

# Give Me Children or I Die!

Pastor Vijay Eathakota

[www.gracetabernaclehyd.org](http://www.gracetabernaclehyd.org)

Hallelujah!

Let's look to the Lord and pray.

*Father in Heaven, we just want to thank You, we just come to Your Throne Room of Grace this morning. Father, we have been exhorted, we have been spoken to, even through the prayer, through the worship, thank You Father for preparing our hearts even now. Lord, even as we come now to the meditation of Your Word, I pray Lord, that You would speak to our hearts; a Word in season, that You would grant each one of us the Spirit of the Issachar, that we will be able to see the signs of the times, that we will be people of vision, we may be few; two hundred when compared to all the mighty armies of the other tribes, but I pray Father that You would grant us seeing eyes, seeing eyes O Lord, that we will be able to see like watchmen and we will be able to warn Your people. Father, we surrender ourselves and we know that we can do nothing; every human intellect, every spirit of this world and the wisdom of this world is foolishness and unless and until You quicken us this morning, and grant us the wisdom and revelation, we will just be dead meat, O Lord, to the enemy. Father, I pray that You would grant us grace this morning grace to hear, to speak, to understand, to apply, and walk in Your ways. We thank You, we praise You, we worship You, for in Jesus' name, Amen!*

So, we have come to the ninth month of the year, what a year it has been! Six months of lockdown and we are here in the ninth month according to the chronological calendar, the month that signifies fruitfulness and maybe, there is a cry in somebody's heart this morning like *Genesis 30:1*, the cry of Rachel.

## **Genesis 30:1**

***<sup>1</sup> Now when Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister, and said to Jacob, "Give me children, or else I die!"***

I am not looking at Rachel so much but I am just looking at that statement, "Give me children, or else I die!" What's the whole point of living this life, of being given so much of anointing, so much of this Word, so much of the Spirit, if there is absolutely no fruitfulness in my life? There is no meaning and of course, we are not talking about physical children over here in the context with—of course this is physical children, but we know it's the letter but the Spirit is talking about fruit that pleases and brings glory to God.

## **John 15:8**

***<sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.***

The proof of the discipleship is that we bear fruit and that fruit that brings glory to our Father because it's due him, right? Behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed and showered upon us that we should be called the children of God! As many as received Him, He gave them the authority to be called the children of God. Therefore, maybe our cry this morning should be "Give me children Lord, or I die."

The two kinds of barrenness, at least two kinds of barrenness that is mentioned in the Bible in the old covenant specially, and if you look at the Bible, the law first-mention, it's found in *Genesis 11:29-30*.

## **Genesis 11:29-30**

***<sup>29</sup> Abram and Nahor took wives for themselves. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai; and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah and Iscah. <sup>30</sup> Sarai was barren; she had no child.***

## Give Me Children Or I Die!

The word for 'barren' in Hebrew word is 'Akar,' which also means to be hamstrung, to be without strength, it is the inability to conceive, have absolutely no power in self to bring forth anything of eternal value, in other words, childless, no ability to conceive, that is one kind of barrenness.

Another kind of barrenness which I want to look at first this morning is found in *2 Kings 2:19-21*.

### **2 Kings 2:19-21**

***<sup>19</sup> Then the men of the city said to Elisha, "Please notice, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees; but the water is bad, and the ground barren."***

Of course, the word for barren here; another Hebrew word, 'Shakol,' in Hebrew. What does this mean? It means being bereaved of children, in other words, you had children but they all died, they were all taken away from you. I mean, there is one place in Isaiah and also in Chronicles and Kings when Hezekiah is bullied by this Sennacherib; he gets this letter and Rabshakeh reads out his letter and he asks his servants to go to Isaiah and say, "We have come to give birth to children, but there is no strength to bring forth, we are losing them, we are being bereft of children." That's the condition we see people in, it's a tremendous amount, qualitatively and quantitatively, of apostatizing in these last days. And if you look at *2 Kings 2:19*, you will see a very specific reason as to why there was barrenness, why they were being bereft of children.

***<sup>19</sup> Then the men of the city said to Elisha, "Please notice, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees; but the water is bad, and the ground barren."***

In other words: the city is dwelling in pleasant places, everything for spiritual growth seems to be okay. But what has happened? The ground is barren simply because of one reason. What is that reason? There the water is bad, and the word for bad is incredible; the water is evil, that's the word *râ'a* the Hebrew. The water is *râ'a*. And you will see in the last days, there is a tremendous amount of people who are leaving the Church, they are becoming spiritually dead, the Church is becoming bereft of children; bereft of children who will stand in the gap and who will fight, apostatizing. *1 Timothy 4:1-2*, you will see this remarkable verse of bad water. What is this bad water?

### **1 Timothy 4:1-2**

***<sup>1</sup> Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times or in the last days some will depart from the faith, why? Because they give heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, there is water which has become corrupt, it's bad water.<sup>2</sup> speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,***

### **2 Thessalonians 2:3,10**

***<sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition*** and you see the man of lawlessness is being revealed all over the place.

And verse 10 it says,

***<sup>10</sup> and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.***

Why? Because there is all bad water all around the place, it's evil water, it is bad news, news is no longer good news anymore, it's all bad news.

### **Hebrew 3:12-15**

***<sup>12</sup> Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing,*** apostatizing; that's the word, departing, falling away ***from the living God;*** ***<sup>13</sup> but exhort one another daily,*** that's exactly what we have been doing for the last six months daily, some cases morning and evening, ***while it is called "Today,"*** and we don't know when that today is going to end, ***lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin*** and then what

## Give Me Children Or I Die!

happens, you will depart from a living God, because everything about God is living; it's no living relationship, it's dead. Faith without work is dead, offer your bodies as a living sacrifice; there is a new and a living way, you have been born again into a living hope. It's a living faith, it's a living sacrifice, it's the living Word; the Word of God is living and powerful and we know that.

And he says in verse 14,

***14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, 15 while it is said:***

***"Today, if you will hear His voice,  
Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."***

It's a tremendous amount of apostatizing and also an environment where the Church is being bereft of children. I was looking in the morning—I mean I slept early yesterday, 10 o'clock I slept, and woke up at 1.15 in the morning, I started to prepare myself for today's morning service and I was watching this interview between Bob the Builder and my favorite David Wood just a few minutes, I just watched the first lines of the interview, first few minutes of the interview. Bob the Builder is the guy who goes to the speakers' corner and he was this guy who replaced Jay Smith, meaning, Jay Smith had to leave and he took over Jay Smith place to speak to the Dawah team at Speakers' Corner. They were having this conversation and he makes a very powerful statement and you know, some questions coming online, it was a live telecast and questions online were coming - "How many times do you see Muslims being converted in your ministry?" And he says, "There are lot of Muslims who get converted," and Bob made a powerful statement. He said, "In the UK, there are so many Muslims who get converted but you know something? In a place where freedom of religion is supposed to be practiced and protected, many of those people who get converted cannot openly come out and testify because if they come out and testify, they will be killed and the government knows it but the mainstream media will not even report it, never happens, in the UK."

There were gangs of hardliners from the Islamic side who went on a raping spree and the mainstream media refused to cover it and they had to be a conservative voice from Northern England who had to raise up, who had to stand and Bob was telling, "When Muslims get converted, they get converted at a tremendous price and in our country which is supposed to be free, which is supposed to be a place where freedom is supposed to be protected, you have absolutely no protection from the government and it seems that there is a hidden agenda." It's bad news and the Church is being bereft because nobody raises any voice about that. There is a place called Dearborn in Michigan; it's a place where you have Muslims, there is a Muslim majority, Muslim kind of place okay, so many honor killings of people who convert, nothing is reported, it's is happening in U.S, it's happening there; bad news, it's covered, it's evil bad water and the Church is being bereft of the children. And I was thinking about - is there a precedence to this in the Church or in the Bible?

