

*Father, this evening, we just come to You. Speak to us, teach us. Teach, Lord. We need to know more and more about You and not less. We need to understand more and more about how these spiritual kingdoms work so that we are not trapped, so that we are not enticed, we are not led into bondage and we are not left out when the Bridegroom comes. Give us wisdom, give us discernment. Even today, to hear, to understand how to hear, and to obey above all, to obey, when we know it is You who is speaking. Speak, Father. For In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.*

If you were there last Sunday, and previous Sundays, you know, though we teach you about the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of light, I just want you to listen with discernment and with wisdom. Because young people, instead of understanding how it works, the enemy takes them into unhealthy interests in the kingdom of darkness and into the occult. Stay away! You do deliverance, do it only yourself; don't do it for others. Don't get into this ministry unless you are called. Because you have no clue what you are getting into. One thing Lucifer doesn't like is to be exposed, and you expose him, be prepared that you are ready, okay? Stay away from unhealthy stuff. Don't get into too much into google and the internet and search all the stuff. Don't do it. Okay? Just try to understand it and apply it into our personal lives because you see a lot of people, I believe, don't need healing or more messages, really; they need deliverances before they can start hearing, listening, and obeying. Deliverance in the body; maybe, deliverance in the mind. You see, an incredibly intellectual religious Pharisee like Saul of Tarsus, Apostle Paul needed an incredible encounter with the Living God and be blinded literally for three days so that he could understand his intellectual depravity and to see the difference between light and darkness, before he could receive the light of God. So, we have to understand intellectual the bondage of the mind can be much more terrible than the bondage of the body. Sometimes, we don't sense the bondage in the body and we think we are free without realizing bondage of the mind can be even more dangerous.

Long portion from the Old Testament to actually show you, in real terms what happens when we don't choose not to listen to God and walk in light. This is from the Israel's history. Shall I have the first one. It's a long portion I am going to read, listen,

### **2 Kings 17:1-23**

***<sup>1</sup> In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah, Hoshea the son of Elah became king of Israel in Samaria, and he reigned nine years. <sup>2</sup> And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, but not as the kings of Israel who were before him. <sup>3</sup> Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against him; and Hoshea became his vassal (means servant) and paid him tribute money. <sup>4</sup> And the king of Assyria uncovered a conspiracy by Hoshea; for he had sent messengers to So, king of Egypt, and brought no tribute to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year. Therefore, the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison. Israel Carried Captive to Assyria <sup>5</sup> Now the king of Assyria went throughout all the land and went up to Samaria and besieged it for three years. <sup>6</sup> In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria took Samaria and carried Israel away to Assyria, and placed them in Halah and by the Habor, the River of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes. <sup>7</sup> For so it was that the children of Israel had sinned against the Lord their God, who had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and they had feared other gods, <sup>8</sup> and had walked in the statutes of the nations whom the Lord had cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made. <sup>9</sup> Also the children of Israel secretly did against the Lord their God things that were not right, and they built for themselves high places in all their cities, from watchtower to fortified city. <sup>10</sup> They set up for themselves sacred pillars and wooden images on every high hill and under every green tree. <sup>11</sup> There they burned incense on all the high places, like the nations whom the Lord had carried away before them; and they did wicked things to provoke the Lord to anger, <sup>12</sup> for they served idols, of which the Lord had said to them, "You shall not do this thing." <sup>13</sup> Yet the Lord testified against Israel and against Judah, by all of His prophets, every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways, and keep My commandments and My statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by My servants the prophets." <sup>14</sup> Nevertheless they would not hear, but stiffened their necks, like the necks of their fathers, who did not believe in the Lord their God. <sup>15</sup> And they rejected His statutes and His covenant that He had made with their fathers, and His testimonies which He had testified against them; they followed idols, became idolaters, and went after the nations who were all around them, concerning whom the Lord had charged them that they should not do like them. <sup>16</sup> So they left all the commandments of the Lord their God, made for themselves a molded image and two calves, made a wooden image and worshiped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. <sup>17</sup> And they caused their sons and daughters to pass through the***

*fire, practiced witchcraft and soothsaying, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke Him to anger. <sup>18</sup> Therefore the Lord was very angry with Israel and removed them from His sight; there was none left but the tribe of Judah alone. <sup>19</sup> Also Judah did not keep the commandments of the Lord their God but walked in the statutes of Israel which they made. <sup>20</sup> And the Lord rejected all the descendants of Israel, afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of plunderers, until He had cast them from His sight. <sup>21</sup> For He tore Israel from the house of David, and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king. Then Jeroboam drove Israel from following the Lord and made them commit a great sin. <sup>22</sup> For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they did not depart from them, <sup>23</sup> until the Lord removed Israel out of His sight, as He had said by all His servants the prophets. So, Israel was carried away from their own land to Assyria, as it is to this day.*

There is one portion in the Bible which tells you what to do. Influence by the kingdom of darkness and how finally we keep rejecting what God has said, ultimately, what will happen. So, this is no joke. This is a very serious thing. And people, like I said, know, the most dangerous thing about darkness is – if you are blind, like Pastor Vijay and I were talking on Monday, and he was saying that, “If you’re blind and you go to sleep at night and you wake up in the morning, the morning makes no difference to you because it’s still dark.” So, people who walk in darkness have no clue they’re walking darkness. So, be very careful, as we hear, listen carefully, do not allow the enemy, to take over our thinking, because the reality is not what we see, it is something else.

