weakness in your body, a weakness in your soul, or you feel the burden of the call of God as you are praying. You get to a place where you say “Lord I can’t do it anymore. I can feel the infirmity oh God. I can feel the pressure on my soul...” and yet God whispers *“In the place of weakness my strength is made perfect. In that place of weakness and vulnerability My grace is sufficient.”* It is very easy for example for an intercessor to depend on his capacity, his ability to fast, on his ability to wail and mourn. You don’t need to depend on your strength, but rather depend on the sufficiency of the grace of God.

So what does sufficiency mean? It means having enough to meet the needs of any situation. His grace is adequate and enough to meet every need that you will encounter as you rise into that mountain of your assignment. Let us put it differently. There is a grace of God that deals with your insufficiency. The grace of God is the solution to insufficiency, whether its financial insufficiency, human resources

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insufficiency, emotional insufficiencies. The grace of God is adequate and capable to deal with your insufficiencies. That's what God told Paul. He said *“Don't worry. My grace is sufficient for your weaknesses, for your inadequacies and your insufficiency.”* In any challenge I face, my approach is to just turn to God in faith and thanksgiving and declare, “Grace of God deal with my insufficiency, deal with my inadequacies. Grace of God, deal with my weaknesses.” The grace of God deals with those things.

Even if you struggle with sin, the grace of God deals with that. Titus 2:11-13 declares *“for the grace of God has appeared bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodly and worldly passions and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.”* So when I am struggling with sin, I come before God and say “God I have tried this in my power and failed. Grace of God train me to deny ungodliness, teach me to walk away from ungodliness, help me because grace deals with my insufficiencies.”

I don't know of anyone that God has called who felt competent. God prefers to use people who hesitate because they doubt their competency. I am concerned when I encounter ambitious believers who are position-hungry. Those who feel inadequate tend to become better leaders because they will depend on His grace and not on their strength, intelligence, ability to speak, or ability to organise. They will lean on the grace of God. Most biblical characters whom God tapped for unusual assignments had a first reaction that said, “Lord why me? I cannot do it.” As a church bureaucrat, whenever I see someone who is grasping for position, I park them for sometime so that they go through the wilderness for a while.

Why do you think God would take an experienced well educated, well trained, and well groomed man called Moses who understood the principles of leadership from Egypt and sent him to the back side of the wilderness. I believe it was to deprogramme him, because when he was being raised he was taught that he was

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competent in himself and had to show strength and power. But God took him into a place of incompetence so that he could lean on the grace of God.

When we lean on the grace of God it deals with our insufficiencies. One of the most influential African apostolic leaders who strides the history of Pentecostal Christianity like a mighty prince and without whom our history is incomplete is Archbishop Ezekiel Guti. He learnt to read by being taught of the Spirit to read the Bible. He is not eloquent in his oral communication. Yet he has raised the largest Christian movement in this nation. He has planted churches in almost every nation of the world. He is travelling around the world preaching the gospel well past his 90th birthday. It is not his skill, but the grace of God. This humble servant of God doesn't lean on himself but on the grace of God. He lives on the grace of God.

The grace of God deals with your inadequacies. Do not discount yourself from God's Kingdom expansion mandate simply because of background or educational qualification. Don't despise yourself when God calls you, just lean on His grace. We have seen so far that the sufficiency of grace means that grace is sufficient for financial provision, and enables you to accomplish the assignment.

In 2 Corinthians 3:4-6 Paul is talking about his ministry and he says *"Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God who has made us sufficient to be ministers of the new covenant"*. (ESV). Let us look at verse 5 from the NLT, *"It is not that we think we are qualified to do anything on our own. Our qualification comes from God."* The word *sufficient* here is the Greek word *aurtakeia*. It means my competence and my qualification. So I can safely say that what qualifies me for ministry, kingship, dominion, and for influence is not my academic qualifications or my intellectual capacity but is the grace of God. It is the grace of God that makes me competent. It makes me an able minister of the new covenant. When I stand and exercise authority

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in the world and when I speak with leadership in different places, I do not do it from a place of my competence but from a place of the grace of God. I am not denigrating education. Paul who is speaking here was very educated but he says “My qualification is not in myself but in the competence that comes from the sufficiency of God’s grace”. It is God who enables, empowers and qualifies you for your assignment. Lean on the grace of God.

In the things that God has called me to do, I have learnt not to lean on my understanding. I don't lean on my qualifications because they are not adequate. Not that I am not educated. But the qualifications I have don't matter. What matters is the grace of God. My qualification comes out of the grace of God. The callings of God often take us to places where our past experience cannot sustain us. It is at that point where you need the grace of God to qualify you. The grace of God qualifies you.

A few years ago we mentored a young man in our Bulawayo church whom we shall call Joe. When we met him he was broken and his self-esteem was shattered. Joe loves God, and is zealous for God. While he was a University student he got an industrial attachment with a leading manufacturing company in partial fulfilment of the requirements of his engineering programme. During this period he found himself working long hours and was totally thrown out of his comfort zone. At the end of 2011 his attachment period ended but he felt the need to continue with the organisation so he could further boost his employability. He secured a non-remunerated contract extension. He would work for the organisation during University vacations for free.

He worked harder for longer hours and volunteered to do anything that needed to be done. Low level employees ridiculed him. However this did not break him because his focus was on upgrading himself in terms of engineering knowledge.

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Joe graduated in October 2012 and continued to work diligently without pay. There was an exponential growth in the workload without a corresponding increase in remuneration. At some point he was frustrated as others got their incentive bonus pay while he got nothing despite the hard work he was putting in. He felt defeated at some point. But we encouraged him to stay on the ball stating that every seeming defeat is in itself a seed of success. He decided to have a long term futuristic view of his career. He knew beyond the shadow of doubt that one day he would reap the reward of the seeds he was sowing even though he did not know how and when that would happen.

In January 2013 his contract was renewed again on the same terms as a volunteer contract. Joe had an option to quit but chose to soldier on. Instead of withdrawing his services he gave his best. His immediate boss did not like him. But somehow, God gave him favour with a more senior boss. Joe's commitment caught the attention of that senior manager who asked for his help with some Board presentations. This young Christian could have said "It is not my job and responsibility. I am not going to do it." But he served his boss faithfully.

