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Father, this evening, once again, we come to You. It's been 2 weeks, Lord, 14 days. We look to You, the Author and the Finisher of our faith. We look to You, the Author of life. We look to You, the Author of light. You alone have the answer, Lord; no one else has. So, we come, sit at Your feet; we put aside all the cares of life and we just say, Father, speak to us. Teach us. Prepare us. Equip us. Let there be a transference every day – 'Your life for our life' because there is only one life that overcomes, that's not our life, Lord; it's Your life. Speak to us once again. For in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

So, this evening, as we come back to God, we looked last evening about how God divides the Church – the people who live in the flesh, the people who live in the soul and the people who live in the spirit. If you were perturbed (those who are listening) by the morning's Word, please remember, if any man is in Christ Jesus, you are a new creation. You just have to believe, just have to keep walking with God because all the people you see who really, really finished well in the Bible are ones who really goofed up in life whether it is David or Jacob or Moses or Paul; all of them really, really were 'Reubens'. They messed up big time but they understood the power of grace. So, all the messages we preached from here is to encourage you because *all things are possible with God and all things are possible with him (or her) who believes*. Like even in the beginning of this year, on that night, when we got this promise, honestly, we didn't even understand what was this all about. 'To rise up and build' and here we are rising up (I believe) and building.

Let's go to 1 John 2:12-14. So, we go back from there and we see a child, a young man and a father.

#### <u>1 John 2:12-14</u>

<sup>12</sup> I write to you, little children, Because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake. <sup>13</sup> I write to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, Because you have overcome the wicked one I write to you, little children, Because you have known the Father. <sup>14</sup> I have written to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one.

So, we looked quite a bit last night about little children. This morning, you heard about the fight of a young man. We look at all these things in details. The reason is, like I said, this pandemic is just a sign, probably one of the biggest signs we have, bigger than the blood moons or anything they were talking about in recent memory. This was the biggest sign any one of us has ever, ever seen. But what is this sign about? It is to prepare for that day! There are different schools of thought about rapture. Now all of them are godly men. So, rapture, again, is a theological argument. I am just throwing this out in the air. I am not an expert on any of these things.

Now, they have created this enormous confusion with this disease called 'Covid-19'. Never before, have we ever seen a disease; the casualty figures aren't really that big to cause this kind of panic. What is that they know that we do not know? They will always use national security and never release anything. So, I see one of the solutions they will come up with, unlike any other disease, is ultimately they will come up with a vaccine. They will make it mandatory. Compulsory everybody has to take the vaccine. What if you do not take the vaccine? How do you know you have taken the vaccine? They say – "you take the vaccine." Now, we know those people who came from abroad, when they were allowed to be released on self-quarantine, they were put a mark on their hands. You saw the mark on their hands? So, you know you came and you had quarantine. What if at the end of the day, months later or a year later or a year and half later (it will take time but), everybody is compulsorily asked to take this vaccine and the proof of the vaccine is that you receive a mark on your hand or your forehead. So, everybody knows you have the vaccine. If you don't take the vaccine, you are not allowed to buy or sell. The resources, already we saw that it's with them. They give you what you need to eat. I am just talking about because the dark system behind the open system, is preparing for something that has been prophesied.

So, we are not playing games here when we take 4 hours of teaching. I am telling you there is only one safe place, absolutely one safe place. Then if you don't take the mark, you are in one of those camps. Then nobody will object, you going into that camp. Your religion doesn't matter. There will no 'shaheen bagh', nobody. Everybody will say these people need to go into

that camp. You will see that ultimately only one set of people will not take the mark, who know the truth. They will say, "We are fine. We will not take the mark. We will go there. You can kill us if you want but we are not taking the mark." But to come to that point, you should be able to be prepared like Daniel standing in the Babylonian academy and say, "No! I cannot do this in a small thing." So, that's what we are preparing. All the babies will fall away and their preachers will also tell them that you need to take the mark. The government is with you and for you. I am saying, I have never seen anything worldwide like this, which is moving into making people do the same thing. Coercion and force and violence, everything is being used, supposedly for a good cause. Right now, it looks good but how will this play out in future, I do not know.

So, as God's servants, always, from the beginning when we started this ministry, our job is to prepare people for worst-case scenario that you stand. When the day of evil comes, 'stand'. When everything is over, you should still be standing and not fallen away with them because the Bible says there is a great falling away towards the end. How do people fall? When do people fall? When pressure comes! When pressure comes and you were never prepared for that pressure! The only way you can prepare people for pressure is within. Nobody saw the strength of Daniel inside. Maybe he was tired, maybe he was worn out, maybe he was skin and bones, that thousand miles journey from Jerusalem to Babylon but nobody saw the strength of his spirit. Then where there was no choice, he found a choice. He made a choice. So, the strength of a person is not counted how big you are or how smart you are in physical or mental strength, it is ultimately spiritual strength. That is why the fathers there are called just one thing: *they have known Him from the beginning*. Nothing more told about them. Young men have defeated the wicked one. You needed to be either a young man or by God's grace, be one of those 144,000 who are all fathers. Let me tell you. All fathers! *They have known Him from the beginning* and *they follow Him wherever He goes* because they followed Him here wherever He led them. You cannot follow Him there by sight when you haven't followed Him here by faith. So, that's what we are training.

We all are in the race. All of us are in that. All of us are getting convicted. All of us are preparing. But all the young ones sitting over, all the children of God listening; don't feel condemned because this is not Old Testament. This is New Testament. The New Testament is, you replace your life with the life of Christ Jesus and He is a God of mercy and *His mercies are new every morning*. You have to believe in the power of the blood of Jesus that *if you confess, He is faithful*. Scripture says, *the blood of Jesus cleanses you of all unrighteousness*. You have a fresh start all over again because God is for you. He is not against you. It's not only God is for you, your 'Father' is for you. That is the beauty of Jesus' prayer- '*Our Father*'! I know we are all fathers. Vijay is here as a father. I am here as a father. If our children want our help in spiritual things (other things, we help but spiritual things, if they come to us), we would never be tired. We would sit with them and we would help them way through because our heart is that you should do well. If we being evil fathers have that heart for our children, how much more is our Father! So, you have to read it that way. So, we will look at a child in the process of becoming a young man.

Like I am saying, we won't do this sloppy business. I don't want sloppy business in the Kingdom of God. That's why we are willing to take time, 2 hours a day or 4 hours a day as long as this lockup continues. We will go through it and those who are seriously, seriously interested (many of the pastors listening), you will take it to your congregation. Go to *Jeremiah 8:11-12*. Israel is in a massive, real trouble. They are going into captivity and this is the only man who is speaking to them. Everybody is saying, "No!" And this man is saying, "You are going. The captivity is here. Nothing is happening." All the other prophets, he says, this is what they did.

### Jeremiah 8:11-12

<sup>11</sup> For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When there is no peace. <sup>12</sup> Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed, Nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; In the time of their punishment They shall be cast down," says the Lord.

God is saying, "When I preached repentance to you, your repentance was so light." That's what it means. *They healed the hurt of the daughter very lightly*. When they needed surgery, they put a Band-Aid. We will not put a Band-Aid, even for ourselves; we will go through surgery. That's why the messages sometimes, we are balancing the zeal of God and mercy of God. We are not leaving you without mercy. But to receive the true mercy of God, the work God does in us also should be deep. What they did was that because of the preaching, even when people did something, they were not ashamed; because the preaching was like that- "God loves you! It doesn't matter. We are living in the age of grace. It does not matter!" That's what they are talking about.

That's what the warning in the *Book of Thessalonians* in the last days. *When they say 'peace and safety', sudden destruction will come*. So keep all these pictures in mind. In this incredibly beautiful time God has given you, to be alone in your homes, spend time with God after each message. Whole message maybe 2 hours but maybe only one line or two lines or maybe one issue God is dealing with you today. Take it to God. Let Him do a deep work in you. Put it open before God, confess it, get rid of it, ask the grace of God so that when you come back, you never go back to that again. Allow God to work in your life day by day. So we saw last night, we were looking at a child who is going to become a young man. His name is Joseph. We see Joseph, when he is born, grace comes into Jacob's life but let's see before the birth of Joseph, how God is at work in *Genesis 29:31*.

#### Genesis 29:31

#### <sup>31</sup> When the Lord saw that Leah was unloved, He opened her womb; but Rachel was barren.

This is one family in Canaan. This is what God says, He watches. This is one family. That family has taken His name. Most of the family members do not know His name at all. Now he is in a foreign land. He is in a strange country. He is not in the promised land, okay? So, we have no record of Isaac at all. What's happening with Isaac or Rebecca; we don't know anything that's happening with any one of them because they have kind of moved into this spiritual stupor.

Here is one man and His eyes are on him. He looks into his house and He sees that he has sex with his first wife but he doesn't love her, while he has sex with his second one and he loves her. So, what did God do? God is a God of love; He opened one's womb and kept the other's shut. He is watching the bedroom. God watches our life. He does not see the act; He sees the heart. Only God can see the heart. He sees the heart. What did He do? He saw Leah was unloved. It's not that Leah was not having sex because then He cannot open her womb. She is having sex with her husband but she is unloved in the act. So, what did He do? He opened her womb. But Rachel was barren. God saw (I am adding it there) he was having sex with Rachel and he loved her but He kept her womb shut. That's how the story begins of Jacob.

#### Genesis 30:1

#### Now when Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister...

Things are coming out. Whatever is inside comes out. Her husband loves her and he spends most of the nights with her but then she looks on the other side, she sees her sister is having children.

### ...Rachel envied her sister, and said to Jacob, "Give me children, or else I die!"

After envy comes threat. "I will commit suicide only!" So, things are coming out of Rachel, which we did not know. Otherwise if these records aren't there, we will not know who we are. It is situations that show who we are. So, what is inside her comes out. Envy comes out, threat comes out and then in verse 3, Scripture says,

#### Genesis 30:3

<sup>3</sup> So she said, "Here is my maid Bilhah; go in to her, and she will bear a child on my knees, that I also may have children by her."