Years back, I mean several teachings we know, remember during the time of Herod there was tremendous persecution? If you turn with me to *Acts 12:1*,

### **Acts 12:1**

***1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church.***

Now this is the time when there is famine which is happening in Jerusalem and all those places, and specially in Jerusalem. So, the church is being sent help from different other churches, the gentile churches. There is a persecution which has started and people scattered, and only the apostles are left back in Jerusalem and people scattered to different places and they started preaching the Word. In Jerusalem, Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church, then he killed, who?

***2 Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword.*** Who is he? A child; bereft of children; the Church is going to be robbed off one apostle. Why? They are silent. And suddenly, they wake up and what happens, next verse 3,

**<sup>3</sup> And because he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to seize Peter also. Now it was during the Days of Unleavened Bread.**

And you know! To save Peter, there has to be a praying Church which will rise up and say, “Lord! Bring us back our children! Bring us back our children! We are being bereft.” You will see in different places, especially in Nigeria. My goodness! You should see ethnic cleansing going on in different places, in places where they are of a majority and nobody reports it and it’s a hidden agenda; they deliberately do not report, deliberately choose not to report. It’s a deliberate attempt not to report, it’s bad water all around. Have you seen this? And what do we do under such circumstances? We get news, right? Every morning we have a devotion from the persecuted church and *Hebrew 13:3* will say,

**Hebrew 13:3**

**<sup>3</sup>Remember the prisoners as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.**

Remember! Pray and say, “Lord, we want our children back.” Can you imagine so many voices being silenced? I am talking about places where they are free ‘supposedly.’ And you should see—I mean, you go to Speakers’ Corner: how there is a mob! Absolute mob over there. And you know what is that one spirit you will see? It is the bullying spirit all over, it’s a bullying spirit and what do you do? You stand up to the bully. And thank God, God is raising a few people here and there. And I am telling you, you have to look at this guy, Bob the Builder, he is possibly as old as Abel, 32 or 33 and you should see, single handedly how he steamrolls and he is taking over Speakers’ Corner step by step, inch by inch; awesome man of God. You will get fired up when you listen to him and of course, David Wood, everybody knows David Wood. It’s powerful and you will see that mainstream media will not report it, nothing is reported; in a way, bad water, evil water, I am talking about general scenario. What about the Church? *Galatians 1:6* please,

**Galatians 1:6-8**

**<sup>6</sup> I marvel that you are turning away,** other translation – deserting; other translation - translated, meaning changing your course; other translation - converted.

**<sup>6</sup> I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,** which is not a real gospel at all.

**<sup>7</sup> which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. <sup>8</sup> But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.**

And second thing, if you see this bad water, it’s what we call as a bewitching spirit which is taking over the Church. I mean this is Galatian church which is perverting the Gospel, subscribing to something else, whatever that could be; it could be a legalistic gospel, it could be a liberal gospel but both gospels are dangerous. Pastor was talking about the conservatism yesterdays, right? I mean you can be conservative outside but there is no conservatism inside, there is no point, it should be something inside of your heart. And this is so dangerous, it says in *Galatians 3:1* and he say,

**Galatians 3:1**

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

**O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you** ‘basakanio,’ that’s the word in Greek which means an evil eye. I mean you should see this doctrine which makes the Church bereft of children, bereft, okay, legalism. You see—let me tell you one thing, the spirit that drives the people away is actually the spirit of legalism. On the other hand, there is a

spirit which attracts a lot of people is the spirit of liberalism also but the Gospel is a very thin line. Whether it is legalism or liberalism, let us not talk about these two things but there is one thing, it is something which is causing you to pervert something which God has given you as clean; water which has become bad, evil and as a result what will happen? You will be bereft of children. Are you sure? Let me show you. If you go to the KJV now, this is a chapter on blessings and curses and obviously you will see that more number of curses are given than blessings.

**Deuteronomy 28:52-57**

***<sup>52</sup> And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the Lord thy God hath given thee.***

And look at this, ***<sup>53</sup> And thou shalt eat the fruit of thine own body, the flesh of thy sons and of thy daughters, which the Lord thy God hath given thee, in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee: <sup>54</sup> So that the man that is tender among you, and very delicate, what will happen to him? his eye shall be evil toward his brother, and toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the remnant of his children which he shall leave: an evil eye!***

***<sup>55</sup> So that he will not give to any of them of the flesh of his children whom he shall eat: because he hath nothing left him in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee in all thy gates.<sup>56</sup> The tender and delicate woman among you, which would not adventure to set the sole of her foot upon the ground for delicateness and tenderness, her eye shall be evil toward the husband of her bosom, and toward her son, and toward her daughter, <sup>57</sup> And toward her young one that cometh out from between her feet, and toward her children which she shall bear: for she shall eat them for want of all things secretly in the siege and straitness, wherewith thine enemy shall distress thee in thy gates.***

I mean somebody was telling me, the most elegant translation in the English language is the KJV: half of your idioms in the Indian language is from the KJV Bible by the way. If you want to read the Bible for exactness and clarity, read NKJV and NASB and NET, for elegance read KJV and for exactness and ease of reading, NIV. So, that is a small lesson for you.

“The tender and delicate woman among you, which would not adventure to set the sole of her foot upon the ground for delicateness and tenderness, her eye shall be evil toward the husband of her bosom, and toward her son, and toward her daughter, and toward her young one that cometh out from between her feet, and toward her children which she shall bear: for she shall eat them for want of all things secretly,” what is happening? Evil eye: that is the reason why *Galatian 5:15* will say,

**Galatians 5:15**

***<sup>15</sup> But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!***

You will start doing it! You will start biting and devouring one another and this literally happened in the time of Elisha, remember?

**2 Kings 6:24-29**

***<sup>24</sup> And it happened after this that Ben-Hadad king of Syria gathered all his army, and went up and besieged Samaria. <sup>25</sup> And there was a great famine in Samaria; and indeed they besieged it until a donkey's head was sold for eighty shekels of silver, and one-fourth of a kab of dove droppings for five shekels of silver. <sup>26</sup> Then, as the king of Israel was passing by on the wall, a woman cried out to him, saying, “Help, my lord, O king!” <sup>27</sup> And he said, “If the Lord does not help you, where can I find help for you? From the threshing floor or from the winepress?” <sup>28</sup> Then the king said to her, “What is troubling you?” And she answered, “This woman said to me, ‘Give your son, that we may eat him today, and we will eat my son tomorrow.’ <sup>29</sup> So we boiled my son, and ate him. And I said to her on the next day, ‘Give your son, that we may eat him’; but she has hidden her son.”***

Look at this graphic! What is happening? Church is being bereft of children, it's becoming barren. Why? Slowly, slowly, you allow that poison to come into your life. Slowly, and it can happen to anyone, it can happen to anyone. If you look at *Galatians 2:11-13*, this is powerful okay.

**Galatians 2:11-13**

***<sup>11</sup> Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; <sup>12</sup> for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. <sup>13</sup> And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.***

Think about that, if Paul would not have confronted and Peter would not have repented, so much of loss to the Church. It all starts because you allow certain things. You know, this is what we call as tolerance. Pastor was talking about it, 'tolerance,' I wrote it down, if you turn with me to *Revelations 2:18*, we know this very well, I mean we studied it in different contexts and detail of it is given in the website, you can go there and entire book of Revelation verse by verse.

