

## ***Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 58***

### ***The Letter of Jesus to the Church in Sardis Part 3***

***“1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. 4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. 5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. 6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” (Revelation 3:1-6 KJV)***

Jesus in verse 3, told the church ***“Remember”, “3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.” (Revelation 3:3 KJV)***

Let us continue to go through the Scriptures and read where God had told His people and to us today to remember, so we can be reminded to do diligently our part of what God wants us to achieve.

***11. “Remember what Amalek did unto thee by the way, when ye were come forth out of Egypt;” (Deuteronomy 25:17 KJV)*** He reminded them to be aware from Amalek, a descendent from Edom and the bad things he inflicted on them when they were coming out of Egypt, and God here requested them to remember to deal with such enemy properly. Moses asked Joshua to chose people and go out and fight against Amalek and he won; and God’s Word said the following: ***“13 And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. 14 And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. 15 And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovahnissi: 16 For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.” (Exodus 17:13-16 KJV)*** But Saul forgot what Amalek did and forgot what God requested him to do. ***“2 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt. 3 Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.” (1 Samuel 15:2-3 KJV)*** Even after Samuel reminded him to destroy the whole Amalekites he did not obey God by totally destroying the Amalekites, but he kept their king Agag. ***\* What we learn here is that God remind us not to compromise and not to allow evil doers to flourish and remain among us. \* Also God wants us to remember the evil doers and what they did so that we can understand how the devil work against the righteousness of God and His work, and how he penetrates into our midst: “O my people, remember now what Balak king of Moab consulted, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him from Shittim unto Gilgal; that ye may know the righteousness of the LORD.” (Micah 6:5 KJV)***

Balaam worked out to introduce immoralities inside the camp of the people of God. ***O my people, remember now those who taught you girlfriend and boyfriend, live-in relationship, divorce and remarriage, etc. O my people, remember now those who taught you to celebrate birthdays, the valentines, etc. We need to remember those who did evil against us by allowing immoralities and feasts sacrificed to idols to enter into our midst, so we can understand the devil’s work against God and His work so we can avoid, in order to keep the righteousness of God in our midst.***

***12. “7 Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee. 8 When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel. 9 For the LORD’s portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.” (Deuteronomy 32:7-9 KJV)*** Here the Lord wanted His people to remember that God is concerned about them from the beginning and He loves them, and He is concerned to give them the best land. God gave Israel the best land in the world because they are His portion. Truly God gave His people the most fertile land in the world. ***Even today we need always to remember that we are the portion of God and He is always working in our behalf to give us the best. Therefore, remember that very well and be faithful to Him.***

***“Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, The LORD your God hath given you rest, and hath given you this land.” (Joshua 1:13 KJV)*** God again reminded His people through Joshua to remember that He had given them rest and had given them the best of the land. ***We too today need to believe that God had given us rest and God had given us the best of everything. Amen.***

***13. “Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.” (Psalm 20:7 KJV)*** ***People will remember their money, their qualifications, their own power, their friends and the rest of such, but we will remember the name of the Lord our God in times of our troubles and in the times of our need, for He is the only One can deliver us from such.***

***“They remembered not his hand, nor the day when he delivered them from the enemy.” (Psalm 78:42 KJV)*** Here He is speaking about the unfaithful. They forgot what He did to them good, they remember not what His hand did to them in saving them from enemies and from troubles, they forgot the day when they were in troubles and God saved them from their enemies, and went away unfaithful toward Him, or they forgot what great things He did to them and how He saved them from troubles, and now they are relying on other things for their lives and being. ***\* What God today is telling you that His hand is with you and He will help you and deliver you; trust Him, He will do it for you. “Remember his marvellous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;” (Psalm 105:5 KJV) \* We need always to remember what we received from the Lord and what good things He did for us to spur us to continue to be faithful to Him, as well as to continue to rely on Him and to run to Him in our troubles remembering His wondrous acts toward us. \* We need to remember His judgment and His discipline and what He did to restrain the wicked so that we will fear Him.*** He said to remember, ***“the judgments of his mouth”,*** it means that He will do what He said in His Word. All the warning and the discipline that He said in His Word He will watch over to be accomplished.

14. “Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old.” (Isaiah 43:18 KJV) We should not live in the negative thoughts and keep focusing on our previous failures and frustrations, but to go forward with the Lord to do the work of God and what He wants us to do. As God is starting in you a new start, then do not think about your past failures but put this in your mind, “Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.” (Isaiah 43:19 KJV) God will do new things for you, He will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert for your own sake.

15. “Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;” (Ecclesiastes 12:1 KJV) \* We need to remember God while we are still young and we need to give the best of our time and good health to him. \* We are always young when we remember to serve the Lord. Let us do it early while we are young before we are old and we cannot move and serve the Lord. Let us remember to serve God while we are young. Let us remember to do His will while we are young. Let us remember to go and evangelize and make disciples while we are young. Because when we are old we may not have the strength to do that. The church of Sardis did not remember what received and did not put into practice, that is why her reputation is dead.

Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast: We are called to hold on all what we received from God’s Word and instruction and let us live our lives in a way pleasant to Him and start to serve Him.

16. “Remember these, O Jacob and Israel; for thou art my servant: I have formed thee; thou art my servant: O Israel, thou shalt not be forgotten of me.” (Isaiah 44:21 KJV) Remember that you are the servant of God and He had called you to serve Him. Remember that God created you so that you will serve Him and that how you will express that and not going to forget Him. Jacob did not do well in certain aspects of his life and walk with God, but God still accepted Him and led him into righteousness and corrected him step by step and cleansed him from his sins. God had called him to and He moulded him along the way and God disciplined him, provided for him, protected him, and sustained him that finally He put him into the perfect will of God. We today are the same as Jacob, called by God, “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10 KJV) The Lord is along the way with us, caring for us, providing for us, protecting us from dangers and persecutions, disciplining us, rebuking us for our sins, and correcting us when we do wrong, because He loves us, and in order to bring us back to the right way when we go away astray. With all of what He is doing, God is leading us into the narrow gate and He does not want us to forget Him.

17. “Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.” (Malachi 4:4 KJV) Here the Lord wanted His people to remember all the law that He gave to them through Moses. God in the same way today wants us to remember all His law that He gave to us in His Word and He need us to apply all in our lives. That is why we read the Bible, we study the Bible so we can apply what God is saying to us in our lives. “16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for

instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17 KJV) All the Word of God in the Old Testament and in the New Testament are good for doctrine, for correction, for rebuking and for training. How many of you having Bible? How many of you are reading your Bible daily? How many of you are reading your Bible by sequence? How many of you are reading three to four chapters per day? How many of you are meditating and obeying what you are reading? “Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast”.

18. “Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.” (John 15:20 KJV) Here Jesus instructed His disciples and is instructing us today to remember and not to forget His Word that He said to them and unto us. The Word that He wanted them and He wants us to remember that we are not greater or better than our master, our Lord Jesus Christ. If they had persecuted Jesus and hated Him inspite of all the good things that He did to them then they will do the same with His disciples and to us today. Even if we had done good things to them, still they will persecute us and will trouble us in return to the good things that we had given to them. One of the things that we as human cannot forget is the harm and the hurt that we received from those whom we did all the good that we can to serve them. We are hurt and got upset if they will disobey what we had given to them from teaching and from instructions. But here the Lord Jesus said to His disciples and to us today, and giving us the clue that even His Word and His saying they did not keep, how then we can expect that they will keep the Word that we are speaking to them. Jesus said, “He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.” (Matthew 10:40 KJV) “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.” (John 13:20 KJV) So those who do not receive us and the Word of God that we give them, they are not receiving Christ and His Word and they are not receiving God the Father.

The Scriptures also tells us that those who do not listen to us they are not from God. “4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. 5 They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. 6 We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.” (1 John 4:4-6 KJV) Those who does not listen and obey us when we speak the Word of God to them they don’t know God.

We need to remember all these details so that we can be assured that what we are facing today from pressures and troubles with those who we worked hard and labor is normal because they not belong to God, “18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.” (1 John 2:18-19 KJV)

It is so difficult thing to accept betrayal and insult and abuse especially if it had come from those whom you had served, taught and helped. Apostle Paul also reminded the church in Ephesus to remember such that will happen to them; that division, and wolves will come in and destroy, “Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three

*years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.” (Acts 20:31 KJV)* We need to remember these things to happen for the following purposes:

1. We need to remember that such things will happen, and therefore, we need to keep ourselves on guard and keep watching for those who are trying to destroy the work of God and those who will try to destroy those who belong to God.

2. We need to remember that such things will happen, and therefore, we should not be discouraged when things happen in such a way.

3. We need to remember that such things will happen, and therefore, to accept it when it is happen, because in such a way God is cleansing His church from weeds, the antichrist, the goats, the wolves, the evil doers and the sons of Belial, “19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.” (1 John 2:19 KJV)

**My dear and beloved:** Let us commit now ourselves to the principles that we heard to do from His Word. Let us commit ourselves to remember what He told us in His Word and apply these instructions faithfully in our lives as we go on forward to serve Him.

**My prayer:** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord, thank you for your Word that encouraged me and reminded me of your ways.

Confess your sins now to God. Lord forgives me the following sins \_\_\_\_\_. Lord I commit myself to observe the following commands of you \_\_\_\_\_. Lord I commit myself to set a good example to others, and to reproduce more fruit of the Holy Spirit in my life so that people will see Jesus in my life.

Lord, I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who accepted your Word, and are willing to live their lives and serve you in the way that you wants them to live for you; Lord protect them, preserve them and provide all their needs. Lord use their lives to be good example to others to be attracted to you.

Lord bless us and sustain us as a church. Lord refill us once again with the Holy Spirit and give us the Holy Spirit that we need to go on and serve you. Lord, we pray that you will enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, ‘Multiplication in Peace with Implementing the Whole Will of God’. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus’ name, Amen.

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