Now, she entices her husband to her maidservant. I wish Jacob had told her about what had happened to his grandfather. We don't know, he must have told. So, you will see now envies, suicidal or threats, entices her husband to sleep with her maidservant and then we go further. Now she has those children with her maidservant. Verse 15, we saw that in the morning.

#### Genesis 30:15

# <sup>15</sup> But she said to her, "Is it a small matter that you have taken away my husband? Would you take away my son's mandrakes also?" And Rachel said, "Therefore he will lie with you tonight for your son's mandrakes."

She sells her husband for mandrakes. Now it's interesting if you have listened to today's message about 'man' and 'drake'. What is drake? Dragon! You kids were not even born when we were children and grew up, the comic we all read was 'mandrake, the magician'. It enticed all of us. 'Phantom' and 'Mandrake'! You have no clue this is all being set even before

you were born, in our minds. Mandrake works for an unknown group of people who control the whole world and they are called 'octagon'. It's like Illuminati, you never see them. His name is mandrake, serving the dragon. This is what we grew up, our diet, comics- 'mandrake', 'phatom', 'flash gordon', 'out of space', 'aliens' and all. When we grew up, men had just started one step on the moon but imaginations had gone much, much further. So, a lot of crazy things are happening, which we don't even know of. So she now sells her husband. Then verse 22 says, something happens.

#### Genesis 30:22

#### <sup>22</sup> Then God remembered Rachel, and God listened to her and opened her womb.

That means she prayed. But even this you need to know this is a supernatural act of God. You always have to read construction of sentences. If God doesn't remember me, I will not even pray. Even my genuine prayer, which God hears, the first act is by God. God remembered me, that's why I remembered to pray. We will say, "Wow! Today, I remembered to pray." God says, "No! I remembered you. That is why you remembered to pray." So always it moves from God. That is why at the end of the day, nobody will boast. God will say, "It was Me through you. Everything was My work." God remembered Rachel. She prayed and God listened to her and opened her womb. That's how Joseph is born. When Joseph is born, verse 25 says, Jacob wants to leave.

#### Genesis 30:25

# <sup>25</sup> And it came to pass, when Rachel had borne Joseph, that Jacob said to Laban, "Send me away, that I may go to my own place and to my country.

That's a true work of grace in a person's life. Understand that. When grace comes, you want to start. Suddenly you have an issue with the world and with sin. You realize, "I have been born again. This world is not my place and sin is not my habit." Earlier it was your habit. Righteousness isn't my habit. I have to do one thing. I need to separate; change my habitation. That's a true work of grace. When Joseph is born, Jacob wants to leave. You are tired of serving sin. Laban is your master. You are tired of serving sin and you want to leave and go. But because he is a fearful man, he will go. You will see Laban catches him. God has to intervene. It's like Pharaoh pursuing Israel and God has to intervene and destroy Pharaoh. God has to intervene and tell Laban, "Leave him alone" and then Laban goes back. So you will always see whenever you try to leave the yoke of bondage, there is somebody who will always try to pursue you and God has to intervene, whether it is your own father-in-law or it is Pharaoh. The attitude of the devil is the same. He will pursue you and you have to stand there strong.

Here is Jacob going with his family. It's a huge group of people, servant maids and all the flocks and 12 children (Benjamin is not born and Dinah is born by then). Dinah is a final daughter of Leah, so Leah has six children- four by the concubines. So, Jacob has twelve children now, only Benjamin is not born. Benjamin is born on the way and Rachel dies. So, they are leaving. So when they are leaving, he is frightened. He is very, very fearful man because enemy behind has been handled, but what about the enemy in the front? There is enemy in the front. It is all a picture of Israel. Pharaoh is gone, but what about the Canaanites? Pharaoh is gone. Laban has been dealt with; Esau is there. So, it's all a picture because in him is a seed of Israel. But we are not going to Jacob's history as God has dealt with him. He comes and Esau is there in the front.

If you go to *Genesis 33:1-3*, this is a spiritual journey of a person.

### Genesis 33:1-3

### Now Jacob lifted his eyes and looked, and there, Esau was coming, and with him were four hundred men.

He lifted his eyes and he saw Esau, his brother in the flesh coming with four hundred men.

# So he divided the children among Leah, Rachel, and the two maidservants. <sup>2</sup> And he put the maidservants and their children in front, Leah and her children behind, and Rachel and Joseph last. <sup>3</sup> Then he crossed over before them and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

So, when you begin your spiritual journey, if you go to verse 2, everybody is a child. You have to protect your faith because it's very weak. Even in the Church, newborn believers need the maximum attention and care. That's why Joseph is last. Look over there – Joseph is last. He needs the most cover. So, you have to guard your faith because that's the most valuable part

of your spirit of what you have. So now we will proceed. Now that Joseph has been protected and they have come through, we shall proceed.

Please all dear ones, who are listening, there is no condemnation. Pastor Vijay was talking about and we saw in *Romans 8*, how the law of the Spirit of life enables you to defeat the law of sin and death. It's not one is cancelled. The law does not go away. "Heaven and earth will pass away but My law will be there till the end." So, the law of sin and death has not passed away. But you are using another law like aerodynamics. It's like another law to overcome or supersede this law. The other law is always there. So, if you come down, this will take over. That's why God says, walk by faith and faith alone. Don't ever think the other law is not there. It is still there. You have to escape it only by one way. That is the law of Spirit of life. That is grace. That is what God is called grace.

So, the virus that is outside, like you heard in the morning, is testing us. But it is also building immunity. Faith is also being tested and it should also build immunity to the world. Once you come out of this, you should really, really become immune to the world. God has shut you down from everything. But I don't know whether people are really becoming immune because internet is still there. The world still can come into your home.

### Genesis 37:1-2

### Now Jacob dwelt in the land where his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan.<sup>2</sup> This is the history of Jacob...

So, we don't have the history of Joseph's childhood. That means he came through. Now we are seeing a young man, a child who is transitioning to a young man.

# ...Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers. And the lad was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to his father.

That's how the record begins. He is no longer a child.

### <u>Acts 17:30</u>

### <sup>30</sup> Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,

All the sins of our childhood, if you cross over, the Father overlooks. It's not recorded. Fathers sitting over here, our children gave us a lot of trouble when they were very small but we don't remember anything once they transited. Nights and nights, 48 hours, I remember carrying one little one without sleeping. Day and night crying! But it doesn't even cross your mind. Those things don't even cross your minds. Trouble they give you to eat, they don't want to sleep and all! Nothing! Sitting and rocking them and when you stop, they are still wide awake. Again rock them! If you stop singing, they will open their eyes. Rock and sing! Sing and rock! All these stuff, which we did, do you remember that?

For God, the sins of that childhood stage of a person who comes to God and in the initial parts of his growing period are like that. He ignores all that. But you have to transition. Don't remain a baby otherwise all the baby records will come out. We don't want baby records. So Joseph has no records. Everything has been dealt with. Everything has been dealt. The first mention of Joseph, if you look over there, Scripture says, *he was feeding the flock with his brothers*. That is transition. The first mention of Moses after he leaves Egypt (of course, there is no record after that) is he was feeding the flocks of his father in law.

If you turn to 1 Samuel 16:11,

### <u> 1 Samuel 16:11</u>

<sup>11</sup> And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" Then he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep."

So, the first time David is mentioned, he is also taking care of his father's business. The first time you meet Elisha, he is taking care of his father's business. Please understand this. Please be very, very careful. The first time Jesus is revealed to us, He is taking care of His Father's business. So be very careful. Don't ever take work lightly which God has committed into your hands.

When you meet Gideon, he is in the winepress, threshing wheat. When you meet Nehemiah, he is a cupbearer serving his king. All the disciples when Jesus called, they were at work; they left and followed Him. So be very, very careful about it. I think it is Zac Poonen, I heard many years ago, 'God has never called a lazy man'. So be very, very careful about it.

So, if you remember, we sang that song also today, when His disciples asked Jesus, "teach us to pray", so He said, "*Our Father, who art in heaven*." Jesus had many, many interesting revelations of His Father! One of the revelations of the Father we miss is because there is only one line in the entire New Testament, in the four Gospels, He gives. We always think about on the seventh day, God rested. The problem is after that man fell and after that God's creation has never given God rest. In *John 5:16-17*, it was on a Sabbath day and the Pharisees were very upset.

#### John 5:16-17

# <sup>16</sup> For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath.<sup>17</sup> But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."

This is the only line which tells you the Father has never ceased working. He is still working. You think He is resting but He is working. He says, Father and I are always working. So He says, "You think it is Sabbath but we don't stop work on Sabbath" because if God stops working on Sabbath, we die. God never stops working. The work that never ceases is the work of the Father. So how do we see work, as toil or redemptive? In *Luke 19:12-13*, talking a parable about the Kingdom,

#### Luke 19:12-13

#### <sup>12</sup> Therefore He said: "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.

This is Jesus Christ Himself. Before He left, what did He tell all of us, His children?

#### <sup>13</sup> So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'

He says, "Occupy till I come." There is no excuse. Duty triumphs over everything. So, you will see in this crisis that is happening, why do people applaud one set of people? You can't say, family, father, mother, wife, children; all the doctors are essential. They are working 24x7, especially in those areas, you will see essential services. It's duty! So what about us? We are God's essential services forever until He comes. Please understand this. When it comes to work, we have to ask the nature of our work. I am not talking about ministry. Wherever God has placed you, do you see your work as redemptive? Maybe in a company, if you allow God into your company, into your life, when you go to your workplace, your work becomes redemptive. It's no longer a toil. It becomes a joy.