**Revelations 2:18-20**

***<sup>18</sup> "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, 'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: <sup>19</sup> "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the first, you are increasing, you are developing, but then, <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow or suffer, another translation will say, tolerate. What do you do? You tolerate **that woman Jezebel**, you know there is a word in Telegu - 'Ponile' in Hindi - 'chalega,' 'chalta,' 'koi dikkat nai.' "Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you tolerate **that woman Jezebel.**"***

Boss, these things cannot be tolerated. Two things: we do not wrestle flesh and blood, but we do not succumb to any bullying spirit. There is a spirit which tries to bully us, scare us, manipulate us; manipulators are intimidators and especially, there is intimidation. He says intimidation which is going—I am telling you, this is a spirit of intimidation, let me—I will give you something recent which happened, some of you may be aware, some of you may be unaware. There was a recent interview between two Islamic scholars in the Islamic realm: one scholar, one student; one big guy, okay. Guy's name is Yasir Qadhi. He was having this interview with one of his students; he is interviewing, his name is Mohammed Hijab by the way, some of you know him. Mohammed Hijab and Yasir Qadhi were having a conversation and Mohammed Hijab was getting this question from a lot of Muslims because they say Quran is perfectly preserved, not even a jot or a tittle has been changed, perfectly preserved from heaven to Mohammed and to the Quran.

But recently they have found; not recently, it has been there for so many years but you know that kind of a culture, you cover up everything, okay, you whitewash everything. Western scholars have found out at least, 30-40 different manuscripts of the Quran and not one and the other is same, at least 37. It's called the Ahruf and the Qiraat, it's going on. So, this discussion between the scholar and the student; and the student is asking, "So many people are asking that the Quran is perfectly preserved: what is your take on that?" And this guy is a little sensible guy okay; a little wise and more sensible and he tells this guy, "There is nothing called as a perfectly preserved Quran," and he made a statement; he said, "The standard narrative that we generally tell our people in our community, it has holes in it."

The standard narrative has holes in it and the people like Jay Smith, they all knew this, they looked at the interview, they caught that interview, they downloaded the whole interview and they started posting and going on YouTube: Jay Smith's channel, David Wood's channel, every channel, they were bombarding saying that, "See guys, the Quran was never perfectly preserved and what is your argument?" and when this apologetic people started exposing this

interview, you know what happened; that guy took away his interview from his channel, this guy deleted that part from his interview and when that interview part was deleted, people got more curious. And what happened was, there were so many people who openly, publicly came and said, “You know what, we are leaving Islam.” And who was caught in this crossfire is this guy Mohammed Hijab; he is a bully of the first order. And when this came to know that he was exposed; you know what he started doing? He started sending hate tweeters to everybody who was opposing him: on YouTube, on twitter, harassing, calling names to their wives and this is essentially the spirit of the bully and you know one thing? I respect David Wood, however controversial he might seem to you; this guy stood up and it’s something which I don’t want to mention right now; if you are curious, you can go online and see what he did.

You stand up to a bully! You stand up to a bully! And you know what they did? Those guys went and said, “You have to call him down from Patreon. This is appealing to all these people saying that, ‘you know what, these guys get a lot of money from Patreon. Don’t subscribe to this Patreon account anymore.’” And the very next day in David Wood’s channel, 200 people were subscribing to his Patreon channel and his income increased, because he stands up to a bully. See, I will tell you something, this is happening in the mainstream media, this is very important okay. There was a recent post on one of the channels where somebody was mentioning about the persecution of Christians in some other nation; especially in Muslim nations and you know what happened? YouTube took it off from YouTube’s platform saying that it is hate speech. And you should see all these guys who stood up and fought this bullying spirit. It is there; you cannot tolerate these things. There will be a bullying spirit. You cannot tolerate wrong doctrine which leads people astray; we need to have people like Apostle Paul who will look at Elymas and say, “You, son of the devil; enemy of all righteousness, you, who do not cease to pervert the straight ways of God,” full of the Holy Spirit. There is a mind blinding spirit which is happening, which is trying to take the people away from the right way and they are all intelligent people like Sergius Paulus, right? *Acts 13*, if I am right. He is an intelligent man and you have this Elymas, the Sorcerer trying to resist this Gospel so that he could take these people away from the Church and what will happen? This guy will withstand him. He is not going to be silent—you know Paul is Paul, right? He will call anybody anything.

See, you cannot be nice, you cannot be politically correct, you should be willing to take correction like that. Lot of people like things to be put in nice way, right? “You have to be very pastoral in your counseling.” Come on, guys! I think we have to come to a point wherein we can take correction little more bluntly, right? I hope so! “Full of deceit, full of fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness,” boy! It’s like Jesus, right, “You whitewashed tombs! You brood of vipers!”

You tolerate; you cannot tolerate these things, you cannot tolerate false doctrine, you not tolerate sin, you cannot! In your life. Remember Cain?! **“Cain, Cain, why are you angry? Sin is crouching at the door and its desire is to have you, in other words, it wants to control you, but you should master it or him”** actually, in the KJV. He wants to have you, you should master over him, you should rule over him, you should have dominion over sin; you cannot tolerate, you cannot tolerate sin, that is the reason why we have to be radical: it says in

### **Matthew 18:6**

***“But even if you cause these little children who believe in me to stumble, it is better for you to have a milestone around your neck and drown into the sea,”*** and then it says, ***“If your right hand causes you to stumble, if your eye causes you to stumble, chop it off. It is better for you not to have these, than to cause one of these little children to stumble,”*** otherwise the church will be bereft.

You cannot tolerate all these things; you cannot tolerate false doctrine. You have to keep on checking, “Lord, what am I listening to?” That is the one of the reasons why, “take heed how you listen, take heed what you listen” and it’s not just these two, *John 7:17* will say—you know this very well, how you listen is this way,

***17 If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority,***

In other words, I could be preaching or anybody from this pulpit could be preaching the most powerful, anointed, right, doctrinally correct word, but because you do not have the will to do His will, you will not understand: it will be closed. Understand this okay, there is evil water and there is bareness. How you see that? I was talking to somebody the other day on phone, he was telling me, "Vijay, even during this pandemic, the prosperity gospel preachers are still talking about prosperity and they have followers," see! Pastor was saying, "We don't speak poverty, we don't preach poverty, we say - seek first the Kingdom of God, forget about the rest, He will take care."

What has happened? You tolerate: it's okay, it's okay. You know what? You need to have somebody who will stand up and say, "We are not going to tolerate this, we are not going to allow this, we will not allow this manipulating or bullying spirit to control us, no way; we will stand up to it and say, 'Lord, we will have all the love in our heart but firmness in our mind, all the love in our heart but firmness in our mind and we will stand up,'" because it will not stop. That is the reason why there should be one day, a confrontation on Mount Carmel. What is it? The demonstration of Spirit and power and all debate will be over, simple. All debates will close that time. Everybody will know who is God. Think about this, what happens to Sergius Paulus? I mean it's powerful.

### **Acts 13:10**

**<sup>10</sup> and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord?"**

Oh, Paul! You have to be loving, Paul! What kind of language is that? You would be hurting their feelings. My goodness! Emotions and feelings are such horrible deceivers, you know that? People controlled by emotions, absolutely no substance at all. Oh, you will hurt their feelings.

**<sup>11</sup> And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time."**

You see this is how you deal with this, remember there is this other guy when Peter goes to Samaria, what's his name? Simon, the sorcerer. In Telegu the word is very interesting, 'Gharadi wadu' it means you will do maya, jaadu, jaadugar. And Peter looks at him and he says, "You are in the gall of bitterness. Repent of this, perhaps God will forgive your sin," 'perhaps,' that means you are gone already. You see, this is how you withstand these things. These are spirits of sorcery of defeat, of deception, and they try to bully you: we do not tolerate that even over our own lives and we don't want to listen to this voice. So, cut of these voices, we do not tolerate compromising doctrines, no way. There is one doctrine; the doctrine of Christ, we will come to that.

**<sup>11</sup> And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time." And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand.** That's actually his original state, he is blind leading the blind. Both will fall in the ditch.

