

Pastors' Conference – January 2018 (Session 2)

(Year of Destiny!)

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Father, we just come to You, Lord. We thank You for the provision of food for our bodies and we believe, Lord, You'll continue to feed us. Our spirit is willing, flesh is weak. Many may be tired in the body but by faith, we commit our bodies in Thy hands. In our weakness, You are our strength. I pray You will help us to remain awake; help us to remain alert so that we may not miss what You have to tell us. Speak to us, O Lord. For in Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

Hallelujah! So, remain awake! You see we may have four hours of preaching but God may have in that thing, one thing to tell you; maybe one line that must be your answer for today. So, don't miss it. I wouldn't, you know; you will know but if you fall asleep, you may miss it. It's how it works. At the Pool of Bethesda, there was one man. Jesus asked and He enquired and found one man had been there for thirty-eight years. Once a year, an angel comes and stirs the water. Look at it – Once a year, the angel comes and stirs. First one who gets in, gets healed. A man has been waiting for thirty-eight years; waiting and watching for that moment when the angel will stir. So, thirty years, somebody else got in before him; still, he didn't give up; still, he's waiting and that day, Jesus went only to him and asked him, "Do you want to be made whole?" So, you never know; that's why everywhere, we gather in the Name of God, we remain alert. Yes, we are tired. Yes, we'll feel sleepy but that's why we have a God who can help us to remain awake. Say, "Lord, I don't want to miss anything you have to tell me today." So, I believe 2018 will be a year of destiny; defining year for many, one way or the other.

When Simeon prophesied over Jesus, he said, "This Child is for the rising and the falling of many." Jesus determines the destiny of many but He wants, as a Father, for all us to rise and not to fall. So, when we go through stuff in life, enquire of the Lord because we have a Father who answers – merciful God. Know your God. David knew his God. So, even in the darkest hours, he cried out for the mercy of God and he received it and God spoke to him. That's what we need – in our dark situations, we need a Word from God. Those days, you have to call the priest to bring the ephod and ask the Lord. The Lord will speak to the priest. Today, we have the Spirit within us. So, do not get discouraged; cross check with God. If it's because of our destiny; stand firm, stand strong, rejoice during tribulation, it will pass. God will bring us to an abundant place. It was Israel's destiny. They went through the fire, they went through the water, people rode over them; God brought them to a place of abundance because they had a promise and they had a destiny. We are people of promise. Remember the promise for this year; whatever you received and whatever promise with which you began this journey of ministry. Like I said, God moves you to the next level; beware of opposition. Do not get discouraged, do not get depressed. Like David, learn to encourage yourself.

Second thing – beware of the spirit of distraction. I won't tell much on that. If you are there for the Monday's Pastors' Conference, not here; at Malkajiri; I'll speak to you about that. But beware of the spirit of distraction. See, if you see a target, there is a centre and there are other circles. Every good archer, his eye is in the centre. If our eye is on the centre, we will not miss our mark. You know what sin in actual Hebrew and Greek means? 'Miss the mark' – that is the meaning of sin. The mark is Jesus Christ. When we sin; we miss our mark. The Father wants to make everyone like His First-born Son. You have to have the focus. If the devil cannot discourage us, he will try to distract us. As a Pastor, I'm talking to Pastors; there could be Evangelists here but I'm talking to Pastors – always know your focus. There is a centre and there are other circles. If you miss your centre, ultimately, you will fail in everything else. If you know your centre, everything will fall into place.

The primary focus of a Pastor is to teach the Word of God. That is the food for your people. We need to know what to teach, when to teach. So, that demands not only hard work, or studying the text, also hearing the teacher. I can study the text but if don't hear from the Lord, I will give roti (unleavened bread) when people need rice. I will give them cake when they need bread. All is food and I will feel good; I fed but that is not what they may need. So, our primary purpose is first to know your text and then, to hear from God and then, everything else will fall into place. When Jesus was doing His ministry; He healed the sick, He fed the hungry, He cast out demons, He did all kinds of miracles but His primary function was teaching. He never allowed any of these things to distract Him from His teachings because it is the teaching of the Word that will set people free and keep them in the road of freedom. If we are distracted, we will never reach our destination. So, always be focused. In life, be focused. One of the major issues of the young people is – there are so many distractions.

Fifteen years ago, twenty years ago, when I had Pastors' Conference, there was no phone; no distraction. Nobody's phone will go 'pe...pe...pe...pe...' Nobody will go outside and talk during the meeting. This is a useful thing but if you don't know how to control this, you'll never reach your destiny. The devil can take a very useful thing and make it a tool for distraction. Wherever you are, when you are hearing the Word of God, even if the Prime Minister calls, don't take his call because you can either hear from God or hear from man. These are fundamental things. We don't put any voice above the Word of God. Don't get distracted otherwise you'll see as you start praying, the phone will ring. If you are in the house you are getting ready to pray your phone will ring. You know why your phone rings? Because the devil knows if your phone rings, you will leave the prayer to attend the call. You think it is not real. He will tell somebody, to him he can speak, "Call the Pastor now." Why? The Pastor's praying. This person doesn't know; he will call the Pastor. The Pastor is used to picking calls more than praying. Why? Because he has no focus.