So, here is Joseph, 17 years old (we go back to Genesis). He is working. He is only 17 years old. He is a young boy. All the other brothers are much more older, he is the youngest of the lot.

#### Jeremiah 1:6-7

### <sup>6</sup> Then said I: "Ah, Lord God! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth." <sup>7</sup> But the Lord said to me: "Do not say, 'I am a youth,' For you shall go to all to whom I send you, And whatever I command you, you shall speak.

What is the excuse Jeremiah made? "*I am a youth*!" Joseph did not make that excuse. He did not say, "I am a youth!" He did not make any excuses. There are different excuses we can make to escape the work of God. One of the excuses is, 'I am a youth'. Joseph was the youngest in his family. He has got ten elder brothers and his father has got plenty of servants. Then if you go back to *Genesis 37*,

#### Genesis 37:2

### ...And the lad was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives;

So, Joseph is being trained and trained early in life. You cannot choose where God puts you. The company God puts you, you cannot choose that. You cannot choose your company. He did not complain about the company. Remember these are the sons of the concubines. So, they will be the most bitter inside because they are not even the sons of the wives. They are the sons of the concubines. The father has two wives, they are sisters and maidservants and all of them are growing together.

Sons of the wives, sons of the concubines, son of the wife that is loved, sons of the wife that is not loved! So there are four categories in that house. The first category is son of the one who is loved. The second category is sons of the wife who is not loved. Third category is sons of the concubine of the one who is loved. Fourth category is the sons of the concubine of the one who is not loved. All categories are there.

In the middle of it, the one who is the youngest is sent with probably the nastiest four. You know how bullying did not start yesterday or today; it started from Genesis. They will be the meanest and he is the most vulnerable. He is also most vulnerable, I will tell you why, if you look at all. Even my five children, till today if they want anything, they go to Ma and Ma will tell me. This 'Mary worship' has started in the family before it came outside. You guys are sitting here and laughing in the Church, I also know if there is anything in the Church, you go there and I don't listen at all. I say, "I will not allow that in the Church. Let them come to me." That's what children do. Who do they go to? One father and mothers! So if you have trouble, who do you go to? Your mother and the mother reports to the father. But he has no mother. He is vulnerable. He has no mother to go to. Please remember, he is very, very vulnerable.

But do you believe that God places us in the midst of fallen people and not saints so that He can make saints out of us? We can't choose our company; He chooses our company for us because that company will ultimately make us who we are. That's why I said, you are actually defined by your enemies, your response to your enemies and not by your friends. You have to see redemption in everything, the work you do, the company you work in because this is the work of God. We can't say, "Lord, please place me in this beautiful company; Lord, run by this believing manager; Lord, where all the workers are like saints so I can grow among the saints." He says, "But you will remain evil. You will never change because it is other people who will cause what is inside to come out." You live among saints and you are not a saint, you will always think you are a saint when you are not a saint. So, God says, "No! My plans for you are different. Don't you know what is a work of salvation? Redemption! Yes! After that is sanctification."

It's like the old preacher said, "God said, pick up your cross and carry. Sister 'hammer' and brother 'nails' will be provided on the way." That He never said you need to carry. You only pick your cross. Hammer and nails, you will find plenty on the way. As you go on, somebody will hammer you and when you react, God says, "see, that one knock brought it out. You didn't know you had it inside, right? I revealed it to you." So you just carry your cross, hammer and nails will be provided on the way. So if grace is what we are leaning on and not self, then whatever situations we are placed in, we will come out better. *1 John 4:4*, even to children, this is what He said.

### <u>1 John 4:4</u>

### <sup>4</sup> You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

If you are a child of God, you need to realize there is somebody inside you and He is greater than the one, who is inside of those who are outside. So God always wants to reveal Himself through His children. Then we will not conform to the world that is around us. Samuel, Daniel, these are all examples. It also will expose to us where we are actually weak.

So, if you go back to *Genesis 37*, first, we see him at his work; second, we see he doesn't complain about the company he has and third,

#### Genesis 37:2

#### ...and Joseph brought a bad report of them to his father.

Jesus said, "This is how you need to pray. '*Our Father*!'," Are you at your Father's work? Are you zealous for your Father's work? Are you complaining about the work the Father has committed into your hands? Do you find it toilsome? Do you find it weary the yoke that is upon you? That's the first thing. Second thing is- *Hallowed be Thy name*". You will see Joseph was zealous about his father's name. Lot of young people have what is called 'mob loyalty'. They have loyalty. Loyalty is a good thing but if it stands in isolation, it is not a good thing. You should be loyal to your Father in heaven, not loyal to your mob.

So, these ten guys were up to no good always but they had a loyalty. They were loyal to each other and not loyal to their father. But there was this eleventh guy, who was loyal to his father. When you are loyal to your father, they will always accuse of being disloyal. Loyal to God! Loyal to his father, in this case! That is what happens, okay? He was zealous for his father's

name. That's why he brought a report about his elder brothers. He didn't go to anybody, he went straight to his father. If you go to everybody else, then you are a talebearer. The Bible has very strong words for talebearers and gossipers. But when you go straight to your father, then God has no issues with it because these things have to be dealt with by appropriate people, not by the others. So the third question God asks after that, 'are we zealous for His name?' In *2 Chronicles 7:16*, (we looked at 13 and 14, *if My people who are called by My name* and then) God says,

### 2 Chronicles 7:16

# <sup>16</sup> For now I have chosen and sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually.

We know now we are that house and He has put His name on us. God says, "Are you zealous for My name?" How zealous are we for God's name? The first thing when Jesus goes to Jerusalem in His ministry, the first thing that is revealed is that He was very zealous for His Father's house because His Father's name was on the house. There were so many other places in Jerusalem where so many worse things may be happening, but He didn't go anywhere. He didn't go anywhere where crooked and corrupt and immoral activities were taking place. He wasn't bothered about any of those things. He didn't go anywhere and try to straighten people out. He went to one place in the city where His Father's name was given and He turned it upside down, because He was zealous for His Father's name. How zealous are we for God's name?

### 2 Timothy 2:19

### <sup>19</sup> Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

That's morning's message—depart from iniquity, because you have taken My name. And if you do not know the iniquity each one is caught in, then as the word goes the Spirit of God will reveal to each one whatever iniquities the old man and we are shaped in. Let him depart from it, because we are zealous for His name. He went to His Father. He didn't run around. He didn't become an activist. There are a lot of activist Christians. They forget God. They have left and they all have a cause. Global warming and this, and all are Christians by name if you look at all those who are activists. They have a cause. If you are worried about global warming then what you actually should be preaching is what is causing this warming is sin, it's not the sun. The sun is not what is causing the warming, when the new creation and this thing and even the one thousand I can prove to you from Scripture, when Jesus comes back and the world is being run by Him and His saints for a thousand years reign, you will see the firmament he removed in Noah's days will be put back, so that there is no global warming. The earth will flourish like anything, absolutely flourish like anything. So, God has a solution, but man doesn't want God's solution. Because If you want God's solution you need to depart from sin and they don't want to be depart from their sins so they all become activists, at small levels, bigger levels, everybody becomes activists, because they are not able to go to God with their prayers. If you go to with your prayer, you don't become an activist in the Church too. So, God is saying, "Did you see Joseph? There was an issue with his father's name. He took it to the father and left it at that. He didn't deal with it himself." You deal it whichever way you want. It's my job to know that your name is messed up. How zealous are we about God's name in ministry? Even in ministry, are we zealous about His name in little things?

In 3 John 1:6-7, which ninety-nine per cent of ministries have not even noticed or don't believe in,

### <u>3 John 1:6-7</u>

### <sup>6</sup> who have borne witness of your love before the Church. If you send them forward on their journey in a manner worthy of God, you will do well,

He says, "When you send people out for ministry send them in a manner that is worthy of God. You'll do well if you do that." How?

### <sup>7</sup> because they went forth for His name's sake, taking nothing from the Gentiles.

Why did they go out? In His name's sake. And because they went out in His name's sake even if Gentiles offered them an offering, they didn't take it for ministry, because they are zealous for His name's sake. What about online ministries today? They will take from anybody, from the mafia also. They have no issues. Much of the Catholic Church's money comes from the

mafia offerings. They have no issues at all. They are not zealous for His name. They are zealous for their name, because they need money to build their edifice. They are not building God's Kingdom. If you are building God's Kingdom and His name is very important for you, how you do your work and where your resources come from, all this becomes very, very important. I'm showing you how a baby Christian transforms into a young person. Like you were talking, in Nigeria you have these two big names one from Nigeria and one from America, I'm not naming names, they have mass prayer meeting for Covid-19 and at the end what is flashing in the screen? Hundred ways in which you can send money. What do they need money for? You're all locked up right. I don't understand. What do they need money for? You're using a disaster when people are really, really struggling to make money for yourself. That's what the Bible is talking about. Sometimes they have no shame at all. The Bible is very, very silent about it. Did Jacob correct the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah? Did he? The Bible is very silent. But knowing a father, he must have corrected them. He would have called them and said, "What are you guys doing?" It's not the way to act. The question is, "Can we accept correction?" This must have been the cost for the beginning of their hatred for Joseph. Do you hate the hand that disciplines you? Do you hate words of correction? Otherwise, this Covid-19 also will go. Do you see this Covid-19 as the hand of God over His children to correct their ways or are you getting mad at God?

### <u>1 Kings 8:16-17</u>

# <sup>16</sup> So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah. (Look at his response.)<sup>17</sup> Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is that you, O troubler of Israel?"