**<sup>12</sup> Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord.**

You see, Elymas the sorcerer. I mean there is a spirit of sorcery and there is going to be a confrontation in the last days. You think about this, if this happens on a debate platform, boy, uff! That will be an awesome debate platform. And imagine this okay, you finish blind, all the followers will see and they will get stunned—and this Sergius Paulus is an intelligent fellow, by the way: they are sensible people, they have been blinded because of the spirit and there should be a guy who will confront this in the last days, who will not tolerate it when he sees one. Remember, Paul is like that; he doesn't care about his life. These are the people who didn't care anything about their lives, their lives were not anything to them. This girl is running after him saying, "These are the servants of the Most High," and he knows that she has a python spirit, the spirit of divination, he rebukes that; it's gone. He is not going to be deceived, a man who is filled with Holy Spirit. This is what actually it says in verse Acts 13:9-10,



**Acts 13:9-10**

***<sup>9</sup> Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him <sup>10</sup> and said, “O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord?”***

“Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him <sup>10</sup> and said,” in other words, he looked right into his eyes, right into his eyes. That’s how you look at a lion who is trying to intimidate you. You should see national geographic okay. A bunch of two lean guys—two guys or three guys may be, and there is a pride of lions which is eating a prey and they have to steal the prey. What are they going to do? Are they going to use the gun? Are they going to use the stick? No, they are not going to do anything, they are just going to stare at the lion like that. Two lean guys; I am not kidding, as lean as Emmanuella may be. (She will be upset with me but it’s true, okay). Two lean guys and they just look at the lion like that and they keep moving toward the lion and there is a bunch of seven, eight lions; a pride, lioness and lion and the male is even more aggressive and you should see these guys go there and the lions scoot off in different directions. You should see that in National Geographic.

I remember when I was at the Gideons, I was doing a Bible study there from some time back, this brother from South Africa had come. He was telling me, “You know brother Vijay, we used to live near the African jungles and one of the things we have been told: whenever you see a lion, you don’t run, you stare back at it.” I said, boy, not for me. I run from a lizard, but I get the point. You see, you stare back at the lion. That’s how they try to intimidate you, you don’t buckle down, you stare back.

“Who is this fellow? Uncircumcised Philistine.” This bullying spirit of Goliath, okay. All Scripture is about, who? About Jesus. That’s exactly what he did. He looked at this Goliath, he looked at him and said, “Who is this fellow? He is going to kill me? I am going to use his entire force against him.” It’s one of the techniques in Judo if I am right, they used their entire force against him. That fellow will come with full force and he uses like this and uses against and that fellow will fall. That’s exactly how Jesus did. Full force Satan came on the Cross and what he did? He disarmed them. Kya baat hai! Principalities and powers of darkness and made them a public specter and it says, “*for had the princes of this world known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.*” What a verse in *1 Corinthians chapter 2!*

That is why Paul says, “*When I came to you, I did not come with excellency of speech, not with eloquence, so that your faith must not stand in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.*” It says, “*I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.*” But we speak wisdom, hidden wisdom. That is revelation which will disarm. So, we don’t tolerate, we do not tolerate those things, those lies, we withstand them. It doesn’t matter how intimidating that might seem, we say no way, we are not tolerating this, in our own lives, and we will allow ourselves to be confronted by the way, okay. We will be like Paul and Peter. Peter will allow himself to be confronted and finally he will say, “*Like our dear brother Paul writes according to the wisdom that God has given him and people perverted as they pervert other scriptures.*” And here what he is saying? He is calling the letter of Paul as Scripture. Thank God for humble brothers in the Church.

The Church is being bereft. You know why? Because we tolerate; tolerate bad water and we sell ourselves.

**1 Kings 21:25**

***<sup>25</sup> But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up.***

That’s a very powerful word, right? Who gave himself, who turned himself, to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord, because of Jezebel, his wife, who stirred him up. Don’t sell it, don’t sell yourself. *Proverbs 23:23*, look at what it says.

**Proverbs 23:23**

***<sup>23</sup>Buy the truth, and do not sell it,***

***Also wisdom and instruction and understanding.***

In other words, what does 'buy the truth' means? Paying the price for it. What is that? Pay the price. See, it is not necessarily money, I understand that but invest on also, okay. Buy, buy truth. In other words, you have to pay the price for truth in your life, you have to pay the price. Inconvenience, it will be inconvenient to you. Four things you should buy: truth, wisdom, instruction and understanding and don't sell it for stupid things like food. That's the reason why, how we look at man of God and respect man of God is so important. I am talking about authentic man of God, okay. It says, "Those who labor in the Word should be counted worthy of double honor." I know you can translate it in many ways, it's a linear equation basically, right. If you are given x-amount of honor, the person who labors should be given, what is that? 2x, thank you, thank you. Psychology student is getting better than math, okay, than computer science, no problem. 2x amount of honor, okay, x+x, think about that, think about that. So, Peter, if you want 20,000 rupees, what should he be worthy of? Ah, double honor. I am not saying that you should pay me. See, let me tell you what it means, the guy in the company who is highest paid is the most valuable asset, right? That's what it means. Why do companies retain talent and say, "Oh, you are leaving?" Somebody was leaving whom I know very well; one of my relatives, he was leaving a company for another and they said, "Why are you leaving? What are they giving you?" 'oh, they are giving me so much...so much.' "We will give you the same plus this, can you stay back." It is not the quantity of money, but how much you value that asset; that is what I am talking about.

You see. Think about it, how it is in so many places, like Pastor comes for birthday function, marriage function, wedding function, engagement function, before engagement function, after engagement function-when is he studying the Word? Ah, I am giving you prastaav, means priest will get that offering, right? He will come and do mantra and pooja, we will give you prastaav. That's how they treat the Pastor. They won't release him, they won't back him up and say, "You know what, Pastor, you study; we are there." It's like those guys who put Paul down the rope, you know, he is precious! The voice of God.

See, we understand all of these in material terms, we understand talent in material terms, we understand resumes in material term and we want to retain the best. I remember one of my professors, one of the students wanted to leave for another lab; he went to his hostel room and stood before him till he opened the door. I was laughing to myself, he was waiting till the student got up and he opened the door and the professor was right in front of him in the hostel, "Please don't leave my lab," that guy was shocked, "Okay Sir, I will not leave, I will stay in your lab." That is how they look at their students, they value.

See. Understand these things my dear brothers, these are fundamental lessons, okay. We are not talking about monetary benefits, I just gave you an example, I am talking about how you value them and pray for them. That's why Paul says, "Pray for us that we can be given utterance, that we can preach the Word of God with boldness and with clarity and with authority." You see, there are two things: there is a bullying spirit which is authoritarian and there are people with authority. These are two different things. Authoritarian; that fellow has no truth; therefore, he has to spank and say, "Obey me." Authority is like you know, you have tested it, it has got empirical data that it works, it's proven, okay. So, even if you say: I don't believe in gravity, I will not obey it and you jump, you prove the existence of gravity. That is authority. That is the reason why it says in *Romans 1:31-32*—look at what it says, fantastic two verses.

**Romans 1:31-32**

***<sup>31</sup> undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; <sup>32</sup> who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, you not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.***

You know the word for deserving in Greek is áxio from which we get the word axiom. What is axiom in mathematics? Something which need not have any proof: two parallel lines meeting in infinity, they meet but in infinity. That is the exact definition, okay. They meet, so do we need proof for that? No! it's a fact, it is axiomatic.

They know that those who practices such things, they axiomatically deserve to die. So, what do they do? They use authoritarianism in order to truth. That is the spirit of Jezebel and Balaam or whatever it is; it's a spirit, it's a manipulating spirit, it's a bullying spirit. Authority and authoritarianism are totally different and what did Jesus have? Authority. What did the Pharisees have? Authoritarianism. They hushed up the matter, they plummeted people into some submission but Jesus, He just had to go and preach and demons would fly from there and they would say, "What kind of teaching, what kind of doctrine is this?" That is authority! That is authority my dear brothers. So, buy truth: *Proverbs 23:23*, in other words, put a premium on this and listen to the people who will inspire you to go and seek the truth with all of your heart and there are many truth seekers and I hope we are one among them. And what will happen to us? It will cost us; it will cost us. Do you want to go away? "To whom can we go Lord? You and you alone have the words of life." Buy the truth and do not sell it, do not sell it. You know why? If you listen to false doctrine, you will be bewitched then you will sell yourself, then you will compromise the next generation. So, what is the solution to this?

