

Guarding Our Deliverance!

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Lord, we thank You for this time. We have come into Your house, O Lord to hear from You and hear Your voice; therefore, I pray, Lord, that You will cause us to incline our ear to Your voice. Lord, have mercy upon us and speak to us. We humble ourselves before Thee. Father, we come to You knowing that You and You alone have the words of life; not the words of man but the words of God. And we pray, Father, that even as we begin to hear the word that You speak to our hearts and let this be Your word. Whatever is Your word, let it stand and whatever is of man and of flesh, let it just fall to the ground this evening. We come to hear from You and Father we believe because we come to hear from You; we will be blessed because we came. To that end, I pray that You would anoint us, our hearing and speaking and, Lord, let Your word take it roots into the deep most parts of our inner man and cause is to walk in Your ways. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen!

It was surreal today during the baptism service, when I went and saw the baptism tank, for the very first time in my life, I saw a tank which was shaped like a Cross. Initially, I was little surprised thinking what is this weird pattern and then, I looked a little close and it came to my mind because during the baptism class, I was teaching the brethren who were getting baptized; I was teaching them saying, "When you are getting baptized, you identify yourself with three things – you identify yourself with the death of Jesus; second – you identify yourself with the burial of Jesus and third – you identify yourself with the resurrection of Jesus." Three things and I told them that it is not just any ordinary death, it is the death on the Cross, that is what you identify yourself with and it was amazing when I went there, it was the Cross and it came to my mind. "Boy, isn't this surreal? Lord, You are just amazing," and it really a fantastic time in the morning and I'm sure that you all were blessed to see the brethren who got baptized. But of course, as Pastor was encouraging us and exhorting us in the morning that it is just a beginning. Okay and it's also interesting that we generally or typically have baptism on Independence Day just to remind ourselves that freedom should be guarded and guarding of the freedom comes at a price. Gaining freedom is one thing but being free and enjoying freedom is a completely different ball game all together. One man of God who is Derek Prince who was actually quoting Billy Graham, he was saying, "It takes five percent effort to get a man saved but it takes ninety five percent to keep a man saved. It takes ten percentage effort may be to get a man delivered but it takes ninety percent effort to keep the man to walk in his deliverance." That is a total ball game altogether.

We have been looking at deliverance and deliverance from different spirits in our Church. Well, about deliverance, I am not an expert in that but one of the things that I have learned over a period of time, studying, of course, and practicing as to how to keep our deliverance, that what I want to talk about today; see, because when they entered into the Promised Land, you need to understand something very interesting. Joshua not only conquered new territory, before he conquered new territory, he always consolidated the territory that he conquered already. There is no point in conquering new territory without keeping the territory which you have already conquered; it's useless. Then, deliverance doesn't make any sense. So, even when we know that deliverance is progressive in nature, we don't go back to the same old things that we fall, that used to trouble us or that used to torment us and therefore, it is important for us to consolidate and stay in deliverance. How do we stay delivered is something which I want to look at and you will find this is gospel according to *Luke 11*. This is, of course, right from the horse's mouth as Pastor said in one of the sermons on deliverance. Look at what it says.

Luke 11:20-26

²⁰ But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹ When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace. ²² But when a stronger than he comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoils. ²³ He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters. ²⁴ "When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, (other translations will use this word called waterless places) seeking rest; and finding none, he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.'

We need to understand this – we are the temple of the Holy Spirit and Holy Spirit considers this as our home and even the demons consider this as our home. So, that's what He is saying about the unclean spirits.

Guarding Our Deliverance!

²⁵ And when he comes, he finds it swept and put in order. ²⁶ Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first.”

It is a real dangerous thing to become a Christian actually. It's really tough. I heard the title of a book; it's called 'The dangerous calling'. It was, of course, primarily to preachers but I believe that it's a dangerous true calling for all the believers. If you are not in it 100%, then you are not in at all. So, it is very important to understand it and we are not playing any games. This is not playing games; it is about life and death; it's eternity. We take the Word of God very seriously even in our Church, there is a lot of preparation that goes on. It's life and death. Look at the previous verse.

²⁵ And when he comes, he finds it swept and put in order. ²⁶ ...and the last state of that man is worse than the first.”

And why does this happen? *Gospel according to Matthew 12* adds something.

Matthew 12:43-45

⁴³ “When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. ⁴⁴ Then he says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order.”

We are a vacuum; I think Fredrick Niche is the one who said that – our heart is an idol factory. It is looking for something to worship. It sucks in; it's like a vacuum if it will.

⁴⁵ Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. (Add He adds very interesting thing) So shall it also be with this wicked generation.”

