

NIYI MAKINDE

PROPER INTERPRETATION

Learn how to Interpret Correctly



NIYI MAKINDE

PROPER INTERPRETATION BY
NIYI MAKINDE

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Preface

Proper Interpretation: Author's Keynotes

I would like to share with you a teaching the Lord revealed to me a few years ago. I am convinced that your life will experience profound transformation through the insights presented in this book.

This book is centered on ***Proper Interpretation***. I encourage you not to assume that you already understand the truths I am about to share. Instead, approach each page with an open and receptive heart, allowing the Lord to illuminate your understanding. There is something God desires to teach you through this book—truths that have the power to transform your life and every aspect of it.

I believe the insights contained in this book will be valuable not only to you, but also to your friends, family, relatives, parents, colleagues, and close associates. This is a book for everyone.

Some of the opinions, perspectives, and beliefs you have long held as correct will gain deeper clarity as they are brought into the light of God's Word. Through the practical knowledge you will glean from this writing, you will discern what to change, what to continue, and what to stop in your life.

Be prepared to receive all that God has for you. As you read, may you be transformed.

UNDERSTANDING THE CONCEPT OF PROPER INTERPRETATION

Who Knows the Interpretation of a Thing?

Ecclesiastes 8:1 reads, “Who is like a wise man? And who knows the interpretation of a thing? A man’s wisdom makes his face shine, and the sternness of his face is changed.” This biblical passage was used by God to impart wisdom into my heart a few years ago. I learned that a man’s wisdom makes his face shine. I have applied the truth of this Word in my own life and have likewise taught it to those connected to me. It is possible to have an interpretation of a matter and later discover that it was wrong. In the same way, it is also possible to arrive at a proper and accurate interpretation. You must be equipped to a level where your mind is not only filled with spiritual substance but also endowed with the grace required to interpret correctly everything connected to your life—your family, your children, and your work. So, who truly knows the interpretation of a thing? This question is not explicitly answered in the Scripture. However, you must understand that interpretation will always be required—whether expressed

verbally or discerned non-verbally. It is important to recognize that knowledge, understanding, and wisdom are three essential elements every person must possess. Knowledge is information; it brings awareness. You can have knowledge about a thing, a place, or a person. However, knowledge is different from understanding. While knowledge is information, understanding is interpretation. Therefore, proper interpretation simply means proper understanding. Wisdom, on the other hand, is the application of knowledge. It is expressed through a person's words and actions. Wisdom is revealed through execution and implementation. Interpretation reflects what you know, but proper interpretation reflects what you truly understand. For everything in life—every situation, place, and experience—people form interpretations. These interpretations can either be correct or incorrect.

What Is Interpretation?

What does it mean to form an interpretation of a thing? The following insights provide clarity:

1. **Interpretation is the act of explaining the meaning of a thing:** Whenever you attempt to explain the meaning of something, you are engaging in interpretation.

2. **It is the expression of your understanding:** Interpretation reveals your level of understanding about things, places, or people. When you truly understand something, you are able to communicate it clearly and paint a vivid picture in the minds of others.

3. **It is the act of making known what was once obscure:** Interpretation brings clarity to what was previously hidden or unclear. Things you were once unaware of can become clear through proper interpretation.

Every Person on Earth Is an Interpreter

Things you were once unaware of can be made known to you through interpretation. Every person on earth—young or old, male or female, educated or uneducated, rich or poor—operates as an interpreter. People explain situations based on their level of understanding. For instance, the rich may interpret why the poor experience lack and hardship. At every level of life, individuals provide explanations for what they perceive. These interpretations may be accurate or flawed, but the reality remains: everyone offers interpretations. In this sense, every human being is an interpreter. In Scripture, we see clear examples of this truth. When Joseph was in prison, he functioned as an interpreter of dreams. Daniel also interpreted the mysterious writing seen by the king on the wall. Anyone who attempts to explain something in order to bring clarity and understanding is functioning as an interpreter. You can interpret situations for yourself and for others. Jesus Christ, for example, taught the multitudes using parables. Through this method, He functioned as a teacher. However, when His disciples came to Him for deeper explanations and insight into those parables, He stepped into the role of an interpreter. In those moments, He analyzed and explained the meaning of His teachings to ensure their understanding. Thus, Jesus functioned both as a teacher and an interpreter during His earthly ministry. Children interpret the actions and attitudes of their parents, just as parents interpret the behaviors and expressions of their children. These interpretations often shape relationships, decisions, and perceptions. In many cases, people develop ideologies, philosophies, and belief systems based on their interpretations of life experiences. Even religious beliefs are rooted in interpretation. A person's understanding of the

object of worship determines their devotion. Some people believe in the existence of a Supreme Being called God, while others devote themselves to various forms of worship across different cultures, tribes, and communities. These beliefs are shaped by how individuals interpret spiritual realities. It is important to recognize that everyone functions as an interpreter on earth. The key, however, is not merely to interpret, but to interpret correctly.

Insights into Synonymous Words for Interpretation

There are several words that help convey the meaning of interpretation more clearly. Some of these include:

1. To Decipher

This refers to the act of explaining and clarifying something that is not immediately understood. Anyone who interprets is, in essence, seeking to bring clarity.

2. Illumination

Interpretation involves illuminating the mind. When someone interprets a concept for you, they are engaging in the act of illumination—bringing light to what was previously unclear.

3. Simplification

This is the process of breaking things down into simpler forms so that the mind can comprehend and grasp what is being communicated.

4. To Decode

Decoding involves the careful analysis of things, events, or personalities in order to arrive at proper understanding.

5. Demystification

This is the deliberate act of unraveling, simplifying, and revealing complex or obscure matters for the purpose of clarity.

Avoiding Wrong Interpretation in Life

One of the reasons many people remain weak when they ought to be strengthened is their failure to interpret things correctly. Many lose confidence repeatedly because of limited or faulty interpretation. Your ability to recognize people, opportunities, and events cannot function effectively without proper interpretation. Until interpretation is rightly established in your life, recognition will remain impaired. For instance, when you observe a couple that frequently experiences misunderstandings, you will often find that one or both partners are operating from a wrong interpretation of issues, discussions, or decisions. These misinterpretations usually exist as unspoken ideas within the heart—thoughts that are never properly expressed. The Bible refers to such entrenched patterns as “strongholds.” As written in 2 Corinthians 10:4, “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds.” Strongholds often begin as ideas that have not been properly understood or interpreted.

When you gain the right perspective in interpretation, you will be strengthened in the face of life’s challenges. You will be edified, transformed, and built up. Progress will become consistent in your life because wrong interpretation leads to stagnation, limitation, and regression, while proper interpretation sustains growth and forward movement. Any wrong interpretation you hold concerning situations will not only affect you but also impact the lives of others. When others are affected by your misinterpretation, it can lead to significant harm. Therefore, it is crucial to guard against incorrect interpretations in every area of your life. It is understanding that grants access to right interpretation, which in turn shapes your reactions, responses, and actions. When interpretation is faulty, your responses will

also be faulty. You may frown where you should smile, say “no” where you should say “yes,” or be absent where you ought to be present—and vice versa. Wrong interpretation inevitably leads to wrong actions. You must ensure that your life is guided by sound and proper interpretation. There are key areas of life in which you must not afford to be wrong in your interpretation. These will be examined in subsequent chapters.

PROPER INTERPRETATION OF THINGS RECEIVED FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT

Certain Things You Receive from the Holy Spirit

You must develop the capacity to properly interpret the things you receive from the Holy Spirit. There are various ways in which the Holy Spirit communicates with believers, and each requires discernment and accurate understanding. John 16:12–13 records, “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth...” Jesus Christ made it clear to His disciples that there were many things He desired to communicate, but they were not yet able to comprehend them. However, the Spirit of truth would come and guide them into all truth. In essence, what Jesus could not fully convey at that moment would later be revealed through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. In Luke 24:49, Jesus declared: “Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power

from on high.” Here, He instructed His disciples to remain in Jerusalem until they received empowerment from above. This highlights an important truth: there are dimensions of spiritual communication and experience that require not only reception but also proper interpretation. There are certain things you may receive from the Holy Spirit that demand careful interpretation. Some of these things include:

a. Prophecy

Prophecy is received from the Holy Spirit. It may come through spoken words, inner impressions, images formed in your heart, or even through what you perceive with your physical eyes. It can also come through the inner witness of the Holy Spirit to your spirit (the inner man), or through men and women who are used by God to deliver prophetic messages. For example, when King Pharaoh had a dream, an incorrect interpretation could have resulted in devastating consequences—seven years of severe hardship in Egypt and beyond. The dream was a blueprint of future events, and it was the correct interpretation that enabled proper preparation and preservation. The interpretation revealed both the responsibility attached to the revelation and the discipline required to sustain it.