### **2 Corinthians 4:18**

**<sup>18</sup>while we do not look at the things which are seen, (actually, we look at the things which are seen, but he is saying, “As believers, we do not look at the things which are seen,”) but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.**

There are two things which we do not see – one is heaven the other is hell; both are eternal. What we see is temporary. So, don’t make temporary choices which will affect your eternity. Like Esau, a lot of these things are temporary; they’ll just pass away. If you just stand still, they will pass away, but we don’t stand still; we make eternal choices based on temporary things. Hunger will pass away, anger will pass away, lust will pass away, desires will pass away, the world and its desires will pass. Do not make an eternal choice based on passing desires. That’s why we learn so that we learn to make choices. So, when we come to this realm in which we live, we have to make, in our minds, a mental adjustment. Today, when you came into the house of the God, those who came on your own and those who were brought, both of you make a mental adjustment. We have to say to ourselves – “I am not going to limit myself to my five senses but, Lord, open my heart and mind to the revelation of You; that is in Scripture, through Your Holy Spirit. Not five senses alone; reveal to me, Lord, who You are as we study Scripture.” That’s why remember all our old prayers, old days, how we prayed? Paul’s prayers in *Ephesians 1:17*, “*Lord, give us the Spirit of wisdom and revelation,*” because unless we see that the things that are not seen are not eternal and God opens our eyes to eternal things, we’re caught in the temporal and we’ll make temporal decisions eternal decisions based on temporal without even knowing. When Esau was so hungry, and he told his brother, “Who cares for the birth right? Take it; give me some dal.” Can you imagine selling a birth right for dal? In Telugu, it is pappu! Can you believe it? Just something which was eternal, and he threw it away for dal, and David, Samson. So, thank God, we’re in the New Covenant, because we can repent, allow the Blood to cleanse us, so completely deep cleansing that nothing remains and start our race again. What they couldn’t do, we can; but do not take it for granted.

See, the devil has an advantage over us. He knows how the Kingdom of God functions. He understands what happened on the Cross. He knows he was defeated completely and that defeat is irreversible. He can never win again; it’s gone. It’s been defeated. But just because he was defeated on the Cross, his nature doesn’t change; his nature is still the same. *John 10:10* tells us the resume of this creature.

### **John 10:10**

**<sup>10</sup>The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy...**

That’s his nature. That’s his job profile. If you were to put his resume, he would write it like that; he won’t tell his truth but he would color it nicely but that’s what he is – he’s a liar, he’s a murder, he’s a thief, and he’s a rule breaker. What we say in American English, “Satan is a career criminal.” Meaning, he’s taken criminal behavior as his career. So, there is a difference between a criminal and a career criminal. A career criminal is not going to obey the law unless someone enforces it. Most of

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us sitting over here, we just need the red light, we'll stop. But some guys, you need that fellow with the laathi hanging around; then only, he'll stop. Red light won't stop him because he is a career criminal. Oaky? The challan will not work because the bike is not his. Cameras don't work because he wears his hoodie kind of thing which covers his nose and only his eyes are popping out. So, these things don't work with him; the only thing is that fellow is swinging the laathi that works. So, remember – satan is a career criminal. He doesn't keep the rules unless somebody enforces the rules, the laws, and it is our job to enforce the power and the authority of the Kingdom of God on him, that he stays aware. And if you think that the enemy cannot rob or steal or mess with our lives, we are mistaken.

I am just giving you an introduction. We know, by now, salvation happens when the Holy Spirit takes residence in our spirit and after that, the battle begins. The battle is to capture and to eject the enemy forces and establish the Kingdom of God over our entire life, soul, and body. To us enemy territory we have to get. That's what don't confuse salvation with sanctification and deliverance.

### **1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**

***<sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.***

So, from the day of salvation, the battle begins; the battle is the battle to capture territory which is occupied by the enemy, the devil. Now, don't feel so righteous because there are so many parts of our minds and even our body still could be enemy territory especially your tongue and eyes. and we need discernment and power to be able to identify those areas and battle it until we are able to see the Kingdom of God in its reality. *2 Peter 1:3-4* talks about how God has made provision in the New Covenant.

### **2 Peter 1:3-4**

***<sup>3</sup> as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,***

So, he has given us everything, which pertains to that victorious life which leads to godliness.

***<sup>4</sup> by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises,*** (He has given us promises. The Bible is full of promises) ***that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature,*** (of not of human nature or the demonic nature but God's own nature. We partake of His nature) ***having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.***

We have to get rid of that old nature while partaking the new nature. The promises are there; there is knowledge; there power. Remember 2-3 Sundays or Wednesdays back, I said, "Whether in the Kingdom or the world, to succeed, you need two things – you need knowledge, you need power." You need education, you need power. Or knowledge; not even education. Even if you want to be a good thief, you need knowledge and you need power. You can have excellent brains, but you don't have money, you won't go far in the world. Knowledge and power in the Kingdom of God – it is the same. He's given us divine power and the knowledge of who God is.

Every promise mentioned over there is ours, by faith. And the evidence of our faith is an obedience to God's Word. See, deliverance outside must go in hand with deliverance in mind; otherwise, it doesn't work. It is not difficult to deliver a person's body demonic oppression on the body, but to deliver a person's mind is even more difficult. One is the sin which is a bondage outside which is in the body; the other is an idea that empowers that sin. To get rid of this, especially, when it has become a conviction, a wrong conviction. Let's use examples which we understand. Let's take a very common issue – eating, over eating or unhealthy eating. And we see the result of it, which is obesity and various illnesses. We want a change. And in most cases, if you have noticed, it doesn't last. Why? We want a change because we see the result in a mirror or in a medical report. Are you getting? But the change we look for doesn't last, we join for a diet course, and exercise. And we lose a little weight, but our mind-set hasn't changed because our mind-set hasn't changed a little later we've reverted back. How do you change mind-set? Whether you're in the world or whether you're in the Kingdom about simple thing about eating. In the Kingdom, let me explain to you.