Very strict warning. So, therefore, don't be empty. There is one thing – kicking out the lies in your heart but unless you will not replace the lies with truth. One thing to have healing and another thong to enjoy health, what do you want? Most believers if you ask this question, they will say healing. Health? Tough. Health requires a lot of effort to stay healthy. You have to eat well, you have to eat on time, and you need to watch your diet and exercise, almost everything. That takes a lot of effort. Healing? One day, you come to the Church and you get delivered. Somebody preaches the Kingdom and you get the deliverance but enjoying health? That's a total different ball game altogether and therefore, the Apostles understood this. We fill ourselves with truth, right? But what does it mean to fill ourselves with truth? What does it actually primarily mean? Follow this carefully, this is Apostle John, they understood and this is what he says in one of the Epistles. This is found in *3 John 1:2-4*,

3 John 1:2-4

² Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. ³ For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth that is in you, just as you walk in the truth. ⁴ I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

It is not the amount of truth that is in you, it is the truth that you are in you. That is the reason why, “*Christ in you, the hope of glory.*” That is how you enjoy health by having truth as a person within yourself. Did Jesus ever experience sickness? No. That is the reason why, the death is very important; specific death. What is that? ‘The death on the cross.’ It is not death by sickness, it is not death by over-eating, it is not death by natural calamity, it is not death by accident, it is not death by murder. It is death on cross; it is a specific death. And He was absolutely without blemish. It says, “*He was a lamb without spot, without blemish.*” *33* and half years old, at the prime of His life, that is what He gave to God.

So, you need to understand, the truth will lead you to health. Do you find this in the New Testament? Or you find this paradigm in the Old Testament? One of the words, that I am using these days is the word- paradigm or pattern. So, you will find this in *Isaiah 33*, I love this. *Isaiah 33*, what are the verses? Let's everybody read this, *Isaiah 33:22-24*. So, with what we will start first? No, I won't start with 22, I'll start with 24 because it's poetry. Poetry is all the other way. Let's start with 24.

Isaiah 33:24

Guarding Our Deliverance!

²⁴ Then the prey of great plunder is divided; The lame take the prey. And the inhabitant will not say, "I am sick"; The people who dwell in it will be forgiven their iniquity.

How many of you don't want to be sick? Let me see your hands. Then, he gives the ground clause, as to how to enjoy lack of sickness or health. Do you want to know that? So, where do you find that? Oh! you find it in *verse 22*. Look at it, the ground clause.

Isaiah 33:22

²² (For the LORD is our Judge, The LORD is our Lawgiver, The LORD is our King; He will save us);

Therefore, I won't be sick. Meaning? "God is the Lord of my life." Meaning – He will tell me what to eat and what not to eat. He will tell me, what to see and what not to see. He will tell me how to judge myself. He will tell me, "Unless I am your King, you will really not enjoy health." This is what we call as 'Lordship principle'. For many believers, Lord is not the... I mean, can we really say that, "God is the Lord of my food habits"? Oh my goodness! Really? I mean, especially in India, we love sweets. We have a love with sweets and we can eat as many sweets as possible, right from childhood. Honestly, right? Why do we have diabetes in our country? Simply because we consume sweets, especially North India. North India is even more crazy. They have breakfast, 'Jalebi and milk.' Hot, hot Jalebi and milk for breakfast. That used to be my, one of the menus in North India, when I was in Kanpur for some time back. And all the gultis used to be, "Arey, Enti ra Adi Jalebi?" (What is this Jalebi?) That is what they eat. Honestly, how do you think enjoy health? If God is not the Lord of our food habits, if He is not the Lord of our watching habits, if He is not the Lord of our dieting? Or whatever it is, if He is not the Lord of our lives, we are not going to enjoy health. Truth in you; therefore, when we come to Church, fill yourselves with truth, over and over again. Let it become part of you, let me tell you honestly with my personal experience. I used to work in a lab 9:00 am to 6:00 PM on Wednesdays. 9 to 6, coding, coding, frustrated, depressed; I used to never get the result. I remember those days, I never used to get results; I used to be like, "Lord, should I continue?" or should I go to Church. Wednesday evening service, and my boss also used to ask me, "Did you get the result?" And I used to be, "Sir..." 6'o clock already now and I had to leave my Gachibowli. You won't believe it, I used to say, "Lord, I am leaving." I used to come with this spirit of depression. You don't know, if you would work in a lab, how you would get frustrated sometimes, when you don't get the results. You are literally under pressure and you have to walk, worship used to happen and by the time Word is over, I am absolutely refreshed. I would just experience deliverance. "Oh! Lord, that was just for me." It's personal experience, I am not speaking in the air. I have tested this in my own life. And therefore, I never... After they got baptized, they continued steadfastly in the Apostles teaching. It's very interesting that in those days, when the very first Church started, they never baptized people. Rather, they would not teach people who are not baptized. They would never teach them, you know they used to say, "Why should I waste time on you? You have not even commitment to discipleship, why should I teach them?" Now, of course, things have changed, because people don't even know what baptism is. So, first, we have to teach them what baptism is. When they went into the waters of baptism, they understood they went into the waters of baptism. They understood that they were cutting off from their old lives, from their old relatives. They were just making the total spiritual disconnection, they were inviting the wrath of God, wrath of the enemy in their lives. They knew what they were doing. For example, if you were guy from Middle East, you know what baptism is. I don't have to teach you. Because, I know that you are ready. Our country still doesn't know what baptism actually means? Therefore, we need to really take opportunities to, give yourselves opportunities to study the Word of God. Therefore, it says in *Ephesians 2*.

Ephesians 2:18-20

¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, (And how do you do that?)

¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, (It's interesting it starts with psalms and then it goes to hymns and then it says, songs of the Spirit) ***singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,*** ***²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,***

So, this is what it says, "Be filled with the Spirit." But, what does it mean to be filled with the Spirit?