How does he see the hand of God? How does he see God? How does he see God's servant? You are a troubler of Israel. How do you see the hand of God over your life? Otherwise all this is wasted. All that God is trying to do to bring that Church back to Himself is being wasted. We've just crossed fourteen days. That was three and a half years of no rain and no dew. And at the end of it what does he say? "You, troubler of Israel." Saul did not like correction. The problem is – when you don't like correction, the result of it is,

#### <u>1 Samuel 15:35</u>

# <sup>35</sup> And Samuel went no more to see Saul until the day of his death. Nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul, and the LORD regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.

God says, "You don't want My correction? You'll no longer receive My correction." Until the day he died, you won't hear. Those days, if you had to hear from God, you had to hear from His prophets. The prophet was told not to speak to him again. Finished. You don't want correction. I won't give you correction, go your way. *1 Samuel 28:5-6*. The man who refused correction.

#### <u> 1 Samuel 28:5-6</u>

# <sup>5</sup> When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. <sup>6</sup> And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets.

He refused to answer. There was a time in your life I was trying to correct you. You refused my correction. You did not want my correction. So now you are in trouble. You call out to me. I'm not going to answer. So, this is where we take the warning very carefully. In the New Covenant, it is not prophet or dream or Urim, but the Holy Spirit. He said, "I will give you. He will be with you. He will be in you. He will be forever. He's the counselor. He's your guide. He's the one who teaches you. Everything, even as the servant of God has to come and speak, the Holy Spirit has to speak through Him and the Holy Spirit in you is what causes you to receive it." Therefore, all the warnings in the New Covenant is with regards to the Holy Spirit. Don't test the Spirit. Don't lie to the Holy Spirit. Don't quench the Holy Spirit. What is the sign of the Antichrist's reign? The restrainer, the Holy Spirit is being removed. He's the one who is being removed and lawlessness starts increasing. So, we have to be careful about how we deal with the Spirit of God. And God in Noah's time before the judgement came what did He say? My Spirit will not contend with man forever. And about Israel in the wilderness if you read the Old Testament God says very clearly, "They grieved My Spirit in the wilderness." He's very sensitive about His Spirit and we need to be very, very sensitive too.

#### <u>John 7:7</u>

<sup>7</sup> The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil.

Why did they hate Jesus? Because He revealed their wickedness. Do you hate those who reveal your faults? Do you hate them? Do we hate those who point out the evil of our works? God used the Pharaoh and Abimelech to point out Abraham's failings. As you go through this transition period, learn about the transition period from a baby to a young man. Let's go back to 37:3-4. The first thing we need to know is the nature of the Father. My Father and I are at work from the beginning and we are still working. Joseph is also working. He does not make any excuse about his youth or about the company and he's very zealous for his father's name. and then when we come to verse 4.

#### Genesis 37:3-4

# <sup>3</sup> Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of many colors. <sup>4</sup> But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

If you look at a typical parent type it was wrong what Jacob did. Let's leave Jacob alone. Can we handle it if someone receives more attention than us? Can we handle it if someone younger in the Spirit receives a gift greater than us? It is not just a test for Joseph. It's a test for everybody. Can we handle it? I have compassion for Jacob because I understand.

You see, when that baby with the cleft lip, Madhulika, was around, I used to take her home every day. Now, she's not my child, but I loved her like my own child. She used to tell everybody, "Na paapu." If anyone else called me 'paapu', she would get very mad and say, "Na paapu." So, one day, we were all having dinner. Ma was sitting over there. She was sitting here and I was sitting here. After two minutes, she'll always say, "I sit there." I said, "Your plate is there." So, I put her on my lap and she eats from my plate. And Andrew said, "Paapu, hand me a chapathi." She looked at me. I said, "He's my son. He can call me paapu." You think the child was not intelligent? She was so smart. She understood immediately that that's my son and I'm his daughter, he can also call him paapu. After that, she had no problem when he called me 'paapu' but if anybody else called me 'paapu', she had problems. Anytime Andrew called me 'paapu', she used to look at me and smile, "Okay, that's also your son. I understand it," and she was just three years old. Now, why did I give her more attention than my own son? She's the small one. She's the weak one. She's the motherless one. He's the youngest. He's the motherless one. If you know the Christmas story, what is the name of that story? Charles Dickens' story. In that, one of the ghosts will take Uncle Scrooge to the family of his assistant where they're all sitting and there is this little boy who is lame called Tiny Tim. And they all show so much love and favor for that little one. Right? Because the youngest and the weakest is the one to whom you show the most concern to. Does that upset you? That's the question. They all got very upset, because the father gave a coat. He's an old man. This is the child of his old age. That's what Ma and I used to say. She was the daughter of our old age. In our old age, we got a baby. Are you jealous about it? Andrew was least bothered. He used to carry her and she used to play with him and all. But he wasn't bothered at all by the fact that, "I'm there and she was sitting next to my dad, she's sitting on my lap. She gets the freedom that I don't. He wakes up first for her. He puts her to sleep. He's there for her day and night at her beck and call." He had no issues at all.

But they all had issues. You remember, this is one of the tests they will go through before their redemption when he will have a feast in his house and they were shocked that everybody was seated according to their age. How did he know our age? One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, then and eleven is him and twelve. Benjamin was given five times extra in his plate. Why? Deliberately to check. They were cool. They were fine. What made them fine? The famine brought them to that situation. Their heart was revealed and they're putting it all right and they're okay with the youngest one getting more. It was a test of the heart. Unless God tests our heart, we'll think we are all ready for the crown. God says, "No. You'll just get a big frown, not a crown. You have no clue. I have to reveal what your heart is really like." If we are placed among saints, we think we are saintly when we are not at all. That's what is happening over here. That is what God is teaching. Can we handle if someone else receives more attention? If someone younger receives more attention because our Father in the heaven gives. You know how trouble outside the garden began, because the younger one's was accepted and yours was not. I'm sure looking now at Cain's sacrifice, if God would have rejected both, Cain would have been okay. You didn't get accepted, neither did I get accepted. You failed and also, I failed. Let's go. We'll write the exam again. There are lot of fellows like that in the class. If you failed and I failed, no problem. The problem is you passed and I failed. That's the problem and you passed. You're the younger one. I worked harder. Why? Because I had to till the ground. You just went after the sheep and some of the grass you ate was mine. You copied and passed. You looked into my answer paper and passed. Abel didn't do that. God wouldn't have accepted it. But where did trouble begin outside the garden? Because the younger one caught God's eye. The other one was upset. God is a good god. He's saying, "Son! Wait a second! If you do right, won't you also be accepted?" One of the

prophets says, "Envy is the rottenness of the bones." Your bones are rotting, because of envy. You know the pattern. Envy leads to hatred and hatred leads to murder. The pattern is always there in the Bible. How did satan become a killer? It was envy. I am the smartest, but then there is somebody higher than me. Why can't I be like Him?

#### Proverbs 14:30

<sup>30</sup> A sound heart is life to the body, But envy is rottenness to the bones.

Handle envy, Church.

#### <u>Acts 7:9</u>

#### <sup>9</sup> "And the patriarchs, becoming envious, sold Joseph into Egypt. But God was with him

Why did they sell Joseph? They were envious of him. Envy had started that journey. That's why God will exalt someone we least expect in our midst to test us.

#### <u>1 Samuel 18:7-9</u>

<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, and the saying displeased him...

What displeased him? The saying! Was there a fact behind the saying? No. David killed one, but killing one was equal to killing ten thousand because all the army was afraid.

# ...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.

This is the problem with Saul. He's a baby in the kingdom who never grew up. He's a shallow believer.

#### <u>1 Samuel 9:2</u>

# <sup>2</sup> And he had a choice and handsome son whose name was Saul. There was not a more handsome person than he among the children of Israel. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people.

Every man and every woman who is like this outwardly are usually very shallow. Very, very shallow, who put so much prominence in their outward looks and outward features and invest so much in that. The Israelites wanted a king like the gentiles. And when the gentile kings they were all tall and well-built and big guys and this was the choice. People who focus, women or men, who focus on the outward, you need to look good outwardly, but that should never be your focus. If that is your focus, I can promise you – you're shallow inside. It's a very dangerous place to be. It's a very, very dangerous place to be. That's why he's chosen. That's why the people love him and he's very shallow. So, even when God rejects him as a king actually in chapter 15 and verse 12, a few lines later, God is going to reject him as king.

### <u>1 Samuel 15:12</u>

# <sup>12</sup> So when Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul, it was told Samuel, saying, "Saul went to Carmel, and indeed, he set up a monument for himself; and he has gone on around, passed by, and gone down to Gilgal."

God is going to reject him and he's already built a monument for himself. That's all! Shallow man. That's the child. For the child, it's all about himself or herself. The little baby is the most innocent and also the most egoistical creature on earth though he or she doesn't know. Let us imagine a mother with a little baby. The mother has worked the whole day and she hasn't slept, do you think the baby is bothered? "I'm hungry, just give me my milk. My nappie is wet, just change me. I'm feeling bored, why don't you come and entertain me." The baby is all about itself. And God made the baby that way. You know why? To humble us. You who will not humble yourself, get on your knees before your baby. He will not humble before anybody, but he will humble before that little one. Sit there. Entertain it. What are you? CEO of Amazon. Sit there quietly. Humble yourself. When you go to office what are you? Three stars. Four stars. What do the people say? Yes sir. Yes sir. Three bags full. Okay. Change the nappy now. Dirty your hands. That's why a lot of men run away from their homes. It's a very humbling experience. Actually, it's a most enjoyable experience too. They are cute. They are lovely. So, shallow people, head

and shoulders, that company was named after Saul. He was head and shoulders above everything. But one day the dandruff started falling. His inside was revealed. When was it revealed? When the women sang a song. All it took was a song and the inside was revealed. What! What! This boy! Honestly, I check my heart, I was very happy nine years ago when God showed this boy, that's the next one. I hardly knew him. I said, "Okay Lord." And every time I preach, I know it is in safe hands and it is in good hands. You made a good choice. I didn't know him at all. Actually, if you knew he wasn't the one I shouldn't have given to, because I had a lot of people when the Church started who were like my people, who were part of my Bible study and who grew up with me in the Lord. He was not. He was on the other side. He was with the other pastor. He came through. He always talked to him. He hardly talked to me. I hardly knew him. I didn't talk to him. Did we talk before that? No. He was with the other pastor all the time, but God said, "That's the guy. And I know God doesn't go wrong." God doesn't go wrong. And I know some of the others who were with me much, much before like 8 years and 7 years before him were upset because he was chosen. But this is not my choice. It's got nothing to do with me. When God picks somebody it's His choice. And that's what happened over there. He was a shallow man inside. And then jealousy and murder and hatred and all will come in.