### **1 Corinthians 3:16**

***<sup>6</sup> Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.***

So, it's a rhetorical question, don't you know? Don't you know who you are? Let's go to little clearer; the next one or do you not know that now from you the three-part person to your body? Now this is a change of mind-set when you receive this, not only will your medical report change it will remained changed because your mind is changing. You look at that and say, "You know what? My body is the temple of the living God." I was bought at a price I need to glorify God in my body. So, we're specially applying this verse to our eating. In this particular case, suddenly, what happens? You start changing the way you eat and what you drink, why? Because the mind-set has changed; otherwise, what is happening? We're just emotionally moved by the figure in the mirror and then, we go we pay our money through the nose go to crash course and we then do the jogging and everything, we lose a little weight and we're feeling good and without realizing, because mind-set hasn't changed, we go back to the old form of eating. And do we little realize we look in the mirror, "Mirror, mirror, tell me who is," the mirror says, "You are." You know what happens? Mind-set didn't change, mind-set. You know how secular people who don't believe in God, you know what motivates them? It's something bigger. Like I'll tell you, my second of my older brothers, he doesn't believe; he doesn't go; he hasn't entered the portals of a Church unless he is visiting by some chance. He doesn't go; he doesn't believe; he does nothing, but you know, he was overweight by their standards; not obese but overweight by a standard and he went such a crazy diet and lost weight and is fit as a fiddle. He is three years older than me. You know what made him change? He looked at his medical report and said, "I want to live long for my children." And that one thing – "I want to live long for my three children." Something has to change here (heart) to see that your deliverance in your body has to last. If mind-set doesn't change, we'll go back revert a little later. And we'll become actually, in most cases, even worse. This is not a joke; this is serious because these things have to become convictions that breaks the enemy's stronghold. Because in most cases, people, I believe don't need healing; they need deliverance because they have compulsive habits which in the demonic realm, is demonic. In the actual spiritual realm is demonic; we don't realize in actual spiritual realm is demonic. Demons are hanging in there. If you looked into the mirror, "Mirror, mirror." I wish there was a mirror for everybody. We all looked into the mirror and we looked into the spiritual reality. And you know, suddenly, you see a spiritual X-Ray vision of your throat and you see two hammocks and two demons hanging over there, one will say, "Biryani will come now." Another one is saying, "Soda ayega abhi." If you were really to see; I am not even kidding. Most of the things we partake we're not eating it for our body or glorify; we are eating it because we are compulsive eaters. We are addicts to certain substances. Because others are hanging in there. Deliverance begins in the mind. And you look back at the children of Israel in the desert, you know what? You could give them manna and fresh water, manna, fresh water; they were absolutely fit as a fiddle, but the demons are hanging over there waiting for meat and fish and cucumbers of all the foods of Egypt. All the foods are and that is causing the craving because here nothing has changed. They look in the mirror, there was no mirror, but if they looked in the mirror they, no deliverance over there.

### **1 Corinthians 6:12-13**

***<sup>12</sup> All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. <sup>13</sup> Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.***

He only talks about food. Let's look at that. Just say, "Food for the stomach, stomach for the food, God will destroy both." If the body is for the Lord, the Lord is for the body. We're strictly looking in terms of spiritual oppression in the body alone. God says, "Why are you keep on asking Me for healing when you love your bondage?" Children of Israel did not want to go to the Promised Land; they wanted the Promised Land to look like Egypt. Understand; we need deliverance. Once that happens, when we realize, "You know what? Healing a small thing; it's not a difficult thing." You can walk in your healing. That's part of your Father's table, your daily bread. Remember – stomach is temporary, eternity is calling us, what will be destroyed? Food and stomach. Both are temporary both will be destroyed; God says, "Don't sell out your eternity for something to which you get bound to." Yes, grace is available but if I reject that grace and make excuses to act in accordance with my own desires, instead of God's will, I actually find myself outside of God's Covenant by my disobedience that particular area. If I want a promise or a blessing, I need to make sure I am following the spiritual principles applied in God's Word. Because Scripture is very clear, "*Whatever I sow, I will reap in time.*" That law doesn't change. Grace doesn't change law.

The enemy has no issues with all our gatherings. As long as convictions don't change according to the Word of God, there's no issues. As long as long as we continue to sow in the flesh.

**Galatians 6:7-8**

***<sup>7</sup>Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. <sup>8</sup>For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.***

God says, "You cannot sow in the flesh and reap life and say 'I am under grace'." He says, "It doesn't work like that. Grace doesn't work like that. it simply doesn't."

***...but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.***

So, remember the promise in *Peter*. We are saved through His divine nature from the corruption of the world through lust. You cannot say, "I am receiving the promises of God and the anointing of God and I am going to partake of the corruption of the world and I'll be free." God says, "It doesn't work like that. It simply doesn't work like that." That's the primary tactic of the enemy. That's how witchcraft operates.