Colossians 3:16

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Guarding Our Deliverance!

So, what is it saying? If you want to be filled with the Spirit, you should be filled with the Word. Because, Spirit of God will not work in a vacuum. How do you be filled with the Spirit? We know that prayer, right? *“Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find, knock and the door shall be opened unto you. If you, being evil fathers, can give good gifts to children, how much your Father in Heaven will give you the Holy Spirit, if you ask?”* But, what is asking? *“Lord, fill me with the Spirit?”* Galatians will say something very interesting.

Galatians 3:1-2

¹ O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? ² This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

So, how do you receive the Spirit? When you hear now and if you hear from faith, you receive the Holy Spirit. That is how you ask. You know, how do you ask? You ask God by coming and giving opportunities for yourself to listen to the Word over and over again. So, don't have vacuum inside of you. That is what Jesus will say in *John's gospel chapter 8*.

John 8:31-32

³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. (And what does He say?)³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (And what do they say?) ³³ They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, ‘You will be made free’?” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. (Do you see that?)³⁵ And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. ³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Look at this – *You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free*. We need to ask ourselves this question: what does it mean to walk in the truth? We'll come to certain things that we can learn. Okay? What does it mean to walk in the truth? Does it mean that we are absolutely sinless, that we will never sin anymore? By the way, we don't use it in our Church at all, but one of the men of God, he said something very interesting. He said, “Whenever I baptize people, I ask them a few questions like the covenant questions. First question: have you repented of all your sins? Have you accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior? And the third things he asks is: do you want to sin anymore?” Zac Poonen, yes. That's right. He's not asking, “Will you sin anymore?” No. No, because we will all sin. But the point he's asking is, “Do you want to sin anymore?” That's a fantastic question to ask, right? The guy is there in the baptism tank and he's like, “Uh oh, I don't know. Let me get out.” See, because this is very interesting. This is very important for us to understand. Do you want to sin? That means salvation does something to us. It is not that we will not sin. Therefore, walking in the truth does not mean that we will not sin. Walking in the truth means that we are true, no matter what our situation is. See? Okay. Let's see *1 John chapter 1*. What does it mean to walk in the true? We know this verse very well.

1 John 1:6-10

⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. (Okay?) ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

That means it is not that you will be sinless; there will be a continuous cleansing that you will be experiencing and you will be going to greater and greater levels of holiness in your life and victory over sin. And then he says,

⁸ If we say that we have (what?) no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

Ah! You see? It's not that we don't sin anymore. It is that we are willing to confront our sin honestly. That is what it means. And therefore, he says,

⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Guarding Our Deliverance!

You got that, everybody? Therefore, it is not that we'll have sinless perfection, but there is a daily battle with sin in our lives and we are walking blameless before God. That is what it means to walk in truth. And we are doing it over and over again to greater and greater levels of holiness and separation. But how we achieve this is important. Okay? One of the questions that we need to ourselves, because sometimes, some people don't get delivered at all. Why? Why do some people not get delivered? Or why do some people after they get delivered, why do they not walk in their deliverance? Why does it happen? Why do they not have the truth inside of them? What fights truth in their lives, is the question that we need to ask. So, what is walking in the truth? John will again say. This is what he says in *John chapter 3*.

John 3:18-21

¹⁸ ***“He who believes in Him is not condemned; (We sang that song right? In Christ alone, my hope is found. No condemnation we dread.) but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (Second.)¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men (What?) loved darkness...***

Do you know what that means? They enjoyed darkness unconditionally. And you see, what is the opposite of love? Love and hate go together. If you're loving something, you're hating something.

...rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For everyone practicing evil (What does he do?) hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹ But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

Now, first principle I want to know – when will I be delivered? I will be delivered when this happens. We get delivered and can walk in our deliverance only when we are desperate. You see? No desperation. I'll tell you something, honestly – *faith without works is dead*. For me, faith without desperation is dead. Desperate. That is exactly what happened to the Canaanite lady, “Call me a dog. Call me anything. Give me deliverance!” You see? “Call me anything.” Question, therefore, is: are we desperate? How do we know that we are desperate? Pastor James taught us long time back. I don't know if somebody remembers, but let me bring it back to your remembrance about this very interesting episode in the life of Pharaoh. I'm going to read it in the NIV. It's funny in the NIV. This is found in,

Exodus 8:5-10

⁵ ***Then the LORD said to Moses, “Tell Aaron, ‘Stretch out your hand with your staff over the streams and canals and ponds, and make frogs come up on the land of Egypt.’”*** (Kappalu (frogs in telugu). Frogs by the millions are coming out of the ponds, out of the Nile. The whole place is stinking. (Kampu koduthundi.) I mean, in the colloquial, it is even more intense.)
⁶ ***So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land.*** (Just imagine this! Close your eyes and imagine frogs, frogs, frogs all over. As if this were not enough, you know what the Pharaoh does? Calls the magicians.)
⁷ ***But the magicians did the same things*** (They came and) ***by their secret arts; they also made frogs come up on the land of Egypt.***

What nonsense? Can you see the blindness of this guy? Frogs are causing so much of a problem. Call the magicians and what should he ask? “Please do something to get rid of the frogs!” But what does he do? They also create frogs. Now, the frogs are so much. Those fellows cannot kill the frogs and get rid of the frogs. And then, Pharaoh is really frustrated now. He understands that these fellows are useless. They can do nothing. By the way, their power is getting lessened and lessened. The next time, they understand it is the finger of God. So, Janis and Jambres, baba! And then, Pharaoh is frustrated and he says, “Call Moses!” and they call Moses.