Any prophetic word or direction you receive requires proper interpretation on your part. Without it, you may miss the blessings God intends for you. A lack of proper interpretation can cause you to miss a season that represents your future, or lead you to take actions that contradict the fulfillment of the prophecy. Correct interpretation provides guidance—what steps to take, what actions to avoid, and how to align yourself with the fulfillment of what has been revealed. It is one thing to receive a prophecy; it is another thing entirely to understand

your role in bringing it to pass. Without proper interpretation, you cannot accurately identify your responsibilities. For instance, if someone receives a prophetic word that they will travel from nation to nation, proper interpretation will prompt practical steps such as obtaining an international passport, researching countries, and processing necessary travel documents. Interpretation brings clarity and direction. Many people receive prophecies but fail to recognize their personal commitment and responsibility in them. A word may come that you will become a Vice Chancellor of a university, but it is proper interpretation that will compel you to pursue higher academic qualifications and acquire leadership and management training. Often, interpretation does not come simultaneously with the prophecy. Therefore, after receiving a prophetic word, you must intentionally seek its proper interpretation. This involves understanding, clarity of personal responsibility, and a willingness to act. Understanding is given in measures, and God is the giver of understanding. Jesus Himself received the prophecy of His death on the cross. In the Garden of Gethsemane, He prayed that the cup might pass from Him. However, through proper interpretation, He understood the necessity of submitting to the will of the Father. His declaration—“Father, not My will, but Yours be done”—reflected His alignment with the divine purpose. He understood that humility, endurance, and sacrifice were required for the fulfillment of what had been written and prophesied concerning Him. Believers also have the responsibility to document and reflect on prophetic words. Keeping a “**prophetic journal**” is a wise practice. If you do not yet have one, I encourage you to begin today. It is a deliberate record of God’s promises, assurances, revealed Scriptures, and insights concerning your future. For those who already keep such a

record, trust the Lord to grant you understanding so that you can interpret rightly—knowing the actions to take, the roles to fulfill, and the steps required for manifestation. Every prophecy you receive should move you into the realm of proper interpretation. Prophecy reveals what lies ahead—it is knowledge of future realities. However, you have the responsibility to move from knowledge to understanding through interpretation. Take time to meditate on every prophetic word you have received, and trust God for the release of accurate interpretation.

b. Instructions or Directions

You can receive instructions and directions from the Holy Spirit. However, when you are instructed to do something, it is essential to move into the realm of proper interpretation so that you can carry it out correctly and effectively. For example, a person once received an instruction to sow a seed into the life of a man of God and to pay close attention to the prophetic words that would be spoken. The individual obeyed by taking a specific sum of money and approaching the man of God, but then hastily pressed the money into his hand. Consider this carefully: ***the man of God valued excellence and honor. The manner in which the seed was presented was perceived as dishonorable and inappropriate. Had the individual sought proper interpretation, he might have arranged the money neatly in an envelope and presented it respectfully. Alternatively, he could have requested the minister's account details and made a proper transfer.*** In this case, the instruction was obeyed, but the interpretation of how to carry it out was lacking. You must be someone who not only receives instructions but also aligns them with proper interpretation.

c. Revelation

The Holy Spirit also grants revelation through the Scriptures. However, every revelation received must be properly interpreted for it to manifest effectively in your life. Without correct interpretation, even divine revelation may not produce the intended results.

d. Prompting

Promptings often come as subtle signals or stirrings within your heart, urging you to take a specific action. You may not hear an audible voice, but you sense a strong inner leading. Promptings are usually immediate and require timely response. Many who operate in the miraculous do so by responding to promptings. For instance, ministers may feel led to lay hands on the sick, anoint them, or even command them to rise instantly. These actions are often guided by promptings of the Holy Spirit and require sensitivity as well as proper interpretation.

e. Knowing

Knowing comes as a deep inner witness—a conviction that remains in your heart over time and stays fresh in your memory. It is an intuitive form of knowledge imparted by the Holy Spirit. Such knowing must also be properly interpreted. Without interpretation, you may sense something accurately but fail to understand its meaning or the appropriate response.

f. Dreams

Dreams that come during the night and are inspired by the Holy Spirit require proper interpretation. Even dreams that appear fearful or troubling must be rightly understood to uncover their true meaning. Dreams are an important channel of divine

communication and should not be taken lightly by any believer. Whenever you have a dream, seek proper interpretation through the Scriptures, the ministry of the Holy Spirit, and spiritual guidance.

g. Spectacular Visions

Spectacular visions are often experienced by prophets and those who operate in the gift of prophecy. These visions come with vivid clarity and often carry immediate direction or insight. However, when such visions are misinterpreted, the resulting actions will also be misguided. Therefore, accurate interpretation is essential for proper response.

h. Speaking in Tongues

Speaking in tongues is a supernatural utterance given by the Holy Spirit. It is a divinely inspired expression beyond natural understanding. As stated in 1 Corinthians 14:13, "Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret." This instruction emphasizes the importance of seeking interpretation. Whenever a message is delivered to the church through speaking in tongues, interpretation is required. This interpretation may come from the speaker or from another individual with the gift of interpreting tongues. As a believer, when you speak in tongues, you can also seek interpretation or simply continue to flow in the Spirit. One notable patriarch of the faith, Oral Roberts, shared a key insight from his ministry: ***he frequently spoke in tongues and then interpreted. He explained that after praying in tongues, he would pay attention to the words that followed in his understanding, receiving them as interpretation and direction.*** This is a practice you may also apply in your spiritual life.

How to Receive Proper Interpretation of the Things Received from the Holy Spirit

There are key practices you must consistently engage in order to receive proper interpretation from the Holy Spirit:

1. Prayer

You must pray and ask God to grant you the right interpretation of the things you have received. This kind of prayer is centered on seeking understanding and asking the Lord to increase your capacity to comprehend spiritual matters.

2. Meditation

You must create quality time to fellowship with the Father. Through meditation, the Holy Spirit imparts clarity and unveils the proper interpretation of what has been revealed to you.

3. Counsel

Interpretation can also come through godly counsel. Your pastor, mature believers, and mentors are vital channels through which clarity can be received. Seeking and receiving counsel helps position you for accurate interpretation.

4. Acquisition of Knowledge

The knowledge you acquire through teaching, reading, research, asking questions, and exposure enhances your ability to interpret correctly. Growth in knowledge sharpens your discernment and deepens your understanding of what you receive from the Holy Spirit.

5. Speaking in Tongues

You should cultivate the habit of speaking in tongues regularly. As you do, your spiritual sensitivity and discernment are heightened. This enables you to make decisions based on proper interpretation of what you have received from the Holy Spirit. When proper interpretation is achieved, you will clearly understand your roles and the actions required to bring

what you have received into manifestation. The things you receive from the Holy Spirit require interpretation so that you can discern the right actions to take, the things to avoid, the warnings to heed, and the responsibilities to embrace. Be a person who maximizes the things received from the Holy Spirit effectively. Trust the Lord to increase your understanding and grant you access to accurate interpretation—both for what you have already received and for what you will receive in the future.

LEARNING HOW TO ATTAIN PROPER INTERPRETATION OF SCRIPTURE

You Must Know How to Interpret the Scripture

Those who teach God's Word are, in essence, interpreters of Scripture. Even more importantly, the Holy Spirit within you is your ultimate Teacher. Receiving interpretation from the Holy Spirit grants you access to the most perfect and complete Teacher. The Holy Spirit is incomparable and incontestable, and through Him, proper interpretation of Scripture can be obtained. There are several channels through which proper interpretation of Scripture can be achieved:

1. Through the Ministry of the Holy Spirit

You receive proper interpretation of Scripture through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. It is your responsibility to acknowledge Him as your divine Teacher and rely on His guidance for understanding.

2. Through Personal Study

Diligent and consistent personal study of the Scriptures is

essential. As you study, reflect, and engage with the Word, clarity and understanding begin to unfold.

3. Through Sound Study Resources

Proper interpretation can also be enhanced by consulting various study aids, such as different translations of the Bible, concordances, commentaries, Bible dictionaries, and books written by proven spiritual authors on specific subjects or portions of Scripture. As stated in 2 Corinthians 13:1, “By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established.” This supports the importance of gaining insight from multiple reliable sources to establish sound understanding.

4. Through Spiritually Mature Believers

There are individuals who have attained spiritual maturity in the faith—teachers, mentors, and role models who have been proven over time. Learning from such people is invaluable. Scripture encourages us to follow those who, through faith and patience, have demonstrated truth in their lives. Be committed to learning consistently from such individuals.

5. Through Those with the Gift of Teaching

God has given some individuals the gift of teaching. Listening to and learning from such people can greatly enhance your understanding and help you interpret Scripture accurately.

Understanding Profound Biblical Legacy

The Old Testament was primarily written in the Hebrew language, with some portions in Aramaic, while the New Testament was written in Greek. Understanding these original languages provides deeper insight into the meaning and context of Scrip-

ture. However, there are individuals who are divinely ordained into the office of a teacher within the Kingdom. These men and women carry the grace and capacity to teach and to bring clarity and proper interpretation of Scripture. They function by divine enablement and approval from God. Over time, many of them have become well-versed in the art and science of biblical interpretation, known as hermeneutics, producing scholarly works that provide balanced and accurate understanding of the Bible.

Biblical interpretation is governed by established laws and principles that must be carefully observed. Throughout history, several notable scholars have contributed significantly to this field. Among them is **Kevin J. Conner**, whose works on biblical interpretation have been widely influential. Additionally, **Friedrich Schleiermacher** is often regarded as a foundational figure in the development of hermeneutics. Their contributions have greatly aided believers in attaining proper understanding of the Scriptures.