As I told 2-3 Sundays back, witchcraft is the power of satan's kingdom and witchcraft has two natural aspects – one natural and one supernatural. Much about this, I have learnt from my spiritual mentor whom I never met called Derek Prince and from experience. I'm telling you – that man, there is one of the foolish things; that's why I always say, "Don't be emotional." Because the problem is – if you are an emotional believer you will never listen to Derek Prince. He's to be honest; he's got a very boring style. But if you love the Word and interested in your freedom, you can sit with your notebook and your Bible and learn. Emotional believers will look for those who will jump and dance and feed your flesh. And God think deliberately has servants like Derek Prince to test us. So, witchcraft has a natural aspect and a supernatural aspect. In the natural aspect, you'll see in,

**Galatians 5:19-20**

***<sup>19</sup>Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, <sup>20</sup>idolatry and witchcraft...***

Idolatry and witchcraft is the naturally manifestation of the enemy's kingdom in my flesh. That is the natural. Where does idolatry and witchcraft affect? My flesh. It leads to demonic control. Do you remember when flesh, Israel, asked for a king and picked a king according to the flesh – tall, handsome, smart – anointed him, his final estimate about him through the prophet who anointed him by God is this in *1 Samuel 15*,

**1 Samuel 15:23**

***<sup>23</sup>For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry...***

What is there in my flesh? Idolatry and witchcraft? How does it manifest? As rebellion and stubbornness. So, the question we need to ask is: in my life, as I am proceeding forward, am I more obedient or am I getting more rebellious? Am I stubborn? That's how you assess. This is a spiritual pathology report or radiology report, whatever report you want. Am I rebellious or am I stubborn? And the rebellious and the stubborn think, actually in this world, they are free. "Nobody can tell me what to do," without realizing – you are entirely under the control of the demonic realm and you are doing what they want you to do. That is what we are talking about darkness. You think you are free – that's what Jesus told the Pharisees. He said, "You are blind. You could see but because you said you can see, you are blind." That's how the enemy controls – he uses the flesh to trap man. And two things that we need to constantly check in our lives are – rebellion and stubbornness. Disobedience is not rebellion always. Sometimes, we have to disobey so that we can obey God. Daniel disobeyed; Daniel's three friends disobeyed but they were not rebellious. So, understand.

Witchcraft, when it works in the flesh, it can be very stubborn, consistently stubborn. Let's look at an example of how a strong person is brought down, an anointed person is brought down by the stubbornness of witchcraft. In *Judges 16*,

**Judges 16:15-16**

**<sup>15</sup> Then she said to him, “How can you say, ‘I love you,’ when your heart is not with me? You have mocked me these three times, and have not told me where your great strength lies.”<sup>16</sup> And it came to pass, when she pestered him daily with her words and pressed him, so that his soul was vexed to death,**

Two things are operating here in the spiritual realm. Here is the man who is anointed and here is a woman who is under the power of witchcraft. It is stubborn and it won't give up. Over and over, until it has its way. So, you tell me – who was strong? Samson or Delilah?

On the other hand, Joseph was strong because he had never opened any door and given the enemy a toe-hold in his life. You know why this guy is weak? He is weak in one area because that's the area we have always opened doors. He is strong in other areas but the devil knows which area he is weak. Joseph, on the other hand, is strong, with no open doors in his life. So, the witchcraft, in the spiritual realm, working through flesh, is not able to work in *Genesis 39:10*,

**Genesis 39:10**

**<sup>10</sup> So it was, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her or to be with her.**

Did you see? It's not working. It's the same. It's not working.

On the other hand; the difference between Samson and Joseph is interesting. Samson had a choice where to be; Joseph did not have a choice where to be. Nobody manipulated Samson's will but this poor man has no will; he's a slave; yet, witchcraft has no power over him but witchcraft enslaves the other man. So, always try to discern witchcraft – the power of satan works in flesh, in the world. Especially, women, be careful. Especially, when you get married. Be careful. Don't pester. Honestly, it's not even a joke. That's one of the ways witchcraft works through a woman. Most men cannot handle it. So, they just say, “Okay, take it and leave me alone.” You have to be very, very careful, even in Christian homes. Be very careful – witchcraft works in Christian charismatic Gospel homes. It works; because how do you know you know the way it functions? So, we have to understand how it functions to see that, “O boy! I want this done but I'm not doing it this way. I'm going to get into my closet and I'm going to pray. I'm not going to pester my husband until I have my way because if I have my way, the way may be right but the method was absolutely demonic and I will be judged for the method.” Be very careful because that's how the enemy subverts everything. He always produces illegitimate authority or he subverts authority. So, always learn how the Kingdom of God works and how the kingdom of darkness works. This is all for our personal freedom, to finish. Honestly, the more I study about these kingdoms and I see all the people in the Bible, I realize why I see it now, the number of actual overcomers must be a very small number. Honestly, most people are not interested in their personal freedom and deliverance because it's a battle; it's a personal battle. We need to understand how it works because the self – the flesh; the self dwells, the old man dwells – is the target of witchcraft for the enemy. Look at the work of the Cross in our lives. Let's look at this – *1 Corinthians 1*,

**1 Corinthians 1:18**

**<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**

The message of the Cross. That's why you see, almost everywhere – that message of the Cross is being taken away. Why? Because it's through the Cross Jesus administered the total defeat of satan. Nothing can change that. Where was satan defeated? He was not defeated on the battlefield; he was defeated on the Cross. And the message of the Cross is something the devil hates and the carnal man and the carnal believer also hates it. So, you can see – I can have the Word, the anointing and the prayer, which are powerful weapons against the enemy, but put aside the Cross and I will still be defeated at the end. I have the anointing; I have the Word; and I have prayer. But I put aside the Cross and I can still be defeated because one of the primary ways the devil works or witchcraft works is to hide the work of Christ on the Cross. That's what Paul is telling the Galatian Church in *Galatians 3:1*. We have read it so many times.