A short while later a post of senior engineer in the organisation was advertised. This was five grades higher than his grade then. With the encouragement of the senior manager he had helped with strategic work, he hesitantly applied even though he did not meet the job requirements. Though he was barely out of College the advert clearly stipulated that the job required six years experience. Other managers in the company discouraged Joe from applying for the job, instead advising him to wait for the postgraduate trainees.

We encouraged him to go for it noting that he had nothing to lose. If he got the job, he would have improved his life significantly. If he failed the interview he remained where he was. So there was nothing to lose. Many times we fail because we

don't try. We are too afraid of failing. His immediate boss berated him, accusing him of being high minded and thinking highly of himself.

In March 2013 he was summoned to the Human Resources Department to collect an invitation letter to an interview. He only had one week to prepare for that interview. Joe was the least qualified amongst six shortlisted candidates as he was the only one without experience. He decided to view himself as the extra person to fill the numbers and so would play along. This attitude removed pressure from him and allowed him to relax. On the interview day he did his best and left the room content. He was prepared for anything because he had told himself there was nothing to lose since he was the underdog.

The interviewing panel consisted of seasoned organisational leaders from out of town. Within a week he received notification that he had passed the interview and was offered the senior engineer post for which he did not qualify. God had come through for Joe in a way that was far beyond his expectations. There is no way to explain it apart from the grace of God qualifying him.

I shared his testimony in one of my messages as an exhibit to God's grace. At the end of the service I asked people who did not own houses to stand as I was going to pray for them. I told them that until they are angry at their current situation they cannot have faith. Faith without anger is impossible. If you are comfortable with your current situation, you will never stretch yourself in faith to believe for a new reality. So I challenged them to get angry at the status quo and believe God for a house and do something.

Joe was now in his second year on the job. He was now thinking of his family. He had been taught that you pray and act. As a family man he saw the need for a property and took a step of faith towards acquisition of a house. They set out to look

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for a house anywhere in the low density suburbs as they were staying at a family house in the high density suburb. This looked ambitious as they had been married for less than a year and considering that they had not yet accumulated substantial savings to that effect.

Joe realized that his company ran a staff mortgage facility. He inquired if the mortgage facility was open and the answer was negative. The Staff Mortgage required a 25% deposit and 10% transfer fees in the event that funds were available. However at the start of their house search the Staff Mortgage Fund did not have the funds, neither did they have the deposit. This did not deter Joe. He persistently pursued the application forms for the mortgage even though it was not operational. Finally out of exasperation he was given the forms but was told that he was wasting his time. He applied anyway.

After a long search they identified a house whose market value was above USD 120,000 and they negotiated it to USD 85,000 since the Fund qualified Joe only for USD80,000. Strangely the Seller who had previously rejected offers of USD 100,000 and USD 90,000 from other prospective buyers, accepted Joe's reduced offer. Joe signed the agreement of sale in March 2015 with no funding in sight. He had the property valued against protestations from the Staff Mortgage Officers and placed his formal application for the facility –(which was not operational.) Monthly he would follow up with the office on his application. The answer was always negative.

However when he called again the third month he was informed that inexplicably the Committee had sat the day before and granted him a mortgage facility even if he had not been on the waiting list. Less than three years on the job he now owns a beautiful home in an upmarket suburb. It is not by his intelligence but it's the working of grace. So the grace of God can qualify you. The transfer went through in August 2015 after funds were eventually availed to him. By the grace of God they also

managed to raise the requisite deposits and conveyancing fees. Indeed God is faithful. We brought Joe back to give his testimony. On that day I challenged people to believe and to depend on the grace of God.

Three months later, I was at a funeral in Harare and a young lady introduced herself. She had been in the Bulawayo service where the testimony above was shared and I challenged people to depend on God's grace for their own houses. She was inspired by that testimony. When she went back home she suffered some abuse from her landlady as she found her personal belongings thrown out for simply delaying rental payment by two days. This got her angry and she remembered the Bulawayo message. She got so angry that she said God you have to do something. Inspired by the testimony she leaned into the grace of God. Through a series of miracles a month later she owned her own house. It is the sufficiency of the grace of God. Our competence, our sufficiency, our ability is not of ourselves but of God. When you choose to lean on God, on His sufficiency, and on His ability, suddenly doors will open.

Please note that depending on the grace of God does not mean being lazy and doing nothing. Grace is neither cheap nor a licence for laziness. In Joe's testimony above, you will observe that although he was depending on the grace of God, yet he was doing something about his situation. He understood that he is a priest who prays but also a king who acts. You pray and act. You strategize and position yourself to climb the mountains of influence. Your prayer should be "Lord, by your grace give me ideas. Give me God's grace to do things that make a difference."

The grace of God is our sufficiency. The sufficiency of Grace implies that it is the grace of God that makes us sufficient and competent, as well as working to make us competent. The grace of God makes you to become who God has called you to be.

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Grace: Access Granted

If you have ever tried opening an account that was password-protected without the correct password you have had access denied. Many of us live as people who have had to experience a denial of access to things we desired. You may have pursued a dream and felt like a big bold declaration was emblazoned before you declaring: ACCESS DENIED! But I have good news for you priestly king. Grace is the answer.

Rom 5:1-2 puts it this way, *“Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”* (ESV). I love the way the NLT portrays v 2. Read it with me, *“Because of our faith, Christ has brought us through into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God’s glory.”*

We have access by faith into the grace of God. Faith is critical to unlocking the workings of grace. Faith is the hand that receives from God. We stand in this grace! By faith we have access to the grace of God in which we stand. You have grace! Allow that grace to work in you and in your life! You have been granted access by grace!

In the next few paragraphs allow me to share a testimony straight from the people who benefited from access being granted by grace after receiving the Word.