Significant contributions have also been made in the translation of the Bible into the English language. **William Tyndale** was the first to translate the New Testament from Greek into English in the 16th century. His work laid the foundation for many later English translations. Despite facing severe opposition and ultimately being executed for his efforts, his contribution remains invaluable. Similarly, **John Wycliffe** translated the Bible from Latin into English, making the Scriptures more accessible to the common people of his time. Both men should be highly commended for their courage and dedication to making God's Word available to a wider audience. Another notable contributor is **Myles Coverdale**, who produced the first complete printed English Bible. His work focused on

publication and accessibility, ensuring that the full text of Scripture could be widely distributed. The King James Version of the Bible was produced by a team of **fifty-two scholars** under the authorization of **King James I of England**. This translation remains one of the most influential and widely used versions of the Bible. It is germane to note that the original manuscripts of the Bible were written without chapters and verses. The text was presented in continuous form. For ease of reading and reference, chapter divisions were later introduced by **Stephen Langton** in the early 13th century. His contribution significantly enhanced the organization and accessibility of the Scriptures.

Furthermore, the classification of verses as we know them today is largely credited to **Robert Estienne**, a 16th-century scholar whose work standardized the numbering of verses. This development greatly improved the study and comprehension of the Bible. The knowledge being shared here is not limited to those who have attended theological seminaries. Every believer should seek to be grounded in this foundational understanding of the Bible and appreciate the contributions of those whose works have made Scripture more accessible and understandable.

Being a Christian should not diminish your intellectual pursuit; rather, it should inspire a deeper commitment to knowledge and understanding. You should strive to develop sound biblical literacy and intellectual depth so that you can confidently uphold and defend the integrity of Scripture wherever you find yourself. In today's world, the various translations of the Bible are designed to meet the needs of different audiences. These diverse versions have greatly enhanced the accessibility and understanding of God's Word across cultures and generations.

An Overview of the Proper Interpretation of the Bible

2 Peter 1:20–21 states, “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.” This passage emphasizes that the Scriptures are not subject to private interpretation. Within this context, “**private interpretation**” refers to explaining or applying Scripture outside its intended meaning and context. Therefore, every believer must exercise caution to avoid misinterpreting the Bible based on personal opinions or isolated understanding. When studying the Bible, especially by chapters and verses, it is important to consider four key elements: **the text, the pre-text, the context, and the post-text**. Understanding these elements greatly enhances accurate interpretation and comprehension.

- The **Text** refers to the specific verse or passage under consideration.
- The **Pre-text** refers to the verses that come before the selected passage.
- The **Post-text** refers to the verses that follow the passage.
- The **Context** refers to the overall message, background, and flow of thought surrounding the passage.

To illustrate, consider 2 Chronicles 7:14, “If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” This verse serves as the **text**. The **pre-text** includes the preceding verses, such as 2 Chronicles 7:13 and those before it, which provide background to the statement. The **post-text** includes the verses that follow, such as 2 Chronicles 7:15, which further clarify God’s response. Understanding the **context** requires examining the

broader discussion that led to the statement. This includes the historical setting, the audience being addressed, and the central message of the passage. Bible editions that include headings or thematic divisions can also assist in grasping the **context** more effectively. To interpret Scripture accurately, you must not isolate a verse from its surrounding narrative. Rather, you must study it within its full context to arrive at its true and intended meaning.

Ways to Examine the Bible

The following approaches will assist you in attaining proper interpretation of the Scriptures:

1. The Historical Perspective and Situational Context of Scripture

Understanding the historical background and situational context of a passage provides insight into the people, events, and circumstances being described. It helps you grasp what was happening at the time and how it relates to the individuals involved in the narrative. As a believer, you should carefully study both the Old Testament and the New Testament with an awareness of their historical settings. This enriches your understanding and prevents misinterpretation. To gain clarity on the historical and situational context of Scripture, it is helpful to consult reliable study resources such as Bible commentaries, Bible dictionaries, and other scholarly materials. These resources provide deeper insight into the events and personalities you are studying. While there are other historical writings—such as the Book of Enoch, Jasher, and Jubilees—that offer additional perspectives, they should be approached with discernment and not regarded as equal in authority to the canonical Scriptures.

2. The Messianic Application

The Messianic application reveals how a passage of Scripture points to or relates to Jesus Christ. It highlights the redemptive thread that runs throughout the Bible and shows how Christ is revealed in both the Old and New Testaments. This includes instances where God manifested Himself to humanity, as well as symbolic representations (types and shadows) that foreshadow the coming of Christ. For example, Jonah's experience—being swallowed and later released—can be seen as a representation of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Similarly, the account of Isaac being laid on the altar and then spared reflects a picture of sacrifice and divine provision, pointing toward Christ. As you study the Scripture, you should continually ask: ***Where is Christ revealed in this passage?*** This mindset helps you see the unity and central message of the Bible. The Messianic application is especially illuminated through the study of the Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—which present the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

3. The Prophetic and Revelatory Application

The prophetic and revelatory application of Scripture relates to how God speaks directly to you through His Word. It is the dimension of interpretation that centers on your personal life, calling, and walk with God. The Scriptures do not only speak historically or doctrinally—they also speak personally. You can find yourself in the Scriptures. In John 1:23, it is written “He said: ‘I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Make straight the way of the Lord,” as the prophet Isaiah said.’” John the Baptist identified himself in the prophecy of Isaiah and declared it boldly. In the same way, God can reveal aspects of your life and purpose through His Word. There are Scriptures God

may use to encourage and strengthen you during challenging seasons. At other times, when things are going well, He may speak to you about your role in your generation. God can also use Scripture as a means of establishing personal covenants with you. Throughout the Bible, we see examples of covenants God made with individuals such as Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Noah. Even today, God still relates personally with His people.

As you read the Bible, trust God to reveal truths that will become a source of light and direction in your life. Deuteronomy 29:29 declares, “The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.” The things revealed to you through Scripture become your personal inheritance. Such revelations should bring stability and assurance, especially in times of difficulty. Whenever you face challenges, after engaging in prayer, take responsibility to open the Scriptures and seek light. The Word of God contains answers. You must cultivate the habit of setting aside quality time for Bible study. Consistency in studying the Word fills your life with divine light and direction.

The written Word, when embraced in your heart, will guide you into success and make your way prosperous. As 2 Timothy 3:16 states, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” The Scriptures are given to produce balanced Christian living. However, you must exercise wisdom in handling personal revelations. Not every revelation you receive is meant to be generalized. One common mistake among believers is taking a personal revelation and applying it universally. While some revelations are meant for the Body of Christ, others are specifically for you. Learn to distinguish

between what is personal and what is general in Scripture. Guard personal revelations with discretion and treat them with confidentiality. For example, if God reveals to you personally that you should rely solely on His Word for healing in a particular situation, it does not mean you should instruct others to avoid medical care. Others should still be encouraged to seek proper medical attention while also building their faith in God as the ultimate Healer. Personal instructions must not be imposed as universal doctrine.

As you study the Scriptures, receive what is revealed to you as a spiritual inheritance, but avoid unnecessary generalization. Pay close attention to what God is saying to you personally. You should also continually ask the Holy Spirit to open the eyes of your understanding, so you can see clearly the truths in Scripture that relate to your life. Trust Him to reveal your path, your responsibilities, and the steps you need to take.

Many teachings in Scripture are meant to guide and advance your life. In seasons of fasting and prayer, your spiritual sensitivity is heightened, and your ability to receive light from the Word increases. You may begin to see truths you had never noticed before, and deeper levels of interpretation may be unveiled in your heart. Make it a continual prayer that the Lord opens your eyes of understanding, granting you clarity to see into His Word—revealing the actions to take, the steps to follow, and the things that lie ahead.

PROPER ILLUMINATION INTO SITUATIONS, CIRCUMSTANCES AND PROBLEMS

How to Interpret Situations, Circumstances, and Problems

One of the major challenges many people face is a lack of illumination regarding the things happening around them. As a result, they often become anxious about what they can see and feel, without giving attention to what lies beyond their present experiences. They may also fail to discern the deeper implications and effects of the challenges they encounter. A foundational warning must be established: ***do not interpret every problem as the will of God for your life***. While you may understand how to interpret Scripture and the things received from the Holy Spirit, you may still lack the knowledge required to correctly interpret the situations and circumstances of your life. Without this understanding, you may make serious mistakes—misjudging situations and even attributing to God what He has not ordained. Some believers, for example, interpret sickness or affliction as a form of divine teaching or discipline from

God. This perspective is often inaccurate and should not be embraced without proper discernment. There are circumstances that arise directly as a result of human actions and decisions. For example, a person who lives recklessly and contracts a disease as a consequence of their lifestyle is experiencing the result of their choices. Such a situation should not be attributed to the will of God or viewed as divine chastisement. Rather, it is significant to understand the true source and nature of the issue. In this regard, sicknesses and diseases can be understood in the following ways:

a. **As a Consequence of Actions:** Some conditions arise as direct results of personal decisions, habits, or lifestyles. These are natural consequences that follow certain actions.

b. **As a Form of Affliction:** At times, sickness or adversity may be experienced as affliction. Even when it appears to be a natural occurrence, there may be deeper spiritual dimensions involved. In such cases, discernment is required to understand the root and respond appropriately.