*2 Kings 2:19*, let us read that again.

### **2 Kings 2:19**

***<sup>19</sup> Then the men of the city said to Elisha, "Please notice, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees; but the water is bad, or evil and the ground barren, bereft of its fruit, it's robbed." <sup>20</sup> And he said, "Bring me a new bowl, and put salt in it." So they brought it to him. <sup>21</sup> Then he went out to the source of the water, and cast in the salt there, and said, "Thus says the Lord: 'I have healed this water; from it there shall be no more death or barrenness.'" So, what is the remedy for barrenness? 'death and barrenness,' you see that? That means you being bereft right? Salt. What is salt? Grace.***

*Colossians 4:6*, you know this verse very well but we will see this verse again.

### **Colossians 4:6**

***<sup>6</sup> Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.***

That is something; that means grace should not be taken away. What is grace? Grace of God: It is a teaching which brings you to God, it is a teaching which makes you to overcome, you have been saved by grace through faith. And again, we will see *Titus 2:11-15* in NIV and we know this verse very well. Verse 11-13 in NIV and 14-15 in KJV or NKJV, okay, that will be very interesting.

### **Titus 2:11-15**

***<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives, where? *in this present age*, and how do we do it? <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope-the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.***

***<sup>14</sup> Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. <sup>15</sup> These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.***

In other words, let your teaching work in your own lives first. Prove it in your own life, let people see when he's speaking, he is speaking the truth, there is authority.

So, come back to the teaching which will exhort you to live a life which is self-controlled, which is upright, which is godly, that we will give up; which we will say 'no,' to ungodliness and worldly passions; self-controlled, upright and godly lives. And you know what happens? Grace comes back and we will be able to save, not only ourselves, but also the next generation. Alright! Let's look at the second kind of barrenness that's found in *Genesis 11:29* onwards.

### **Genesis 11:29**

***<sup>29</sup> Then Abram and Nahor took wives: the name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and the father of Iscah. <sup>30</sup> But Sarai was barren; she had no child.***

In other words, she had the inability to conceive. You know, the other word for no child is 'olad,' from which we get the word aulad. "Aulad nahi hai." A lot of Hebrew words are used in both Arabic, Urdu and in Hindi as well. So, what is this kind of a barrenness? Now, this kind of barrenness is not the one which we talked about first. There are seven people who are barren in the Bible, okay. First, you will see Sarai—yesterday, Pastor was praying about it, remember? If you were tuned to the prayer, last, he was mentioning about—in the ninth month, then he was talking about different women in the Bible. You see Sarai was barren; Rebecca was barren; Rachel was barren; Mrs. Manoah was barren because Manoah's wife's name if not mentioned, okay; and then you had Hannah who was barren; the Shunamite woman and then Elizabeth is in the New Covenant. That's interesting; seven women in the Bible who are specifically mentioned and this word barren, which is the word 'aqarah is used with these women; it occurs 12 times in the Bible, which also means hamstrung, meaning, having no ability to produce anything that is of value to God and in each of these lessons of barrenness, I want to look at two couples; the first couple and the last couple, and that is enough. So, we look at the nut and we will look at the bolt and we will try to understand some lessons today.

First, of course, we looked at Abraham and Sarah and the last couple—both in the beginning of the Old Covenant from Abraham and the beginning of the New Covenant with Zechariah and Elizabeth. And you will see that Sarah was barren—her name was Sarai when she was barren and it says in *Genesis 17:1*, look at what it says,

### **Genesis 17:1-6**

***<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. KJV uses the word 'perfect' for blameless, okay.***

***<sup>2</sup> And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." <sup>3</sup> Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: <sup>4</sup> "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. <sup>5</sup> No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. <sup>6</sup> I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.***

Now that's interesting right? Look at the words over here! "*No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham and you shall be exceedingly fruitful,*" Interesting! Abram; Abraham; exceedingly fruitful. Now think about this, two things are happening over here. First, name changed. Till now, you were Abram - exalted father; now, Abraham - father of many nations. I remember this, I think I have mentioned this some time back; Abram to Abraham we have 'he,' which is added. 'He,' is the fifth letter in the Hebrew alphabet. 'he,' means 'ha,' from which you get the word 'ruach,' or the breath. So, what is going to happen to Abraham? God is going to breathe into Abraham His Holy Spirit and He is going to breathe into Sarai and make her Sarah and both of them are the deadness of Abraham and the deadness of Sarah, absolutely fruitless, what is going to come into their lives will be the Holy Spirit and something else also happens; on that very day, something else also happens. What is God asking to do? Circumcise.

You see, if you look at the entire Bible, whenever there is circumcision taking place, there is also something taking place. What is happening? Name change. On the eighth day Zechariah takes his son to the temple, to do what? To circumcise him and everybody calls him Zechariah junior. "No, no, no," mother says, 'John'" and he also writes his

name John and his mouth opens, it's a name change. In other words, your destiny is going to change on that day. Two things are happening simultaneously: the cutting of the flesh is happening and the infilling of the Holy Spirit; two things are happening. In order for you to be fruitful, two things have to happen: flesh has to be cut away and you have to be filled with the Holy Spirit. That is the reason why, *Philippians 3:3* will say,

**Philippians 3:3**

***<sup>3</sup> For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh,***

You know what Abraham is saying, "Oh Lord, Ishmael, Lord," God says, "No way, he is rejected. I am going to change you, I am going to put 'He' into you, I am going to put My fifth word, (that is the word five; five means what, five stands for grace, okay). And I am going to make you exceedingly fruitful."

"Rejoice you barren women," that is what it says in *Isaiah 54:1*, right? Look at what it says and this is exactly what Paul quotes in Galatians.

**Isaiah 54:1**

***"Sing, O barren, You who have not borne! Break forth into singing, and cry aloud, You who have not labored with child! For more are the children of the desolate Than the children of the married woman," says the Lord.***

"Exceeding fruitful, I am going to make you exceedingly fruitful. I am going to fill you with the Holy Spirit and you have to cut away your flesh." Two things happen: cutting away of your flesh and the infilling of your Holy Spirit. And you know what will happen? Your actual spiritual destiny, will start, of fruitfulness. That's the first lesson. The cutting away of the flesh and the infilling of the Holy Spirit; what does that mean? Whenever you have a situation—one of the studies that you can do, read the book of the Acts, not of the Apostles, acts of the Holy Spirit through the apostles, that is my translation of Acts. By the way, the Telegu translation has been written by the Baptists, because when it comes to the baptism of the Holy Spirit, you know what they say? "In the Holy Spirit" not 'by the Holy Spirit'.

One means; baptism in, I mean you will be baptized by the Holy Spirit. The other thing has a completely different meaning, it doesn't mean what we mean, actually. Then I said, "Oh, even these people when they translate the Bible, they have doctrinal spectacles in their mind and in their hearts when they write it." You should be very careful, okay. They change in Telegu Bible in so many places, and so many places, so many good things are there.

But if you look at the entire act—you can do a study, "Parishuddh aatma tho nimpapadi," in other words, the guy was filled with the Holy Spirit and he does something. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and they spoke the Word with boldness; Paul filled with the Holy Spirit looks at Elymas and says something; Stephen filled with the Holy Spirit and the faith does many miracles and his doctrine they are not able to gainsay; Stephen filled with the Holy Spirit sees the heavens open and Jesus (not sitting), standing at the right hand side of the Father. That's an incredible revelation. You see that the filling of the Holy Spirit has a very interesting—I mean, you do a study, you will really be blessed. But what I am saying is this: how do you come into fruitfulness is by the infilling of the Holy Spirit, there is no plan B, it is through the infilling of the Holy Spirit, it's the cutting away of the flesh and by being filled with the Holy Spirit, okay.