“We would like to share with you what God has done in our lives in this year of Jubilee. In 2007 we bought our first property in South Africa. At that time we had one child. We moved to Mpumalanga after our second child. When we returned to Johannesburg in 2013 we had 4 children and our 3 bedroomed house was now too small for us. We started house-hunting from September 2015 even though at that stage we did not have permanent residence status. Most banks declined us mortgages as a result. Finally and inexplicably SA Homeloans gave us 80% of the asking price when the cut off for foreigners without permanent residence permits was 50%. This was a miracle in

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itself. However we still needed to raise over half a million Rands to secure the property. Once again we went to the banks trying to secure a loan to no avail. We didn't qualify in their credit criteria. When you came to the Access Granted Prayer Conference, my husband and I were at our wits end. We had reached a point of giving up having applied everywhere for financing to cover the difference with no success. The word you preached renewed our hope and became an anchor for our souls. You spoke about Jubilee being a Return, a Restoration and a Renewal. We determined to return to our possessions, to get back to our land, to our inheritance. Although access had been denied us we understood from the teaching that we do have access by the grace that qualifies us. We went through days and months when our faith in the word was contested. Incredibly the Sellers gave us occupancy to the house before we even paid the purchase price. After what seemed like four months of drought while searching for deposit and transfer costs, God provided the deposit and transfer costs within a short space of time from each other. This money came from the most unlikely of sources. As of Friday 8 July 2016 our 5 bedroomed house was registered in our name by God's grace. We bless God for the word that came to strengthen and encourage us just in time. Indeed access was granted to us by grace through faith."

A kingdom is known by the strength of its economy. God says in Malachi, "If I be a father where is my honour?" God says we are kings and priests. A kingdom is an economy under the king's control.

Access into wealth is granted by grace. I heard Dr Francis Myles teach that there are two major ways to make serious money. Think about Mark Zuckerberg the founder of Facebook. He had an innovative idea that he monetized into wealth. God can give you ideas, concepts, witty inventions that come out of His grace that are solutions to problems in the world and that make you wealthy. Creative God-given ideas grant access to wealth. This works best for entrepreneurs. One way is for God to give you ideas using the mind of Christ which we have. God has the ideas which eye has not seen, ear has not heard and that has not entered into the heart of man.

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God has prepared them for those who love him. The spirit of God by an act of grace searches the solutions and gives ideas to create wealth leading you to have a kingdom economy.

But contrary to the popular notion, not all are entrepreneurs. Not everyone can start a business. So there is another way to create wealth. Mark Zuckerberg invited some of his friends into his entrepreneurial opportunity. They didn't have to have the ideas, they were just invited by a powerful insider. Some missed the opportunity by declining the invitation. Joe Green was Mark's Harvard college roommate whom he had started *Facemash* with. However Joe under the influence of his father turned down Mark's invitation to join *Facebook*. And consequently missed a massive wealth creation opportunity. Other friends did take up the offer and made money. One of the ways to make money is to be invited by powerful insiders to the table opportunity. God is ready to raise up people who will invite you to the table of opportunity. Through this invitation access is granted by grace into wealth and influence.

Today I want you to take your eyes off of your competence, off of your past and lean on the sufficiency of the grace of God. Whatever God has called you to, I want to burn this to your spirits "the strength of a kingdom depends on the strength of its economy." If you are a king you need an economy. Whenever the Jews were doing well the Bible speaking figuratively says each man sat under his own vine tree because the vine tree always spoke of an economy. Each one of us has an economy we have to command, an economy that enables us to operate in our sphere of influence, that allows us to operate in our kingdom and in our domain under the King of Kings. If you are a king and you borrow, you are no longer a king because you are servant to the one who has lent you the money. You compromise your sovereignty in your sphere of influence. Thank God for grace.

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Prayer

“If I be king where is my kingdom? If I be a king where is my kingdom wealth? If I be a king where is my economy? If this sphere of influence that I have rulership over, has no economy then it is a weak kingdom. Lord if you have made me a king by grace, where is the kingdom wealth to achieve what you have called me to be?”

Chapter Fifteen: Yet Not I

John Newton the former slave trader who was richly transformed by the amazing grace of God of which he wrote is quoted as saying, *“Though I am not what I ought to be, nor what I wish to be, nor yet what I hope to be, I can truly say I am not what I once was: a slave to sin and Satan. I can heartily join with the apostle and acknowledge that by the grace of God I am what I am!”* What a testimony! Indeed Captain John Newton became a trophy (memorial, monument, token, evidence, memento of victory) of grace. From a slave trader to an amazing preacher of the Gospel. Only by the grace of God.

I Cor 15:9-10 says, *“For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain (fruitless, ineffective and without effect); but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.”*

Grace Defined

Grace is what every man needs, what none can earn and what God alone can and does freely give. Grace is a virtue (power) from God influencing man, renewing his heart, restraining him from sin, resourcing him for life, and empowering him for service. Grace is God’s involvement in our lives that draws us to Christ; that keeps us in Christ; that strengthens us by Christ; that empowers us to serve Christ and that makes us more like Christ. From beginning to end, everything that we are as believers is a reflection of God’s grace. Just like John Newton (and Paul before him), we are trophies of His Grace.

Defined by Grace

I didn't understand this guy called Paul. I thought he was a lunatic. How can a man who was responsible for the death of Christians stand up and say “My conscience is clear before God and all men?” How dare he? Because he understood that the day he had an encounter with the grace of God his past was redeemed and became a lost memory. And yet there are so many priestly kings who suffer from a guilty conscience of sins committed decades ago – even before salvation. This matter of grace dealing with past issues is critical because as you climb the domains of influence the enemy will try to derail you by resurrecting your past issues. When you came before God, you were washed with the blood of Jesus, and now you stand in the grace of God. You can say “I have a clear conscience before God and men because the grace of God has worked in me and is working in me. I am what I am by the grace of God.”

Every believer is on exhibit as a trophy of God's grace, the spoils of Christ's shed blood through his victory on the Cross. Even within my sphere of influence I am not a lamp hidden but placed on display as a trophy of Grace. Our lives should be letters that proclaim the triumph of His grace.

We are Products of Grace.

Even though Paul considers himself the least of the apostles, he now presents the contrasting thought. The idea is that *"Yes, I persecuted the church of God BUT by the grace of God I am what I am."* The word **"but"** introduces the radical change from what Paul was before grace to what he became after encountering the amazing grace that John Newton wrote about. This is a profound thought. I am not what I used to be. Paul boldly declares “I am what I am by the Grace of God.” I am now a product of

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grace. Not a product of my past. Not a product of my mistakes. I am grace-made. The thought is even more profound. My past no longer defines me. I am defined by grace.