⁸ ***Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, “Pray to the LORD to take the frogs away from me and my people, and I will let your people go to offer sacrifices to the LORD.”***

“Please do something! This is tormenting me so much. It is stinking!” And then, you know what? Moses asks the Pharaoh a very interesting question. Look at what it says,

⁹ ***Moses said to Pharaoh, “I leave to you the honor of setting the time for me to pray for you and your officials and your people*** (You see, God knows the hearts of people. When do you want these frogs to get out of this place?) ***that you and***

Guarding Our Deliverance!

your houses may be rid of the frogs, except for those that remain in the Nile."(What will you say Brinda? Now right? You know what the Pharaoh say?) ¹⁰ ***"Tomorrow," Pharaoh said.***

"Ah! Last one night! Let me enjoy!" You see. Tomorrow? Let me enjoy these frogs for one last time in my bed. It's all over the place. You know what the frogs stand for? Unclean spirits. I learnt that long time back in a Church. And Pharaoh said, "Tomorrow." And you know something, we look at frogs like that, but do we look at sin like that? You see, the frogs are just an outward symbol of an inward reality. It's like this – "Let me just take a last puff! (snorts)." Not the last puff, last cigarette. "Tomorrow!" Tomorrow never comes. You see, that is the reason why if you're not desperate for your deliverance, He says, *"Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts."* Don't wait until tomorrow. And by the way, tomorrow never comes. Are we desperate for our deliverance? That is the reason why *1 Peter 4:1-2(ESV)* will say.

1 Peter 4:1-2

¹Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, (Change your thinking, baba!) for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ²so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.

Why? The ground clause! You see? Boy! The Bible is full of arguments and propositions and theorems. Look at that – a fisherman giving a ground clause. It's interesting! It's not a mathematician.

1 Peter 4:3

³For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry.

Do you think you have spent sufficient time in all these things? Yes? Then, you are ready. You know a lot of people don't want to get delivered, because they enjoy their sin. There is so much pleasure in it. Last movie. Last puff. Last drink. Last girl. You see? It's interesting that they have bachelor's party. And you know what bachelor's party is. In the US, it's not like that we have in our Church. It's very, very holy. We only give you eggs. All the young men are laughing. You don't know our bachelor's party, okay? Therefore, you should be desperate about deliverance. If you are not desperate, you can forget about it. Are we desperate? You know what *Psalms 32* will say?

Psalms 32:6-7

⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him. ⁷You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

So, one of the first laws of deliverance. We call it 'the first law of holes. What do we call it? The law of holes. I got it from Chuck Missler. He's gone home to be with the Lord. He died on 31st of March, 2018. This is what he says, "The first law of holes – stop digging." Okay? You got it? That means don't dig a deeper pit. Stop! Stop it! Just not stop digging, start crying.

Second!

Psalms 130:1-4

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! ²O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy! ³If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? ⁴But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

There's a desperation! You see? Have you seen the desperate cry of this man? Start crying out!

Jonah 2:3-4

²saying, "I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol (It's hell, basically.) I cried, and you heard my voice. ³For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me.

Guarding Our Deliverance!

First question – are we desperate for our deliverance? Only desperate people get delivered. A lot of people are desperate in some areas, but not in other areas. I remember Derek Prince talking about one guy who used to suffer from alcoholism a lot. But the problem was when he was delivered, he was only delivered from the demon of alcoholism but there were other demons inside him – a demon of lying and a demon of everything else. Every addiction comes along with several other demons, because you have to lie a lot to feed your addiction. You see? A lot of people are only desperate for a part of it, because it burns their pocket or gives them bad health, but they're not actually desperate for complete deliverance. That is a different ballgame altogether.

Second Principle,

John 3:19-20

¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed"

Men loved darkness rather than light. They loved darkness; they hate light. So, in order to get delivered, what should you do? Love light hate darkness, it's very simple – love darkness? No! Love light hate darkness. What does it mean, true deliverance only when you hate sin?

I want to understand what it means to hate, before I go for understanding what it means to hate – God loves and God hates, we need to understand that God is the One who has got real passionate feelings. You can never say that God is the God of love, only. Because you will not know what love is unless you know what hate is.

Psalm 45:6-7

⁶ Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness; ⁷ you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;"

