



WATCHMAN'S TRUMPET



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FROM THE MISSION DIRECTOR

Hello,

I welcome you to this new year and present to you January 2021 edition of "Watchman's Trumpet". This month, our theme is "A new Beginning"

Genesis, the first book of the Bible attributed the origin, creation and the beginning of all things to God. God is the author, originator and architect of the universe and all good things.

Creation story of Genesis described the beginning of all things except God. God's existence predates all things and will outlast all things. This lesson is very important because of the great damage that came upon the world that God created. For those who wanted to get away from the damage, hurts and aches of a past year the only hope is connection and renewal of relationship with this creator God so that He can by His power reorder our lives and affairs; and lead us to new horizons.

God is a God of possibilities and His power and resources are limitless. His attributes gives clear testimony regarding His willingness and readiness to help. Why is it then that some who come to Him to ask do not receive what they ask for and some who are in relationship with Him sometimes find it difficult to achieve their full and maximum potentials?

The answer is that there are obvious barriers that prevent men from receiving from God. To get the best from God in a new year like 2021, deal with these barriers. We must repent and forsake our sins; we must embrace holiness of life in our walk with God in the New Year

We must recognize Jesus as the lamb that God sent to atone for our sins with His blood and apply the blood for cleansing and protection from all evils the way Israelites did with the blood of the lamb in Egypt.

We must remain within the confines of the grace of God to continuous enjoy His protection. We must thread the part of obedience and gratitude which saints of old like Noah and Abraham trod and maintain a more intimate relationship with God more than we have ever done in any single year. As we do so, 2021 will for us be the best of all years we have ever spent. I pray that it will be so in Jesus Name. AMEN!

CREATION OF HEAVEN AND EARTH

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters and God said, Let there be light: and there was light" Genesis 1:1-3.

On the eve of Christmas - December 24, 1968, as three American Astronauts orbited the moon, they read from Genesis 1:1-10 "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth..." Their mission marked man's first leap into the limitless universe and represented a technological achievement far beyond anything man had ever done.



Inside

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| About Watchman Outreach | |
| Mission | 3 |
| Watchman Prayer Hour | 3 |
| Relationship with God | 4 |
| Redemption of Israel & Believers | 5 |
| Breaking through barriers | 7 |
| Missionary of the Month | 8 |

These men, crew of Apollo 8 - Frank Borman, Jim Lovell and Bill Anders most certainly choose this passage as their first address to the earth because they sensed a superior creative personality, force and power behind all that they saw and encountered in their space travel. That day's new beginning for humanity, they connected to Genesis - the beginning of all things and to God the author and originator of that beginning. Without understanding, acknowledgment and acceptance of that connection nothing on earth will make sense and a new beginning such as that of the dawn of a new year as we have now will be meaningless and purposeless.

We shall consider three subtopics:

1. Self-existent, eternal and Almighty Creator
2. Awesome power of the Almighty
3. Summative evaluation of God's creative acts.

1. Self-existent, eternal and Almighty creator

"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God" Psalm 90:2

God's existence predates all things and will outlast all things. Genesis described the origin of nights, days, seasons, years, moon, stars, vegetation and aquatic life animals; birds, trees, sky, seas and human beings. The story of the creation of the Universe began with God. This lesson is very important because of the great damage that came upon the world that God created.

For those who wanted to get away from the damage, hurts and aches of a past year, the only hope is connection and renewal of relationship with this creator God so that He can by His power reorder our lives and affairs; and lead us into new horizons. To get the best that this New Year holds in store, you must begin with God.

2. Awesome power of the Almighty

"And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters". Genesis 1:2

"He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills. They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst. By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, which sing among the branches. He watereth the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth," Psalm 104:10-14

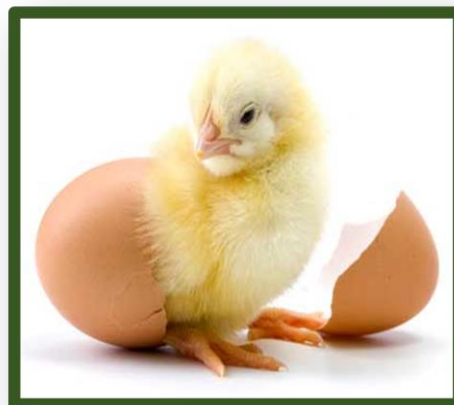
Creation account portrays great elegance, varieties, orderliness, and earth's emergence from a past formlessness, shapelessness and chaos. Sometimes an old year would for an individual, family, community and nation ends like that. We must be reassured as we come into a new year that the Almighty God who sits and reigns on the throne of the universe has not abdicated His throne and responsibility. What He created, He could recreate if damaged. This is the greatest message that hurting and aching people need today to make them forget past pains and misfortunes.