Many are incapacitated because they look at themselves as products of abuse. Some walk in rejection because of divorce. Others view themselves as products of rape and/or incest. Consequently they reject themselves by allowing the past to define them. No!! Your past should not define you. It is the grace of God that defines you. Paul says "I am what I am by the grace. I am not defined by what I did in my past. I am not defined by how I came into the earth. I am defined by the grace of God. So I can stand boldly as a priestly king in the grace of God."

Priestly kings get this right: Our past does not define us. Grace does!

Try this and fill in the blanks:

I was ---- BUT by grace now I am-----

Not in Vain

The Scripture proceeds to state that God's grace upon Paul was not in vain. Vain (2756) is the Greek word (*kenos*) that means empty, without content, without result, without effect, to no purpose. *Kenos* describes an endeavor or labor which results in nothing of eternal value, no spiritual fruit, no evidence of "success", destitute of spiritual wealth, devoid of truth. It is possible to be a partaker of grace but allow that grace to be in vain- to be of no eternal consequence.

Someone said that we must always maintain eternal perspectives in all we do. As a priestly king I am obligated to ensure that I do not allow the grace of God to be in vain, empty, without content, without result, without effect, and to no purpose. The grace of God in me as I ascend the domains of influence should produce tangible results and have eternal value.

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1 Cor 15:58 says *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil (kopos - intense, demanding labor) is not in vain (kenos) in the Lord.”*

By failing to exert appropriate labour and work, we make the grace of God futile and vain. Grace is not a license to laziness. It is an inspiration to diligent and zealous labour for the Lord. Be careful that you do not frustrate or make void God’s grace!

Labouring by Grace!

“But I labored even more than all of them, yet not I but the grace of God with me.” I repeat: Grace is not a licence to laziness. Grace causes us to work. The words “I labored” (2872)(*kopiao* is derived from *kopos*.) *Kopos* describes physical tiredness induced by work, exertion or heat. The verb *kopiao* speaks of intense, hard, wearisome toil even to the point of utter exhaustion and even fainting. The intensity of the work leaves the worker so weary that it is as if he had been physically beaten.

The secret of Paul’s success was “God’s grace plus hard work” (1 Cor 15:9,10). Clearly we learn from Paul that as priestly kings advancing and expanding the Kingdom of God, we are supposed to leverage the grace of God to work hard and diligently. It has been argued that “A man’s reward from God is proportional to the excellence of his ministry and the effort he puts into it.” So I challenge every priestly king to labour according to the grace given to him. There is no glory without the pain of hard work in grace.

Grace at Work

Despite his great achievement for God, Paul did not claim any glory for himself. *‘But by God’s grace – I am what I am.’* Not only that, he proceeds to explain that

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though he labored more than all the other apostles, yet it was really God's grace at work. *"I worked more than any of them – yet not I – but God's grace that was with me."* It was all of God's grace. *Yet not I, but the grace of God!* What a powerful concept. Yet not I, but the grace of God.

The driving force behind all I do is not my own goodness, but the grace of God. Whatever good can come out of me and whatever success I can achieve for God it is simply because I am a Trophy of God's Grace.

Paul's **"yet not I" principle** is the secret of successful (God pleasing) service and genuine good (God) works. When Paul thinks of what he was and then looks at these results he finds only one explanation: "yet not I—but God's grace." Many times as God uses us to accomplish great things we forget this principle. It is possible as a financial engineer to structure an incredible deal for which you get glory and acclaim from all and sundry. How do you respond? How do you take it in? Paul would simply say, "yet not I, but God's grace."

This principle also applies to spiritual gifts, for they are gifts of grace from God and we can take no personal credit for them. As good stewards we are to use our gifts, but we are to continually recognize that they are gifts reflective of His grace working in and through us to bring glory to His Name. I was shocked once when I heard a renowned preacher boast of his anointing. In fact he was not boasting but threatening a congregant. He said, *"Don't leave my church because my anointing is dangerous. If you cross it you will die."* Apart from this being manipulative it is laughable because no one owns an anointing. Secondly the right approach would have been to say the things that God does through me are not because of me but simply expressions of God's grace. Yet not I – but God's grace! Yet Not I – is an acknowledgement that I am a Trophy of God's Grace! I did not make myself. I am not self-made. I am grace-made! I am defined by Grace.

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It is really an acknowledgement together with Paul that *“Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider **anything** as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, who also made us adequate as ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.”* (2 Cor 3:5-6).

As you climb the ladder of success on the mountains of influence, it is very easy to begin to enjoy the applause of men and develop pride. The “Yet Not I” Principle teaches us humility. If not for the grace of God, I would be a nobody with absolutely no influence. Therefore I will not allow success and influence to get to my head. It is not about me. It is simply pure grace!

I am surprised at Christians who boast of their wealth, their anointing, or their spiritual gifts. I thought spiritual gifts were gifts of grace. You did not qualify for them neither did you apply for them. He gave them as He willed. We pride in how God is using us as if we earned it for ourselves. How can I boast of something that I do not deserve? How can I boast about wealth that is simply by grace and for His glory?

When you understand that it is the sufficiency of grace you say, “Yet not I, but the grace of God.” The priestly kings who are rising up today, would so understand the sufficiency of grace that when people praise them, they respond “yet not I but the grace of God”. You defer glory to the grace of God.

Trophies of Grace

By viewing ourselves as trophies of God’s grace, we are saying God has accomplished something noteworthy both in and through us. We are not trophies of our own goodness, but of God’s grace. Without God, we are nothing but sinful. If someone should ever see any good in us, they should not give glory to us, but to God. We are simply trophies of His Grace.

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“In love He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved.” Eph 1:5-6. Throughout eternity, our salvation and our sonship will make us Trophies of His Grace.

Conclusion

I am made and defined by Grace. I cooperate with grace so that the grace of God is not in vain. I labour in grace to achieve what God has called me to. Grace labours in me. Yet not I but the Grace of God. All that I am and ever hope to be is nothing but simply a Trophy of God's grace.