When Jesus prayed nobody disturbed Him and He went away to a faraway place, not to get distracted. You know we need to get this because the devil will always try to distract us. Jesus knew His ultimate destiny. He knew He was born to die. On earth, He knew: "My destiny is the Cross." Everyone tried to block Him from His destiny. He would not allow anybody to distract Him from His destiny and He had to die on the Cross sinless. Anybody can die on the Cross; many have died on the Cross but only one died sinless. So, they spat on Him, they pulled His beard, they slapped Him, they beat Him; He still remained sinless. He didn't lose His temper, He didn't get angry, He didn't curse; everything outwardly is being done but He didn't lose His focus. Have you noticed? All you have to do is – one plate falls; everybody will turn to that side and look because we haven't learnt to focus. We get distracted very fast. Nothing could distract Jesus from His destiny. The devil is trying everything; the people on the road, the Pharisees are shouting, "If you are the Son of God, come down!" He doesn't get distracted; He is the Son of God. He's not going to prove, "I am the Son of God." Two thieves keep on cursing him. He doesn't get distracted. He's calm. That is why one thief changes. At the point of death, one thief repents because the Lord did not get distracted. In *Isaiah 50:7*, this is about Jesus,

Isaiah 50:7

⁷"For the Lord God will help Me; Therefore I will not be disgraced; Therefore I have set My face like a flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed.

"I set my face as a flint" – Absolutely focused on the Cross. Everybody tried to dissuade Him; He said, "I must go to Jerusalem and die." Not distracted; that is Apostle Paul. The prophet Agabus will tell, "If you go to Jerusalem, this is how you will be tied up and given." He says, "I need to go because the Spirit has already told me." Don't get distracted. In *Hebrews 12:2*,

Hebrews 12:2

²looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

He saw beyond the Cross, he not only saw the Cross; he saw beyond the Cross, '***the joy that was set before him***'. Stay focused, know what your call is, what your primary function is. That way, you will be able to bring order into your life because our God is a God of order. Only disorder you see in the life of humans because they have been given the freedom to choose and we have to choose to bring order into our lives. So, beware of the spirit of discouragement, beware of the spirit of distraction but above all, beware of the spirit of deception – that's the devil's primary main tool. What is a lie? What is the purpose of a lie? It is to deceive; the devil is called the father of the liars. Deception is his primary weapon. What happened in the Garden of Eden? In *1 Timothy 2:14*, what does Scripture say?

1 Timothy 2:14

¹⁴And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

Ah! The woman was deceived. What happened? How did the fall begin? It is through deception. Adam was not deceived; woman was deceived. He deceived. By the time Paul writes a letter to Galatians, the entire Church is deceived and that's why the letter of Galatians is written. *Galatians 3:1*, what does Scripture say?

Galatians 3:1

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?

Who bewitched you? Who deceived you? A Church started by Paul, when he is not there, has been completely deceived. That is his primary weapon. Remember deception will lead to bewitchment because the battle is for our future, for our destiny. Why did Joseph's brother try to kill him at seventeen? Because of his future; not because of his present. Listen to what they say in *Genesis 37:20*,

Genesis 37:20

²⁰ Come therefore, let us now kill him and cast him into some pit; and we shall say, 'Some wild beast has devoured him.' We shall see what will become of his dreams!"

Because of his dream! "Now, he is okay but tomorrow, if his dream is true, he will rule over us. Before he rules over us, let us kill him." What does the letter of *Corinthians* say? "Don't you know you will judge angels one day?" What does the devil say? "Before they judge us, let us finish them off!" The devil knows our future, we don't know our future. Why did the devil through the Pharaoh kill all the babies? So that there would be no Moses. Why did Saul try to kill the young boy David? He was not afraid of the boy David; he was afraid of the word he had heard that David would become king one day. The devil is not afraid of our present; he's afraid of our future. So, whatever you are going through now, it doesn't matter because your and my destiny is bigger than our disaster. Nobody can take it away; God has spoken. In *Isaiah 14:24*,

Isaiah 14:24

²⁴ The LORD of hosts has sworn, saying, "Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, And as I have purposed, so it shall stand:

God has spoken. Through Scripture, you will see God saying, "God is not a man that He should lie." In *Isaiah 55:11*, He will say, "My Word will not go void." In *Jeremiah 1:12*, He'll say, "I watch over My Word to perform it." That's the power of a promise. That promise that you have in your life is stronger and more powerful than everything else you will face in your life. Keep your focus but remember and learn from the life of others in the Bible. Everybody cannot go where the Lord wants to take you; everybody may not be interested also. Don't let others determine your testimony and your destiny. Joseph didn't let his elder brothers decide his destiny. Every time God wants to take a man to another level, You'll see He will separate him from the crowd because the crowds will not follow. Look at *2 Kings 2:7-8*,