**Romans 4:19-22**

***<sup>19</sup> And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup> He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, <sup>21</sup> and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. <sup>22</sup> And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."***

The cutting away of the flesh and therefore, you will be filled with the Holy Spirit and you will have the ability to bring forth something of eternal value.

Let us look at the other couple. Let's look at *Luke 1:5-7*, and then verses 13 and 14.

**Luke 1:5-7, 13-14**

***<sup>5</sup>There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup>And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. <sup>7</sup>But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years.***

***<sup>13</sup>But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. <sup>14</sup>And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.***

Something very interesting about this barren couple. Five things are mentioned about them. First thing that is mentioned is: they were righteous before God. Second: they walked in all the commandments of God. Third: they walked in all the ordinances of God, both are different, okay, and fourth: they were blameless. Fifth: it says, they prayed; their prayer is heard. And then of course, you have this prophecy, this angel who comes and visits and you know the story.

See, we cannot produce barrenness in our own self, but we can prepare ourselves by the power of the Holy Spirit, so that we can position ourselves to be fruitful. So, what are the five things we have learned? First: they were righteous before the Lord and not before man. You see, what does that mean? It means three things. Turn with me to *Matthew 6:1*, NASB.

**Matthew 6:1**

***<sup>1</sup>Be aware of practicing your righteousness before men, to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.***

And He goes on to say three things: when you give, when you pray, and when you fast; three things. First, He says: when you give, don't give alms, that means there should be a practice of giving. Second, He says: when you pray, how do you pray? Not openly but going into your secret closet of your prayer and let there be no vain repetitions. And third thing He says: when you fast. So, three things. What are the three things? A life of giving; giving, how? giving in secret; a life of praying in secret and a life of fasting, how? In secret. These three things, specifically, I am talking about practical things because what is fasting? Fasting is humbling before God and we know that very well. First thing when you give; a life of giving, that means even if you see no ostensible fruit in your life, never say, "Lord, I have given so much," that's the reason don't be weary in doing good for in due season you will reap a harvest if you do not lose heart. Second: a life of prayer, where? In secret, a practice of the life of prayer and third thing, very important for us: a life of fasting, humbling yourself before God.

First thing which is mentioned is the righteousness before God and second - they walked in all the commandments of the Lord their God. What does that mean? It means obedient to the light that you have been given. No matter what their circumstances, they obeyed God to the light that they had. Now, look at John's Gospel 14, we will look at verses 15-16, and 19-21.

**John 14:15-16, 19-20**

***<sup>15</sup>"If you love Me, keep My commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever***

***<sup>19</sup>"A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also.***

***<sup>20</sup>At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.***

## Give Me Children Or I Die!

“He who has my commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves me,” so, there are two things over here; you have to have the commandments, then you have to obey the commandments. So, you have to increase in your understanding of what God’s commandments are and also have to increase in your obedience to what you have been given.

That is the reason why a priest had two things: he had the Urim and Thummim. Urim means he had light or rather lights, okay, and Thummim means perfections. So, Urim means—for one level, he had Urim, that means he had light to that level, he had grown into perfection to that level, okay, and now, the light is going to increase. Like today—in my home, my Abigail if my experimental platform, okay. I push her, I can push her; one thing I can do is, I can push her and she will take it, okay, she can sit and study. So, I raise the level from 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade now, 5<sup>th</sup> level is over and one of the things I said Abigail, “Silly mistakes are bad habits; calculation errors are bad habits; 100 is a given, we don’t compromise in that.” She is getting scared these days, but it’s okay, it’s good to get scared. So, 100 marks—I think it was three pages back, she got 98 because she made a silly error, silly error, okay. I said, “Abigail, silly error, Abigail; come on, you can do it.” From next time onwards, you should see that carefulness, the last page before she graduated; neatest handwriting that I have ever seen, the way even she cut away the factors—oh, perfect! And she even got frustrated with me, she memorized the entire page including the calculation. I was shocked, I was telling the numbers and she was giving me the answers—I didn’t even complete the problem: uh, something like ‘Ace had four things and three things...’ and she said, “12.” “How did you get that?” “Because I already memorized it.” She remembered the answers like it was EMCET examination, in EMCET examination, it’s like they don’t even look at the question; they look at the numbers and write the answer, that’s how they become so perfect. I said: good! Good! 5<sup>th</sup> level tak okay, abhi kya hua? 6<sup>th</sup> level.

What is happening? Urim is increasing, light is increasing. What do you need? Perfection to that light. Some people are 10<sup>th</sup> class (grade) 7<sup>th</sup> year. Which year? 10<sup>th</sup> class, metric pass but failed, something like that.

To that level, that is the reason why Urim and Thummim, they were blameless in all the commandments that they had and what God gave them? God gave them more light: Urim and Thummim, Urim and Thummim, Urim and Thummim.

Now the question is, God has given us all some light, we may not be at the level of Pastor James but at that level that you are: are you striving for perfection? I said, “Lord, to the light that I have, I want to be obedient.” It is not according to what one doesn’t have, but according to what one has. And these are habits. One point, “Give me the grace Lord, to the level that I have, I will be found blameless in the little things, including, keeping the house and church office in order.” It’s little thing may be, but no way, we are going to come to that level. Urim-Thummim. So they have commandments. Some people have commandments, tithing only they are still doing, that also with great difficulty: “Oh, I gave you the tithes, Lord, today, thank You Jesus.” See, think about these things, okay.

So, first thing: they were righteous before God, second: they have walked in all the commandments of the Lord, third thing: they walked in all the ordinances of God. So, what are these ordinances? Romans 1 again, verses 31 and 32.

### **Romans 1:31-32**

***<sup>31</sup> undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; <sup>32</sup> who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.***

So, what is the word ‘ordinance’ here? Judgement. How were they living? In the light of God’s judgement. First thing: they were righteous before God, second thing: they were walking in all the commandments of God that they had, third thing: they were living in the light of the final examination, okay. They were living in the light of final examination where everything will be tested by fire, in the light of judgement.

Turn with me to *Revelation 15:4*, look at these powerful verses.

**Revelation 15:4**

***<sup>4</sup>Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name?***

***For You alone are holy.***

***For all nations shall come and worship before You,***

***For Your judgments or ordinances have been manifested.”***

Everything will be judged and everyone will get reward according to his works. Scary verses!

**Isaiah 26:7-9**

***<sup>7</sup>The way of the just is uprightness; O Most Upright, You weigh the path of the just.***

And you know, Job says something very interesting, “He is testing me every moment,” that is how they lived. Why was he blameless? He was being tested and he knew he was being tested. Even not having a test is a test, by the way, ostensibly. Prosperity is a greater test; success is a greater test.

***<sup>8</sup> Yes, in the way of Your judgments, O Lord, we have waited for You; The desire of our soul is for Your name and for the remembrance of You. <sup>9</sup> With my soul I have desired You in the night, yes, by my spirit within me I will seek You early; for when Your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.***

“When Your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness,” think about it, think about it, in everything that happens in this world, do we see the judgement of God? Do you think that God is there in the midst of it? He may not be the cause of it, but is He allowing it? What is He teaching us? See. They lived a righteous life before God, they followed and obeyed all the commandments of God, third thing; they lived in the light of God.