This is about Jesus, of course. This is exactly what is quoted in *Hebrews 1* that He loved righteousness and He hated wickedness or lawlessness. Now, you can say, He only loves righteousness and He hates wickedness. Look at one step ahead. This is not my word; this is God's Word. If you have a problem with Him, you go score with Him. I heard a man of God saying something interesting; He said, "If you do not present clear picture of God when you are evangelizing, you don't get conversion; you will get perversion." Let me tell you honestly – what we have in most Churches are Christian perverts. It's a perversion; it's a crookedness. It is so important for us to understand. You read entire historical narrative, you have Solomon at end of his life, he messes up his kingdom. It's a division that is going on. Jeroboam gets 10 tribes and Rehoboam gets 2 tribes. We studied in our Church, I am just refreshing it, I am studying this more intensely these days. To Jeroboam, prophet comes and speaks into his life very clearly saying that, "God has given you ten tribes and if you walk in the commandments of God, God is going to establish your kingdom forever." But Jeroboam gets a thought saying, "If I allow people to go to Jerusalem to worship where the true God is, what is going to happen to me? One day, they will all become one and come against me." So, what does Jeroboam do? He does the perversion – he creates 2 golden calves – one at Dan and at Bethel and he says, "These are the gods that brought you out of Israel. You don't have to go to Jerusalem." So, he makes a perversion and a man of God comes and speaks judgement on him and he speaks particularly about a king Josiah. Point is this – you read the entire history of Israel's next king, you know what he says? "They sinned against the Lord; they did not forsake the sin of Jeroboam." Next king comes – "They sinned against the Lord; they did not forsake the sin of Jeroboam." Next king comes – "They sinned against the Lord; they did not forsake the sin of Jeroboam." Next, King Ahab comes; he goes worse. He starts building an altar for Baal and everybody is worshipping Baal. Now, something very interesting happens – there is one of the descendants of Ahab; you know what he does? He says, "You know, this Baal worship is too much. This is not true worship." He destroys the altars of Baal. You can go and do your homework as to who's that king. Find out. He destroys the altar of Baal and what are you expecting now? He goes back to Jerusalem to worship? No. He goes back to the perversion created by Jeroboam. You know what the Scriptures says? He destroyed the altars of Baal, but he continued he continued in the sins of Jeroboam. You have a revival, ostensibly, but that revival is not conversion; it is perversion. And therefore, let me tell you honestly – when we read the Bible, when we read some parts of the Bible and we look at this word 'hate', "Oh, my God does not hate." Who said that? You know, I am being honest. I've heard real big solid Bible scholars making this statement, "If we actually speak this truth, lot of people will lose their faith."

Guarding Our Deliverance!

They can actually say the message of, “We can preach the message and we can hide from the congregation what we actually think.” This is what they say. You know what it is? It is a perversion and not conversion and we have perverts in Christendom, you know that? They don’t have any idea about what holiness of God means. Because they don’t know what God loves and what God hates. Therefore, they only know how to say ‘yes’ to something, they don’t have the power to say, ‘no’. Look at what they say in *Malachi*.

Malachi 1:2-3

² ***“I have loved you,” says the Lord. “Yet you say, ‘In what way have You loved us?’ Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?” Says the Lord. “Yet Jacob I have loved;³ But Esau I have hated,***

Do you see that? God loves righteousness hates iniquity, God loves Jacob hates Esau. Esau is an idea or a person? Person. Let me show you another verse.

Psalms 5:4-6

⁴***For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness,*** (which is an action) ***Nor shall evil dwell with You.*** ⁵***The boastful shall not stand in Your sight; You hate all workers of iniquity.*** ⁶***You shall destroy those who speak falsehood; The Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.***

And therefore, we need understand that we need to ask ourselves this question: do I really want to enjoy my deliverance? I have to walk in my deliverance. The question I need to ask is: do I hate my sin? And most of the times what happens is – people are comfortable in their sin; they are made to hate their sin. How does this happen?

Psalm 36:1-2

¹***I have a message from God in my heart concerning the sinfulness of the wicked:*** (look at this) ***There is no fear of God before their eyes.***

Did you hear this anywhere in the New Testament? Paul quote this in *Romans chapter 3*. “*There is no fear of God before their eyes.*” Then, what does he say?

²***In their own eyes they flatter themselves too much to detect or hate their sin.***

In other words, if I don’t have a message from God which causes me to detect and hate my sin, I will never enjoy deliverance. You need to understand that. Therefore, the preaching of the Word. And most if the times, it’s just flattery if it’s not confronting your sin. You know, there is one interesting hatred. Hatred is a verb; it’s an adjective which qualifies the verb. I hope my English is right? Okay, let me read it. This is what the Psalmist says,

Psalm 139:21-24

²¹***Do I not hate them, O Lord, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You?*** ²²***I hate them with*** (what kind of hatred?) ***perfect hatred; I count them my enemies.***

That means there is one hatred which is perfect. And then, he goes on to say.

²³***Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties;*** ²⁴***And see if there is any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.***

You see, there something you need to ask ourselves, “God, Lord, let me hate what You hate and love what You love,” whatever it is! “So, let me hate.” What does the Lord hate perfectly? What is the number of perfection? Seven. And the Lord tells us what the perfect hatred is? Interestingly, it’s found in *Proverbs 6*; it is what you call X+1; X=6 here because it’s *Proverbs* chapter.

Proverbs 6:16

¹⁶***These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him:***

Guarding Our Deliverance!

What are the 6+1 seven things?

¹⁷A proud look...