2 Kings 2:7-9

⁷ And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood facing them at a distance, while the two of them stood by the Jordan.⁸ Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

They are sons of the prophets; they all knew Elijah is going but they will all stand far off. Everybody cannot go where you are going though they may have a gift; they are not willing to go where God is taking them. Elisha crossed the river; entire group is on one side and he is on the other side. Please remember that in life. Remember that even in your Church, everybody may not be willing to go all the way. So, our job is to teach; don't get discouraged. Moses had to be taken to the backside of the desert. Jacob had to be brought to the point where he will literally struggle with God. So, focus; all are not the same though many are called, few are chosen. Why? Many get discouraged, many get distracted, many get deceived. In Math, we have four things – addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; primarily four. In life, you'll find four kinds of people – who subtract, who add, who multiply, who divide. Stay away from those who subtract and divide, stick to those who add and multiply. Because we knew math, God invented it. People who add and multiply, stay with them. Those who subtract and divide, ultimately, they will block your destiny. They will stop you from what God wants you to do and it doesn't matter who it is. It may be somebody who is very close to you. They are not interested in your destiny, they are not interested in your progress. They would prefer you to remain what you are. They don't want you to become what God wants you to be. Listen to David's own brother,

1 Samuel 17:28

²⁸ Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab's anger was aroused against David, and he said, "Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle."

You know what he is saying? "You remain a shepherd. Go back to the wilderness, look after the sheep." Even his own brother doesn't want him to fulfil the destiny. Eliab was there that day when God overlooked him and anointed David. He knows. What is he saying? "Go back, look after the sheep. I know you have come to see the battle. This is not for boys, it is for men." Don't get discouraged even when people close to you speak. When some people walk away, get this very clear Pastors, all Pastors listen carefully; when some people walk away from you, it does not mean they are all bad people. It only means their part in your life is over. You are on the road to destiny because you have a call of God on your life, you have a promise of God on your life. In fulfilling your promise, others have to play their parts. After they have played their part, they could become a hindrance. Sometimes, God will do things to move them out of the way; He moves them out of the way. It could mean God is starting another chapter in your life and they are not there in that chapter.

When you enter into a theatre; big door, you enter and then, when all of you are seated, the lights will go off. One light doesn't go; over the door it is written 'exit'. In life, there is entrance and exit – some people come, some people have to go. Don't get upset. Because some Pastors get very upset. If someone leaves, don't become bitter. Face the fact. People will betray you because Jesus was betrayed, David was betrayed. 'Servant cannot be greater than his master.' But remember this – betrayal is what somebody does to you, bitterness is what you do to yourself. You have no control over what people do to you but you have absolute control over what you do to yourself. Nobody is destroyed by betrayal but anyone can be destroyed by bitterness. So, don't let the devil deceive where betrayal leads to bitterness. Guard your heart against that because in ministry it is one of the primary thing the devil does. In *Hebrews 12:15*,

Hebrews 12:15

¹⁵ looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

Bitterness not only makes you unclean, you make others unclean. In *John 13:26-27*, Jesus answered

John 13:26-27

²⁶ Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it." And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. ²⁷ Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly."

So please remember – the Communion table is a very powerful table but if your heart is not right, even if Jesus breaks the bread and gives you devil will get in. This is the first communion table. He ate the bread from Jesus' hand. What came was not healing but the devil. And he goes out and he will betray Jesus. In *John 15:15* Jesus will tell His disciples,

John 15:15

¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

And then, they go and in the night Judas comes with the crowd. Listen to what happens, please read,

Matthew 26:47-50

⁴⁷ And while He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him." ⁴⁹ Immediately he went up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed Him. ⁵⁰ But Jesus said to him, "Friend, why have you come?" Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him.

So, the betrayer had come; the betrayer had come to betray. What does Jesus call him? 'Friend'; no bitterness. Others can betray you; only you can become bitter. God says, "Guard your heart." That too he betrayed Him with a kiss. Still, Jesus refused to be bitter. Don't be a bitter Pastor, learn from Jesus. Refuse to be bitter. Because He knew His destiny was very

clear; His destiny was not feeding the multitudes, not healing the sick, not casting out devils or even raising the dead. These were things He did on the road to His destiny. The closer He got to His destiny, the more people misunderstood and left Him. We know from Elijah and Elisha; everybody did not cross the river Jordan, only Elisha did but also everybody did not pick the mantle, only Elisha did. You know something? Go back years; you don't know how many silent but people say at least ten years. *1 Kings 19:19*, this is Elijah coming down from Mount Horeb.