**Isaiah 26:10-12**

***<sup>10</sup> Let grace be shown to the wicked, Yet he will not learn righteousness; In the land of uprightness he will deal unjustly, And will not behold the majesty of the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Lord, when Your hand is lifted up, they will not see. But they will see and be ashamed For their envy of people; Yes, the fire of Your enemies shall devour them. <sup>12</sup> Lord, You will establish peace for us, for You have also done all our works in us.***

Living in the light of God, that is the reason why in 2 Peter 3:10-13 says,

**2 Peter 3:10-13**

***<sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. <sup>11</sup> Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, <sup>12</sup> looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? <sup>13</sup> Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.***

Living in the light of the final examination. Actually, you will be scared, right? “Will this come in the exam? Professor, will this come in the exam?” You know, one of the best things; learn the text and obey it to the best of your ability—I mean to the light of knowledge that you have, obey, and then you will not be ashamed on that day; you will be confident. You wrote an entrance exam, you are not looking for rank, you are looking for which rank—and some people, Hey! Ill top the exam! All India rank 100,” and they are so confident. I am telling you; I have seen such people like that, “Top 100, no question about that.” I mean, in so many people—there are lakhs and lakhs of people going to give this exam, you are so sure that you are going to top 100? “Absolutely.” That is the level of preparation. Do you think it’s like, “Will this come in the exam, Sir?”



I tell my students, whatever comes out of my mouth, you are responsible, finish; there ends the matter. You are accountable for every word that comes out of my mouth. Understand that, live in the light of final examination. And you know what happens? Everything will fall in order; I have seen that. When EMCET examination is coming—I remember those days, oh, even to sleep 15 minutes extra was a problem. Some people were so crazy that they thought if they sleep 15 minutes extra, they will lose one rank. I dwelt among such people, I know what I am talking about; they were crazy fellows, crazy. Entrance exam those days, I was ashamed of myself but I learned a lot from them. That is the reason why it says, “If these people work for perishable crown, how much more you and I?” live in the light of God’s judgement.

First thing: they were righteous before God. Second: they had the commandments of the Lord and they obeyed the commandments of the Lord. Third thing: they lived in the light of the God. Fourth: they were blameless. Blameless, meaning what? They put short accounts with God. Whenever they fail, they repented. They said, “Lord, I don’t just want to repent, I want to overcome.” “I don’t just want to be a mistake in the problem, next time when the problem comes in any shape or form, I should be able to solve it,” in your language or my language. Understand; blameless or complete, or perfect. That is the reason why it says in *Hebrew 6:1-2*,

### **Hebrew 6:1-2**

***<sup>1</sup>Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, <sup>2</sup> of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.***

What is the meaning of perfection? Completion. It is not that you are mistake-less or sinless, we are not talking about that at all, in fact, *1 John 5:5* will say, “If any man says that he is without sin, he makes God a liar.” No, no, no. *If we confess, He is faithful and He is just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all our unrighteousness* and before God, you will have clean slate. We have short accounts with God; short accounts with men. You said something out of turn, immediately call and apologize. What do you do? Call and apologize. Difficult, right? Maybe it is easy to send one flower, but to say sorry? For some people, it is very difficult to say sorry. If it is very difficult for you to say sorry, you should say sorry. What did I say? If it is very difficult for you to say sorry, you should say sorry, then you know that you are humble. Sometimes you have to really cringe, I mean that’s what David Wood really said to Mohammed Hijab, “Take down your tweets, take down your tweets and apologize, swallow your pride and apologize.” Very funny actually, it’s going on in the internet, okay, big war is going on.

Be blameless, short account with God. Fifth one: they prayed. What does that mean? They never gave up, never, ever gave up. It’s what we call as importunate—you remember that widow? “Grant me justice! Grant me vengeance from my adversary.” Turn to *Luke 18:1-2*.

### **Luke 18:1-2**

***<sup>1</sup>Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,***

When do you not lose heart? Your wife is barren, you are also very old and you are still praying, yeah! Still praying! Still holding on! “Lord, my life should be of value, I cannot be like this Lord, give me children or I die.”

***<sup>2</sup>saying: “There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man.***

***<sup>3</sup>Now there was a widow in that city; in other words, barren, right? and she came to him, saying, ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’ <sup>4</sup>And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’”***

***<sup>6</sup>Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. <sup>7</sup>And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”***

## Give Me Children Or I Die!

You know what that means? These were people of faith till the last. Even if they didn't see anything, they said, "You know what, my life will be of some value, I will not give up, I will not give up." One of the easiest thing people do, especially the young age is that; they give up easily, they so easily give up. That's because we live in a society or in a culture of solution manuals, right? Because we want everything easy. Okay, we can't fix our battery, what do we do? YouTube: 'How to fix battery' video; it comes immediately. I had one brother who graduated from IIT, he is not there with us now; I asked him, "What do you do in your company?" 'Pastor, google search; cut, copy, paste and take salary.' I said, "Baba, kya baat hai!" Arre itna google search ke liye tum log IIT gaye? Kya baat hai. So, you have problem—model no. AI 1465 is not working, what do we do? Google/YouTube. That is how it is.

That is the kind of generation, who doesn't know what it is tarry in prayer; think about the problem, tell me what is the answer, we have don't have that tenacity. We had an old Professor called TRK Rao, I don't know if he is still alive, I am not wishing that he should die; when we would go to him, he would give us an assignment. We say, "Sir, this problem we are not getting, how do we solve this problem, Sir?" He used to say, "There is a Banyan tree over there, sit under that and meditate." You wouldn't believe, that's exactly what he told us, "I am not giving you the solution, I am not." "How to solve the problems, sorry, you are not going to get from me." But the exams are very tough, if you get -1, you will get 'A.' Sometimes, zero gets A, "Oh, he got a Zero, very good! You did very well this time."

This is remarkable! So, this kind of Professors are not there anymore. You didn't get a solution? Come on, search man! Google search, this search, that search... by the time it is evening, the solution is there, you don't have to wait anymore. We take the same thing to God—"Lord!!?" Tenacity in prayer, tenacity in prayer.

You see, do you think, from barrenness to fruitfulness is some one simple formula?! What do you think? I am going to give you a formula! No, I am going to give you attitude. What is that attitude that we need to have? Like Derek Prince said, "One way to get long suffering..." and everyone was looking at him, may be 3-steps to long suffering: "is to suffer long." But the point is this, time is winding up, everything is coming to a close. We have to have this urgency in our own heat, "Lord, give me children or I die; give me children or I die!"

My life should value for something, I see Church being bereft of children because they have allowed false, dirty doctrine, bad water to come into the Church. I want to be a guy who will withstand that in my own life, who will not compromise the truth in my own life, I will receive the love of truth in my own life, I will not tolerate for any other things except the truth for myself; however difficult it might seem for me to accept it, I will not tolerate, Lord, because Law came from Moses, what came through Jesus? Grace and Truth came from Jesus Christ! That is the reason why we take part of the Table this morning, right? He broke it, He took the bread and He broke it telling us, "*Without Me, you can do nothing. If My words abide in you and you abide in Me, whatever you ask of My Father, I will give it to you, for without Me you can do nothing.*" And we say, "Lord, Lord, ninth month is coming and one cry in my heart, give me children or I die," whatever that is, let that be your heart. Amen!

### **Pastor James:**

Hallelujah!! As we come to the Table, meditate on the Word that you have heard. You know, Rachel, in her desperation, for other reasons, cried, "Give me children or I die!". Thousands of years later a man called,.... Took the same cry and prayed, "Give me Scotland or let me die!" And Scotland was saved. So, these are spiritual cries. So, we have to always keep the Word in picture. I was thinking, like Ps. Vijay was talking about EMCET – 100 rank, in India everybody understands that example. Think about in eternity everybody standing, it's a multitude, like a sea; 5 billion or 8 billion saved in eternity and we are all waiting for the rank list. And Peter has his rank 144,001. Will you be happy? You are out! You are not in the 144,000. 144001 means you will not follow the Lamb where ever He goes. But in India, out of 8 billion if you got 144001 rank, people will be very happy, but in Heaven you will realize that you use missed it all eternity to follow Him.