Gaining Clarity into Some Misconceptions

Acts 10:38 states, “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” This passage clearly shows that Jesus healed those who were oppressed by the devil. Therefore, sickness and affliction should not be misunderstood as God’s will for teaching or training His people. The devil can oppress individuals through sickness and disease, and such conditions must not be mistaken for divine instruction. When sickness occurs as

a form of affliction, it should be addressed both spiritually and medically. After dealing with the spiritual dimension, the physical effects must also be properly treated. It is important to develop proper interpretation of the situations, circumstances, and challenges around your life. Never conclude that God is using sickness or disease as a means to teach you a lesson. God teaches His people directly through His Word and by His Spirit. He does not use sickness or disease as a tool for instruction, especially for believers. Some life situations arise from ignorance or poor decisions, while others may result from arrogance or neglect. There are also circumstances that occur without clear or immediate explanation. However, through proper interpretation, you can gain clarity on how to respond and what steps to take in the midst of such situations.

The Product of God's Mercy to You

Through proper interpretation, you may come to realize that some of the challenges you face are expressions of God's mercy toward you. At times, difficulties serve as a means of redirection, guiding you back to the path God has ordained for your life. Many people begin on the wrong path, but the challenges they encounter become instruments that redirect them to the right course. In such cases, those challenges are not signs of abandonment but evidence of God's mercy at work. Experiencing challenges early in life can also be a manifestation of mercy. Situations that might have arisen later in life are brought forward, allowing you to grow, learn, and mature sooner. This prepares you for a more stable and restful future. In this sense, early challenges can be seen as "**early mercy.**" You must approach such situations with the right mindset. Proper interpretation is essential if you are to overcome the

challenges of life. A person who remains sorrowful, constantly complaining, filled with envy, or given to criticism and excuses will struggle to rise above life's difficulties. To triumph over challenges, you must maintain the right perspective, embrace responsibility, and rely on God for wisdom and strength.

Engaging Praise in the Midst of Challenges

When you go through challenges, one of the most important things you must do consistently is to praise God. At times, the very situations you are facing may be working in your favor, even if they do not appear so at the moment. If you misinterpret these situations, you may respond wrongly, even though God's intended purpose will still come to pass. God weighs both our words and our actions. Many people speak negatively in difficult seasons, and such words can hinder what God is building in their lives. In doing so, they may unknowingly give room for the enemy to operate. When you remain steadfast in praising God and giving thanks, you rise above the challenges of life. Praise positions you for strength, clarity, and victory. It enables you to emerge stronger from whatever situation you are facing. Whenever you encounter challenges, cultivate the habit of declaring positively. You can say: ***"This challenge is working together for my good. Blessings will come out of it. I am convinced that glory will come out of my life, and my testimony will strengthen the faith of others."*** Joseph demonstrated proper interpretation of adversity when he spoke to his brothers in Genesis 45:7, "And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance." What others intended for harm, Joseph understood as part of God's greater plan. In the same way, when you interpret your challenges correctly and respond with praise,

you align yourself with God's purpose and position yourself for a victorious outcome.

Do Not Focus on Problems

Those who have proper interpretation of the situations they face do not dwell on their problems; rather, they focus on what will emerge from them. Whatever confronts you in life is temporary. As 2 Corinthians 4:17 states, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." The challenges you face may be painful, overwhelming, or even shameful, but you must remain convinced in your heart that they are working toward the manifestation of an eternal weight of glory. Often, successful people emphasize their victories while overlooking the difficult and shameful seasons that shaped them. Yet, it is those very seasons that produced the glory now visible in their lives. Isaiah 61:7 declares, "Instead of your shame you shall have double honor, and instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion..." Many admire the "double honor" but ignore the seasons of shame that precede it. At times, you may pass through situations that bring temporary embarrassment or discomfort. In His mercy, God may even shield certain aspects of your journey from public view. Nevertheless, it is often through such experiences that He prepares you for greater glory. No one naturally desires the difficult or humbling seasons of life, yet they are often necessary for growth. Through challenges, many have become disciplined, prayerful, humble, and wise. Some have been led out of unhealthy relationships and redirected toward their true purpose. Psalm 30:5 reminds us "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." No problem is permanent; every situation is temporary. Therefore,

fix your attention not on your present condition, but on what lies ahead. If you dwell excessively on your current challenges, you may develop the wrong interpretation. Instead, set your focus on what God is about to do in your life.

Consider Joseph—he did not allow his circumstances in prison to define his future. He remained confident that he would one day stand before Pharaoh. When the opportunity came, he was prepared and did not miss it. Joseph had earlier asked the chief butler to remember him before Pharaoh, demonstrating that his heart was not confined to the prison. He carried within him a vision of a greater future. Where your heart is determines where you are headed. If your heart carries the vision of becoming a leader, such as a Chief Executive Officer, you are positioning yourself toward that reality. What your heart consistently embraces, your life gradually becomes. Guard your heart with intention, for within it lies the blueprint of your future. You must continually affirm within yourself: ***“This situation is working for my good. Something good will come out of it.”*** Remind yourself: ***“This is not my end. I am destined to excel in life.”*** Declare also: ***“This challenge has an expiry date, and my future is secure in the Lord Jesus.”*** Many struggle to rise above difficult situations because they lack the right mindset. Maintain a positive and faith-filled perspective in the midst of challenges. Often, the issue is not the situation itself, but your perception of it. Therefore, fix your mind on proper interpretation—concerning people, events, timing, and life’s circumstances. With the right perspective, you position yourself for victory and progress.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CURRENT SEASON

Having Proper Interpretation of Your Current Season

It is significant to understand how to properly interpret your current season. Ecclesiastes 3:1–2 declares, “To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven...” This means that everything that will unfold in your life has an appointed time and season determined by God. All that God has planned for your life will be accomplished within specific seasons. The right people, opportunities, and experiences are already ordained by God, but you will encounter them at the appropriate time. God does not rush His processes. While supernatural speed is within His power, He never acts in haste. Everything that appears in your life has been divinely arranged and will manifest in its proper season. When you observe others making progress—such as securing employment—while you seem to be waiting despite your efforts, you must guard your heart against sorrow. Be assured that God is with you, and your season will surely come. Consider the life of Job. Satan was unaware that the permission granted concerning Job would

ultimately lead to his elevation. God allowed the process, using it to refine Job and bring him into a place of greater blessing, where he received double of all he had lost. What appeared to be a setback was, in reality, a preparation for increase. At times, it may seem as though your life is not progressing as planned. You may have made efforts to grow and advance, yet see little or no visible results. In such moments, remain calm and confident in God. Continue to give your best, trusting that He will, in His time, amplify your efforts and bring forth fruitfulness.

It is unwise to compare yourself with others or compete with someone who is in their season. Such competition will only lead to frustration. When your season arrives, many things will begin to align effortlessly. Opportunities, connections, and breakthroughs will come together in ways that may seem beyond your own effort. However, this does not mean you should become idle or neglect your responsibilities. You must continue to prepare, grow, and do what is required of you. Yet, in your season, you will recognize that it is more about what God is doing for you than what you are striving to achieve on your own. The events of your life have been predetermined by God, and they will unfold in due time. In your season, you will encounter the right counsel, guidance, relationships, and opportunities necessary for your advancement. Learn to interpret your current season correctly. Whether it is a season of waiting, preparation, or manifestation, trust that God is at work, aligning everything for your good and His purpose.

Embrace Patience

Learn to give proper interpretation to the season you are in. There are seasons that require patience, and in such times, you must not strive against your Maker. Patience is not an excuse for

laziness or idleness. Rather, it is the discipline of continuing to do what is necessary while trusting God to accomplish what only He can do and to complete what He has begun. True patience imparts wisdom. It compels you to become even more diligent and hardworking. When you are approaching a new season, it is not a time for complacency or distraction. God has designed man with a sense of awareness—a recognition system that enables you to discern when something significant is about to unfold in your life.

God has a plan and a future for everyone. He causes the rain to fall on both the just and the unjust, and the sun shines on the righteous and the unrighteous. His plan is universal in scope, and every individual has a place within His divine agenda. Do not look down on anyone. Daniel 4:17 declares, “The Most High rules in the kingdom of men, gives it to whomever He will, and sets over it the lowest of men.” This Scripture reveals the sovereignty of God over all humanity. Everyone born into this world has a future, and that future will unfold in its appointed season and time. You must learn to discern your current season so that you can understand what is required of you. Your present season may call for fasting and prayer, learning, personal development, financial discipline, acquiring new skills or certifications, investing, serving, volunteering, or deepening your spiritual life.

Proper interpretation of your season enables you to align your heart with wisdom and focus on what truly matters. Identify the responsibilities that belong to your present season and give yourself fully to them. Do not be distracted by outward appearances or temporary circumstances. Rather than focusing on your current situation, focus on understanding your season. Recognize what God expects of you now and commit to doing

it faithfully. Be aware of your responsibilities, and do not be misled by what is happening around you. Be intentional. Be discerning. Be prepared. Above all, be aware of your current season.