**Galatians 3:1**

**<sup>1</sup> O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you (how did you come under witchcraft?) that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as (what?) crucified?**

## Discerning Witchcraft In Our Lives!

How did you forget the Cross so fast? How did you forget the death of self so fast? Once the Cross and the working of the Cross is hidden from our eyes, we are already defeated though the enemy will give us an illusion that we are winning. That's why Jesus said, "Pick up your cross and follow Me daily." That's the only way we can win – we need the Word, anointing, prayer but we also need equally the Cross. When the Cross is not working in my life and in your life, how does the enemy manipulate? If the Cross is not there in my life, I will not be able to see it but when the Cross comes into it, I am able to see it in my life or somebody else's which is none of my business unless the person is under my authority; otherwise, it is not my business. How does the devil, through witchcraft, promote? How does he do that? One – he promotes the carnal over the spiritual. Old Testament examples. He will promote Ishmael over Isaac, anything that promotes self. So, even when the blessings are being promised and the covenant of the cutting away of the flesh is going to take place, remember *Genesis 17*? Cut away the flesh because you relied on the flesh. God is saying through Sarah and all the promises; still, what is Abraham saying? "Bless Ishmael." He is putting the flesh above the spiritual, the carnal above the spiritual. And I honestly, I hope it is not; right now, talking here in this format. You were in the school, in the college in the morning and you are in the Church in the evening. In the evening, you have put the spiritual above the carnal. But the question is, are you enjoying it? Are you appreciating it or are you struggling?

### **John 5:19**

***<sup>19</sup> Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner."***

What is He doing? He says, I will never project Myself. I will only do what My Father tells Me. So you will see this pattern, when the Spiritual goes even Isaac, spiritual man promotes Esau over Jacob. When the spiritual goes it happens all over the world especially in the ministry, when the spiritual goes senior pastors promote their carnal children into ministry forgetting the spiritual in the Church. I was joking in the evening while I was getting out because our youngest child was there. As I was leaving, she was telling me, "But Neville is your favorite child." I said, "Yes, of course, he is my favorite child." "But why?" "He is the only one who listens to what I say." So, I said, "Therefore, he shall inherit my kingdom." And she replied back, "I will take half from him." Are you getting it? We don't realize that our choices are always often carnal, even when you pick your friends. You go to school, who do you pick as your friends? Nobody wants to be friendly with that poor fellow who sits in the front, who is looking and studying and everybody avoids him. Isn't it true? He is friendless; he is mocked because he is always on time. We mock him by saying teacher's pet. You know why? Because you choose the carnal over spiritual. Look at your friends. I don't know who your friends are. Look at your friends; you will know what you choose. That's what bullying is all about. You know why you get bullied or you bully others? In your schools or homes wherever you stay, why you bully? Because it's the carnal in you despising the spiritual in somebody else. That's why the ten elder brothers bullied the youngest brother Joseph because they were carnal and he was spiritual. So, when you bully somebody, remember who you are and under what power you are working. It's definitely not the Holy Spirit. Witchcraft, when it operates, it will always cause you to pick the carnal over the spiritual and because you know a little Scripture here and there, hidden in the dark places in your mind, you will sooth your conscience and say, "But I am hoping to bring him or her to the Lord one day." On the other hand, he or she takes you into the world all days. It doesn't happen; very rarely but it doesn't happen. Firstly, understand, when witchcraft works, how you do see its effects? We promote the carnal at the expense of the spiritual.

Second thing – a little difficult for small children but the older ones will understand – we choose theology over revelation and most of the issues in the Kingdom of God and in the Church originate from exalting human thinking above the revelation of what God says. That's the problem. We prefer theology to revelation. Revelation is hard work; theology is not so difficult. All you need is five concordances and ten others who read some portions, sit with them and you get your theology. Revelation demands to be accountable before God because there is only one Revealer. When the Holy Spirit comes, He is the One who reveals. And the Person who reveals happens to be the most sensitive Person in the universe. So, we prefer theology; we don't want revelation and Churches are run on theology and not on revelation. Did we get it? We don't need theology as much as we need revelation. Give the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. With all his theological knowledge and understanding of the Kingdom of God, John the apostle could have never written the *Book of Revelation*. It had to be revealed to him.

Third thing – witchcraft in the Church; we are leaving the world aside, okay? Witchcraft in the Church exalts education above discipleship. Jesus did not just educate; He disciplined. See, my issue is not with education. People think I am against it. I am educated, okay? And I am also disciplined. I don't have issue with education. The problem with education is there is an ideology behind it. Let's say, engineering; it's a noble profession. It's engineering that has created all these structures but an

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ideology behind the engineering results in the tower of Babel. “Let us make us for our self a name in competition to God.” So, Babylon is an engineering marvel but the ideology behind it is demonic. There is no problem with engineering but the problem is with the ideology. Medical profession is an incredible noble profession but you take that noble profession and it can have a demonic ideology which actually has invented multiple ways of killing babies in the womb at any stage. What justifies it? It’s a demonic ideology. What was not possible like in most old ancient days, they had abortion and women died and all kinds of crazy stuff they did but now? Boy! Late term pregnancy is also not a problem. So, you see, we took something that was noble and a demonic ideology came into it and now, what did we do? We have exalted education over discipleship. So, we have educated criminals walking and working not disciples. Jesus was not educating the twelve; He was disciplining them. And what happens is – when witchcraft comes in, we exalt education over discipleship and God says, “It’s witchcraft. If the training you receive is not combined to serving, it is going to create the opposite result because the educated think they ought to be served. One thing I have noticed is – the more people get educated, the less they like serving. The more educated they get, the less. They feel their education has disqualified from picking a broom, mopping the floor, washing their own clothes. We don’t even realize that, somehow, these are setting into our minds. And when Daddy or Mommy says, “Pick up your things,” you’re thinking, “You know what? I’m in class twelve now! Wash my clothes? Isn’t that what the maid is for?” But the maid is not educated, you see. She’s not educated. There is no issue with the maid washing the clothes, but check how your mind works. Yet, in real terms, the most educated person who ever walked on earth was Jesus. One of the key factors in Jesus’ life and why He overcame the power of witchcraft, we see in,

### **Philippians 2:5-7**

**<sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup> but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant (This is the key! He took the form of a servant), and coming in the likeness of men.**

In,

### **Isaiah 42:1**

**<sup>1</sup> “Behold! My Servant...**

See, Jesus is king! Jesus is High Priest. Jesus is Prophet. Jesus is all these things, but the Father calls Him, “My Servant!” And we don’t want to call ourselves servant. We want to call ourselves according to Jesus’ proclamation, “I’m king! I’m priest. I’m prophet. I’m all this,” but He is servant!