That's why I like that - it is not seven steps; it is attitudes.

Today we all use Google; google is there to help you. And in my house, I have a kid called, “Siri”, when I call Siri, the kid answers and my Apple also answers. Sometimes the kid is faster than the Apple. That’s exactly what has happened in the Church. I keep telling my wife, “You know what, you keep praying for the same people for years. You are not making them prayer warriors. They are just out-sourcing their prayers. It is not good.”

Learn to pray. Please remember, God is looking for people who will pray. Ultimately that is what we need; we need people who will pray. We don’t need too many people who preach, because that’s why the error has come in. You see if you are closed in your secret place with God, you cannot go wrong there; it is impossible to go wrong in the secret place. You can go wrong in the public place if you are praying. It is impossible for a man to get into his room, unseen by anybody, and pray, God will correct him. You cannot go wrong there, it is impossible to go wrong there. And the Church need people like that in the last days; a multitude which will shut in; nobody knows them, nobody sees them, but (like I keep saying) God sees. Whole of Damascus doesn’t see, they have no clue, but God sees. God says, “Go there, go to that house, there is a man called Saul of Tarsus, behold he prays.” Nobody had any idea. It just took three days and his destiny is decided.

### Closing Prayer

*Father, we just come to You this morning, we just want to thank You Lord, we just want to thank You Lord, thank You, thank You, thank You, Lord. Everyone who is barren, let them cry out, let them cry out to the God who makes men fruitful. The Lord who sends the rain of the Holy Spirit that we may be fruitful, You said, “Abide in Me and My Word in you, and whatever you ask, the Father will give you. It is to My Father’s glory that you bear much fruit.” Even when He hung on the cross, He was bearing fruit. The Spirit of God comes and dwells and fills in every situation: God says, “You will bear fruit, you will not be barren.” Joseph bore fruit in his father’s house, he bore fruit in Potiphar’s house as a slave, he bore fruit in the prison with fetters around his neck and feet and then when he was released he bore fruit as prince of Egypt and Jacob would bless him: “Joseph is a fruitful bough, planted by the well, his branches will go over the wall,” and that’s my prayer for all who are listening today - you will be a fruitful bough planted by the well of God and you will go over the wall, you will not just be a blessing to your family, to your household; you will be a blessing to many households. “Ask of Me and I shall give you the nations as your inheritance,” is the cry from Heaven. He said, “You do not have because you do not ask.” Ask, ask, ask for things which will last in eternity, ask for things that will bring glory to the Father, ask for things that have eternal weight, ask. God said, “You will receive.”*

*Look back to the history of men and women of God, they tarried, they waited, they cried, they asked and God gave them nations. Father, we too stand in the gap and we ask for mercy, mercy, mercy, mercy: multitude, multitudes in the valley of decision and the day of the Lord is near, Lord, we ask for mercy for our nation—1.3 billion, they do not know their left from the right and the day of the Lord is near. We ask for mercy, mercy, mercy, Lord, mercy. 2 billion Muslims in the world, Lord, they do not know their right from the left, about grace and mercy, we cry for mercy, mercy, mercy, Lord. A billion catholic brethren, Lord, caught in idolatry. Oh Father, we look—all we can cry is mercy, mercy, mercy, Lord, do not close the gates of grace, Lord; do not withdraw Your Holy Spirit, Lord. We look in our homes, we look in our families, we look everywhere Lord, people are blinded by the world or by the Law, blinded; they are not able to see the perfect glowing face of Jesus where there is liberty. They have been bitten by the snakes, they are dying of the poison, if only they would lift up their heads and look at Him who was crucified for our redemption. Oh Father, we cry out for mercy, mercy, mercy, because there is no other name given under the Heaven but the name of Jesus through which salvation may be found. There is no other mediator between God and men but the Man Jesus. Oh Father, we are not politically correct, we are not ashamed of that name, we will declare that name, we will cry out in that name and we are crying out even now in the name of Jesus; Father, have mercy, mercy, mercy, have mercy Lord.*

*The last Christian nation standing, U.S.A, Lord, have mercy, mercy, mercy. Judgment is there, it is so close and they are banging like those blind people on Lot’s door in Sodom without knowing 12 hours later, the city will be burned up and there would be nothing left and U.S is facing that same hour, they are crying out for liberty for sin, and not*

## **Give Me Children Or I Die!**

*for liberty from sin, but we, Lord, cry out for mercy for them because we cannot forget the labor of their forefathers, many of them who came to this land, lived among us, died and buried among us. We heard the Gospel because of their forefathers. We will not look down on the white men, we will not look down on the white race, because white men are buried all over India for the sake of the Gospel, we will not judge them by the color of their skin because they laid down their life for us, their blood was shed on this land. So we cry out, it's our time to stand in the gap for them because when we were in darkness and blindness, they stood up in the gap for us. We were not righteous people, we were like Elymas; this land was a land of sorcery, caught in the gall of bitterness but they left their homes, they left their land, travelled for months together in fragile boats and ships and came and lived among us and preached the Gospel, learned the language, wrote the script; they are the ones who learned our languages and made the script and wrote the Bible and gave it to us in our own tongue and we, now, stand for them, their children, we pray Lord, have mercy, have mercy, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on U.S, have mercy on U.S, Lord.*

*When Israel cried out in Egypt, Your Word says that You heard their groaning and remembered Your covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, today we pray, Lord, remember their forefathers, have mercy on their children, Lord. We ask for mercy, Lord, extend Your hand of mercy over that land, Lord. Let the gate of grace not be closed, extend Lord, extend, over U.S, over Britain, over Europe. That one vision Paul saw, Lord; that man from Macedonia, he obeyed that vision and the Gospel went to the Europe and the Gospel went from Europe to the ends of the world. It was not Asia that took the Gospel to the ends of the world, it was Europe. We do not know why? But God's history records it was the white man who took the Gospel to the ends of the world and we will not look down upon them, we will not look down upon them.*

*We thank You Lord, we thank You Lord, there is not one state in India where a white servant of God is not buried. Have mercy, have mercy on these nations. One more time, Lord, one more time, breathe upon these nations; one more time, let Your Holy Spirit sweep over these nations, one more time, Lord, one more time. It's our turn, Lord, to cry out for them. White man like D.L Moody went almost blind because he dyed his hair to look like Chinese, so that nothing would be obstacle to the Gospel he was preaching. Oh, Father! Have mercy, have mercy, touch these lands, touch these nations. One more time, let the Spirit that was on Elijah; the double portion that was on Elisha, one more time You said, "The former and the latter rain shall be come together," and we are thirsty, the spiritual Israel is thirsty, pour out Your Spirit, Lord, once more, we wait, we wait. Oh Father, we just thank You, we just thank You, Lord. I commit the Church into Thy hands, GTC worldwide, everywhere and all those who are listening, joined together with us, let Your healing virtue flow. By faith we believe, the train of Your robe is filling the temple and by faith like that woman, Lord, we reach out and touch the hem of Your robe, let Your virtue flow into every sick body, into every troubled heart, let virtue flow even now, let it flow, let it flow, Lord, and let people be made whole. For You came to set the captives free, even today You have come to set us free, even today You have come and walking in our midst to destroy the works of the devil and make us whole, and by faith we receive it Lord, for whom the Son sets free is free indeed. Oh, we just thank You! We praise You; we worship You; we glorify You Lord; thank You, thank You, thank You, Father, thank You Lord. Wherever Your people are in the homes, in the hallways, wherever they are, by faith believing that Word has sanctified us, believing that the emblems of the Body and Blood we part took has sanctified us, in Your sanctuary we lift up holy hands and we bless Your holy name, we bless Your holy name, we bless Your holy name and we lift our mouths and we will proclaim Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever and ever.*

*And all God's people say in Jesus' name, Amen, Amen, Amen.*

### **Benediction:**

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

God Bless You!