GAINING CLARITY ON VISION

Proper Interpretation of Vision

Vision must be properly interpreted. It is possible to receive or pursue a vision without fully understanding its relevance to your life or to the future God has prepared for you. Vision communicates what lies ahead—it gives you the ability to see into the future with clarity. Vision can be described as a mental picture of a preferred future. It provides insight into what you are to do, what you are to possess, and where you are meant to be. However, your level of understanding of your vision is determined by the accuracy of your interpretation. In essence, how well you can explain your vision reflects how well you understand it. To interpret your vision means to clarify, illuminate, and simplify it. You should be able to explain your vision clearly—to yourself and to others. Ask yourself this important question:

- ***Can I clearly explain my vision?***

Your answer will reveal the depth of your interpretation. Vision

is powerful. Those who possess it are often described as ***custodians of the future***. Your influence in your generation and your contribution to the world are closely tied to the clarity of your vision. Matthew 13:16–17 states, “But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear...” This Scripture highlights the privilege of spiritual perception. Many desire to see what you see and to understand what has been revealed to you. The insights you receive and the direction you perceive are divine privileges. It is not merely by personal merit that you receive vision; it is a grace from God. The vision you carry should be valued and nurtured. When your eyes of understanding are opened and you perceive what you are called to do and where you are meant to be, it is a clear indication of God’s blessing upon your life. At times, one of the ways God blesses a person is by granting them access to vision. When there is a sudden illumination in your understanding and you gain clarity about your purpose or direction, it is evidence of divine favor at work. Blessed are your eyes because they see. The vision you have received is a sign that God’s hand is upon your life. Treasure it, nurture it, and seek to understand it fully through proper interpretation.

Wait Patiently for the Fulfillment of Vision

Habakkuk 2:3 declares, “For the vision is yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.” This passage reveals an important truth: waiting for a vision does not imply idleness. Rather, it means actively engaging in the appropriate steps and actions required for its realization while trusting God’s timing. There is always a divine factor involved in the fulfillment of vision—a dimension that requires

patience and dependence on God. What begins as a vision within you will, in time, become a visible manifestation for all to see, if you remain steadfast and patient. Every vision is tied to an appointed time. The moment you receive a vision, you have the permission to begin taking steps toward its execution. The appointed time refers to when the vision becomes evident and begins to speak for itself publicly. There is no delay in starting a vision, but there is a divine timing for its full manifestation. Be assured that the vision you have received is real. It will come to pass. There is an appointed time for it, and at the right moment, it will be fulfilled.

Ezekiel 12:23, 25, 28 declares, “...The days are at hand, and the fulfillment of every vision... For I am the Lord... I will speak, and the word which I speak will be done... None of My words will be postponed any longer...” These verses affirm that God is committed to bringing His Word to fulfillment. The time is approaching for the realization of the vision God has given you. Do not be among those who receive vision but fail to take action. These promises are for those who are actively moving forward—those who have begun to take steps in alignment with what God has shown them. The fulfillment of your vision will not be indefinitely postponed. It will come to pass—often suddenly—and by the help of God. Every word that has been translated into vision within your heart will find expression in reality. Therefore, remain diligent, stay faithful, and be prepared. Position yourself to respond to the instructions God will give you along the way. As you do, you will witness the fulfillment of the vision in due time.

Write the Vision and Make It Plain

Habakkuk 2:2 states, “Then the Lord answered me and said:

‘Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it.’” This instruction emphasizes the importance of clarity and intentionality in handling vision. Everyone who receives a vision must be deliberate in carrying out this instruction. You are to write down your vision and place it where you can see it regularly. Visibility reinforces clarity. What you consistently see influences your thoughts, actions, and direction. Some people write their visions in notebooks that remain closed and forgotten. This approach defeats the purpose. Your vision should be placed in a visible and accessible location—somewhere you will encounter it daily. It could be positioned where you can see it when you wake up, as you move around your space, or at moments of reflection. Make your vision plain and visible. Place it where it becomes part of your daily environment—where it continually reminds you of your purpose. Those who have mastered the discipline of vision keep it constantly before them. You may also create a vision board—a visual representation of your goals and aspirations—that you can revisit frequently. Such a tool helps to reinforce focus and sustain motivation. A vision that does not stir something within you cannot be pursued effectively. It is the consistent exposure to your vision that ignites action, inspires planning, and sustains momentum. As you see it regularly, you are prompted to take steps toward its fulfillment.

Who Are Interpreters?

Every vision you receive requires proper interpretation. In many cases, you may need interpreters to help you understand and execute that vision effectively. **Who, then, are interpreters?** They are individuals who function as strategists and planners—people who help translate vision into actionable steps. They

assist in developing practical plans that guide you toward the realization of your vision. When you begin to make deliberate plans concerning your vision, you are, in essence, interpreting it. Plans convert the image of the future in your heart into tangible actions. Therefore, the interpretation of vision involves the ability to clearly define the actions, steps, and processes required for its fulfillment. To interpret a vision is to identify the pathway that leads to its realization. It is the process of breaking down what you see into what you must do. The Holy Spirit plays a vital role in this process. He can guide you on the specific steps to take and the actions to pursue. He can also provide you with a blueprint—divine insight that translates into practical strategies and executable plans. Any vision that cannot be translated into clear plans, steps, and actions has not yet been properly interpreted. Vision must move beyond inspiration into execution. It must evolve into defined steps that lead to measurable progress. Make your vision plain and visible, and then identify the steps required for its fulfillment. A vision without actionable plans remains only an idea. It is the combination of vision and execution that produces results and shapes the future.

Be Intentional to Practice These Principles

Every vision has a starting point. If you are at the early stage of your vision, you must be intentional and deliberate in applying certain foundational principles. These principles will guide you from conception to manifestation.

a. Imitation

Every vision requires a phase of imitation. Psalm 36:9 states, “For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light.”

This implies that insight is often gained by observing what already exists. There is hardly any vision you carry that has not been expressed in some form elsewhere. There are individuals and organizations already operating at levels you aspire to reach. These are people who have successfully walked the path you are about to begin. Your responsibility is to identify such individuals or institutions, study their work, and learn from them. In the early stage of your vision, imitation is not a limitation—it is a strategy. It provides direction, shortens your learning curve, and helps you avoid unnecessary errors. At the beginning, you will need to actively communicate and promote your vision. You will speak about it, explain it, and build awareness around it. Over time, as your vision grows and gains structure, it will begin to speak for itself. However, in the early stages, you must give it a voice. Imitation can also be seen as navigation. It helps you understand how things work and provides clarity on the steps to take. Therefore, identify models that align with your vision and learn from them diligently.

b. Implementation

Implementation is the act of putting into practice what you have learned during the imitation stage. It involves executing ideas, applying strategies, and taking deliberate action. At this stage, precision and consistency are essential. You must be intentional in carrying out each step. It is through implementation that you begin to see progress and experience tangible advancement.

c. Innovation

Innovation is the stage of growth and evolution. It is where you begin to develop your unique expression of the vision. At this

level, you refine what you have learned and introduce originality. Innovation involves doing things differently and better. It is the stage where you establish your distinct identity and become a reference point for others. You move from learning to leading—from imitation to influence. These principles—imitation, implementation, and innovation—are essential pathways for interpreting and executing vision. Each stage requires intentionality and a willingness to grow. As you progress, ensure that you apply wisdom, creativity, and discipline at every level.

Principal Requirements for Every Vision

Every vision requires certain foundational elements for its successful execution. Without these essentials, even the most compelling vision may struggle to come to fruition. The following are key requirements for every vision:

a. A Team of People

Every vision begins with the visionary, but it does not end there. For a vision to grow and be sustained, it requires the involvement of like-minded individuals who share in its purpose and are committed to its advancement. A team can be built through volunteering, collaboration, and the intentional recruitment of capable individuals. As the vision expands, the need for structure and organized participation becomes increasingly important. A strong, unified team enhances productivity and ensures continuity.

b. Plans and Goals

Plans and goals define the pathway to the realization of vision. They outline the steps to be taken and establish the pace of

execution. A vision without a plan remains an idea. Your plans must be clear, structured, and supported by measurable goals. In addition, they should be accompanied by timelines and deadlines to ensure accountability and progress. Strategic planning brings clarity and direction to your vision.

c. Resources for Execution

Every vision requires resources for execution. However, the foremost resource is not money—it is faith. Faith is the conviction that your vision will be accomplished, regardless of present limitations. Those who have achieved great visions did not begin with abundant resources; they began with strong belief. Faith fuels persistence and opens the door to provision. When your faith is established, clarity will follow, and you will begin to see pathways for acquiring the financial and material resources needed. As you move forward, the necessary support, partnerships, and provisions will align with your vision.

d. Time

Time is one of the most valuable resources available to you. You must learn to maximize the present while keeping the future in view. Do not waste time, for the God who gives vision is intentional and purposeful. Be conscious of how you spend your time. Continually ask yourself:

- What is the next task to accomplish?
- What actions should I take next?
- What opportunities should I explore?