*Galatians 5:19-22.* Let's read it and all my dear brethren who heard this morning's message who are feeling good because you are not Reuben, I'll make you feel bad, because they are all put in the same category. Everything is put in the same category.

### Galatians 5:19-22

<sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, <sup>21</sup> envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness

Do you see that? If you look at it, Saul did not commit adultery and he was cut off from the land of the living. David committed adultery, but he finished well. So, don't isolate one, but look at the whole spectrum and say, "Lord, deliver me from my flesh." That's the simple thing. This is all there and everything is there. And sometimes you meet some people which is very interesting. Long time ago I met somebody. Innocent people also who sinned ignorantly, that's why God says, "Seasons of ignorance I overlook." This is a Christian who is not married and had sex with many people and said, "But pastor the Bible doesn't have anything to say about it, because the Bible says only adultery is wrong." I said, "No, fornication is wrong," and the person did not know the meaning of fornication. When I said, "This is what it means," he was shocked. He was in shock. He was in tears. "I've been sinning against my God all these years," and when that person repents, do you think that God holds it against him? No, you didn't know. Not knowing the meaning of a word can be dangerous in life, in the Bible. So you have to look at the whole thing, the whole spectrum of things. They are put in the same list. Remember the Pharisees gave Jesus over because of envy. I always had this doubt. Was Saul in the Sanhedrin when Stephen was speaking? Stephen was a young guy. Saul was also a young guy. Saul was the cat's whiskers, trained under Gamaliel and Stephen was a simple guy and he heard him speak. He's looking at him go through the entire old testament like standing there and giving it like that, "Hey hang on! I went to Bible college. This guy didn't." Was it envy that caused him to sanction his murder? Because they put it at his feet. All these things we don't know, but that's why he always carries it and says, "I'm the worst of sinners." Envy blinds our eyes. And the problem our heart too, to the goodness of God. The problem with envy is this: envy doesn't blind this eye, that's why Shakespeare calls envy the green-eyed monster. Green eyed monster is what he calls envy. Envy blinds out eyes to the goodness of God. There are certain things which you have to implicitly, that's why I call about faith, like I said, how do I read my Bible? By faith. How do I listen to other preachers? By sight. Faith and sight, because I can't give the same faith even to my own preaching. I can only give it to God's word. You have to be very, very careful. Don't receive any teaching by faith alone. You have to use to intellect and test it. Anything you hear about God, revealed about God accept it implicitly by faith. God is good all the time. Never question, whatever happening in your life, never question your God's goodness. You can question like Job, where did I go wrong? That's okay. He starts going a little off the edge that's when God intervenes and says, "Enough!" but never question God's goodness. If you question God's goodness, two things I'll tell you: goodness is all part of His love, mercy, kindness and His sovereignty, who to pick and who to take out. Don't question God's sovereignty. People will question God's sovereignty, "I did not get healed, why not?" It's His sovereignty. "My sovereignty, I don't have to explain it to you, but one day you'll understand." I don't have to explain. I will have mercy upon whom I will have mercy. But I will tell you a secret, you know to whom God shows mercy? To those who show mercy. That is His low. God Himself has bound Himself by His word. So, you want God's mercy then show mercy. I will show mercy to whom I show mercy, but He

also says, 'I have to show mercy to those who show mercy.' So, the sovereignty of God, the goodness of God, always factor that into your life. God is sovereign and in that sovereignty, I have surrendered my body to You. You can do whatever you want to do with it. In your mercy I believe in healing, in rapture and in everything, but I take my hands off it when it comes to Your sovereignty. If you think I need to be in the ICU so that You can minister through me to somebody else, it's your call. If you will that I should die in such a manner that will bring the onlookers to the Lord, it's Your will. It's Your will. Your sovereignty, I will never negate it in my life. It's your will. I believe in all the other things, like I can escape all that but I factor that part of faith with the sovereignty of God and they will always go together. Your sovereignty and second, I will never question Your goodness. Even the worst thing imaginable happens to you, that doesn't make God bad. He's still good. The problem with envy is, envy blinds our eyes to the sovereignty of God and the goodness of God. Both the sovereignty of God and the goodness of God. Now who put Saul on the throne, God! So, does God have the right to take him off? Yes. He took that sovereignty off God. He should have accepted the sovereignty of God like David. Who am I? You put me and You're making this promise to my house, who am I? David said, "I was just a shepherd boy." So, come on, Saul! He was a shepherd boy. You are a donkeys' keeper. I don't what you are called. Goatherd is there, shepherd is there, but what do you call a fellow who keeps donkeys? What do you call a fellow who is a keeper of donkeys? You are a keeper of donkeys. Never forget where God picked you up from. It doesn't matter how high you may have risen in life, He picked you from the mire. That's where He picked you up from, the pit of sin and the pit of destruction. That's where He picked you from. Saul forgot that. Saul forgot that God made him king.

#### <u>1 Samuel 18:3</u>

#### <sup>3</sup> Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.

In His sovereignty, God spoke through His servant, Samuel, "I'm taking the kingdom from you." What should you say? "Yes, my Lord." The next thing that happens is you see this young boy, he becomes the champion and the next in line to the throne is Jonathan. The next thing you look over there is God is doing a supernatural work in His goodness. Jonathan and David have become one. God is doing a supernatural work out of His goodness. In of His sovereignty He's removing a man, but still keeping him on the throne. He won't remove him for a long time. So that you will always know and all history will always know that I'm always good even in my actions. I'll keep you there, but I will make the transition very painless if you understand who I am. First thing He does is that Jonathan and David become really one. And he takes his tunic, his robe, his sword and everything saying that, 'I accept you!' Basically, he's saying, 'I accept you as the next king.' If anybody should have a problem with David it should be Jonathan, not Saul. And Jonathan says, 'I have no problem. I accept you.'

### <u>1 Samuel 18:16</u>

#### <sup>16</sup> But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them.

So, you look and my son loves him and the nation loves him.

### <sup>20</sup> Now Michal, Saul's daughter, loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

Now, what more do you want God to do? Okay, does anybody know God has taken you out of the throne? Only Samuel knows, nobody knows. Keep it that way. This is between you and Me, Saul. Stay quiet. I'll bring him. Your son and him will be one. He will marry your eldest daughter. Transition will take place. And when you are ready to hand it over say that I have chosen my son-in-law to be king and your son will stand up and say, 'I second it.' Nobody would know. How simple! That's all, because God is a good God. He doesn't play politics in the court. We make politics in the court. He doesn't play politics, because His name is at stake. How simple it would have been? How beautiful it would have been? But you know envy blinded his eyes. There would have been peace in his family, David's life would have been completely different because one thing he didn't have was a friend in his life and Jonathan was that friend. He staked his life for his sake. Everything, Israel would have been different if this man hadn't been jealous. You know what happens? Jealousy blinds our eyes. Honestly you can't have a better deal than this, because the throne belongs to God. Instead, envy, hatred, murder and finally suicide. Please remember that these are real issues in life. Because many who have heard the message in the morning would feel that I am free from the failing of Reuben, but you may not be free from the failing of Benjamin's son, Saul. Envy killed him. That's the question God is asking first tonight.

### <u>Mark 15:10</u>

<sup>10</sup> For he knew (Who knew? Pilate knew.) that the chief priests had handed Him over because of (They can wear all those big robes and sound all religious terms according to our law and blah, blah, these gentiles are very small, especially at the top, they're very good. They saw through all the smooth talk and big talk and religious talk and saw that these guys are really jealous.) *envy.* 

That's why he wanted to ask, "What are these dudes so jealous about? You look like a simple ordinary man. Why are these guys so jealous about you? Are you a king? They're saying you're a king." He wants to have a conversation with Him. What are these guys so jealous about? You don't look like someone to be jealous about. You look like a simple ordinary man. He had authority. He was in the head position. That's what they were jealous of.

#### Acts 17:5

# <sup>5</sup> But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

Who was there inside? Paul. Everywhere they went they were jealous of him. Why? Because you could not argue with him. He was a trained Jewish preacher and then he turned over to the other side. But now he's got his intellect and his logic in place with the gospel. If you try to argue with him, like Peter and all can't argue, they just have to stand there in the power of God, but with this guy you can't even argue. He will show from the Scripture that Christ is the Messiah. And they're very jealous. The problem is when he starts speaking, a crowd gathers to listen to him. And they get upset. So, you see, envy was working from *Genesis 4* all the way.

1 Corinthians 3:3. Remember, I can't talk to you as adults, but as babes. What did Paul say?

#### 1 Corinthians 3:3

<sup>3</sup> for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?

It's all envy.

### 2 Corinthians 12:20

### <sup>20</sup> For I fear lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I wish, and that I shall be found by you such as you do not wish; lest there be contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, backbitings, whisperings, conceits, tumults;

He's saying, "When I come, please, please..." Second letter also, he's writing, Corinth Church is also full of babes with gifts. Babes with gifts is like boys with toys. Have you seen boys playing with toys? One has a truck. One has a car. Everybody is going vrrroom! Vrrooom! That is the Corinthian Church, "My gift! My gift! I have a word of prophecy. Prophecy! Prophecy! Wisdom! Wisdom! Healing! Healing!" Everybody wants to be number one there. So, that's where it is.