There are two things that featured majorly in God's creative works in the beginning that we must pay attention to if we are to experience lasting transformation that we expect in this new beginning and year. First is the word of God - The spoken word. Psalm 148:5.

God spoke to the void and chaos in the world and everything begin to take shape and fall into place. Beauty and orderliness emerged. He is still willing to do so today if we draw closer to Him. The word of God and the power in it will never lose its potency. Whatever it is you wanted or desire to achieve in this New Year, search the scriptures for a promise that is connected to it. Take this promise to the Lord in prayer. Begin early, on the first day of the New Year. Make this a praying year, it shall be yours. God answers prayers and responds favorably to our obedience to His word. He will answer your prayers

The second factor responsible for the emergence of a beautiful universe and creation in that beginning was the move of the Holy Spirit. Psalm 104:30.

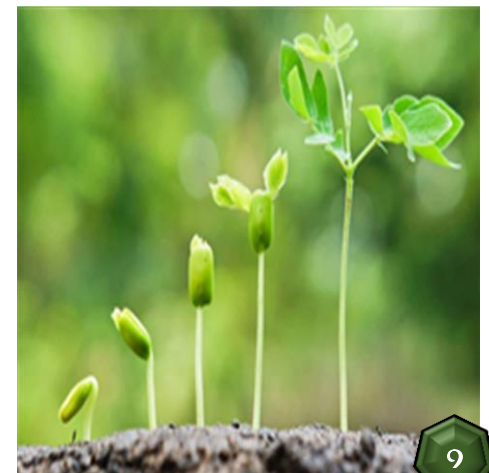
The changes that led to the birth of the universe and new world was mediated by the Spirit's power. Holy Spirit is still at work on earth today transforming lives, changing situations and circumstances and ending long term suffering and afflictions. We need in this New Year to reappraise and realign our relationship with the Holy Spirit. This must start with repentance by those living in sin and restoration from backsliding for backsliders. Believers must consistently seek Him much more than we did in the previous year and be guided by His Spirit's leading in all things.



3. Summative evaluation of God's creative acts

"And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day" Genesis 1:31

The summative evaluation of all that God created in the beginning was captured in this phrase *"very good"*. God lays claim to being the author, originator and giver of all that is good on earth. All good gifts come from God, James 1:17. On the other hand, we must place the responsibility for every damage, hurts, aches and pains that filled the world today at the door steps of the devil. He is the adversary that came to steal, kill and destroy. We need clear understanding about God's position and devil's activities in connection with our experiences so that when problems, difficulties and temptations arise in the course of the year we will know what to do. The scriptures not only have prescribed solution to all human problems, it described how we can have 365days of victory and victorious Christian living. The scriptures enjoins believer to submit to God and then resist the devil. We are assured in James 4:7 that when we do, the devil will flee from us. Let us then make this year a year of absolute, continuous, uninterrupted submission and surrender to God so the devil will have no place to stand in our lives. My prayer for you beginning from this day is that deliverance, victory, dominion, power, fruitfulness and prosperity will be yours throughout this year in Jesus name!





ABOUT WATCHMAN OUTREACH MISSION

Watchman Outreach Mission as envisioned fundamentally comprises of men and women of faith who watch over one another and together watch for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Next to this primary assignment is an equally important responsibility of bringing others into the same state of watchfulness and readiness as the coming of the Lord draws near. Ours is a trans-ministerial, trans-denominational mission. Our core values include expository teaching, prayer and counselling. We train in principles and practice of Christian discipleship and equip for effective Kingdom Service.