Prayer

“Lord make my life a tribute, a trophy, a memorial, a monument and memento of Grace's victory! Father may I never forget that I am a product of God's grace and that my labours are simply products of your grace at work in me. I join those who have gone before in by declaring 'yet not I, but the grace of God!'”

Chapter Sixteen: For His Greater Glory

God deals with us according to His covenant with Abraham which was ratified in Christ Jesus. Please note that the Abrahamic covenant is absolute and not dependent on human beings. It is an eternal covenant. Normally in covenants two parties are involved who make promises of faithfulness and loyalty to each other. However within the Abrahamic covenant God makes a unilateral promise! God's covenant with Abraham was unilateral. It really was not dependent on an exchange of promises between God and Abraham. In fact Abraham was asleep as God walked the walk of blood in Gen 15. God exchanged promises with Himself. So His covenant cannot fail because He cannot fail. It is an unconditional covenant. It is powerful and unassailable. It is not dependent on human performance. It is purely dependent on the unchangeable God who can not lie.

God says to Jacob in Gen 28:15, 20-22

“Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you --- Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and keep me in this way that I am going and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God’s house. And of all that you give me, I will give a tenth to You.”

When God, based on that eternal covenant, approaches Jacob as he slept on the stone at Bethel, Jacob responds to God's covenant declaration by making a bold request. He says “If you will be present with me, keep and sustain me in the way that I

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go, then I promise to serve You and honour You with my tithe.” Initially I thought Jacob was being brash until it dawned on me that Jacob was simply responding to God’s unilateral covenant promise. We love Him because He first loved us! So Jacob’s promise really was that after this encounter with the God of grace, he would no longer live for himself but for God. Is that not the same thing that Paul said, in 2 Cor 5:15? “*And He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.*” (ESV). Is that not the purpose for priestly kings? To live not for themselves but for the King and His Kingdom?

Purpose of Life

The ancients had a saying in Latin: *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam, (AMDG)*, which being translated means “*For the greater glory of God.*” One can expand it as follows: For His Glory, For the Advancement of His Kingdom and for the Acknowledgment of His Lordship. As priestly kings we serve our Lord, the King of Glory. We do not live for ourselves. We do not seek our own glory as long as the King sits on the Throne. Our role and primary purpose is to bring glory to the Throne. That is our ultimate purpose in life as we scale the domains of influence. It is not about the prestige, the money or the acclaim. It is for His Greater Glory!

The Purpose of Prayer

In John 14:13-14 (NKJV□□□□), Jesus says, “*And whatsoever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.*”

That is a blank cheque. It is an incredible promise. Jesus actually said we can ask whatsoever in His name and it will be done for us. Really? Whatsoever? Let this sink in: *Whatsoever you ask in my Name, that (whatsoever it is) I will do.* What is outside

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whatsoever? Why are we limiting the Unlimited One with our limited thoughts and conceptualizations?

Jesus dares us to ask BIG. Will we take Him at His challenge? The size of the dare in our ask is an indicator of our confidence in Christ's word! We often pray small and safe prayers. These are prayers that if God does not come through, we are still safe. These safe prayers do not need God for them to be realised! Often we pray these prayers and think we are doing God a favour. No! In reality we are robbing Him of His Glory.

I often wondered why Jesus could be so bold. I think I now know. It is about His Greater Glory. *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*. Oh my. Prayer is not about me after all. It is about His glory. When I pray bold prayers, my prayers honour God and consequently God honours my bold prayers because they bring Him greater glory. When that dawned on me I decided: I will pray only those prayers that require a miracle for them to happen! Anything less than that is unbelief! And dishonours God! I dream big and pray boldly, for God's Greater Glory.

If we are going to make a dent in the discipleship of nations then we better believe Him for nations. Does He not say, "*Ask of me and I will give you the nations?*" (Ps 2:8). And yet most of our prayers for business influence are so narrow and so shallow. We do not think of nations.

Jesus clearly explained the reason for the bold promise. When God answers bold prayers made in Jesus name, the nations take notice and the Father is glorified in the Son. Put simply if we pray small and safe prayers, we are robbing God of glory! We are no longer living *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*. You need another witness about the purpose of prayer.

Then follow me to John 15:7-8 NKJV□.

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“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.”

Need I say anything more? This Scripture actually links bold prayers to fruitfulness. When we are fruitful because we asked boldly for impact and influence, then God the Father is glorified. Let us stop dreaming small dreams. Kings dream big!

I am willing to take the risk of believing that God still does extraordinary miracles in answer to the prayers of ordinary believers---- that He may be glorified. If I do not take that risk, then I risk forfeiting the miracle and robbing God of the glory due Him.□□

I expect the unexpected because God is predictably unpredictable to credibly do the incredible in answer to bold prayers for His Greater Glory. We glorify God, when we are open to the unpredictable, expect the incredible and attempt the impossible!

The Purpose of Life

As Jesus was going to the Cross He pondered what would happen. Then he asks a rhetorical question. A question that does not need an answer from the hearers. Hear him in John 12:27-28 (NKJV). *“Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour”? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, saying, “I have both glorified it and will glorify it again.”*

Can I suggest that what Jesus really meant was that the reason He came to earth was to glorify God! If that was Jesus’ ultimate purpose and He is our example, is it not possible that this is our purpose as well? The Purpose of Life is God’s Greater Glory! Am I living my life with God’s glory in mind? Am I pursuing the mountains of influence with God’s glory in mind? What really motivates my life? *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam* as the ancients would say.

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Purpose of Ministry - His Glory

“If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.” 1 Peter 4:11 (NKJV.) Does the Scripture not explicitly state that when we minister it should be ultimately for the purpose of God’s greater glory? “Whatever we do, we should do as to the Lord”. 1 Corinthians 10:31 (NKJV) Why? For His Greater Glory. Does your ministry in the marketplace has its purpose as God’s Greater Glory or its focused on the gold?□□□□□□

The Purpose of Miracles

In John 11:4 we read, *“When Jesus heard that, He said, “This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”* In this narration Lazarus has fallen ill and the sisters request Jesus to come and prevent what they feared- Lazarus’ death. Jesus commends to the disciples by declaring that the sickness is not to death.