#### Philippians 1:15

### <sup>15</sup> Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill:

There are ministries that are based on envy. You know why they start? To prove to somebody that, "I can do better than you." They start a Church. "I'll prove I can do better than you." Paul is not bothered by envy. He says, "Leave it. If somebody is preaching Christ, let them do anything. I don't care as long as people are getting saved." But he's saying, "*Some indeed preach Christ even from envy*." Lord, have mercy, right? Guard our hearts! Ask the Holy Spirit. "Lord, help me to rejoice in the success of another one." Or when someone else is gifted or, "You move me through the hand of man say 'step aside for some time'," you should be able to handle it. Saul couldn't handle it. All the people in the Bible, you will know, they were killed by these kinds of sins. See, the problem is – Reuben knew he committed adultery. He was very aware of it but envy, sometimes, you are not even aware. Especially if you are wearing green-tinted glasses, you don't know; your eyes are also green. If your tinted glasses are yellow, if you have jaundice, the doctor won't know. Your wife will also not know. But when you take it out, "Your eyes are yellow! You've got jaundice." These are things which are hidden. You may not even come out.

Let's go to Genesis 37:3-4, our young man.

#### Genesis 37:3-4

<sup>3</sup> Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of many colors. <sup>4</sup> But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

They hated him. The problem is – something left them. When you are jealous of somebody, the peace of God starts leaving you. You have to be very, very careful about it. *Romans 5:1*. The first gift you receive when you are saved is peace.

#### Romans 5:1

#### <sup>1</sup> Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

But when envy comes, peace goes. These are markers. Like I said, you cannot measure your righteousness; leave that to God. But you can measure your peace. Righteousness, peace. Righteousness is what you declare; peace is something you experience. You have peace. Scripture says, "They lost their peace." Joy is actually the outpouring of the peace that is within you. Joseph was sinned against continuously in his life but he always guarded his peace. He never lost his peace. People were sinning against him but he was not losing his peace. Therefore, there was also no hatred in his heart. If you turn to *Hebrews* 12:14,

#### Hebrews 12:14

#### <sup>14</sup> Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:

When envy comes in and peace leaves, you are not able to see God working in your situations. You are not able to see. Your eyes get clouded. You will not see God. You are not able to pursue holiness with God because you are not able to pursue peace with man. Peace is gone; envy has replaced it and you are not able to pursue holiness and you are not experience peace. Even if God is right there in your life, working out things for you, you are not able to see; you are not able to appreciate; you are not able to praise; you are not able to do anything because envy has clouded your eyes. That's one of the reasons. You need to understand why God says certain things though nothing may be happening to that person. It is not for that person; it is for you. Pray for your enemies. Bless them and don't curse them. Why does He say that? He says, "Guard your heart from envy, hatred and murder." Your heart. He says, "I'm not worried about your enemy. I'm worried about you. You are My child. I'm worried about you. I need to speak to you. I need to move you from step to step. So, guard your heart." How do you guard your heart? Pray for your enemies. Put them first in your list. Pray for them. God wants to protect our hearts because that's where He stays. God is a God so humble, so loving, so kind. Hamare Hrudaya mein vrajma hain, it will say in Hindi. How can He sit in a heart which is full of envy? That's the devil's throne. That's not God's throne. Are you getting the picture? You have to be very careful. It takes our peace away.

#### Genesis 42:21

# <sup>21</sup> Then they said to one another, "We are truly guilty concerning our brother, for we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us."

How many years have passed by? 22 years. They are still tormented. The guy whom they abused, he is sitting there quietly. He is happy. He is not tormented at all. Even when he sees his enemies, he is not tormented. The feeling in his heart is to help them. 22 years later, they are still tormented. 22, 23 years later, they are still tormented. Are you getting the picture? Who should be tormented? Joseph should be tormented but he is not tormented at all.

In Genesis 40:15, this is what he says about himself.

#### Genesis 40:15

<sup>15</sup> For indeed I was stolen away from the land of the Hebrews; and also I have done nothing here that they should put me into the dungeon."

He was 13 years in that state of life. So, let us put, for simplicity's sake, for 3 years, he was in Potiphar's palace as a slave. Then, he was thrown into the dungeon. So, how many years was he there in the dungeon? 10 years. Can you come out of a dungeon and absolutely have no envy, no torment, no anger, no hatred, no bitterness in your life?

If you look at Psalm 105:17-18,

#### Psalm 105:17-18

#### <sup>17</sup> He sent a man before them— Joseph—who was sold as a slave. <sup>18</sup> They hurt his feet with fetters, He was laid in irons.

This was his actual state. *Genesis* doesn't talk about any of this unless you go with a microscope. I'm talking to a lot of wives sitting there, who have been abandoned, who have been widowed, your life was like you say 'torment all the days you were married to him' or still married to him; the question is: how have you come out of it? Are you still tormented 22 years later? 23 years later? Joseph was not. He was the only innocent one. Absolutely. Sinned against. He didn't sin against them and he was in the dungeon for years and years. His legs were in fetters; his neck and hands were in irons. That's how he lived but he was peaceable towards everybody. You know why? Because he had no jealousy, no envy, no anger, no bitterness, no hatred; because he understood the sovereignty of God, that God is good through it all; while he should have been tormented. Because people say, "You have no idea what happened. I still have nightmares." Joseph had no nightmares. Even in the dungeon, he had no nightmares. Others were having nightmares and he was giving them the interpretation. He had no nightmares and you have flashbacks." Okay, I understand. God is merciful but I'm saying, "God will heal you." You have nightmares and you have flashbacks because of the abuse you went through. God will heal you but for God to heal you, you have to release what you are holding against those who did to you. You release it. Otherwise, He can't let you off. Let go. Don't hold it. This is that season. In another 10 days, it will be Resurrection Sunday, right? The first message from the Cross is, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." What is He doing? He is releasing them. And till this day, God is answering that prayer of His Son.

What if He had prayed differently? On the Cross, this is His Son, praying to the Father, "Father, don't let them go for what they have done to Me. Let no son of Adam escape for what they have done to Your Son. All I did was bless them and be good to them. Father, give them double measure. Pressed down, shaken together. Give it." You know what? This program wouldn't be there. Nobody would be sitting here if that's the way He had prayed. But that's not how He prayed. He said, "Father, forgive them. They do not know." That's peace. Everything Jesus did was because He had peace with God, peace with man. And you see, these guys are tormented. They are tormented. That's what happens because Jesus said, "I will save you. You leave yourself clean. Now, I fill it with My kindness, with My mercy. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with these things and work it out. The other fellow will come out and other ones wicked." He had only jealousy in the beginning. It became hatred; it became bitterness; it became murder. Finally, it became suicide. More and more wicked ones are coming in because you didn't deal with it. You are tormented. Joseph loves his father; he loves his brothers. The Bible says in *1 John – there is no torment in love but in fear, there is torment*.

Look at Saul. 1 Samuel 18:12. These are the products. He is envious; he is sitting on a throne with a sphere, angry. We saw the other part, right? David goes out and comes back.

#### 1 Samuel 18:12

<sup>12</sup> Now Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with him, but had departed from Saul.

"What are you afraid of this boy? He is serving you. You are the king, sitting on the throne. All these are your soldiers. The kingdom is but you are afraid? You are afraid of David."

#### <u>1 Samuel 18:15</u>

<sup>15</sup> Therefore, when Saul saw that he behaved very wisely, he was afraid of him.

### <u>1 Samuel 18:29</u>

<sup>29</sup> and Saul was still more afraid of David...

Scripture never says, "David became Saul's enemy." Scripture says,

#### ...So Saul became David's enemy continually.

Because of fear. And the fear came because of hatred and hatred came because of envy. While David is the most loyal guy in his entire army. Do you see how these things work in our lives? If we don't deal with these things, we will be caught in the outer courts, where there is only forgiveness of sins. "Little children, your Father forgives you." Why? They are constantly struggling with these things. "I hate that one so much." "I'm so jealous of them." "I've been in the Church for so long!"

And because he retained his peace through it all, it didn't matter what situation he was put in, he excelled in it all. To have a skill in a work is one thing; but to have peace in your work is another thing. A lot of people do not excel in their workplace or even if they excel, when they come back home, they don't have peace, is because they don't have peace. They have a gift but they don't have peace. If it is more than your gift, you should have peace at your workplace and you should have peace when you come back. And it didn't matter where you put Joseph; he excelled and he had peace. And that is something supernaturally given by God. But to receive it? That's why, in the Lord's Prayer, only one condition is put for one of the requests – *"Father, forgive us our debts as we forgive..."* With the whole heart. Because it's an internal condition.

*Genesis 40:6-7*. Because he had peace, he could see everything and everybody differently.

#### Genesis 40:6-7

#### <sup>6</sup> And Joseph came in to them in the morning and looked at them, and saw that they were sad.

If you are a man who is tormented, do you see somebody else's torment? No! He was absolutely at peace.

# <sup>6</sup> And Joseph came in to them in the morning and looked at them, and saw that they were sad. <sup>7</sup> So he asked Pharaoh's officers who were with him in the custody of his lord's house, saying, "Why do you look so sad today?"

When you are at peace, you are able to see somebody else who is not at peace. You know why? Because your peace bounces back. He says, "I speak Your peace." Your peace bounces back. He saw. He noticed. Why has God put us in all different offices and different places? He can. Never you become a shepherd with the face of a sheep and then, when the Service is over, you go to them quietly and give them one hug. That's all they need. "I got you! I saw it. While I was preaching, I saw your face. I saw you."