The Lord Jesus Christ in one of His parable said “*While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept*” **Mathew 25:5**. Watchman Outreach Mission is a response of faith to this and similar warnings about events in the last days. Our response is based on the premise that prophecies, visions and revelations about the future such as the one documented in the Lord’s parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins are sign-posts by which men are warned to keep vigil to avoid disastrous end. We serve to wake up the church and men everywhere to remain alert and watch for the Lord’s return.

The Mission, based in Ibadan, Nigeria, was launched in 2009 and its maiden outing took place on the 20th November of the same year. On that day, we partnered with All Nations Evangelical Ministry (ANEM), Akobo, Ibadan for Evangelistic and Medical Mission Outreach to Idi - Ose Village on Arulogun - Olorunda Road in Lagelu Local Government, Ibadan.

In the years that followed we networked with churches and other Christian groups too to implement our mandate which include conducting gospel outreaches, discipleship training for new converts, organizing and facilitating workers and ministerial training, conducting administrative reviews in churches and ministries, writing of proposals for reforms and church growth strategies that can enhance social cohesion, improve church finances and foster overall development, unity and growth of such ministries; monitoring and/or supervision of the implementation of such reforms and strategies.

Some of these Christian groups and ministries include with Christ Apostolic Church, Oke - Ife in Ajangboju, Ibadan, Nigerian Military Christian Fellowship, Adekunle Fajuyi Cantonment Chapter in Oyo - State Nigeria, Christ Gospel Mission International, Light of Jesus Evangelistic Ministry with branches in different cities in South Western Nigeria, and Ark of Salvation Church of Christ (ASCC) with headquarters at Molade, Monatan Ibadan.

Till date, although partnered ministries change from time to time depending on the leading we receive from the Lord, we remain committed to our main purpose and vision; that of service to the church and in the world to wake up men everywhere and encourage them to remain alert and watch for the Lord’s return. Through our activities, souls had been saved, believers edified and church workers’ spiritual growth and development enhanced, all to the glory of God.

WATCHMAN PRAYER HOUR



Prayer Points - For January 2021

1. Grace to begin and end this new year with the Lord.
2. For healing and restoration from all past hurts, pains and damages.
3. For true repentance from all sins and renewal of relationship with the Holy Spirit.
4. For continuous, uninterrupted and absolute surrender to God as we journey through year 2021.
5. Enjoyment of total deliverance, victory, dominion, fruitfulness, absolute peace and prosperity this year.
6. Grace to live a consecrated live to the service of the Lord.
7. For divine covering and protection from all evils by the blood of the Lamb.
8. Life of faith to remove every barrier and mountain this new year.

“ men ought always to pray, and not to faint;” Luke 18:1

May the Lord hear and answer all our prayers - AMEN!

Watchman Prayer Hour holds every Saturday from 10.30am - 12.00MD. We invite you to join us at our office in 78/80 Nepa (IBEDC) Building, Opposite U.I. Second Gate, Ibadan . Oyo - State. You can also follow us live on any of our Social media platforms during the prayer session and send inquiries or prayer requests to any of our digital addresses.



RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD: NOAH AND ABRAHAM

“And God spake unto Noah, saying, Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons’ wives with thee. Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth”. Genesis 8:15-17

The emergence of Noah from the Ark after the world’s destruction in his days as well as Abraham’s separation from a past lineage of idol worshippers marks a new beginning in the lives of these patriarchs. Even though God created the entire universe and they belong to Him, God values relationship with men as individuals. At a time of universal apostasy and overwhelming idolatry and self-centeredness such as was prevalent at the time of Noah and Abraham, God is delighted to have people stand up and stand out for Him and for His name and glory so He can bestow special favour and abundant grace on them; so they can be in a peculiar sense His people, and so that He in turn can be their God.

We shall consider three subtopics.