Some have mistakenly taken this to mean there are some sicknesses that glorify God. However what Jesus was referring to was that by the exercise of the power of God to raise Lazarus through a miracle, God will be glorified. So what glorifies God is not the sickness, since this is caused by the devil. What glorifies God is the miracle that happens due to the prayer of faith. Here is a paradox: Satan causes people to be sick in order to have God blamed. Then God undoes the work of satan through a miracle which brings glory to God. The key thing I want to emphasize here for priestly kings is that they should expect miracles that glorify God.

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Miracles are not an endorsement of the person used by God. That is why I find the term miracle-worker unbecoming for ministers of the Gospel. Miracles are not supposed to bring glory to a minister or ministries, rather they are supposed to undo the work of the enemy and result in thanksgiving and glory to God. Whatever miracles you will encounter in the pursuit of God's plan in taking over the mountains, should result in God being glorified. Miracles are for God's greater glory and mankind's greater good.

The Ultimate Purpose of Giving

"Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God. For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the saints, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God, while, through the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal sharing with them and all men, and by their prayer for you, who long for you because of the exceeding grace of God in you. Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" 2 Cor 9:10-15 (NKJV).

Those who are givers and especially those who are called to the Domain of Finance where they raise massive amounts of wealth for the financing of the Kingdom, should realize that their giving will result in thanksgiving to God. Imagine reaching out to give substantially in a way that consistently alleviate poverty and eliminate the pain of vulnerable groups in the name of the Lord. When the beneficiaries realize that this is done with no strings attached and that it is done in the name of the King and His Kingdom – they express their appreciation to King Jesus and glorify the Father. So in reality the ultimate purpose of our giving as priestly kings is God's Greater Glory. It is not about our harvest even if that is important. It is not

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just an act of mercy. It is not just about obeying the Word. All these are valid reasons for giving. But the bottom line of all biblical giving is *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam!*

Conclusion

As priestly kings we live, minister and give for God's greater Glory! Our ultimate motivation for our lives is God's greater glory.

Prayer

My Lord I thank you for all that you have done for me. May I always live, minister, serve and give for your Greater Glory. May my prayers be prayers that glorify you and bring your Greater Glory. I choose to dream big and believe you for the impossible. That you may get the glory. I do not want to rob you of glory by living small. I covenant with you that I will seek to live my life and pursue my assignment for your greater glory. Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam. AMDG!

Chapter Seventeen: Coram Deo - Living Under His Gaze

As I have alluded to earlier I am now more than ever convinced that the central promise of the Bible is not:

- I will forgive and redeem you!
- I will heal and prosper you!
- I will deliver you!

Because sin, sickness and oppression were not there in the beginning.

BUT the central promise is:

“I am with you and I will be with you.” It is the Promise of His Presence! Let’s explore this thought starting with Jacob’s encounter with God in Gen 28:10-22

“Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east

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*and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, **“Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it.”** And he was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.” So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first. Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God’s house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you.”*

Context

Jacob has just taken the brother’s “blessing” and runs for dear life. In reality it was his blessing as Esau had sold it earlier. Then Jacob happens at a certain non-descript place. Nothing special about it place. Sometimes life is so hard and God’s presence unfelt that you have to take the stones of a non-descript place for a pillow! However during the winter of the soul Jacob has an encounter with God. To that chance and unexpected encounter Jacob responds, “The Lord is in this place (a certain non descript place) and I knew it not.” Is it possible that God is Present with you in your tough spots – and you are not aware of it? God is closer than you think!

God is in this place and I knew it not! Have you ever bought or leased a house with a broken window or doors at a time you had no financial capacity to repair them? Initially these irritated you. Then after a while they didn’t bother you anymore. You became comfortable with that broken house. You habituated. What’s that?

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Habituation is a psychological condition in which you are intensely aware of a new thing within your environment and then with time the awareness fades away. You get used and familiar to that thing and it does not bother you anymore. Initially it stimulated your interest. Now you barely notice it. This applies even to a new ring. Initially you are conscious of it – but after a while you habituate and don't even notice that you are wearing it. The same can apply spiritually.

Spiritual habituation results as follows: when you first experience God's Presence you are acutely aware of Him but with time as you become a veteran of the faith, you barely sense or notice His presence. You have habituated. *God is present in this place and I knew it not.* Have you habituated to His Presence such that it does not move you anymore?

Bethel

They tell me that whichever plane, that the President of the United States embarks on immediately changes flight name to *Air Force One* the moment he boards it for a flight! The same applies to God's presence. As you recall Bethel means the house of God. God's Presence converts a non-descript and unnamed place into the House of God. It becomes the Place of His Presence. Suddenly Jacob realizes God is present in this moment!

Coram Deo

Coram Deo is a Latin phrase that the Ancients used frequently. It means living life in the Presence, under the authority and for the Glory of God. *Coram Deo* means we are to live “before the face of God” and “under His gaze” and for His glory in everything we do. What a powerful concept. As a kingly priest or priestly king I live my life as if I am constantly before the face of God, always under His gaze.

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Coram Deo literally refers to something that takes place in the presence of, or before the face of, God. To live *coram Deo* is to live one's entire life in the presence of God, under the authority of God, to the glory of God.

To live in the presence of God is to understand that whatever we are doing and wherever we are doing it, we are acting under the gaze of God. God is omnipresent. There is no place so remote that we can escape His penetrating gaze. To be aware of the presence of God is also to be acutely aware of His sovereignty. The uniform experience of the saints is to recognize that if God is God, then He is indeed sovereign.

To live all of life *coram Deo* is to live a life of integrity. It is a life of wholeness that finds its unity and coherency in the majesty of God. A fragmented life is a life of disintegration. It is marked by inconsistency, disharmony, confusion, conflict, contradiction, and chaos. The believer who compartmentalizes his or her life into two sections of the spiritual and the secular has failed to grasp the big idea. The big idea is that all of life is spiritual or none of life is spiritual.

This means that if a person fulfills his or her vocation *coram Deo*, then that person is acting every bit as spiritual as a soul-winning evangelist who fulfills his vocation. It means that David was as spiritual when he obeyed God's call to be a shepherd as he was when he was anointed to kingship. It means that Jesus was every bit as spiritual when He worked in His father's carpentry shop as He was in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Integrity is found where men and women live their lives in a pattern of consistency. It is a pattern that functions the same basic way in church and out of church. It is a life that is open before God. It is a life in which all that is done is done as to the Lord. It is a life lived by principle, not expediency; by humility before God,

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not defiance. It is a life lived under the tutelage of conscience that is held captive by the Word of God.