1 Kings 19:19

¹⁹So he departed from there, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he was with the twelfth. Then Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle on him.

He is ploughing; he is a farmer. He put his mantle on him. But when did he pick the mantle? When it was put; his destiny is decided and he never took his eyes off Elijah. Ten years later, twelve years later, Elijah disappears; one thing comes down; the mantle that had come upon him in the beginning. Focused; never got distracted, never got deceived. People lose focus; Elisha kept his eye on the prize. Keep your eye on the prize. Now, we have a little more time. Now, it's going to be a tough session. Things which maybe you do not know. I don't know. Maybe some of you may know, may not know; please listen carefully. Remember the devil is a deceiver. The devil is the father of lies. If there is one thing the devil creates, he creates lies. He doesn't create anything else except lies. And when He lies, he changes the nature of God in the eyes and the minds of the people. Now listen to what Jesus says in *Matthew 13:24-28*,

Matthew 13:24-28

²⁴Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. ²⁶But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. ²⁷So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' ²⁸He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?'

Okay, this is serious and Jesus is serious. Our life is like a garden; God is a gardener, devil also is a gardener but the devil sows his seed only when we sleep. That is why especially in Pastors' meeting, don't sleep because you think you are sleeping but another seed is being sown. While men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. The problem is when the seed is sown, he goes away. Our mind is like a garden; we don't even realize the seed has been sown. Little later, the idea will start to sprout and we don't realise where did that 'alochna' (thought) come from? Because it's in our mind, we think it's our *alochna*; we don't realise when we slept that fellow came and put thought and went. God planted wheat; devil planted tares. The devil plants when we are asleep. That is why spiritual sleep is very dangerous. *1 Corinthians 11:28-31*,

1 Corinthians 11:28-31

²⁸But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

Amen. Wait a second there. You know what he is talking about? He is talking about the Lord's table. Why is the Lord's table kept there? So that we will come out of our spiritual slumber. Let a man examine himself before he eats.

²⁹For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner* (What is he eating? The Lord's body, Lord's blood and that should bring healing and strength. But instead it brings judgment.) ***eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.**

What did Judas eat? The bread from the Lord's hand. Did he examine himself? No, he didn't. Instead who got him; the devil got him. One day later, he's hanging; brought judgment upon himself. What does *verse 30* say?

³⁰For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. ³¹For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.

Sleep; it's a very dangerous thing. Spiritual sleep is more dangerous than physical sleep. I can wake up somebody who is sleeping physically; only God can wake up somebody who is sleeping spiritually and you won't even know you are asleep, very dangerous. When God talks about the last, the end, in *1 Thessalonians 5:2* onwards,

1 Thessalonians 5:2-8

²For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. ³For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. ⁴But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. ⁵You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. ⁶Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. ⁸But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.

It says, "It creeps upon you," and you are not even aware. When the two angels came into Sodom, nobody had any clue that in twelve hours, there would be no Sodom! Many people have no clue they are going to die the next day. Death comes as a surprise; they die unprepared. Peter didn't die unprepared; he had enough time to write a letter also, "Time for me to go." Paul had a time to write, "My time of departure is close." That's why in the Bible, spiritual sleep is a very dangerous thing. When does the devil sow his seed? When men sleep. God plants; devil also plants. God plants in the light; devil plants in the dark. We need to be aware so that we are aware who is planting. That's why we have to be aware of the deception of the devil. Understand how the Kingdom works. There are two kingdoms – the Kingdom of God, the kingdom of darkness. They control the kingdom of men. The devil looks at God's kingdom and he uses those principles here. I'll show you on principle, *Isaiah 43:4*; it's a very powerful, dangerous verse,

Isaiah 43:4

⁴Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life.

God will let somebody die so that another can live. The devil also does the same thing; he exchanges life for life. It's an incredible battle going on. God does it; devil does it. He duplicates whatever God does with His people. Devil can do lots of things; he can make one rich and the other poor. He can take one man's riches, give to other and take one man's poverty and give it to you. Many of God's people are poor not because God ordained poverty in their life because they got fooled by the devil when they were walking in darkness. *Proverbs 11:8*,

Proverbs 11:8

⁸The righteous person is rescued from trouble, and it falls on the wicked instead.

It comes to the wicked; God can take the trouble from the righteous and give it to the wicked. And the devil, if the righteous is walking in the darkness, can take trouble from his person and give it to the righteous. This happens all the time. That's how you fight battles. God said, "They have come to fight my people." So, the king cries out. What does God do? He puts blindness upon the enemy. Next, what is the enemy doing? They are killing each other. They are not killing God's people; they are killing each other. How did they kill each other? "Because my eyes have changed, I don't see my brother. I see my enemy though it is my brother." The same thing the devil does; you are fighting your brother. Why? Because your eyes have changed. You don't see your brother; you see an enemy. God says, "Walk in the light; walk under the blood so the enemy will not take you captive." Enemy can take people captive to do his will. *2 Timothy 2:26*,

2 Timothy 2:26

²⁶and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

This is talking to unbelievers? No. It's talking to believers; the people in the Church who have been taken captive by the devil to do his will. That's why God says, "In the garden, there are wheat and tares together; they grow together, they look the same," but on that day, God will say, "Sheep and goat separate," and they will be separated. Understand; don't let the devil deceive you because some people have no clue why they are doing the things they do. Devil imitates God.