It is a look because pride always shows in your face. It is what we call us defines with a guise of humility. I know this. I have seen quite a number of students. They only show this because their lab marks are in my hands. You know, one professor "Arre nakku telsu ra nuvvu vellu entuku chestunaru ella telusa? You know why you are doing like this? Because your lab marks are in my hands. After you go out, nannu tittukuntavu. You say something behind my back." This is what is called the 'Doeg spirit'. The spirit of Doeg, You should read the entire historical narrative to understand what I am saying. It's called the spirit of Doeg. Who is this Doeg fellow? He's there in the temple of God. What is he? He's an Ishmaelite. He's an Amalekite right in the temple of God appointed by Saul. So, the spirit of Doeg, 'spirit of pretence'. Read *Psalm 32*,

Psalm 32:17-19

¹⁷ haughty eyes a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood,¹⁸ a heart that devises wicked schemes feet that are quick to rush into evil, ¹⁹ a false witness who pours out lie and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.

So, you need to understand God loves something; God hates something. The question is: how do I know that I am hating something and loving something? How do I know it? Let us look at some Old Testament analogies to get the feeling of hate and love, okay?

Genesis 29:20

²⁰ So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of (What that he had? Love that he had for her) his love for her.

He loved Rachel so much that he could do anything for her. And he hated Leah so much that he could do anything to be away from her. That is how I know I am not saying this – think about Rachel as sin; Leah as righteousness and vice versa and then, what happens?

³⁰ So Jacob went in to Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah, and served Laban for another seven years.

And you know what the Lord says?

³¹ When the Lord saw that Leah was hated, he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren.

You know what it means? I'll tell you something – I love something when I enjoy it. A man of God said something interesting, "True freedom is to love to do something when what you love to do is what you ought to do." For example, I'll tell you from my own life; my mother, she's here. I can say that. She'll enjoy it as well. Very funny things. She was crazy about me particularly I don't know she possibly saw some potential, I don't know, and she used to make me study like crazy through the night, sometimes. My dad used to do night shift and he used to come back at 12 O'clock, 12:30 in the night and this is during my school days. You have no idea, GSS; 2 hours, because you don't even know. So, my dad used to come at 12:30 in the night, my eyes are red; she would have pinched me or beaten me also sometimes later and I am like really not enjoying that situation, and my dad used to come open the door and used to say, "What a tragic sight this is!" Why? Because there is one woman, right there, and one guy who's like he is not enjoying what he is doing. You see? That's exactly, so many people, I'll tell you something; some people, they cannot enjoy math; they endure math. So, they don't they cannot enjoy freedom because they're not free to enjoy math but on the other hand, just imagine they love math and that is what they ought to do for their lives; isn't that freedom? You know, many people, you know what they say? All the sportsman when they go to the pinnacle of their careers. Now we are living in the days of professional sportsman; you know what they say? "I am so lucky; I get to live out of something which I love to do." That is true freedom, true freedom is when you do something, when what you do something is actually what you ought to do and you love to do it. So, naturally, Jacob loves to be with Rachel; he has his eyes. She is a stunning looking girl. And he can do anything for her. On the same hand, he can do anything to stay out of Leah. God is talking about love and hate. Now, you'll see these paradigms over and over again in the Bible. There is another interesting paradigm in Joshua again repeated in *Judges chapter 1* but let me show you *Joshua chapter 15*, look what is happening.

Joshua 15:13-17

¹³ Now to Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a share among the children of Judah, according to the commandment of the Lord to Joshua, namely, Kirjath Arba, which is Hebron (Arba was the father of Anak). ¹⁴ Caleb drove out the three sons of Anak from there: Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmi, the children of Anak. (Then, what happens?) ¹⁵ Then he went up from there to the inhabitants of Debir (formerly the name of Debir was Kirjath Sepher). ¹⁶ And Caleb said, "He who attacks Kirjath Sepher and takes it, to him I will give Achsah my daughter as wife."

Now, Jewish scholars say that Achsah was a stunner. And there is one guy who was eyeing Achsah all his life. "How do I get this one?" And Caleb says, "She should have been looking for a stunner for this fellow to take care of all the risks, okay?" You know what he does? He goes and conquers it.

¹⁷ So Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, took it; and he gave him Achsah his daughter as wife.

And what happened? I mean, what is going on over here? You see, true freedom is something that you can take all the risk for and it is worth it. You know what you would have done and Achsah would have said, "Thank you, Othniel. You got this place." You know what he would have said? "Anything for you, baby." See? That is how I know I hate sin and love righteousness. When I just want to be with my Father, when I want to be with my God and I want to be with my Jesus, anything for Him, then I enjoy freedom." That's what is true freedom – what we ought to do is what we love to do. So many of us are enduring. "When will this Christian life will get over, baba? Lord, take me off!" Is not God worth it? Is it not worth the risk? Is it not Achsah for you?

The last one, I think which actually summarizes all these. We enjoy true freedom, when we are 'sons' and not 'slaves.' That's what Pastor was talking in the morning. I was actually preparing this message in the morning. And I felt, boy, I had to record and send it all to you. Listen to it what it says – "Free to love, free to serve." How can we be free? Unless, we love to do it. *Romans 8:13-15*

Romans 8:13-15

¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if (You) by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, (Are what?) these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For (Because) you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption (As Sons) by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

What does this mean? By the way, you don't enjoy sonship, son is obviously grown up before becoming a child first. Everybody, unless the curious case of Benjamin Button. Unless that has happened to you. How many of you saw the movie? Where he grows, young, not old, old whatever. Whole ultra process (Reverse process). You don't become a son first, unless you are born as a child. So, how does God bring us to enjoy Math? For example, or language, or anything – Physics, Chemistry, whatever. Now tell me something, how many of you enjoy poetry? Come on. Don't be ashamed. I love it. I just love poetry. Now, if I want to enjoy poetry, can I enjoy poetry without understanding language? Without understanding pun? No. I need to know some categories in my mind established to enjoy poetry for example.

