

Faithfulness and Gratefulness Rewarded

(Part 3)

⁴¹ Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy^[b] met him. They stood at a distance ¹³ and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” ¹⁴ When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. ¹⁵ One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶ He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?” ¹⁸ Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.” (Luke 17:11-19)

God in every day is doing for us great and wonderful things in our lives. Every day you wake up in the morning God has already did a miracle in your life. Some time you see it in your eyes and sometime not yet visible to you but you receive that through your faith in the Lord and your trust in His mighty power. Therefore the choice to be faithful to the Lord is something that we have to adopt because God is always at work in our lives and His grace is so abundant and that would compel us to be faithful to Him.

Now if we chose to be faithful to the Lord then we will be more blessed. Faithfulness toward the Lord is a positive reinforcement for us to discern more of His power and enjoy more of His blessings in our lives.

The Lord says in **John 10:10** “*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*” Faithfulness toward the Lord we should adopt in our lives as way of living, knowing, convinced and assured that the Lord is faithful and He will reward us for all our faithfulness toward Him. The Lord have seen how that leprous man responded to His grace and therefore He rewarded him and add more blessings in his life when He told him, “*Rise and go; your faith has made you well.*”

A- Rise: Jesus enabled that leprous man to stand on his ground. The word Rise here it means that the Lord ordained this man and approved him as His servant. The same for us as God is doing a great miracle and favour in our lives and we respond faithfully to Him, then the Lord great work and anointing will move in our lives. The word rise is to come up out from weakness toward power. We have good example from the bible: Balaam spoke the following to Balak who summoned him to curse the people of God; he said to him the following: “*I have received a command to bless; he has blessed, and I cannot change it. “No misfortune is seen in Jacob, no misery observed in Israel. The LORD their God is with them; the shout of the King is among them. God brought them out of Egypt; they have the strength of a wild ox.*” ²³ *There is no divination against Jacob, no evil omens against Israel. It will now be said of Jacob and of Israel, ‘See what God has done!’*” ²⁴ *The people rise like a lioness; they rouse themselves like a lion that does not rest till it devours its prey and drinks the blood of its victims.*” (Numbers 23:20-24) As we prove our faithfulness toward the Lord, His anointing will go before us and will combat all the evil forces that our enemies and Satan may wage against us. With the anointing of Jesus we can combat witchcrafts, conspiracies and all human and devil politics and manipulations. Jesus said: “*I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will*

harm you.” (Luke 10:19) “²⁰ *The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.*” (Romans 16:20) Therefore let us rise and go forward and crush the power of the enemy, “*They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm.*” (Psalm 20:8)

The word rise it mean to move out from hiding to face the enemy as we can read in what God instructed Joshua how to take the city of Ai: “¹ *Then the LORD said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Take the whole army with you, and go up and attack Ai. For I have delivered into your hands the king of Ai, his people, his city and his land.*” ² *You shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king, except that you may carry off their plunder and livestock for yourselves. Set an ambush behind the city.*” ³ *So Joshua and the whole army moved out to attack Ai. He chose thirty thousand of his best fighting men and sent them out at night* ⁴ *with these orders: “Listen carefully. You are to set an ambush behind the city. Don’t go very far from it. All of you be on the alert.*” ⁵ *I and all those with me will advance on the city, and when the men come out against us, as they did before, we will flee from them.*” ⁶ *They will pursue us until we have lured them away from the city, for they will say, ‘They are running away from us as they did before.’ So when we flee from them,*” ⁷ *you are to rise up from ambush and take the city. The LORD your God will give it into your hand.*” ⁸ *When you have taken the city, set it on fire. Do what the LORD has commanded. See to it; you have my orders.*” (Joshua 8:1-7) So let us rise from where we are now and take possession to what the Lord had entrusted to us from ministry and fields of harvest.

The word ‘**Rise**’ from the mouth of the Lord it gives us the strength and the courage to face sin and wickedness. That what happened at the time of Ezra when God enabled him to face the issue of unfaithfulness of the Israelites in marrying non believers: “¹ *While Ezra was praying and confessing, weeping and throwing himself down before the house of God, a large crowd of Israelites—men, women and children—gathered around him. They too wept bitterly.*” ² *Then Shekariah son of Jehiel, one of the descendants of Elam, said to Ezra, “We have been unfaithful to our God by marrying foreign women from the peoples around us. But in spite of this, there is still hope for Israel.*” ³ *Now let us make a covenant before our God to send away all these women and their children, in accordance with the counsel of my lord and of those who fear the commands of our God. Let it be done according to the Law.*” ⁴ *Rise up; this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it.*” ⁵ *So Ezra rose up and put the leading priests and Levites and all Israel under oath to do what had been suggested. And they took the oath.*” ⁶ *Then Ezra withdrew from before the house of God and went to the room of Jehohanan son of Eliashib. While he was there, he ate no food and drank no water, because he continued to mourn over the unfaithfulness of the exiles.”* (Ezra 10:1-5) As we show our faithfulness to God He will enable us to face sin and deals with wickedness.

My Dear and Beloved: “*Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.*” (Isaiah 60:1) As you obey and show your faithfulness toward the Lord the anointing of the Holy Spirit will fall upon you and will ordain you to do God’s work and achieve His will as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life and life to the full. Lord I commit myself to be faithful to you. Lord anoints me and empowers me with your Holy Spirit to go on and serve you and carry on your will. This is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.*