1. Days of Noah and background of Abraham
 2. The call to separation
 3. Salvation and associated rewards/blessing of choosing God.
1. **Days of Noah and background of Abraham**

“But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be”. Mathew 24:37-

39

Jesus in His Olivet discourses described the ungodliness that characterized the age in which Noah lived. It was an age in which pleasure, partying, merriment as found in today’s social and societal life have replaced commitment to God and dedication to His service. In those days, like now, men lived as if these things were the only purpose for living. Moses in Genesis 6:1-2, 5 added the fact that in Noah’s days the line of division between God’s people and worldly carnal men had become blurred such that we cannot recognize the difference between the one and the other. Men by perversion of their minds and thoughts gave themselves over to unprecedented evil deeds and wickedness. But in the midst of this rot and corruption, a man stood up and stood out for God and God stood by him. He never participated in the sins of the people in that dispensation. Therefore God ensured that he escaped their plague (i.e. the flood).

Idol worship was commonly practiced by all in Abraham’s lineage according to Joshua 24:15. The Amorites among whom he came to dwell were no better. His answer of God’s call to separation made Him and His descendants Heaven’s favorites.

2. The call to separation

“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues” Revelation 18:4.

As a result of sin and wickedness, the world is fast accelerating towards a predictable end. There is a sure damnable end to lives lived in sin and in blatant disregard for biblical standards and the commandments of God. Noah knew this in his time especially when he was warned by God that judgment was coming. He, by the grace of God with his family trod the path of separation from sinners and the wickedness that flourished in the society in their time. The same call comes to us today.

Also, Abraham had to forsake His idolatrous kinsmen for a fresh start and beginning with God. God called him to live a life of separation. He obeyed. Sinful activities are multiplying in the world daily and changing shapes and forms. Revelries, partying, incest and many other unnatural sexual relationships forbidden by God has become the norm. The idea that human body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit is almost becoming an archaic, forgotten message. Men are living as if they own themselves and are the architects of their

own lives and destiny. We witness daily, worst version of activities that made God to destroy ancient cities like Sodom and Gomorrah as well as the world of Noah’s days in unprecedented manner. At such a time, the call of the Holy Spirit and God is *“come out from among them, and be ye separate...”* 2 Corinthians 6:16-18. The best time to do so is the beginning of a new year such as this because if we travelled on the same old road which we have always travelled, and face the same direction which we have always faced, we will arrive at the same destination. But if we will on the occasion of a new year like this one pursue a paradigm shift, repent from all sins, accept Christ as our Lord and Saviour, salvation will come to us.

3. Salvation and blessings/ rewards of choosing God

“And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing.” Genesis 12:2

Salvation in Christ separates us from the wickedness and consequences of living in rebellion against God in our generation. Abraham’s name, lineage and remembrance remain till today. The Lord blessed him and his descendants greatly. Noah and his family escaped the universal flood that God sent as judgment and punishment upon the wicked in the world of his time. He and his family members were saved. Such is the reward and blessings that will come to those who stand fast with uncompromising faith in God, in truth and in righteousness in times of universal apostasy.

Divine judgment has been prophesied against all the evils that the wicked are perpetrating in our present world and the opportunity to choose God are being presented by end time preachers. Since we do not know when the end will come, whether this year or next, wisdom dictates that in the New Year, we should choose to come to God’s side, come to Christ and live for His glory before it is too late.



**REDEMPTION
OF
ISRAEL AND NEW
TESTAMENT
BELIEVERS**

“This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you. Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house.” Exodus 12:2-3

Here in this reference, God Himself drew the line between Israel and their past by announcing a new beginning. The Passover marked a turning point in the life of the average Israelite and that of the entire nation. It was the time and moment in history when their yoke of 400 years of slavery, infanticide and all-encompassing humiliation were broken by direct intervention of God. Their redemption by the blood of the paschal lamb was symbolic of New Testament redemption through the blood of Christ. At some point in our lives we all need God’s direct intervention and the privilege of a new beginning which Israel’s redemption and that of the New Testament believers illustrates.

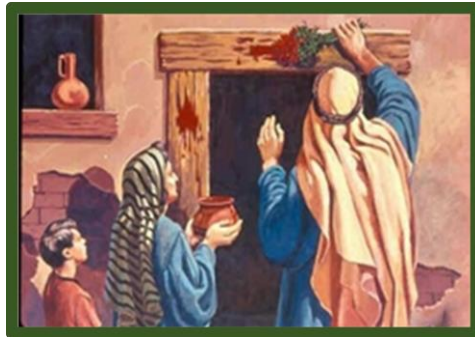
We shall consider three subtopics:

1. The announcement and implication of a new beginning
 2. Personal and corporate preparation for divine deliverance
 3. Freedom at last and freedom indeed.
1. The announcement and implication of a new beginning

“For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD and the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt” Exodus 12:12-13

God Himself preached the Gospel to Israelites through Moses that a final plague was coming upon the Egyptians which will break all their chains. Moses told them that the occurrence of that plague will mark the beginning of their redemption. God wanted them to distinguish between that moment and their past by starting to reckon their years and months forthwith as from that day. It was to be to them the beginning of months and a calendar year.