Another one, *Genesis 48:13-14*,

Genesis 48:13-14

¹³ And Joseph took them both, Ephraim with his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh with his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near him. ¹⁴ Then Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand on Manasseh's head, guiding his hands knowingly, for Manasseh was the firstborn.

Who is the eldest? Manasseh. Who has the firstborn rights? Manasseh. Was it transferred? Your virtue also can be transferred. God can do it with his people, the devil can also do it with his people; it can be transferred. He's exchanged. We know Esau just sold it for a pot full of stew. It's gone; it's his birth right, it's his virtue. Can problems be transferred? Yes. We saw in the morning, *2 Kings 5:27*,

2 Kings 5:27

²⁷ Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and your descendants forever." And he went out from his presence leprous, as white as snow.

Who is the leper? A Syrian general. Who is Gehazi? The prophet's assistant. Did it get transferred? We thought when Naaman got in seven times, leprosy left. The leprosy left his body but the spirit of leprosy is waiting to get in somebody else. It didn't leave; it caught him. That's why God says, "Walk in the light." What was Naaman's went on to Gehazi. Just think about it – Elisha followed Elijah for ten, twelve years; focused, never distracted, received the mantle, double portion of the anointing. Gehazi followed Elisha and goes out of his presence with the leprosy of Naaman, not the anointing of Elisha. What should he have received? What was his destiny? The anointing of Elisha. What did you receive? Because he was deceived by money. That's why I keep telling you, I keep begging you everyone. If you are not a servant of God, you take that cover, you don't receive my anointing; you don't receive. You receive a curse that comes upon you for falling into that spirit of deception. You don't go better from here; you go worse from here. That's what Esau did; firstborn's inheritance, sold it for a pot full of stew. How much it will cost? Hundred rupees, fifty rupees; sold it away. Don't play games with God because when we are asleep we won't even realise it is gone. Esau will never realise what he has lost. That's why *Hebrews 6:2*,

Hebrews 6:2

² of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

Ah! 'Laying on of hands'; be careful. Paul will tell Timothy, *1 Timothy 5:22*,

1 Timothy 5:22

²² Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure.

The devil also has sent false prophets and false miracle worker around the world to pass on his stuff on to them and people are standing in cue and saying, "Lay on your hands." Transference takes place. You have to understand how the Kingdom of God works. The Kingdom of God is real. Our eyes are only – "I can touch Him. So, He is real." "I can't touch him. So, he is not real." Let me ask you this question: If I give this Pastor Vijay; token of my love. Now, he says, "Oh! Pastor loves me!" Why? "Because he gave me a Bible." So, for him to know that I love him in this, he has to receive something; not in the Kingdom of God. Love, peace, joy are all tangible. *Luke 10:5-6*,

Luke 10:5-6

⁵ But whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house.' ⁶ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you.

Do you feel it? We go to a house, we say, "The peace of the Lord rest here." You don't know them; the Lord knows them. There is no son of peace there; you say that and the peace comes back. It's time to leave the house. Peace can be felt, joy can be felt, love can be felt; in the Kingdom of God, this is all tangible. Understand how the Kingdom of God works. There can be transfer or exchange. "My peace I leave with you," and they received it. *2 Timothy 1:7*,

2 Timothy 1:7

⁷For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

So, fear is a spirit; it can be transferred. Love is also a spirit, wisdom is also spiritual; that also can be transferred. Did you see the Kingdom of God? Peace can be transferred. So, things in God's Kingdom can be transferred; things in the devil's kingdom also can be transferred. Anger can be transferred, fear can be transferred, bitterness can be transferred, jealousy can be transferred, covetousness can be transferred, lying can be transferred. Abraham lied, Isaac lied, Jacob only lies and he's got ten sons who lie; transferred. One son stood apart, "I will not receive that." So, things can be transferred but if you choose to walk in the light, it won't come upon you. So, what is the first thing mentioned about Joseph in the Bible? He chose to walk in the light. He came to his father and told his father, "All the *annas* (elder brothers) are walking lies," he will report. They must have told him, "You also come." He said, "I am not coming; I won't do anything to hurt my father." First report about Joseph in the Bible is – he walked in the light. So, those spirits never transferred to him; it's a choice we make. *Mark 5:27,*

Mark 5:27

²⁷When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. ²⁸For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well." ²⁹Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. ³⁰And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"

Did she touch Him? "Yes, she touched Him." No; she only touched His clothes. Did He know virtue flowing? Did He know power flowing? So, you can feel it; in your spirit, you will know – it is gone from you. The Kingdom of God is real. See, the devil has no power to create anything nor has man. Everything the devil or the man creates, he has to use something which God has already created. So, only God can create something out of nothing. That's why He is the Creator but He is more successful; the devil is the most successful thief in history, he can steal and transfer. Understand the spiritual world. *Mark 8:23* or *Acts 19:12,*

Acts 19:12

¹²so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.

