

Faithfulness and Gratefulness Rewarded

(Part 4)

⁴¹ Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ⁴² As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy^[b] met him. They stood at a distance ⁴³ and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” ⁴⁴ When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. ⁴⁵ One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ⁴⁶ He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. ⁴⁷ Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?” ⁴⁸ Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” ⁴⁹ Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.” (Luke 17:11-19)

The Faithful leprous man who came back to the Lord he did God’s will. His action and attitude was approved by the Lord and he was rewarded by the Lord who commissioned him to rise and to go to achieve God’s will and work. The word ‘Go’ can be found in the following biblical matter and resources:-

1- “He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. ¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mark 16:15-16) The Lord sent the leprous to the mission field with back up and approval because such person with such above grateful attitude can proclaim the right message: “God’s grace to the world should be received with repentance.” Those who are faithful and who had showed attitude of repentance they are the right people to go and to preach the message to the lost. Because those people will go and will tell others about all the good things that the Lord had done. They can go to the whole world because they have power and authority from the Lord who had enabled them to go and do His work.

2- ¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy-two^[a] others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. ² He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. ³ Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. ⁴ Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. ⁵ “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ ⁶ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. ⁸ “When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. ⁹ Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ ¹⁰ But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, ¹¹ ‘Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near.’ ¹² I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. ¹³ “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ¹⁴ But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. ¹⁵ And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. ¹⁶ “Whoever listens to you listens to me;

whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.” (Luke 10:1-16) As the Lord called His twelve disciples and gave them authority and sent them to the mission field, the Lord will send all those who are faithful to Him.

3- “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:10-20) The Lord will send His disciples, those who are true followers and faithful to Him to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all the things the Lord had instructed us to observe.

C- Your faith has made you well: The ten leprous all of them had received healing from the Lord, then what is the difference between the nine leprous and the one who came back to the Lord? The nine they receive physical healing but they are unwell spiritually. While the one who came back he is healed physically and he is well spiritually. The practical difference between those who are faithful and those who are faithful to the Lord is the following:

I-Those who are unfaithful to the Lord: they receive material and even spiritual blessings from the Lord when they are in distress and the Lord will even had answered their prayers in a profound way. But because they are unfaithful the Lord will not be with them in their lives. Therefore when they will face the next problem in life they will fall down and be in distress and cannot manage. So every now and then you found the following in them: One problem is solved then just with in short time they fall in another problem and they cannot manage. Why this is happening in their lives? Because God wants them to truly come back to Him in repentance and not only have they come to the Lord to take material blessings, or they come to Him for quick relief of their troubles.

II-While the faithful and those who respond favourably to God’s blessings in their lives they are victorious in life as they walk with God: Those who are faithful to the Lord they will go from strength to strength, from glory to glory and from victory to victory. They are able to stand trials and hardships because they are approved and backed up by the Lord. Faithfulness is true guarantee for the future and enablement to face trials and live victoriously in life.

My Dear and Beloved: Be faithful and to the end toward the Lord, for your faithfulness will be rewarded fully by God. The Lord will equip you and enable you to go forward and face trials and achieve victories in life for He will be always with those who are faithful and obedient to Him, 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 and rose again from the death to give me eternal life. Lord I commit myself to walk in the way that you want me to walk. Lord here ‘Am I,’ at your disposal, use me and send me for your glory to reach the loss. Lord equips me with more spiritual gifts and anointing to be more effective in my service to you. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.