Religious people all over the world need to understand and take action when the Gospel about the necessity of the new birth and new life in Christ is preached to them. Careful analysis of their past relationship with God would have shown Israel that never in their history in the past was there any instruction given for the need for a blood mark on their lintel and door post as a channel of deliverance from captivity and death. Whenever God announces or the Holy Spirit publishes a new move of God, there must be prompt individual and corporate response by those who want to benefit.



2. Personal and corporate preparation for divine deliverance

“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” 1 Peter 1:18,19

God’s instruction concerning the killing of a lamb without blemish and the use of his blood to mark the lintel of their door posts prefigured the shedding of Christ’s blood and redemption, safety and security through Him.

In Egypt, escape from the last plague and final judgment requires blood mark. Anybody who wants to escape was asked to kill a lamb without blemish, take the blood and strike it on the two side posts

and on the upper door posts of their houses Exodus 12:7.

The nationality of the person inside the house where the blood was applied was simply immaterial. This is a picture of what the blood of Jesus will do for whoever believe in Him and appropriate the blood by faith today.

Knowledge of what the blood can do is not sufficient. Individuals or families must take responsibility to be delivered from judgment. The same is true concerning Christ and end time judgment. It takes confession and forsaking of sin; and prayer to cover oneself or one’s family with the blood of Jesus and be free from satanic attacks. It takes consistency in following the Lord till the end to be free from end-time judgment. No one can do it for you!

3. Freedom at last and freedom indeed.

“And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle”.

Exodus 12:29

Eventually, the prophesied judgment came. The angel of death passed through the length and breadth of Egypt. All the first born in the places he passed through were killed from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat upon the throne to the least person. Even animals were not spared. It is only in the house where blood was applied to doorposts that people were saved. Pharaoh summoned Moses and pleaded with him that the children of Israel should depart from his coast immediately. They were free at last and they are free indeed; saved by the blood of the Lamb.

Jesus is the Lamb of God John 1:29, 35. His blood cleanses us from all sins, justifies, sanctifies and preserves from activities of demon and evil angels. It guarantees victory over Satan Revelation 12:7. Those whom Jesus sets free are free indeed. Sinners could have a fresh start by repenting from their sins and receiving Jesus John 1:12. Backsliders too could be granted a new beginning and great refreshing by seeking restoration. The beginning of a new year like this offers such privilege and opportunity. This is the privilege and heritage of New Testament believers; they are saved and shall be kept safe by Jesus the Lamb of God.

BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS IN 2021

“And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them” Mark 11:22-24

God is a God of possibilities and His power and resources are limitless. His attributes gives clear testimony regarding His willingness and readiness to help. Why is it then that some who come to Him to ask do not receive what they ask for and some who are in relationship with Him sometimes find it difficult to achieve their full and maximum potentials? The answer is that there are obvious barriers that prevent men from receiving from God. The Lord wanted to draw our attention to these barriers and seeks our cooperation with Him, so that with His help, we can get rid of these barriers and be the best we can and achieve/enjoy the fullness of His blessings in 2021. I pray that it will be so in Jesus name!

We shall consider three subtopics in this message -

1. God's ability and possibilities
2. Barriers to our connection with divine possibilities
3. Faith that removes every barriers and mountains in the New Year

1. God's abilities and possibilities

“Ah! Lord GOD! Behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:” Jeremiah 32:17

“For the LORD most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth. He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet” Psalm 47:2-3



A person's ability to bless and fulfill his promises depends on who he is and what he has. There are people who greatly desire to bless us but are limited in time, resources, positions, authority and ability. God is not like that. The Lord who invited us to come to Him and receive is one who owns all things and has all power. He reigns over all. God is omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient. He is gracious, longsuffering, merciful and kind.