A Real Life Parable

Father Damien was born on January 3, 1840 as Jozef De Veuster in Belgium and became a monk in the Catholic church. He went to Hawaii in March 1894 as a missionary as a replacement for his brother, a priest who died before fulfilling his life's dream. For nine years Fr. Damien worked on the island of Hawaii, teaching the faith to the people there. However a leprosy epidemic broke out and the government quarantined the lepers to the colony of Kalaupapa on Molokai Island. Volunteering to go minister there he arrived on Molokai in 1873, to a colony in disarray. The inhabitants were despondent, some too weak to work and started drinking to medicate away their pain and hopelessness. Fr. Damien rallied the healthier ones to help him build houses, schools, roads and hospitals, along with finishing St. Philomena Church. He cared for the sick, built hundreds of coffins and dug graves by hand to give his beloved lepers a decent burial.

For 16 years he lived in their midst. He spoke their language and felt their pain. He bandaged their wounds and embraced their broken bodies. He was among them but not one of them. He was present physically but not in their skin.

Then one day in 1884 he stood before them and began his sermon with stammering lips and a trembling heart, "*We, lepers ----.*" He came so close. He became one of them. He was in their skin. After years of serving them with no regard to his own health, he finally contracted leprosy. He was now one with them.

In Isaiah 64:1, the prophet cried out to God, "*Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down*" – and one day God did. One day God, in the person of Jesus Christ came so close and touched our humanity and sin – and he started his sermon by

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saying, *"We lepers. We humans."* God became present with us! He became one of us. God became flesh.

John 1:14 reports, *"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt (tabernacled) among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

God's Presence came in the person of Jesus Christ.

Matt 1:21-23 says *"--- and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" which means, God with us."* In the person of Jesus Christ the God of heaven became one of us. Immanuel- God is with us. God whose Presence is with us. Many believe that God is absent. That is not true. God is Immanuel. He is present with us.

Jehovah Shammah

Gen 28:15 *"Behold I am with you and will keep you wherever you may go---- For I will not leave you until I have done what I promised you."* That is a covenant promise. It's part of our heritage as the seed of Abraham.

Ezekiel 48:35 speaks of the city of God in this manner, *"The circumference of the city shall be 18000 cubits. And the name of the city from that time on shall be: Jehovah Shammah- The Lord is There."* The Lord who is Present! The Omnipresent God! Because of Jesus who became one of us God is Jehovah Shammah!

Matt 28:20 *"---. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."* As we go out to disciple the nations in the domains of influence we can rest in the knowledge that God is always present with us. You will never walk alone up those mountains! Priestly kings we need to walk in the consciousness of God's presence. *Coram Deo*. We are always in His presence.

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In Rev 21:3 John the Revelator records, *“And I heard a loud voice from the Throne saying, “Behold the tabernacle of God is with man. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God Himself will be with them as their God.” Emmanuel. Jehovah Shammah. God’s Presence is with us! Because of sin in the garden we lost the Presence of God. God would no longer walk with Adam. However through Immanuel, the second Adam, God’s presence was restored through redemption. In Genesis we lost His presence but in Revelation the Presence of God is restored in its fullness. The tabernacle of God is with man. He will be with them. The Word became flesh and tabernacled with us.*

As we close the history of the ages Rev 21:22-24 declares, *“And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.”* Ezekiel calls the name of this City Jehovah Shammah! God’s presence is now with man again. The Promise of His Presence which was lost in the Fall is restored in Christ.

Conclusion: Our Response

Gen 28:20 *“Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will keep me in this way, that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God and this stone which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God’s house. And of all that you give me, I will give a full tenth to you!”*

I respond to God’s presence with thanksgiving and worship. I worship and declare Him my God! I worship Him with my tithe and my treasure. The only fitting response to God’s Presence is a pledge of loyalty and worship from that which costs us something! Listen priestly king: You live *Coram Deo!* You are always in His Presence.

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Prayer

Father I choose to live with the consciousness that I live under your gaze. As I climb the mountains of influence may I always walk under your gaze, before Your face, under your authority, in your Presence and for Your glory! Coram Deo! May I always live in integrity and consistent to your Word!

Chapter Eighteen: Hineni

In September 2016 we went on a tour of Israel as part of my Jubilee celebrations. One of the places I thoroughly enjoyed visiting was the Friends of Zion Museum. I felt that God spoke to me through that experience. The museum tells the story of believers in Christ who stood and supported Israel in her most critical moments on the journey to the establishment of the state of Israel. It's a powerful 3D moving tribute to the covenant relationship between the natural and spiritual seed of Abraham.

As we close out this journey I would like to remind you that God made a promise to restore the tabernacle of David which releases an army of believers who are both kings and priests (kingly priests and priestly kings) with the intention of restoring His Kingdom impact on nations. The tabernacle of David upon which the kingdom of priests within the order of Melchizedek minister under the leadership of Jesus Christ our High Priest is the key to the prayer of our High Priest: *"Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven."* The promise is that Nations shall be disciplined! As kings and priests we have an obligation to fulfil, a mandate to execute and a commission to complete as given by our King of Kings.

The anchor Scripture for the Friends of Zion Museum experience is Isaiah 6:8 which reads, *"Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here am I! (Hineni). Send me.'"*

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The Museum tells the story of a promise made by God. A promise of a nation. A promise of a people. A promise of the land. A promise of touching and blessing nations! It's the Abrahamic blessing!

God spoke to Abram having searched throughout the land and said to him, *"Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. ²I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ⁴So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken to him."* Gen 12:1-4. He later confirmed by covenant that he who was without child would be a father of many nations. That His seed would possess the gates of their enemies. Nevertheless to this incredibly unbelievable promise, Abram in total faith responded to the call of God and in obedience to the vision, declared, *"Hineni. Here am I. Send me."* That began the journey. Here began the walk towards the promise.