### <u>Genesis 41:16</u>

#### <sup>16</sup> So Joseph answered Pharaoh...

Pharaoh hasn't even told about his dream. He hasn't even told his dream. He is going to tell his dream but what is his response?

#### <sup>16</sup> So Joseph answered Pharaoh saying, "It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace."

"Because I am a man of peace." He's a man of peace. "I have peace inside. My God will give you an answer. He will give you peace."

That's why these things, whether it is pestilence, famine, quarantine, Covid-19, whatever is causing fear, don't let it take your peace. Retain your peace because there is torment in fear. That's why when we began, we began straight with death – end of everything is death. If you are prepared for death, nothing can harm you. There is only One who is the Lord of death. "The key of Death and Hades are in My hands." So, if you have peace with Him, you don't have to worry about Covid-19. You know it in theological terms but you have to hear it in faith in your spirit for it to become real. Like for me, as a father, got these 5 children who are, technically, not walking with the Lord. So, your worry is always there. "If something happens..." So, one of the days, God told me, "Tell Me – do you love your children more or I love your children more?" You have to hear like that to get the answer because theologically, somewhere, it is like a fog in your head." Then, it becomes very clear and you know the answer – "He loves my children more than I do." So, if anything happens to them, in whose hands are they? "Your hands."

Children. Can you trust God with your children? That's what God says, "Cast your burdens at My feet." Cast it all because we need peace in our situations. If it is not our own death, it would be the death of somebody very close to us. Right? That's why Scripture says, "There is torment in fear." 22 years later, they are still tormented even though they think the boy is dead. They don't know he's alive. They think he's dead. He is dead in their minds but their action is not dead because they have never made peace with that action they have done. Because they have sold their brother; they think he is dead and they have lied and deceived their father. It's still there. It's not gone. You can cover it and cover it with years and years of activities and it is still there. When the moment comes, God brings it back and says, "Did you see? You haven't made peace with that yet." The Holy Spirit will not only bring to your remembrance what you need to say before. He will also bring to your remembrance things that were hidden under many piles of garbage. He will bring it out. Remember that old fairy tale when the king and queen, when they have this young son, the prince and they had to get him married. They said, "It has to be a true princess. Only a true princess can marry." Because he's such a famous prince, so many girls come and the gueen has one way to find out who is the true princess. She has a bedroom and the girl has to come and stay the night there and leave the next morning. So, there were 20 mattresses made of Down, soft mattresses. At the bottom of it, she has put in a small stone or something over there. Every girl will come in from all over the kings and daughters and rich men; they all come and sleep and go. One night, when it's raining, one girl comes and says, "I also have come." She says, "Come. Change your clothes. Eat dinner and go to sleep." In the morning, when she asks the girl, "Did you sleep?" She said, "I couldn't sleep at all. I was turning and tossing." "Why?" "Because there was something poking me in my back when I was trying to sleep." That thing was 20 mattresses down. The mother said, "This is the girl who should marry my son." Basically, the teaching behind the story is – your conscience should be so sensitive to become the bride of the prince. That is the Bride of Jesus Christ. These are fairytales we all studied without realizing through it all, Scripture was being taught, values were being taught the kind of Bride that Christ would choose. So, here you are! There is this young man and there are the brothers – 30 years old or 40 years old now. He could see Pharaoh and have an answer of peace.

Or in,

#### Genesis 43:23

# <sup>23</sup> But he said, "Peace be with you, do not be afraid. Your God and the God of your father has given you treasure in your sacks; I had your money." Then he brought Simeon out to them.

What does he say? Whether it is in the prison, whether it is before the Pharaoh, whether it is his own brothers, he is always a man of peace. Did you see? When he opens his mouth, it's always peace because he has peace inside. That's what the Bible is talking about.

Torment, on the other hand. Let's look at that verse. 1 John 4:18,

#### <u>1 John 4:18</u>

# <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

Did you see? Every time David does something good for him, he is afraid because he is tormented. When something good happens to somebody else, are you tormented? Are you afraid? Because that's what God is asking. Because there is torment in hell. The rich man was tormented. You know what torment is? Let's turn to *Luke 16:23*,

#### Luke 16:23

### <sup>23</sup> And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes...

Let me put it across this way. I don't know if somebody else has said before. I've never heard it but I'm telling you – peace is a taste of Heaven you get on earth and torment is a taste of hell you get on earth. Peace is a taste of Heaven you get on earth because He is a God of peace. Ultimately, everything will be reconciled and the rain of peace – righteousness and peace and joy unlimited. Torment is a taste of hell on earth. So, all those who are tormented, go to God. People who are tormented, it doesn't matter what happens to them. When good happens, they are tormented; they are afraid.

*Genesis 42:28.* They are going back and one of the donkeys must have cried. It was hungry. They said, "Okay, let us get some feed and give it to the donkey." They opened the mouth of the sack. What is there? Money. You should be happy, right? "Boy, we hit a lottery!" That's not what it says!

#### Genesis 42:28

# <sup>28</sup> So he said to his brothers, "My money has been restored, and there it is, in my sack!" Then their hearts failed them and they were afraid, saying to one another, "What is this that God has done to us?"

You know why? Because you sold your brother for money. That's why Judas will go and throw his money there and hang himself. Money should have made him happy. It was tormenting him because he knew that Blood was innocent. It is innocent. They should have been happy. See, none of them are imagining that, "Thank God! What a wonderful thing! We got our money back." No, they are tormented. They are afraid. They are scared. When they were put in prison? Only three days, they were tormented. Joseph was a slave and a prisoner for 13 years and he was never tormented because the work of Christ produces more and more peace in our lives. And when the work of Christ – envy or something comes in; the work of Christ ceases in our life. It's on a pause button. The work of Christ ceases. We are on pause. Salvation hasn't ceased; sanctification has stopped. That is why *Genesis 37* onwards, "This is the genealogy of Jacob," and whose record begins? Joseph's. Because he is the only man walking in peace there. Father is tormented; brothers are tormented; everybody is tormented. One man is in peace. So, these 13 chapters are about him. One chapter is the illicit affair between Judah and Tamar. Not illicit, poor girl. She was desperate to have a child. He was the one who was illicit over there. Other than that break, everything else is about Jesus. Why? God has put a pause button on everybody else's life. Are you getting it? Funny thing, right? It says, "The famine was very severe in all the lands."

#### Genesis 41:57

#### <sup>57</sup> So all countries came to Joseph in Egypt to buy grain, because the famine was severe in all lands.

Do you see what God is doing? He is causing famine. Okay, famine started. People started buying from here. Karnataka started buying from Kerala. Kerala started taking from Tamil Nadu. Then, it became more severe. So, they all shut their land border. Now, they are buying from Karnataka, within Telangana. What is within is also finishing. So, finally, panic is happening. Only one man has. The whole thing has been orchestrated by God to take everybody to Joseph. It's not written, "All countries came to Pharaoh." Though that's the factual truth, that's not what is written. All came to Joseph. All countries came to Joseph in Egypt. Why is God creating all these things? So that people will all go to Jesus, who has the only solution to what is happening. Nobody else has the solution. And He is primarily doing it to bring these 10 men there. They need to be redeemed. All those who are under the law, for the Gospel is first to the Jews. So, these ten people, under the law, have to be taken over there. Because this is a different picture. Ten is the law. Eleven, Joseph is grace. Benjamin is the overcomer. You read the entire account, Benjamin will not speak one word from his mouth. His life is entirely hidden in Joseph. He is an overcomer. Because identity is merged with Christ Jesus. When you see him sitting there in order, he has five times more because he is the recipient of God's grace through Joseph. He doesn't have to say anything because Joseph speaks for him. So, the pictures are all there in *Genesis* and we have to look at those pictures and learn, "Lord, where am I? How am I handling this boss You gave me?" It's for me.

So, there are serious issues for life and people are more worried about what is happening with the Corona Virus. There's a clash of kingdoms. The Kingdom of God is so close and all of creation is groaning for the sons of God to be revealed. So, like God told through Moses to Egypt, eat the Passover Lamb in haste and get ready to leave. Meaning? What is the eating of the Passover Lamb? It is receiving the completeness of Jesus into yourselves. Eat it up. Jesus said, "You have to eat My flesh and drink My Blood." The life of Christ has to become my life. You don't have much time left to grow. God says, "The work of sanctification is very little left. For the sake of the elect, I shall shorten those days." That means when you shorten those days, you don't have much time left. Get ready to leave.

So, as I close, we will look at one more thing and we will close. In *Psalm 109*, it is a prophetic Psalm concerning Jesus but true of everyone who chooses the pathway of envy, angry and hatred. Remember, that is the way of a child Christian, carnal Christian. These messages are not to the world; it is to the Church. *Psalm 109* is a prophetic picture. If you are caught in envy, anger and hatred,

#### <u>Psalm 109:3-4</u>

# <sup>3</sup> They have also surrounded me with words of hatred, And fought against me without a cause. <sup>4</sup> In return for my love they are my accusers, But I give myself to prayer.

You can say that about Joseph or everything saint – surrounded by enemies, they did not harm; but they said, "What I will do – I will not defend myself. I will go into my closet and I will pray." And if those people don't change, what happens? In the Epistles according to John 2:1, what does John say?

#### <u>1 John 2</u>

# 2 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

On the other hand, you are full of hatred. You don't come out of it; you don't grow out of it. *Psalm 109:6* says, "I will pray." And what does God do?

#### <u>Psalm 109:6</u>

#### <sup>6</sup> Set a wicked man over him, And let an accuser stand at his right hand.

You don't have Jesus, the Advocate, at your right hand; you have satan at your right hand, the accuser of the brethren is at your right hand and a wicked man over you. He is the wicked man. God gives you over into the hands of the tormentors. He is over you and he is the one on your right hand; not the Advocate. You get a different advocate.