The Lord is Eternal (in and beyond time, without beginning or end) - Psalm 90:2, gracious (giving beyond measure, from love) - 1 John 4:8, holy (sinless, and opposed to sin) - Leviticus Isaiah 6:3, 19:2, 1 Samuel 2:2, immutable (unchanging) - Malachi 3:6, just (fair, and intent on making justice) - Deuteronomy 32:4, merciful (overflowing with active compassion) - Psalm 145:9, omnipotent (has unlimited power) - Genesis 17:1, omnipresent (present everywhere at the same time) - Jeremiah 23:24, omniscient (knowing all) - John 21:17, God is Loving. 1 John 3:1, John 3:16.

God is Faithful and Righteous. Psalm 145:17. Lamentations 3:22-23. God is Powerful and Mighty Psalm 24:8. God is sovereign Psalm 103:19. God is Compassionate Psalm 103:8. *“The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion,”* Psalm 116:5. God is Good *“Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!”* Psalm 34:8. God is Forgiving 1 John 1:9, God is our Refuge and Help *“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble,”* Psalm 46:1. God is with us. *“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand,”* Isaiah 41:10.

His names speaks volumes of whom He is and what He is willing to do for all who come to Him and call upon His name. He is Yahweh (YHWH) *“the LORD”* vowelized as *“Jehovali”* (I AM). He is Jehovah-Jireh – *“The Lord will provide”* (Genesis 22:13-14), Jehovah-Rapha – *“The Lord that healeth”* (Exodus 15:26), Jehovah-Nissi – *“The Lord our Banner”* (Exodus 17:8-15), Jehovah-Shalom – *“The Lord our Peace”* (Judges 6:24), Jehovah-Rah – *“The Lord is the Way, my Shepherd”* (Psalm 23:1), He is Elohim *“God”* expressed as El-shaddai - *“the Almighty God”*, El-Roi *“God who sees”* El-Elyon *“God, the most High”* How can we be in relationship with such a great and mighty God and not get the best or be the best we can ever be?, this bring up our second point for consideration -

“This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you. Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house:”

Exodus 12:2, 3

2. Barriers to our connection with divine possibilities

“With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful; with an upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright; with the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself forward for thou wilt save the afflicted people; but wilt bring down high looks” Psalm 18:25-27.

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting” Galatians 6:7-8

Biblical references, experiences of others before us who had relationship with God and human history show clearly that there are barriers to getting the best from God. Some of them are as follows:

- a. Sinful living Isaiah 59:1, Romans 6:1
- b. Walking by sight Genesis 27:1-3, (at 100yrs), Genesis 35:28-29 He lived for 180yrs
- c. Un-crucified carnal spirit or disposition James 4:3
- d. Pessimism and negative confession Numbers 13:31
- e. Contemporary news and events - evil reports Numbers 13:32
- f. Sense of insufficiency and inadequacy Jeremiah 1:6-8
- g. Labour outside the will of God 1 John 5:14, Deuteronomy 2:4-5
- h. Lack of seriousness in our walk with God James 4:7
- i. Prayerlessness and carelessness Mathew 26:41
- j. Procrastination and laziness Joshua 18:3, Proverbs 18:9
- k. Burdens and regrets about past failures and disappointments 1 Kings 19:4
- l. Boasts and pride about past successes and achievements Luke 12:16-20, Daniel.4:29-31

- o. Generational curses and curses of the Lord/Law Mathew 27:24-25, Proverbs 3:33, Deuteronomy 27:26
- p. Demonic attack and harassments by agents of the devil Mathew 13:24-25, 38

God does not impose barrier across men's way except as consistent with the principles and guidelines set by His words. In most instances, these barriers are man-made or imposed by external influences, forces or factors which man permits. We must desperately deal with these things this year so that we can get the best that God promised us.

3. Faith that removes every barriers and mountains in the New Year

“And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith” Mark 11:22-23

“For with God nothing shall be impossible” Luke 1:37.

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

Scriptures description of possibilities through God has two sides to it like the two sides of the same coin.