Clear answers to these questions will give direction and purpose to your time. Rather than being overwhelmed by limited time,

focus on making each moment productive. Use today wisely to take steps that move your vision forward. Time, once lost, cannot be regained in the natural sense. While material things such as money, possessions, or even relationships may be restored, time is irreplaceable—though God, in His mercy, can bring restoration and accelerate progress. Such restoration often manifests through increased productivity, improved work ethic, and unexpected opportunities. Therefore, treat time as a sacred resource. Develop mastery in the use of your time by prioritizing your activities. Distinguish between what is important, urgent, and less significant. Evaluate your daily engagements with wisdom and ensure that your time aligns with your vision. By aligning these four requirements—people, planning, resources, and time—you position your vision for effective execution and lasting impact.

Vision: Moving from the Realm of Idea into Branding

Every vision must progress from the level of an idea to becoming a recognizable brand. A vision that remains at the level of an idea is not positioned for sustainability or long-term impact. For a vision to secure its future, it must evolve into a brand. Branding is essential in giving identity, visibility, and distinction to your vision. It ensures that the people, the mission, the products, and the services associated with your vision are clearly known and easily recognized. Through proper interpretation, you are able to translate your idea into a structured and identifiable brand. Whatever product or service your vision offers must be developed into a brand. Until your vision becomes a brand, it cannot be effectively positioned or recognized for influence and impact. Those who are distinguished in their fields are often those who have mastered the art of branding.

Branding is what sets you apart. It gives your vision a unique identity and distinguishes you from others in the same field. It establishes your presence and credibility within your industry. Your branding begins with the name you give your vision and the culture you build around it. The name of your organization is extremely important—it becomes the first point of contact between your vision and the world. Strive to build a name that people recognize even before they encounter you personally. In many cases, your name will go ahead of you and speak on your behalf.

In addition, what you consistently demonstrate carries great weight. In the natural realm, what people see often speaks louder than what they hear. Your actions, results, and consistency build trust and credibility for your vision. However, from a spiritual perspective, words carry tremendous power. What you speak has the capacity to shape realities. Even when your thoughts are not perfectly aligned, choosing to speak the right words intentionally releases creative power. Words are instrumental in creation. Learn to speak rightly and consistently. Align your words with your vision, and use them to build, establish, and advance what you desire to see. As you move your vision from an idea into a brand, combine visible actions with intentional words. In doing so, you position your vision for both natural recognition and spiritual backing.

The Fulfillment of Vision is Possible

You must trust God for the timely fulfillment of your vision. It is the manifestation of vision that people will see, and through it, they will honor, esteem, and regard you. John 20:29 records, “Jesus said to him, ‘Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet

have believed.’” In your relationship with God, believing comes before seeing. When you believe in the vision God has shown you—when you embrace the image of your future—you position yourself for divine blessing. What you believe shapes your reality and attracts grace upon your life. However, in relating with people, the principle is often different—seeing leads to believing. People are influenced by evidence. What they see helps to form their confidence in what you represent. It is important to present tangible proof of your progress and accomplishments. Document your journey. Provide evidence of your work:

- Capture images of your products.
- Keep records of successful service delivery.
- Develop organizational materials such as profiles, bulletins, and manuals.
- Preserve video footage that showcases your work and impact.

These serve as visible expressions of your vision in motion. Luke 10:23 states, “Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see.” There are dimensions of insight and vision that God grants to you as a privilege. These insights are not to be taken lightly—they are indications of divine favor. At the same time, understand that people often desire visible proof of success. While God calls you to believe, people are often persuaded by what they can see. Therefore, begin now to take intentional steps that demonstrate the reality of your vision. Let your actions communicate that your vision is real, achievable, and authentic. Build consistency, produce results, and allow your progress to speak. With God, all things are possible—there is no

impossibility in Him. Those who truly believe are the ones who eventually see the manifestation. Remain steadfast in faith and diligent in action. In due time, your vision will speak for itself.

HANDLING BETRAYAL AND REJECTION

Proper Interpretation of Betrayal and Rejection

You must develop the right perspective when dealing with betrayal and rejection. These experiences are part of life, and at different times, you may encounter situations that appear painful, disappointing, or unfair. However, what truly matters is not the event itself, but how you interpret it. Your interpretation determines your response, your healing, and ultimately, your progress. Luke 6:22 states, “Blessed are you when men hate you...” This Scripture reveals that seasons of blessing can sometimes attract opposition, including rejection and betrayal. When your life begins to reflect growth, favor, or distinction, it may provoke reactions from others that manifest as disloyalty or rejection.

Betrayal Simplified

Betrayal can be understood in the following ways:

a. Disloyalty

Betrayal is fundamentally an act of disloyalty—a departure

from faithfulness and commitment.

b. Deception

It involves misleading or deceiving another person, often for personal gain or advantage.

c. Unfaithfulness

Betrayal is an intentional act that reflects a lack of integrity and faithfulness toward a person or relationship.

d. Broken Trust

It is the violation of trust and the breaking of agreements that once formed the foundation of a relationship.

e. Emotional Impact

Betrayal often leaves the affected individual feeling misled, hurt, and emotionally wounded.

Anyone who betrays another demonstrates a deliberate act of disloyalty. As a result, many people struggle with trust—whether in relationships, partnerships, or even within families—because they have been hurt by those they once relied upon. Understanding betrayal is the first step toward interpreting it correctly. When you interpret betrayal with wisdom, you protect your heart from bitterness and position yourself for healing, growth, and continued progress.

Betrayal Can Be Traced to a Breach of Trust

There is a clear distinction between loving someone and trusting someone. While love can be extended freely, trust is built over time. It is trust that makes betrayal possible; without trust, the pain of betrayal would not exist. Unfortunately, many people fail to discern the purpose of certain relationships God brings into their lives. As a result, they either hold on to relationships they should release or abandon relationships they should preserve. Some relationships end because of actions

rooted in disloyalty and betrayal. While others may choose to betray you, you must make a firm decision never to betray anyone. ***Let it be your personal standard that anyone who trusts you will not be disappointed.*** If you enter into an agreement, honor it. If someone places confidence in you, uphold it. Resolve within yourself that betrayal and disloyalty will never proceed from you. When someone breaks your trust, you must guard your heart diligently. Being betrayed is the result of another person's action, but remaining in a state of betrayal is a product of your own interpretation. You must refuse to remain wounded. Choose instead to move forward and not dwell on the pain. With the right perspective, you can turn betrayal into an advantage.

Avoid spreading the story of your betrayal unnecessarily. If you must speak, let it be to a trusted mentor who can provide godly counsel and perspective. Do not discuss your betrayal with friends or colleagues who may influence your heart negatively or sow seeds of discord. Let go of the pain and focus on your future. Anyone who chases after those who betrayed them has taken up a burden that works against their destiny. Refuse retaliation; it only prolongs the pain. Instead, redirect your energy toward growth and purpose.

When someone betrays you, their actions reveal their character. In a sense, they define themselves by what they have done. However, your responsibility is not to condemn but to respond wisely. Even in Scripture, Judas Iscariot became identified by his act of betrayal. If you find it difficult to let go, turn to prayer. Pray intentionally for those who have hurt you. Do not curse them or wish them harm. Prayer has the power to dissolve pain and restore peace within your heart. As you release them from your heart, every burden placed upon you through that experience is lifted.

When you truly let go and embrace forgiveness, you position yourself for growth. Those who betray you cannot keep pace with you when you refuse to carry the weight of offense. Refuse to live in offense. While you may remember what was done, do not allow it to control your emotions or your future. Many who betray others act out of ignorance, selfishness, or even negative influences. This understanding should not justify their actions, but it should guide your response with wisdom and restraint. Do not become someone who betrays others. Maintain a pure heart toward those who love and trust you.

There are times when God allows certain experiences—including betrayal—to redirect you into His greater purpose. For example, if betrayal had not occurred in certain biblical accounts, key events would not have unfolded as they did. This reveals that God can work even through difficult experiences to accomplish His will. Never seek to harm those who have betrayed you, nor rejoice in their misfortune. Instead, maintain a heart that desires their well-being. Pray for them consistently and entrust them to God. In relationships, particularly in matters of love, betrayal can be deeply painful. However, you must sustain the right perspective:

- If you have been hurt in a relationship, see it as an opportunity for alignment with the right person God has prepared for you.
- When your heart is filled with hurt, your vision becomes limited. But when you release the offense, you open yourself to new possibilities and divine direction.
- Those who release betrayal quickly often find themselves aligned with better relationships, healthier environments, and greater opportunities. However, those who dwell on

betrayal risk stagnation. Their ability to recognize new opportunities becomes clouded by past pain. Engage in prayer intentionally. Mention the person or situation before God—not in anger, but in surrender. As you release them, you free yourself.

- Do not dwell on your betrayal or repeatedly recount it. Instead, focus your mind on what lies ahead—your growth, your purpose, and your future accomplishments.
- Fix your thoughts on what is pure, edifying, and constructive. Refuse to define your life by what was done to you. Instead, allow your response to shape who you become.
- Whenever you experience betrayal, be convinced that it is an opportunity to discover a new path that God has prepared for you.