Before they could fully settle in the land of promise- even though they stayed there for a while, they were forced by famine in Jacob's time to emigrate to Egypt according to the promise and spent 400 years of torture and torment. When the time of their departure had come, a man drawn from the reed, called Moses had a divine encounter at the burning bush. In that encounter the God of promise commanded him to deliver His people and start the journey to the restoration of the promise. The God of covenant had remembered His people. Standing barefooted at that burning bush in the hot burning desert, Moses had his own, *"Hineni- Here am I"* moment. Thankfully Moses said, Yes to the call.

The journey to the promised land had to be completed by Joshua. Many wars were fought and many miracles were observed but Israel failed to be faithful to the God of covenant. They went in and out of exile until finally in AD 70 after the death

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of the Messiah, the Temple which symbolised the tabernacle of Moses is destroyed and the nation of Israel is dispersed. The promise seemed to have failed. Really?

Throughout time God would speak to them through the prophets about His promise of *Eretz Israel* and the return to the land. So began probably the longest prayer meeting in history: *Next year in Jerusalem!*

As the years became decades and decades turned into centuries the promise seemed to fade and the hope lost in many a Jew's soul. The yearning though kept and recited during Passover, was nothing more than a vestige of the past and a memory of a dream forgotten. It became a tradition! And yet the God of promise who could not lie, had promised.

And slowly but surely, first a sigh, then a whisper, then a groaning and slowly a conversation and finally a hymn began to be heard – first among a few Jews and later among the spiritual seed of Abraham as well, *“Here am I. Hineni. To the promise!”*

The Museum chronicles the stories of men and women who heard that call and helped lay the foundation of the fulfillment of the promise. Some dreamt and wrote books, others led 100 year prayer chains for Jerusalem. Some gave their lives and fortunes to preserve Jews during Second World War. Some took politically incorrect decisions to stand with the Jews in support of the ancient promise. Swiss Noblemen. Dutch Intercessors. Swedish Diplomats. American Professors. Polish Nurses. Japanese Diplomats. French Generals. British Military and Intelligence Officers. US Presidents. Each in his or her own way. Each one in his own time. Each was given an opportunity to answer to the call. Each had to come to a moment of decision.

There are indeed moments unexpected when God calls us to make a stand. Each in response to the divine call: *Who will go for us? Whom shall I send?* With trembling

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lips and stammering tongue, they each notwithstanding the cost, responded, *“Here am I. Hineni. Send me!”*

For many, their choice came at great cost:

- Some surrendered complacency to get involved e.g. Oskar Schindler
- Some took action when others cowered in fear e.g. the Corrie ten Boom family
- Others risked their careers – and died poor and forgotten e.g. Chiune Sugihara, Raoul Wallenberg
- Others risked their very lives e.g. Irena Sendler
- For some it was not only doing their duty --- but more a conviction of the heart e.g. Orde Wingate, President Harry Truman, John Patterson and Marie-Pierre Koenig and
- Others worked unknown, unrecognised in the trenches– the unsung heroes who will forever remain nameless and faceless this side of Heaven.

Each in his or her time said, *“Hineni. Here am I. Send me”* when their call came.

As we close this adventure, there remains a commission both to the priestly kings and kingly priests to heed the call: **To return and rebuild the Tabernacle of David. To disciple nations. To exercise Dominion. To Extend His Kingdom. To superimpose His will.** To Advance the cause of the Kingdom until that day when the voice will shout, *“For the Kingdoms of this world have become the Kingdom of our God and of His Christ!”* Today the call rings forth, ***“Who will go for us? Whom shall I send?”***

Someday....., somewhere.....

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At a moment in your life

You may hear the call.....

An opportunity to pass the torch of this promise forward

Your decision could determine the future of the Promise

What will you do?

God's call: "*Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?*"

Will you respond: "*Here am I! (Hineni). Send me.*"?

Prayer Challenge One:

If you are already in Christ, you are the seed of Abraham and are called as a kingly priest, will you heed the call and pray:

"Here am I (Hineni) to the call. Here am I Lord to your call and your promise. Here am I. Lord send me. I am available to the Assignment. *Hineni Adonai!*"

Prayer Challenge Two

You may have read this book and were challenged by it. But you do not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, our High Priest. You cannot honestly say, “I am a child of God. My sins are forgiven me. I belong to Christ.” Then to you the call is for you to call on His name and ask Him to forgive your sins.

When you do that He will forgive you and give you a place among the redeemed. If that is you please pray this prayer with me:

"Dear God, I want to be a part of your family. You said in Your Word that if I acknowledge that You raised Jesus from the dead, and that I accept Him as my Lord and Savior, I would be saved. So God, I now say that I believe You raised Jesus from the dead and that He is alive and well. I accept Him now as my personal Lord and Savior. I accept my salvation from sin right now. I am now saved. Jesus is my Lord. Jesus is my Savior. Thank you, Father God, for forgiving me, saving me, and giving me eternal life with You. And today I say Hineni to your call to serve as a king and priest under the Lordship of Jesus to advance your Kingdom on earth. Amen!"

If you have prayed any of those two prayers please communicate with us at drta@raphawater.net

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End Notes

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ⁱⁱ S. Steinlight, "The Jewish Stake in America's Changing Demography: Reconsidering a Misguided Immigration Policy," Center for Immigration Studies, Nov. 2001. (<http://www.cis.org/articles/2001/back1301.html>)

ⁱⁱⁱ N. Burstein, "Jewish power dominates at 'Vanity Fair,'" *The Jerusalem Post* (Israel), Oct.12, 2007. (<http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1191257286817&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull>)

^{iv} www.coramdeo.com/lessons/hffmm/8ww/hekhh7ci-hm150wyf/selfpaced

^v <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/usaaid-is-openly-financing-the-campaigns-of-homosexual-candidates-in-pro-fam>

^{vi} <http://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2014/10/30/tim-cook-comes-out/18165361/>

^{vii} Some of the details in these case studies will change from the time of going to print as executive leadership and shareholdings do change over time.

^{viii} [Article from the *The Guardian* \(14 Jan, 2008\) on the people behind Facebook](#)

^{ix} Source from their website <https://kendrickbrothers.com/about/history>.

^x Source: Michael Maiden: *Turn the World Upside Down*. (2009). Destiny Image.