To enjoy movies also, some people also don't want movies which will cause them to think. They just want to, that's okay. But, to enjoy something, some kind of system has to be put in place in your mind, to be able to enjoy something. Am I right? Yeah. For example, if you want to be a scholar in Greek and you want to enjoy Greek, you have to learn the letters in Greek. If you want to enjoy Hebrew, you have to learn the alphabet in Hebrew. Any language for that matter, you will have to learn the letters. That is not going to be easy thing. I cannot say, for example, Abigail eventually; let's say, she enjoys Math. And 10 years down the line, she'll enjoy Math, only when she goes through some kind of rigger. Even if she doesn't like that rigger, do you understand, what I am saying? I'm just getting a principle out of here. This is *Galatians 4*, let me tell you what I am trying to get here.

Galatians 4:1-2

¹ Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, ² but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father.

What are the guardians and the tutors doing? Ensuring that the discipline of study. I'm telling you honestly, my dad used to come home and most of the time. He used to say, "Enti ra Vijay idi" (What is this Vijay?) Why don't you just study? Why do you want to go through this?" Let me tell, miracles in my life. I can sit for hours and hours and study. No problem at all. Credit for God; not to them. I can do that. If I enjoy something, baba, nothing matters. But I have to go through the discipline, what it tells me is this – I could have potential, but I will only experience the potential only when I come under discipline. You know what? Derek Prince makes a very interesting statement; he says, "There is no walking in deliverance without discipline." You could have potential, but you need discipline. I am going use some examples from the Old Testaments to show what this means, how this comes about. And all are negative. This is found *2 Samuel chapter 3*. Read *Kings*; you'll enjoy. And let me tell you; it might look stranger to you but just be patient; we'll get to the point.

2 Samuel 3:2-4

²Sons were born to David in Hebron: His firstborn was Amnon by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess;

What does Amnon mean? Amnan and Amnon same what does Aman mean? Faithful. So, David looks at Amnon and names him saying potential faithfulness what I see in this fellow.

³his second, Chileab, (son) by Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite...

And by the way, what does the word 'Chileab' mean? Just like his father. What is David? A man after His own heart. And who's his mother? I think one of you were named. I think this is a positive example I can assume it to be a positive example just because of Abigail.

...the third, Absalom (father of peace) the son of Maacah, the daughter of Talmi, king of Geshur;

that is what the name Absalom means 'Absalom' shalom, Abi shalom; the father of peace. The cause of peace in the family. Oh, really? So, Abigail, cause of Joy, father of Joy, handmaiden, cause of Joy. Fourth fellow.

⁴the fourth, Adonijah...

Adonijah means Adon' Adonai means 'my Lord, 'my Master' Yahweh is my Master. Really? What does Amnon do? You need to go to strong concordances and you'll see the name meaning of Amnon. Amnon means 'faithful', the first son of David who raped Tamar. Absalom cause of peace and cause of a *Psalm* also, he stirred up his father's heart so much that he wrote a psalm, not in love but in fight. *Psalm chapter 3*.

Psalm 3:1-2

¹ A Psalm of David when he fled from Absalom his son. O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; ²many are saying of my soul, "There is no deliverance for him in God."

Absalom! Look at his name. And the key as to why this has happened is shown when he talks about his fourth son. This come sin *1 Kings chapter 2*,

1 Kings 1:5-

⁵Then Adonijah the son of Haggith...

What does he say? "Yahweh is my Lord, my Master." What did he do?

...exalted himself, saying, "I will be king"; and he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him.

I don't know why they do it. Then, in the brackets, the reason as to why this happened,

⁶ ***(And his father had not rebuked him at any time by saying, “Why have you done so?” (Why? Because) He was also very good-looking. His mother had borne him after Absalom.)***

Let me tell you something – you might have tremendous potential and God might have spoken over your life. For example, my name is Vijay. What’s the whole point in having Vijay if I am only Parajay? Vijay means Victorious; my brother’s name is Hrishi. You wouldn’t believe it; I’m telling you honestly – when I took him to my friends, my friends asked my mother said, “Nee peru Rishi yevaru petaru ra? Rashkashudu vi nuvvu. (Who named you? A devil, you are) You are a rakhshasa.”

You know, you might be having potential everybody here. God has spoken. I know Hannah over here; I know Abigail. We have new names ‘Jeremiah’. Boy, sometimes, I feel so jealous and envious. I wish Pastor James baptized me. He could have given me a new name too, I don’t know. I am not sure. You know, that is potential. But you will never reach your potential and become the son that God wants you to be unless you come under discipline. And you think discipline is enjoyable, forget it. I know my mother. It was a ringer only. It was a baptism of fire. She’s laughing. You know, I joke about it. I know in hindsight. You know wisdom is always 20/20, hindsight. Okay? Honestly, many of us have; I used to think about it. I know, even my own cousins, right? If they come under discipline, “Aiyoo, why are you making him study so much? He will get tired.” He’s not going to die! One day, you’ll not eat food, you’ll not die. Discipline, it’s really tough. But you know something? If God wants us to cause us to walk in deliverance, He has to discipline us. Look at what He says in *Hebrews* chapter 3. Signal ledu (no signal); we are doing an airtel over here.