If you are a woman betrayed by a man you loved and trusted, hold this truth in your heart: ***“This experience is positioning me to discover and align with the man God has prepared for me.”*** Likewise, if you are a man betrayed by a woman you loved and trusted, affirm within yourself: ***“This experience is leading me to the virtuous and suitable partner God has ordained for me.”***

Understanding the Will of God When You Are Betrayed

There are instances in life where certain individuals do not step into their destiny until an experience of betrayal occurs. For some, this process is part of a divine arrangement. Regardless of what happens to you, you must learn to give it proper interpretation. Not every painful experience is purely betrayal; some events are permitted to position you for what God has prepared ahead. At times, what appears as betrayal is actually a transition into a new season of growth, promotion, and purpose.

There are moments when a person must exit your life before you can fully step into the next level God has ordained for you. Therefore, not everything should be interpreted negatively. Some separations are aligned with the will of God.

A biblical example can be seen in the separation between Abraham and Lot. It was after Lot departed that God revealed greater dimensions of promise and possession to Abraham. In the same way, when God is ready to advance you, reveal deeper truths, or elevate your life, He may permit certain relationships to change or come to an end. You must develop the maturity to interpret such moments correctly. Understand that you came into this world alone and met people along the journey of life. When the season of a relationship has ended, you must allow people to depart in peace. Learn to move forward when betrayal occurs. Rather than allowing hurt to weigh you down, turn the experience into an advantage. Recognize that betrayal is only possible from those you have trusted, loved, or depended upon. A stranger cannot betray you.

People may change their minds, break promises, or act contrary to expectations. In such situations, choose not to be consumed by pain. Instead, rise above it. At times, the strength of betrayal can be broken through unexpected responses—such as joy, praise, kindness, patience, and prayer. Thank God, even in such circumstances, knowing that He can use every situation to align you with His will and purpose. Refuse to wish harm upon those who have hurt you. However, it is wise to establish healthy boundaries where necessary.

Do not hold on emotionally to those who have left your life. Release them from your heart. Holding on to past relationships out of pain or offense can hinder your progress. For those in leadership or ministry who have experienced betrayal from

colleagues, associates, or even family members, it is essential to release such individuals and move forward. Sometimes, these experiences are part of God's process of elevating you into new levels of responsibility and influence. Many people delay their own progress because they struggle to let go of hurt, offense, and betrayal. You must be prepared for the reality that people may leave your life at different times and for different reasons. While certain relationships—such as those within your immediate family—carry deeper commitments, even then, your ultimate trust must remain in God. In some cases, people must exit your life for you to progress. Learn to release people in your heart. Do not allow your heart to become a place of bondage because of past hurts. Always give proper interpretation to the experiences you encounter. Do not label every situation as betrayal. Some events are divinely orchestrated for your advancement, growth, and alignment with purpose. With the right perspective, what once seemed like a setback will become a stepping stone into a greater future.

The Root of Betrayal

The root of betrayal is selfishness. When a person is driven primarily by personal gain—seeking only what benefits them—they become susceptible to actions that may lead to betrayal if such tendencies are not properly checked. Selfishness narrows one's perspective and disregards the well-being of others. You must cultivate a heart that considers others in your decisions and actions. True integrity is revealed in your ability to remain faithful, even when it is not convenient. A biblical example is Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus Christ. His actions were influenced by selfish motives and misguided assumptions. He believed that Jesus would deliver Himself, not realizing the gravity of his actions. Prepare your mind for the reality that,

at some point in life, you may experience betrayal. However, make a firm and unwavering decision never to betray anyone. Let your life be marked by loyalty, faithfulness, and integrity.

Rejection Simplified

The blessings upon your life can sometimes attract rejection. When you carry a strong sense of purpose, a promising future, and a unique presence, it may provoke reactions from others that result in rejection. It is important to understand that not all rejection is the same. Some individuals experience rejection as a result of negative behaviors such as laziness, irresponsibility, or poor character. However, others are rejected because they possess exceptional gifts, uncommon wisdom, or a future that others may find difficult to comprehend or accept. When people are unable to relate to or handle the grace and favor upon your life, rejection may become their response. In such situations, remember this: you may be rejected by others, but you must never reject yourself.

When the favor of God is at work in your life, rejection can often be an indication that you are in the wrong environment or among the wrong associations. At times, rejection serves as divine redirection—guiding you away from places that are not aligned with your destiny. Rejection can work to your advantage when it is properly interpreted. It may be a signal that something better lies ahead. In some cases, your growth and glory depend on being separated from certain environments or individuals. If you are diligent, committed, and hardworking, yet still experience rejection, it may be an indication that there is a place where your gifts will be recognized and valued. Your rejection in one place may be preparing you for acceptance in another. When you interpret rejection correctly, you preserve

your joy and maintain your confidence. The joy of the Lord flows more freely when you understand the purpose behind your experiences. The next time you face rejection, do not dwell on the pain. Instead, look beyond it. Seek to understand what it reveals and where it is leading you. Always look at the other side of rejection—there, you may discover your next opportunity, your rightful place, and your greater purpose.

PROPER INTERPRETATION OF ACTIONS, REACTIONS AND RESPONSES OF PEOPLE

Learning to Interpret the Actions, Reactions and Responses of Others

One of the essential skills in life is the ability to properly interpret the actions, reactions, and responses of other people. Many misunderstandings, broken relationships, and unnecessary conflicts arise not from what people do, but from how their actions are interpreted. There are things people express without speaking. However, if you do not want to be offended unnecessarily, you must exercise caution in how you interpret non-verbal communication. You may observe a friend's facial expression and form an interpretation, only to later discover that your assumption was incorrect. Therefore, you must guard against making assumptions and drawing conclusions without adequate understanding. The experiences and inner struggles of others cannot always be accurately discerned through outward expressions. Be careful not to portray people in a light that

does not truly represent them. Never judge a person based on assumptions. You may not fully understand what someone is planning or going through before arriving at a conclusion about their personality or behavior.

It is pertinent to understand that people often interpret others through the lens of their own character. As the saying goes, when you point one finger at someone, the remaining fingers point back at you. In many cases, how you describe others reveals more about you than it does about them. When you consistently portray others negatively, it may reflect unresolved tendencies within yourself. While it is valuable to train your mind to observe atmospheres, signs, reactions, and behavioral patterns, it is unwise to hastily verbalize your observations. Observation is a strength, but drawing conclusions without verified facts is a weakness. Many relationships that could have thrived have been destroyed by assumptions. Assumptions are not always accurate, and they often lead to wrong interpretations. At the same time, you must develop discernment. Learn to recognize pretenders—those who praise you in your presence but speak negatively about you in your absence. Such individuals may not be bold enough to express their true thoughts openly. Sensitivity and discernment are necessary to identify such patterns early.

Do not be carried away by what people say or do in front of you alone. True character is often revealed in what people do when you are not present. The words spoken behind you often expose a person's true identity more than the praises offered before you. As a leader, this understanding becomes even more critical. Some individuals may flatter you with the intention of gaining your trust, while others who are less expressive may be more sincere and reliable. Do not base your trust solely on

outward expressions of admiration. The same voices that shout “Hosanna” today may cry “Crucify Him” tomorrow.

Furthermore, recognize that some people may genuinely care about you but lack the wisdom or confidence to express it. While you cultivate discernment, also learn to express love and appreciation openly, as not everyone can perceive unspoken intentions. Ultimately, avoid being quick to judge people based on their actions, reactions, or responses. True identity is rooted in the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Seek divine guidance and cultivate spiritual sensitivity so that you can interpret people accurately and respond with wisdom.

How to Have Proper Interpretation of the Actions, Reactions, and Responses of People

Developing the ability to interpret people correctly is essential for building healthy relationships and exercising sound judgment. Misinterpretation often leads to unnecessary conflicts, wrong decisions, and missed opportunities. The following principles will help you cultivate proper interpretation:

a. See beyond the Physical

You must learn to look beyond what is visible to the natural eye. Sensitivity in the spirit enables you to perceive deeper realities that are not immediately obvious. The Holy Spirit plays a vital role in helping you develop spiritual discernment. For instance, John Mark was the reason for the separation between Paul and Barnabas. Barnabas insisted that John Mark should accompany them on their second missionary journey, but Paul refused because John Mark had previously withdrawn from them. At that time, Paul’s interpretation of John Mark’s actions was limited. However, years later, Paul wrote to Timothy and

requested that John Mark be brought along, acknowledging that he had become useful in ministry. This example reveals that when you lack sensitivity, you may judge people solely by their past actions or present behavior, overlooking the potential and value within them. When you learn to see beyond the physical, you will recognize hidden strengths, benefits, and possibilities that others may ignore.

b. Cultivate the Quality of Patience

There are certain things you cannot understand immediately. Proper interpretation often requires time. Patience allows situations and people to unfold gradually, revealing truths that are not apparent at first glance. When you are patient, you give room for clarity. Time has a way of exposing motives, intentions, and character. Avoid rushing to conclusions; instead, allow understanding to mature.

c. Build Genuine Closeness with People

You must be intentional about building meaningful relationships with people. True understanding comes from proximity. When you draw closer to people, you gain insight into their values, struggles, motivations, and patterns of behavior. Studying people from a distance often leads to incomplete or inaccurate conclusions. However, closeness provides context, and context improves interpretation.

d. Make Deliberate Inquiry

Be intentional about making informed inquiries concerning people. Ask questions and seek clarity from reliable sources who truly know them. What you may be quick to judge could be an isolated incident rather than a consistent pattern. Sometimes,

the behavior you observe may be the first time a person is acting in such a manner. Without proper inquiry, you may form conclusions that are unfair or incorrect.