So, the anointing is tangible? The anointing on Paul came on his handkerchief. Do demonic spirits have a body? No. But can their spirits sense the anointing? Did you see the Kingdom of God as to how it works? Unless our eyes are opened to the reality of the Kingdom of God, how it operates; look at the other portion that I gave you in *Mark 8:23,*

Mark 8:23

²³So He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town. And when He had spit on his eyes and put His hands on him, He asked him if he saw anything.

Can anointing rest on saliva? Where is the anointing? It's resting on His saliva now. Most interesting, next to Acts.

Acts 5:15

¹⁵so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them.

Shadow has no substance at all but anointing can rest on *chhaya* (shadow). Did you see the reality of God's Kingdom and the spiritual kingdom? Is it possible? I'm showing you ways so that our eyes are open. Is it possible to work hard and somebody take your labour? It is possible. *Isaiah 65:21-22,*

Isaiah 65:21-22

²¹ ***They shall build houses and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.*** (That is one group of people; another group) ²² ***They shall not build and another inhabit; They shall not plant and another eat; For as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.***

So, when God says, “It is possible that you can build and another take your house,” it is possible, you plant and somebody else takes it. If you don’t walk in the light and the devil takes you captive, he can transfer all your stuff to others. Isn’t it true for many? You always come to the verge of breakthrough and the breakthrough goes away; it goes. Powers of darkness know the principles of God’s Kingdom, That’s why God says, “Don’t give the devil a toe hold.” Let’s look at even more dangerous portion, *Ezekiel 13:17-19*,

Ezekiel 13:17-19

¹⁷ ***“Likewise, son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people, who prophesy out of their own heart; prophesy against them,¹⁸ and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “Woe to the women who sew magic charms on their sleeves and make veils for the heads of people of every height to hunt souls! Will you hunt the souls of My people, and keep yourselves alive?¹⁹ And will you profane Me among My people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, killing people who should not die, and keeping people alive who should not live, by your lying to My people who listen to lies?”***

Listen to this: ***“Killing people who should not die and keeping people who should not live.”*** How did they do it? Using charms. Read verse 20 to 22,

Ezekiel 13:20-22

²⁰ ***‘Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: “Behold, I am against your magic charms by which you hunt souls there like birds. I will tear them from your arms, and let the souls go, the souls you hunt like birds.²¹ I will also tear off your veils and deliver My people out of your hand, and they shall no longer be as prey in your hand. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.²² “Because with lies you have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad; and you have strengthened the hands of the wicked, so that he does not turn from his wicked way to save his life.***

Did you see that? That is why we are very careful and ask the Lord, “Lord, before I buy something from this market to put it on, be sure it is from You and cleanse it by the blood. Otherwise, I put it on or the girls put it on, she is gone.” Caps, clothes, charms; you put it on, you will never hear the Word of God again. That’s why Scripture says, ***“Don’t love the world or the things of the world,”*** because in the world occult is connected. Because in the world you will not prosper in any area unless you appease the gods of this world. So, because we live in the world, God says, “When you buy something, receive it with thanksgiving, blood of Jesus sanctifies it and you are safe from the power of occult.” Now, let me show you the strangest one for today. Slightly scary, okay? Can a man be a man in the body and an animal in the heart? Look at Scripture.

Daniel 4:16

¹⁶ ***Let his heart be changed from that of a man, Let him be given the heart of a beast, And let seven times pass over him.***

A lot of mad men and mad women who are walking on earth, whose hearts have been transferred; wicked and cruel like animals. Transference is possible. Now, look at a portion in the *Book of Revelation* about one animal that is mentioned. *Revelation 22:14*,

Revelation 22:14

¹⁴ ***Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.¹⁵ But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.***

Why this *kukur* (dog) there? You should always ask, “In this list, why do the dogs come in?” Dog is special among all animals unlike any other animal. A dog will try to have sex with anything. He has no instinct, whether it’s his wife, his mother or his sister; he has no issues, he will try with any animal and the spirit of dog has been transferred. That is why you see the sexual abomination in the world today because men and women with that spirit is walking around and God said, “Every one of them will be out.” It is all over the movies, newspapers – nobody is even ashamed. That’s a spirit. This transference is possible. God says, “Be careful. You are fighting a war.” When a dog spirit is given, he literally becomes a male or a female

prostitute. That's why when Josiah and all became king they said, "Destroy all of them!" I'm not talking about those poor ones who become prostitutes to make a living; I'm talking about those who become prostitutes for pleasure and all this is part of occult – sex, drugs, magic. That's how you call the demons in. With no other way. they will come and give you what you want. In the last days, God will say, "That will become the mind of man." *Genesis 6:5*,

Genesis 6:5

⁵ Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Because the demonic has taken over and transference has taken over, animals' spirit are walking in human bodies. All kinds of things can happen. That's why God says, "Be awake, don't fall asleep. Don't fall spiritually asleep. Walk carefully because you are in a battle."