***...whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.***

I’ll tell you why this is so important. How many of you remember *Luke 17*? When Jesus was talking about forgiveness and they said, “Increase our faith,” right? And after that, He gave a small parable or a story or an illustration, about a man and his servant. The master came back and he expected in the evening, after a whole day’s work, the servant to wait on him, cook his meal, feed him and not go do your own thing. And after he’s finished everything, the servant has the leave to go. And he does not even say a ‘thank you’. It’s very offensive to the modern mind. But what was Jesus trying to say? That servant could have personal issues, family issues, but when he came to serving his master, he would let nothing affect it. That’s how you break the power of witchcraft. I may have personal issues but I never forget that I’m his servant. I’m not going to let these things stop me from serving Him. Do you think that servant did not have issues? Of course, he has. Everybody has. But did that stop him from serving his master? The question is: what stops you from being the servant of God? Because I’ll tell you what; I do not listen to soup stories. Unbelievers, yes! Believers who have heard the Word and learned the Word, no! Don’t tell me your pity stories; it makes no difference to me. Why? Because He’s given you grace. He’s given you understanding. And if you believe, all things are possible. “Poor me!” That’s an excuse to come under witchcraft to serve God. Self-pity is demonic. Because one of the most fantastic verses in *Mark’s Gospel* is that, when Jesus rose from the dead, the only one, the only human being ever to see Jesus before He ascended to the Father on the first day was Mary Magdalene who was possessed of seven demons and delivered. The only person before He ascended! Then, He came back and the others saw Him. So, if she was completely possessed and delivered and could have that incredible experience, God says, “What is your excuse?” Don’t live this pity party and sympathy party and all; acknowledge the mistakes you’ve made. Confess it. Forget the iniquity of your forefathers and say, “It’s under the blood. I’m a new person. This is what I know. This is what my God is. I

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believe! I obey and my breakthrough is here.” And I’m going to be consistent. And he will break through for me. Instead, we come under the pity part of the devil and we say, “You know, nothing happens for me, because this one did that to me. That one did! My father didn’t send me to that school!” Come on! Where is God in this whole picture? So, do not exalt education above discipleship. Be a disciple! The commission is to be a disciple.

The fourth one on how the enemy operates. He exalts psychology over discernment, over a word of knowledge, over a word of wisdom, whichever way you want to look at it. Psychology over discernment! Witchcraft exalts psychology! First know this. Much of psychology is demonic in origin, if not most of it. And we know what we do? We use psychology above discernment! That’s how witchcraft comes in. If you have a degree in psychology, you’ll get a job in the government. If you have a spirit of discernment, God will employ you. Depends upon whom you want to work for. When Jesus met people, He never used psychology. Imagine Jesus and the Samaritan woman sitting and talking, “Okay! Tell me about your childhood. Oh! You got abused at six? Oh! That’s why you picked up all these men. Were they all abusers?” Nothing! Look! “You had five husbands and you’re living with the sixth one.” That’s not psychology; that’s discernment. He just diagnosed the problem. Do you want to be free? Do you want to be free? You deal with the issue, you are free. Because the Son of Man came to set the captives free.

### **Luke 7:48**

***<sup>48</sup> Then He said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”***

We don’t say that. We molly-coddle! “I’m so sorry!” We also cry with them. “You went through all this in life?” God says, “Hang on! Do you know why she is there? Unrepented sins. Just let it go and you are free.”

### **Matthew 9:2**

***<sup>2</sup> Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you.”***

See, when we don’t have discernment, first, we will stand there in the name of Jesus of Nazareth and we bind and we shout and scream. I like what Derek Prince once said—even deaf and mute spirits, you don’t have to shout at them, because they’re not deaf. The man is deaf; the spirit is not deaf. The thing is that, it’s like what doctor’s do; when he doesn’t have an idea about what your illness is, he gives you what is called a broad-spectrum antibiotic. General! Something will hit you! When it doesn’t work and you come back after five days, he says, “Go. Do all these tests and come.” Now, you got it. Jesus doesn’t give broad-spectrum antibiotics. Okay? But, this is not easy. For this to happen that man who is called to that ministry has to be connected to God. And to be connected to God, we need to be separated from the world. And we don’t want that. We want to be connected to God and connected to the world and God says, “You’ll fall in between.” See, there is a price to be paid for anything that you receive from God after salvation. The question is: are we willing to pay the price? It’s not psychology; it’s discernment. Because psychology will always give you a crutch to lean on. And our problems never go away. Psychology can actually make your situation worse. Now, you feel you deserve entitlement, because of all what you went through. Oh! This is what you did when you were a child? Ah, you’re always there. Anybody who comes, they come to them and say, “Do you want to hear my story?” “Yeah.” “This is what I went through.” Now, your crutch has become a little more bigger. Jesus doesn’t. He goes to the man who is crippled for 34 years and He tells him, “Pick up your mat and go! Stop making excuses! Get up and go!” The grace of God has arrived that can set any man, any woman, any child, free! Stop making excuses. But we prefer psychology.