#### <u>Psalm 109:7-8</u>

### <sup>7</sup>When he is judged, let him be found guilty, And let his prayer become sin.

You are not praying for sin; your prayer itself becomes sin. Satan at your right hand side; a wicked man, the devil has been put over you; your prayer is sin and,

#### <sup>8</sup> Let his days be few, And let another take his office.

Your ministry is taken away and given to another.

So, there are 12 children. Let's leave the youngest one out. Jacob has 11 sons when the story is beginning. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten. These should have come to any one of them. The ministry is taken from them and is given to Joseph. He is the youngest. It didn't go to Reuben. It didn't go to Simeon. It didn't go to Levi. It didn't go to Judah, if you go by order. Do you remember *1 Samuel 17:28*?

#### <u>1 Samuel 17:28</u>

<sup>28</sup> 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? Eliab's heart was revealed. What had poor David come there for? With bread for him. Now, do you know why God overlooked all those seven guys? Because the first one is the picture of the other seven. And Samuel was getting confused. Eliab came. "This must be the Lord's." God said, "No." Shammah came. "No." Abinadab. "No." Four, five, six, seven. "Do you have anymore?" He said, "Yes." "Where is he?" "In the wilderness." You know why He overlooked all of them and gave the ministry to them? When he began, it was said, "One son of Jesse." But He gave it to the 8<sup>th</sup> one. He overlooked all seven. Why? What you see is envy.

So, this night, our 14<sup>th</sup> night, like I said, let's go to *John 14:27*. The greatest gift Jesus left with us when He left is His peace.

### <u>John 14:27</u>

# <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

He said, "I have left you with My peace." Guard your peace in all situations.

In *Luke 11:21*,

### Luke 11:21

### <sup>21</sup> When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace.

Who is the strong man to whom we can commit everything to? Jesus. If Jesus is in control of my life and I have the peace of God and peace with God and with man, my goods are in peace. I don't have to worry. It's in peace. He is in full control. That's why they could do whatever they wanted to do to Joseph; nobody could steal his destiny from him. His goods were at peace. Absolutely safe. His life was safe. The devil was trying to take him down and down but he went up and up, spiritually. Jesus told us, "You will have much tribulation in this world but in Me, you will have peace." And these are the things which we need to realize, if we go to *John 20:19*, the first words of Jesus when He came down from Heaven after finishing His work,

#### <u>John 20:19</u>

# <sup>19</sup> Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you."

Why did He have peace? He should have said, "I was waiting to come back. I want to know where all you guys went. You all promised Me 'I will come and die with You' and blah, blah and all that. Come on. Where were you?" He's got absolute peace with God and with them. So, the first word out of His mouth is, "Peace." And if you come down to *verse 21*, He says, "I want to send you in the same way."

#### <u>John 20:21</u>

### <sup>21</sup> So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

How did He send us out? In peace. And one lesson we learn from Joseph as a big picture of how Jesus walked on earth. It's peace. 8 days later, Thomas did not believe. 8 days later, when He comes, again, the first word He says is, "Peace." Because it's an important marker in our lives. And God has locked all the families together. Wives cannot complain now, "Husbands don't spend time with me." Parents can't complain, "Children don't spend time with us." Everybody has been locked in together. Do you know, in many Churches, in the US, they have opened counselling lines because husbands and wives have started spending time together? Really! Special lines are open for counselling because now, they are fighting because they have never been together. The world had taken their time and God is giving Christian homes, "Make peace. I'm coming. Husbands and wives, make peace. Parents and children, make peace." Time to make peace. Because one thing when Jesus comes, what you need is peace. We will all land up before Joseph's chair in the hour of famine. And what happened. 10 of them did not have peace. Benjamin was sitting there quietly and was eating nicely. Why? He had peace. He never sinned against Joseph. So, he had peace. Others were all scared to go back. Benjamin had no problem and his father said, "Take." He didn't say anything. He was not afraid to go and he sat there. He had no fear of Joseph. When Joseph revealed, "I am Joseph," the ten brothers were petrified. They were afraid. Not Benjamin. Benjamin was not afraid. He had nothing to be afraid of because he had peace with God. That's what God is talking about. During this season, this is not entertainment time. This is very serious business God is telling us, "Make peace." Make peace with people. This is not an emotional thing. Ask God to show you. Don't make stupid outer-court peace with people you shouldn't make peace. Give them time to repent and come because you have to be wise like the father. Sometimes, people hear a message like this and they jump and go. No, let God speak to you because with some people, you step forward. You go to God and say, "Lord, I hold nothing against that person. I am free," and leave it at that. Because sometimes, you jump ahead, you block their restoration. So, this is not an emotional thing because the problem with outer courts people is that everything they read is with emotions first. And they goof it up. Absolutely goof it up. You have to be very clear about it – these are things of the Spirit. The spiritual man judges all things. so, let the Holy Spirit judge your things and let Him tell you how to do it, who to do it, when to do it. When He does it, you can remember – the power of God is working not only in you but in them too because there will be redemption that takes place. But even if redemption doesn't take place on that side, still, you need to realize. Otherwise, it will not go. You can live

under Joseph; you can eat and have his protection; your flocks can grow; you can prosper but the minute Jacob dies, they all come. They are still afraid. "Please don't kill us." They think it is Jacob that is holding him back. That is why Jesus told His disciples, "If you have seen Me, you have seen My Father." "Jacob and I are the same. Our heart is the same. We both love you the same way." Joseph is a picture of Jesus over there. It's as if the Father is not there, Jesus will kill us. Jesus is saying, "I and the Father are the same. Our heart is the same."

So, these pictures, get it together and work these things together. Otherwise, what will happen? We will waste this period God has given us. For a believer, this is one of the most beautiful times God has given us. Absolutely. Stay together. Spend time with God. Spend time with your family. Make peace and when you come out, you will come out as a very peaceful family. Peaceful families and peaceful individuals; whenever the lockdown is over and we gather in Church, it should be a different experience. Because people have come in peace and the Bible says, "The God of peace shall crush satan under your feet." It doesn't say, "The God of power, the God of might, the God of strength." He says, "No. Satan wants to rule over you and you give him this doorway through envy, jealousy, fear, hatred, bitterness; everything." Instead, throw all that out and when peace comes in, the God of peace will crush satan under your feet. That is why the Gospel is the Gospel of peace. The sandal is there because when peace comes in, satan is under your feet. So, when we look at those names, we have to understand what.

And even people whom I'm talking to in other countries. You might have gone through unbelievable abuse and truly, wicked evil men and women were involved in your abuse. I'm talking to all those who came out of the circle. Right now, I'm speaking to all who came out of the circle. The masters are evil men. They join hand-in-hand with the demonic and they were demonpossessed and the kind of things they did to you are unbelievable. Even Joseph did not go through that but let go. Forgive them. Let go. Because you need peace. Pray for them. I don't know their names and all that. I don't want to know their names but I know how they function. They have dragged you into the dungeons countless times and have tortured you so that you would obey every whim and command of theirs. You are used like cattle. I know what happens. I've never been there, never been part of the circle but God, in His mercy, has shown me all the stuff that happens over there. Many of you have come out but let go. You need peace with God. Let go. Forget them. Let go. God will deal with them. And you need to know – many, many masters have come out. They have come out. You also. Ask forgiveness from God and ask forgiveness from others, if you can. Better to die peacefully. So, it's to you, I'm speaking.

All the others, make peace with each other and live in peace. Shall we pray?

### **Closing Prayer:**

Father, this evening, we just come to You. We just want to thank You, Father. Thank You, Lord. You are the God of peace and that peace was possible only through Jesus and Joseph was a type of Jesus in the Old Covenant – innocent, sold, imprisoned for no guilt. Yet, he came alive and prospered but You died for our sins. You paid the price. Joseph could have never paid the price for our sins. No one could have. Only You could have. So, Father, now, I pray for every one of Your children in their homes, wherever they are. I pray, Spirit of God, You would bring to their remembrance the things they need to let go of. You are not somebody who heals Your Bride lightly. You don't do that. You want a spotless Bride, a blemishless Bride with no wrinkle. And You will do everything to make her that way. I pray You will bring to the remembrance of Your people, Lord, during these days, everything they need to let go – the bitterness, the anger, the hatred because the Day of Judgment is very close. Very, very close. Closer than what anybody thinks. It's very close. And there isn't much time because the heart keeps hardening. I pray, Father, as a Church and as individuals of the Church, people will let go and keep their lives very simple. A life of peace and without pursuing peace with man, we cannot pursue holiness with You. Because You said that in Your Word, "If you come to Me with a gift and you know your brother has something against you; he's hurt, make peace before you come to Me with your gift." Before I can pursue holiness with You, I need to make peace with man. That's the order You put. You said, "If you do not love your brother whom you can see, how can you say you love God whom you cannot see?" So, I pray, Father, each one of us, Your children will get these pictures and put it into practice. And there will be even more deliverance that will take place. And I speak peace into every life. I speak Your peace into every home. And I pray – the peace of God will come to India one day that this nation, too, will be set free from blood guilt, Lord, and they will know the peace of the Gospel. Now, we take authority in the Name of Jesus of Nazareth. We bind every power of darkness operating over Your children. Take your hands off, for the God of peace will crush your leader, even satan under our feet. And all you demonic entities – snakes and scorpions, we crush you under that feet. For the God of peace has given us that authority. Leave God's people alone and let there be peace and joy unlimited in the homes. Let them truly experience the peace of God and the overflowing joy of God in their lives.

Let there be spontaneous worship in everyone's lives for they will really know from deep within that God is good and He is good all the time. Thank You, Father. Be with us the rest of the night. We just surrender ourselves, our families, our children, our Churches, everybody into Thy hands, Lord. Be with us and go before us. For in Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

#### **Benediction:**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest and abide with each one of us, Amen.