Hebrews 12:3-5

³ ***For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. ⁴ You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against (what?) sin. ⁵ And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: (what’s that? what is that exhortation?) “My son do not despise the chastening of the Lord,***

Are you experiencing the chastening of the Lord? Are you experiencing the discipline of the Lord? You know something? If you really want to know if God loves you or not, know if you are being disciplined or not? If God says, “I don’t want to touch him. Arrey, if I say one word to Vijay, don’t know what he’ll think. He’s very sensitive.” “Ma ammai chala sensitive; ma abbai chala sensitive.” Sensitively, they’ll go to hell. And in hell also, they’ll be very sensitive, “Oh, I should not have been here. This is too much.” That’s exactly what Cain says, “Oh, my punishment is too much to bear.” That’s amazing, isn’t it, the love of God? “You murdered your brother; God knows it and He’s not going to kill you.” And He is saying, “If you kill Cain, I am going to require of you.” “You are so sensitive, punishment is too much.” That is Cain; that is a rebel. He will never be a son. It’s exactly what happened to all David’s sons, ironically. Sad to say, even Solomon. Why? No discipline, no correction, no chastening. That is the reason why *Proverbs chapter 8* will say,

Proverbs 12:1

¹ ***...Whoever hates reproof loves death.***

It’s a powerful. Whoever hates reproof loves death. It’s a love-hate relationship, you see. And all Scripture is breathed by God for correction, for instruction and righteousness. Therefore, my dear brothers and especially those who got baptized, get ready for some chastening. Don’t say, “Bring it on.” It will come. Don’t worry. It will come to you in beautiful gentle ways, especially from Pastor. I know him. I enjoy it, of course. It’s very interesting when he says those things but come under it. You know, sometimes, I say, “Lord, I don’t care what he says. I want to finish my course. I want to be an overcomer. Let him say what he has to say. I want to obey him.” Ask God for that. So, why?

Hebrews 12:10

¹⁰ ***For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. ¹¹ Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been (what?) trained by it.***

When do you train your child?

Proverbs 22:6

⁶ ***Train up your child in the ways of the Lord when he is young....***

“Mokkai vanganidi maani vanguna.” Let me translate to you – if it does not bend like a tender plant, will it bend when it is a tree? Later on, it becomes Kukka thokka vankara? What does it mean? It’s like a tail of a dog. It’s a very interesting – Kukka thoka pattukoni. Godavari eedadam. In other words, you cannot make the tail of a dog straighten it up and then, you can swim Godavari also, to make it saturated with water so that it will stay like that and you’ll come out of, what will happen? Goes back to its original and there is something even more interesting. ‘kanaka simhasanamana sunaka; meaning – “Oh, you know, Sumathi, if you take a dog, put him on the throne, it will happen – you have Adonijah.” I like that interesting thing Pastor James said, “Most of our training is trial and error, we end up with error.” I love that. You see, we don’t want that. We don’t want to end up as errors God has something into our lives, and true freedom is only for our son. That’s what, we’ll end with that verse, last verse for the say. *John 8* Jesus said,

John 8:31-32, 34-35

³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵ And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but (who does?) a son abides forever.

You shall know the truth, the truth shall set you free, what’s the truth? Most of the time is correction, discipline, with love. Don’t forget love also. Let’s not become Nehemiahs with beard and spank people; let us also speak the truth in love. That is how we enjoy freedom and walk in your deliverance. How many of us want to walk in our deliverance and to fulfil God’s destiny in our lives? Let’s all stand up this day and enjoy Independence Day for ourselves and declare freedom to the azadi dil ki. Okay, let’s pray.

Closing Prayer:

Father, we thank You, Father, for this evening. Father, what a glorious privilege to see Your children obeying You in the waters of Baptism and all of us, Lord; we just want to refresh the covenant we ourselves made when we obeyed You in the waters of baptism. Father, so many of us might have just lost the plot. I pray, Father, that, Lord, You retain that day’s steps back to Your house this evening. Father, we want to fulfil God’s destiny in our lives, O Lord. Yes, Lord; You spoke incredible prophecies over our lives, Father. I pray, Lord Jesus, we’ll all fulfil our destinies. None of us will come short of it. We’ll come under discipline and enjoy our deliverance. Grant us grace to that end and we pray as a Church, even as we are entering into the eleventh year, thank You, Lord. We praise You, especially this evening. We commit all our brethren who got baptized. I pray, Lord Jesus, that Lord, step by step, one step at a time, they’ll walk with You, and all of us who have refreshed our commitment with You, O Lord Jesus, we’ll also take one step at a time, begin our way back to Your house. Lord, we’re Your sons, Father, and therefore, we cry out ‘Abba Father’. We just cry out; we humble ourselves before You this evening, O Lord Father. Enable us to experience Your love, Father. So many of us are still trying to work out things in our strength like slaves. Father, show us who we are and Whose we are, and deliver us and make us free to love and make us free to serve. We thank You, we praise You, we give You glory, honor and praise. In Jesus’ mighty Name, Amen.