Again, fifth one. How witchcraft works! We put programs over divine leading and divine direction. Jesus never had a program. Jesus had a person. Through the Bible, we see, early in the morning, I love it! Early in the morning. I don’t, because I sit late into the night; it’s kind of early, but not really early. Like the past two days, when I came back from this visit, it was interesting! First, I come back here and I see, this morning also, missed call. There’s a missed call on my phone. 3:20 am. Again, 3:20 am. Missed call. I don’t know whose number it is. So, I texted saying, “Hello! Who is this?” I thought it was an emergency. Who will call you at 3:20 in the morning? It happens, one of the sisters, who comes. The only believer in an unbelieving family, who is not even allowed to go to Church on Sunday; so, she hides and comes for these kinds of meetings where I go, she gives that missed call and says, “I’m so sorry, Pastor, for disturbing you, but at 3:20 in the morning, I’m the first one to wake up and I give these missed calls to forty five of my friends who rise up to pray.” 3:20 in the morning. 45 ladies who rise up to pray, up in the mountains, who do not have the privilege of our teaching, who are not even allowed to go to Church, wake

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up to pray. That's how you receive direction. The disciples were simply sent out. And they were led by the Holy Spirit. I'm not saying there should not be structure, but the structure should not take pre-eminence over divine guidance, because we serve a living God and the Bible, from the beginning, teaches us about a God who guides. Abraham! Do this. Do this. Go there. Stop there, Isaac. Don't go. Jacob, yes; you can go." And Israel, the rebellious people, led forty years by the cloud and by the fire. "David! Don't fight this way. Fight this way in the next battle. The next one, fight this way." All through it, what do we see? We see guidance. When we are guided by God and we obey it, all the results are in His hands. People don't even realize how much pressure it takes off. Programs demand a lot of work on our hand. The burden is ours. Guidance, the burden is His. The thing is that, structure is good to work, but we're not dependent upon a structure. We serve a living God. Whether you are a child, whether you are an older person, we serve a Living God and He is a father and He guides. So, don't let program define you. Be led by God. Because we take the work of the Holy Spirit and put Him away. And now, we do His work and we find it is too much.

Let me see the time I have, one more, maybe. Witchcraft exalts eloquence over the power of the Holy Spirit. You know what Paul says in,

### **1 Corinthians 2:1-2**

***<sup>1</sup>And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. <sup>2</sup>For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.***

It'll come to the later verses also. What is he saying is that, "I am not going to let witchcraft obscure Christ. I'm not going to let eloquence, which is what politicians want, obscure the power of the Holy Spirit." In the *Book of Acts in chapter 17*, Paul goes to Athens. Athens is the intellectual capital of the then world. And this is what they did beautifully described in the way only God can describe.

### **Acts 17:21-22**

***<sup>21</sup>For all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing.***

Bakwaas! (Nonsense!) Intellectual bakwaas! (Nonsense). I'm sure there was no coffee there. But if there was, Athens would have been full of coffee shops and everybody is having intellectual discussion like it happens in JNTU canteen and EFLU canteen. That's all they do. Sit and talk. You know what? Paul tried the same thing in *verse 22*.

***<sup>22</sup>Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious;***

He tried a very intellectual eloquent approach. The results were very limited. Very limited.

### **Acts 17:32**

***<sup>32</sup>And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked, while others said, "We will hear you again on this matter."***

He did not have much effect in Athens, because you cannot substitute eloquence to the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **Acts 18:1**

***<sup>1</sup>After these things Paul departed from Athens and went to Corinth.***

You know what he declares in Corinth?

### **1 Corinthians 2:2-4**

***<sup>2</sup>For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. <sup>3</sup>I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,***

The ministry in Athens changed his ministry. He says, "I'm not going to try to convince man with wisdom. I will stand on the strength of His Word alone and the power of His Holy Spirit." What does the devil do? What does witchcraft do? Witchcraft

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tries to substitute the power of the Holy Spirit with eloquence. God says, “Don’t try it. Don’t try it.” The Kingdom of God will become ineffective, because you cannot do the work of the Kingdom empowered by witchcraft. If eloquence comes, it is fine but don’t ever put your trust in eloquence. Your trust is in God.

Do we have time for one more? Witchcraft will put reasoning over faith. God has given us reason, but God does not lead by reasons. He leads by faith and often, young ones, the walk of faith will defy reason.

### **Hebrews 11:7**

**<sup>7</sup> By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen** (No reason there. Never anything like this! No rain. No flood. He’s never seen anything. So, reasonable; there is nothing to reason about.), ***moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.***

You know what Scripture is saying? The man of faith, by his very act of faith, condemned the people of reason. The people, who were all with reason, saw this man’s building and said, “These things never happen!” They were very reasonable. But ultimately, the man of faith condemned the men of reason. Because, often when God leads, it defies reason. In,

### **Hebrews 11:8**

**<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.**

It defies reason. “Where are you going?” “I don’t know.” “Why are you going?” “Because He told me.” It defies reason. God is not always reasonable.