There is the part that concerns God. The position of God we can never be in doubt because of who He is. Indeed with God, all things are possible; however, there is the other side in which all things become possible only to the believing man. There is a victory of faith in God that overcomes the world. With faith in God this year, nothing shall be impossible for you.

On the subject of faith however, it is important to understand that the kind of faith that the Bible emphasizes is not a passive, abstract idea. This is where many believers miss it. Genuine faith in God comes with deliberate, definite decisions, actions and choices. Hebrews eleven confirms this. According to Galatians 5:6, true faith in God works by love. We must love God and love what He loves. We must hate what He hates.

Genuine faith is known by faithfulness to God, separation sin and lives of victory over self and the world as the scripture commanded. These are the things that will prevent the devil from having a bridge-head and foothold in our lives. They are the things that will make us heaven's favorites. God will not leave us or forsake us, He will meet our needs, solve our problems answer every prayer we offer if we have a commitment to do always what is pleasing in His sight (John 8:29). This is what the Lord wanted us to do.

2021 is a year of possibilities; we are to see possibilities, think possibilities, and speak possibilities. If we do, grace shall be granted to us by God to live lives of possibilities every day throughout the year and every day of our lives. It shall be so in Jesus name!

MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

SMITH WIGGLESWORTH
"Apostle of Faith"
1859-1947



Smith struggled with the reality of healing, while being ill himself. He decided to give up the medicine that he was taking and trust God. He was healed. Two of His four boys were sick too. He prayed for them and they were healed. Smith heard about the Pentecostals who were being baptized in the Holy Spirit. He went to meetings and was so hungry for God he created a disturbance and church members asked him to stop. He went to prayer and prayed for four days. Finally he was getting ready to head home and the vicar's wife prayed for him and he fell under the power of God and spoke in tongues. Everything changed after that.

Smith had to respond to the many calls that came in and gave up his business for the ministry. Polly unexpectedly died in 1913, and this was a real blow to Smith. He prayed for her and commanded that death release her. She did arise but said "*Smith - the Lord wants me.*" His heartbroken response was "*If the Lord wants you, I will not hold you.*" His daughter Alice and son-in-law James Salter began to travel with him to handle his affairs. He taught in Europe, Asia, New Zealand and many other areas.

Over Smith's ministry it was confirmed that 14 people were raised from the dead. Thousands were saved and healed and he impacted whole continents for Christ. Smith died on March 12, 1947. His ministry was based on four principles "First, read the Word of God. Second, consume the Word of God until it consumes you. Third believe the Word of God. Fourth, act on the Word."

SCRIPTURE FOR MEDITATION

"Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

Isaiah 43:18, 19

Smith Wigglesworth was born in 1859 to a very poor family. His father did manual labor for very little pay. Smith himself went to work at the age of six to help with the family income. At six he was pulling turnips and at seven he was working in a woolen mill twelve hours a day. His parents did not know God, but Smith hungered in his heart to know Him. Even as a youngster he would pray in the fields. His grandmother was the critical Christian in his life. She was a Wesleyan Methodist and would take Smith to meetings with her. At one of these meetings there was a song being sung about Jesus as the lamb and Smith came into the realization of God's love for him and his decision to believe Christ for his salvation was taken that day. He was immediately filled with the desire to evangelize and led his own mother to Christ.

At eighteen Smith left the factory and became a plumber. He moved to Liverpool when he was twenty and continued to work during the day and minister during his free time. He felt called to minister to young people and bring them to meetings. These were destitute and ragged children, whom he would often feed and care for. Hundreds were saved. Smith was often asked to speak in Salvation meetings and he would break down and weep under the power of God. Many would come to repentance in those meetings through this untrained man. At twenty-three he returned back Bradford and continued his work with the Salvation Army.

In Bradford Smith met Mary Jane Featherstone, known as Polly, the daughter of a temperance lecturer. She left home and went to Bradford to take a servant's job. They developed a friendship, but Polly went to Scotland to help with a new Salvationist work. She eventually moved back to Bradford and married Smith, who was very much in love with her. The couple worked together to evangelize the lost. They opened a small church in a poor part of town. Polly would preach and Smith would make the altar calls.

O God Our Help in Ages past

1. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home;
2. Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure. Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame, from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.
4. A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away. We fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
6. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

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