Then, as we come to the conclusion, there is so much but we do not have much time. God said, "You cannot serve God and mammon." He didn't say actually money; there is money and there is mammon. If I go by God's principle, God's Spirit will attach to it. If I go against God's principle, the spirit called mammon will get attached to it. Mammon is a spirit. When mammon operates, he will be always thinking about – how to get? When the Spirit of God operates in the same money, you will be always thinking about giving. That's why Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." And ask yourself – how is it more blessed to give than to receive? He says, "It is not about the amount." He says, "It is about the heart. If you are a give because your Father in Heaven is a giver, My Spirit will attach to it but if you are a getter, the spirit called mammon will attach to it and that spirit will take you to hell." It doesn't matter what other gifts you have.

Balaam had a gift of prophecy and he saw so clearly but the spirit that controlled him was the spirit of mammon. Judas walked with Jesus; he ministered under the anointing. Before satan entered him, mammon had entered him. Mammon pulled him down. These are real things and you take it lightly, I take it lightly, we will end in a place where we shouldn't end up. We will lose our destiny. That's why Zacchaeus was held captive by mammon. Jesus saw his heart, called him down, came to his house, didn't say anything; nothing. "Okay, I like your house, I like your meal; everything good." But the minute he said, "Half the wealth I sell and give it to the poor. From everybody I took wrongly, I will give four times over." We didn't see, nobody saw, Jesus saw the spirit of mammon leaving. "You are free. Salvation has come to your house today." The rich ruler kept all the commandments, longed for eternal life and Jesus said, "Come follow Me. Only one thing you have to do." He didn't have the power to do that. Mammon pulled him back from Jesus. Understand; this is what God is talking about because in the spiritual kingdom as I close, *Matthew 3:10*, God is a gardener. The devil also plants. So, when John the Baptist begins, this is what he says,

Matthew 3:10

¹⁰ And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Axe has to be laid to the root. No point in cutting the branches, it will grow back. Until we cut it at the root, we cannot destroy the trees planted by the devil. That's why Jesus when He cursed the fig tree, what does Scripture say? "It dried from the root upwards." You have to take drastic action; you have to get spiritually violent. These are things in the Bible. In *Deuteronomy 7:26*, Scripture says,

Deuteronomy 7:26

²⁶ Nor shall you bring an abomination into your house, lest you be doomed to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest it and utterly abhor it, for it is an accursed thing.

If you bring something that belongs to devil, bring it to your house and keep it in your house, the devil has every right to visit his property. A lot of people go on vacation and they buy these things and they put it on the wall without realising it is an occult thing. Suddenly, things change in their house because you gave an entry for him into your house. Jacob and his children have come back to the Promised Land, Dinah goes out, she gets raped, brothers get mad, they deceive the people of Shechem, they kill the whole city down, God tells Jacob, "Move from here." Before they move, total disaster. Jacob tells one thing, "Bring all your foreign gods," and children bring all the stuff they have got including their earrings; put it all. Then

only they are able to move to the next place because even an earring, which has got the devil's hand on it will pull your ear down. So, in the New Covenant, when God gives advice, "Let our beauty doesn't come from," it is for your protection. Devil deceives. That's why God's Word says, "Love not the world, the things of the world," because the devil gets into our lives through things. Just be careful because lives and homes can be destroyed, Churches can be destroyed if we are not careful. That's why seek the Lord, seek His face and ask, "Lord, give me discernment. You said when you are born again, you see the Kingdom. Then, you can sense it in your Spirit. Open the eyes of my spirit. Open the ears so that we keep ourselves protected."

All these years, we protected our Church. A lot of people come. So, when the offering bag goes, we say one thing, "If you not a Christian, you are a Hindu or a Muslim, some other faith come here, we love you. Don't put your money in the bag. If you belong to another Church, if you have come here to hear the Word, don't put your tithes in the bag. If you belong to this Church, do not have peace with God, peace with man, then don't put your money in the bag. Only when you have peace with God, peace with man, what you can give cheerfully; that only you put." You know what? Suddenly, you are safe; that money that comes cannot harm you and you will always enough to do what God calls you to do because you are trying your best to walk in the light. If you twist it a little, money will come pouring in but that money will destroy. It won't destroy you immediately; over a period of time, it will destroy. God has His ways, Kingdom of light, Kingdom of righteousness; the devil knows it very well. He knows God is true, he knows God is righteous. So, what does he make people do? Twist God's Word; like he told the first time, "If you eat, you surely will not die." God said, "If you eat, you surely will die." He tells, "It won't happen. You'll become wise. You'll become smart, you'll become like God. If you bring your money this way, you will be like God. You can do so many things." You don't realise, it is a trap. The devil is a trapper. It snares the souls of people. These are real things written in the Bible. Somebody buys a cap, puts it. You are not able to think godly thought anymore, it's gone. He snares. Are you getting the picture?