### **Hebrews 11:9**

**<sup>9</sup> By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise;**

These three men, in their generations, were probably the richest men of that land. They had folks that couldn’t be measured, camels, oxen, processions, servants, maid servants, slaves everything, but one thing God told them, “You cannot buy land. You cannot build your house.” How many of us would do that? Let’s say you have 10 crores in your account and God says, “No buying an apartment, no building a house and keep moving,” this is the key, the key of true financial freedom. God can give you money if your heart is surrender to Him. This is the richest man there, but money doesn’t hold him; it’s God who holds me. The other man who started with him with the same kind of wealth; the wealth was not different, the folks and the herds of Abraham and Lot were growing together. So, it was the same wealth, the same herds; divided, he took his folks he went into Sodom and he built a house. He could not be moved and when the day of judgement came, he could not be moved from his possessions because reason had set in, faith can always move; faith makes you willing to move. So, if you are genuine true person of faith God can give you resources, because He know the resources is not going to bind you, but if He knows the resources is going to bind you, as a Father, would he give it? I don’t know. I wouldn’t.

*Galatians 5:6*; the last thing.

### **Galatians 5:6**

**<sup>6</sup> For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.**

Witchcraft will exalt legalism above love, love has rules; legalism has only rules; it has no love. Don’t think love doesn’t have rules; love knows what it does and what it doesn’t do, okay? The sign of witchcraft is, it exalts rules above love and every rule that God gives is only because He loves, every rule of God behind it. That’s how you first fall in love with God and understand His commands are not burdensome because He loves us. Legalism, on the other hand, will only tell you rules and rules which have got nothing to do with love and watch out for that. Watch out. When you lay down rules for others, ask yourselves – why am I laying down rules? Because rules of legalism produces self-righteousness which is a by-product of witchcraft while the rules of love produces the righteousness of God, which is a product of Holy spirit. So, go through the message again; listen to it over and over again. Just don’t sit there. Listen to it over and over again because how you do listen is when you listen to

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these things, God speaks back to you and He shows you and me where witchcraft is operating in our lives, and there it was not an accident that we sang that song which we haven't sang that song here for years. There is power, power in the Blood of Jesus. What does *1 John 1:7 and 9* say?

### 1 John 1:7

***<sup>7</sup> 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.***

There is nothing that else can cleanse us and we need that, because once we are cleansed, the power of witchcraft is broken. Once we come into the light, the power of darkness is broken. It is broken; there is no point in looking at your mirror of God's Word and identifying the power of witchcraft. Scripture says, "If you confess, *verse 9*, then He is faithful," and what happens? Once the Blood cleanses off sin and *verse 9* says, "He cleanses all." Unrighteousness is the by-product of witchcraft. That is also gone; sin is also gone; power of witchcraft is broken; you can walk free. You can walk free because that is the key. That is the key and don't take it lightly. Understand. Don't look in the mirror and think, "I am so great." No, you are not; I am not. Understand from Scripture.

As I close put that one Scripture that I gave you *Romans 6:13*, look in the mirror. This is the mirror. What does it say?

### Romans 6:13-

***<sup>13</sup> And do not present your members as instruments of...***

So, what does it mean? Once upon a time or maybe, even now, the instruments of my body, were instruments used by demons; my eyes were used by demons; my ears were used by demons; my tongue was used by demons. Why did we love to hear something about somebody else? Because there is somebody clinging onto our ear, who is not of God, not of God. *1 Samuel*. Look at it. Understand how the demonic realm works.

### 1 Samuel 18:7-9

***<sup>7</sup> So the women sang as they danced, and said: "Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands." <sup>8</sup> Then Saul was very angry...***

Why was he angry? How did that get in? It got in through his ear gate, got into his mind; now, he is angry,

***...and the saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?" <sup>9</sup> So Saul eyed David from that day forward.***

There is a demon hanging onto his eye. He is never ever able to see David as he really is. He is the most loving, loyal soldier Saul has, but he sees it as, "My enemy – I need to kill him," because it's hanging onto his eye. You know why we are not able to see certain people as they really are? Because our eyes have become an instrument of unrighteousness; God says, "You sit there and watch all these stuff on your mobile, on your phone and on your computer, these things have become instruments of unrighteousness." God says, "If you confess, He is faithful." That's how you begin every day – "Lord, this body, I offer to You today as a living sacrifice. Lord, cleanse my eyes, cleanse my ears, cleanse my tongue, cleanse my heart, Lord. I don't want anything hanging on there that perverts what I see, that perverts what I hear so that what I speak is the perverted truth of God." *Romans 1* talks about those who hold the truth of God in unrighteousness; how is it possible, I don't know; but the Bible says, "It's possible to hold the truth in unrighteousness." Okay? So, understand; this body is either a vessel of God or the spirit can be deep inside and other things hanging in over there. Start every day and what happens is, clarity comes; you hear, you see, you speak. Why? Now, the very God, His Spirit is seeing through you, hearing through you, speaking through you; life becomes easy. It's not as; I am not saying life doesn't; it's not difficult in terms with the world, but life is not burdensome anymore, because you realize God is working in me and working through me. Amen? Let's pray.

### Closing Prayer:

*Father, we just come to You, Lord. We just thank You. We just praise You. We just worship You. We just surrender ourselves into Thy hands, this evening, Lord. I plead the Blood of Jesus, the Blood of Jesus, the Blood of Jesus over every one of us. I pray, as the Holy Spirit moves, Lord, through our minds, our hearts, our thoughts showing us, where powers of darkness have*

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*influenced our thinking and as we repent, as we confess, as we forsake, I pray and I believe, Your Word will come to pass; the Blood of Jesus will cleanse us of every unrighteousness and we will be able to see better, hear better, speak better and start fulfilling the will the purpose of God in each one of our lives, Lord. Thank You. Thank You, Father. Be with us, Lord. You brought us safely into Your house and as we leave to our various homes, I pray, You take us back to safely. Dwell with us and dwell in us, O Lord, more and more, O Father. That's all we desire – more of You; more control into Your hands, O Lord every day. Thank You, Father. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen!*