God's Word is very clear. When God says, "Walk that narrow path," forget your destiny, don't play with your salvation. If you are not interested in your destiny at least be interested in your salvation because the devil will try to use pressure to make people compromise. We began with Joseph; whatever the pressure, his entire record, he refused to get out of God's way. His trials and testings were over, he was lifted up and he ruled on the king's behalf. Scripture also tells us, if you overcome as Jesus overcame, He says, "You will also sit on the throne."

God has only one way – Jesus is the way. 2018, we choose that way. It is said that the way is narrow; don't make it broad but in that narrow way, there is life and when we go home, try it for the next thirty days. Tell God, "I offer my body as a living sacrifice. I want to give it to You this year." Say, "Lord, next time I come here, help me not to sleep because I don't want to miss Your Word." These are the things which God will do if we are serious. We all have the same body, only thing different is I woke up at three in the morning and it's four, thirteen hours, still not sleepy because there is something which God has said, "If you believe, it is possible." Till today, I never slept in a meeting because I asked for mercy. If you fall asleep and God has to say, you miss it, what the devil wants is you to sleep. I'm telling you again. I see in every Pastors' Conference, people don't worship, they don't clap their hands, they sit like that, they sleep like that and when lunch is announced, they wake up and after lunch, they don't come up, they have to be pushed and then, final prayer, they wake up.

It may look funny but look at it spiritually – where are you going? Question God asked Hagar when she ran from Abraham's house, "Where are you coming from? Where are you going?" Do we know where we are coming from? Where are we going? Is there spiritual movement because with God there is always movement? With the devil, also, there is always movement. One is forward, one is backwards. One – you become more and more sensitive to God; other – you become insensitive to sin. You know leprosy? That's why leprosy is mentioned in great detail in the Old Testament and the leper is cutting, even if he cuts his hands off, he doesn't know. Why? Sensation is gone. When you are spiritually leprous, you will go deeper and deeper in sin; it doesn't bother you at all anymore. You keep deceiving yourself, you have become conviction proof; very dangerous stage. Don't go to that stage because with God, there is movement. With the devil also, there is movement and we see both happening in the Kingdom of God. Your eyes can get so blinded; fire has fallen, "Whole of my city has gone. My mother has died. Sister, get daddy drunk tonight. You sleep with him tonight. Tomorrow, I will sleep with him." Did they see judgment? Did they see their mother die? Did they see the sons-in-law die? They have lost all sensation. Be careful. All the Word of God; things are happening. World is going deeper and deeper in sin. The Church should arise further and further into the light. God should have a people who believe Him and obey Him.

So, this evening, as we stand up and as we pray, we ask God,

Closing Prayer:

Lord, You said in Your prayer, You taught us, that's the only thing I ask today – lead me not into temptation and deliver me from evil, lead me not into temptation. Deliver me from evil. Only You can, O God. Put a hedge of protection around me. One thing I ask of You – lead me not into temptation and deliver me from the power of evil and You are able to do it, O Lord, for Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory and I'm appealing to Your power, I'm appealing to Your authority. O, protect me, O Lord. Help me not to move into temptation. Protect us from the power of evil for the Kingdom of God is coming and it is close and it is in us and I pray in 2018, the Kingdom will grow in us and we be able to see, O God, the kingdom of darkness and the Kingdom of light, to choose light every day; for Your Word says, "God is light and there is no darkness in Him." Teach us to walk in the light and teach us to walk towards the light. This year, O God, help us, O God. For we are weak but You are strong. Open our eyes. Help us not to fall spiritually asleep, give room for the enemy to sow his seeds. Help us to be alert, O God. I pray for Telangana. I pray there would be a great harvest of in this city. All Your dear Pastors, O Lord, that You'll anoint their tongue. Wherever You take them, there will be deliverance, there will be freedom, captives will be set free. For this purpose, the Son of Man came that He might destroy the works of the devil. I pray the works of the devil be destroyed in our lives in the Name of Jesus and people be set free. Thank You, Father. Thank You, Lord. We look forward to the next eleven months, look with hope, look with joy because we know, Lord, You have called us, You have chosen us, You have given us Your promise. We will stand on Your promise. That's our destiny. We'll not allow the devil to steal out destiny. Thank You, Father. Bless Your people, keep Your people, protect Your people. Thank You, Father. For in Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.