Proper interpretation of people requires spiritual sensitivity, patience, intentional relationships, and a willingness to seek accurate information. When you apply these principles, you will avoid unnecessary misunderstandings and respond to people with wisdom, grace, and maturity.

RIGHT INTERPRETATION OF ATTACKS, OPPOSITIONS AND BATTLES

Learning How to Interpret Attacks, Oppositions, and Battles

Every time a promotion is ahead of you, opposition may arise. When an attack comes against you, it is often a sign that there are blessings upon your life. It is rare for someone without value or purpose to be attacked. The blessings upon your life do not attract good things alone; they may also attract battles, oppositions, and attacks. Therefore, before you ask God for greater blessings, be aware that such blessings may come with resistance.

Proper Interpretation of Attacks, Oppositions, and Battles

a. They Are Not Meant to Destroy You

Although the intention of those behind the attacks may be to destroy you, you must adopt a different perspective. You must interpret attacks as opportunities that propel you into the next level of your life. When properly understood, attacks are designed to create a sense of urgency and discomfort that pushes you beyond your current level. Without such pressure,

you may become too comfortable and remain stagnant. Attacks often increase your desire for progress, breakthrough, and advancement. There are certain dimensions of growth that will not manifest until a sense of urgency is activated within you. One of the forces that triggers such urgency is opposition. The battles you face can stir within you a deeper hunger for change, promotion, and new levels of accomplishment.

b. They Provide Opportunities for New Strategies and Plans

While attacks and oppositions are intended to bring you down, proper interpretation reveals that they can actually position you to rise. When you face opposition, it is often a call to develop new strategies and refine your plans. Instead of reacting in fear or frustration, use such moments to seek wisdom and direction. Invest time in understanding how to overcome the challenge before you. Attacks can push you into a realm of strategic thinking where you develop solutions that not only neutralize the current challenge but also prepare you for future ones. In this way, opposition becomes a catalyst for innovation, growth, and resilience.

c. They Reveal Your True Capacity and Identity

Attacks, oppositions, and battles are not merely obstacles—they are revelations. They unveil the true nature of who you are. It was the battle between David and Goliath that revealed David's true identity and capacity. The confrontation brought to light the strength, courage, and faith that were already within him. In the same way, the challenges you face can expose the depth of your potential. Battles have a way of bringing hidden abilities to the surface. They reveal your strength, your endurance, and your ability to overcome. What may seem like a threat is often a stage

upon which your true capacity is displayed. Do not fear attacks, oppositions, or battles. Instead, develop the right perspective toward them. When properly interpreted, they are instruments of growth, platforms for advancement, and opportunities for the revelation of your true potential.

Victory over Attacks, Oppositions, and Battles

Your victory over attacks, oppositions, and battles begins with your interpretation of them. The way you perceive these challenges determines whether you are defeated by them or elevated through them. Attacks can be properly interpreted as the beginning of prominence, rising, and victory. You must consciously shift your perspective and embrace the right mindset. Every attack presents an opportunity to rise, overcome, and become greater in life. There is something God has prepared for you in every attack, opposition, and battle that rises against you. Each challenge carries within it the potential for elevation. Whenever you are confronted with opposition, it is often because there is a higher position ahead of you. These forces arise to contend with the place you are destined to occupy. You must stand your ground and maintain the right interpretation of every attack, opposition, and battle that comes your way.

Benefits of Proper Interpretation of Attacks, Oppositions, and Battles

a. It Guides Your Response

Proper interpretation helps you discern what deserves your response and what should be ignored. Not every criticism requires a reply. There are times when people may criticize you or publish negative things about you. Responding to such

individuals may only bring you down to their level. Silence, in many cases, is a demonstration of wisdom and strength. Some attacks are evidence that you are making impact and gaining influence. If you were not doing anything significant, you would likely not attract such attention. Instead of reacting to every negative voice, remain focused and grateful to God for the influence and visibility you have received. Learn to carefully choose the battles you engage in. Not everyone deserves your attention or response.

b. It Strengthens Your Determination

Attacks, oppositions, and battles often strengthen your resolve to succeed. They can ignite a deeper determination within you to achieve your goals. While these challenges may be intended to distract and discourage you, they should instead sharpen your focus and commitment. Use such moments to intensify your efforts—pray more, work harder, and remain steadfast in your pursuit of success. Do not be moved by negative words, curses, or opposition. Stay determined. Some expectations of failure placed upon you must never come to pass.

c. It Enhances Your Focus

Challenges have a way of refining your focus. During times of opposition, you become more intentional about your goals, plans, and next steps. Instead of being distracted, use these moments to reflect, strategize, and realign your priorities. Identify your next move and concentrate your energy on what truly matters. Anything that does not contribute to your growth and progress does not deserve your attention.

d. It Builds Your Strength

Through attacks and opposition, you develop resilience and inner strength. These experiences shape you into a stronger, more capable individual. You become more stable, confident, and prepared for greater responsibilities. What once seemed overwhelming becomes manageable, and you grow into a person who is difficult to defeat or replace. Challenges have a way of drawing out the strength that already exists within you.

e. It Deepens Your Prayer Life

Attacks often drive you into a deeper place of prayer and dependence on God. In moments of pressure, you become more spiritually sensitive and intentional. Through prayer, you gain clarity, strength, and divine intervention. What was meant to hinder you becomes a channel through which God's glory is revealed in your life. Prayer positions you for victory in the midst of battles.

f. It Increases Your Visibility and Influence

Paradoxically, attacks can increase your visibility and expand your influence. Situations intended to bring you down can instead make you more known. In some cases, people who speak against you inadvertently draw attention to you. Those who were previously unaware of your existence may come to know you through such situations. What was meant for harm can become a form of promotion when your heart remains pure and your response is right. When you maintain integrity, God can use opposition as a tool for elevation. Never view attacks, oppositions, and battles as the end of your journey. With the right interpretation, they become stepping stones to greater heights. Maintain a pure heart, stay focused, and trust God to turn every challenge into a platform for your advancement.

PROPER UNDERSTANDING OF RELATIONSHIPS

Clarity on the Relationships in Your Life

How do you interpret the relationships in your life? I have written extensively on this subject. I recommend one of my books, *Managing Divine People*, for further study. I encourage you to read it, as it provides deeper insight into the various kinds of relationships that exist. This will serve as a complement to the insights shared in this chapter.

Relationships You Are Not Privileged to Choose

God is the Author of divine relationships. There are relationships you choose, and there are others given to you without your input. For instance, your relationship with your parents is not a matter of choice. It is divinely ordained. If many people had the opportunity to choose their parents before birth, a large percentage might have chosen differently. However, you were not given that privilege. God, in His wisdom, determined your parentage. Similarly, you are not given the privilege to choose your children. Whether a child is male

or female, their birth is by divine order. It is not a product of human selection but a manifestation of God's wisdom and purpose. Whoever gave birth to you has contributed certain benefits to your life—benefits that are not always physical, material, or financial. Many of these contributions relate to your background, experiences, and the circumstances that prepare you for your divine destiny. The family you were born into, the environment in which you were raised, and the institutions you attended all play significant roles in shaping your life's journey and aligning you with God's purpose. Some relationships—such as those with your parents and children—are not subject to your choice; they are divinely orchestrated.

The Relationship of Divine Help

Another category of relationships you do not choose is the relationship of helpers. Every individual requires help at some point in life. As Psalm 60:11 declares, "Give us help from trouble, for the help of man is useless." This does not negate human assistance; rather, it emphasizes that true help originates from God, even though it is often delivered through people. God helps individuals by stirring the hearts of others. When someone shows up in your life to support, assist, or elevate you, it is an expression of divine help. You are not given the privilege to determine who will help you—God alone makes that decision. He may choose to use friends, strangers, family members, colleagues, superiors, subordinates, or even those who oppose you. This truth should cultivate humility and kindness in your interactions with others. You must conduct yourself wisely because you do not know whom God will use as a channel of help in your life. At times, the help you need may not come from your immediate environment. God may send it from unexpected

places or through unlikely individuals. In some cases, a person may serve as a connector—linking you to the one assigned to help you. Interestingly, many people who help you may not even realize they are doing so. They may simply be acting on inner promptings, unaware that they are instruments of divine assistance in your life. God designed it this way so that all glory ultimately returns to Him.

The Principle of Right Conduct in Relationships

Since you do not know whom God will use to help you, it is essential to conduct yourself properly in all relationships. 1 Peter 2:17 instructs, “Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.” This establishes the principle of honoring everyone, regardless of status or familiarity. Similarly, Philippians 2:3 teaches, “Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.” You are called to value others and avoid elevating yourself above them. Be careful not to sow seeds of rejection, disconnection, or hostility in the hearts of people God may have ordained to help you. Many individuals have unknowingly damaged relationships through careless words and actions long before the time those relationships were meant to become channels of blessing. You do not have the power to choose your helpers, but you do have the responsibility to position yourself rightly through your conduct. Treat people with honor, respect, and sincerity at all times. Understanding relationships requires recognizing that not all of them are within your control. Some are divinely arranged for your growth, alignment, and advancement. When you interpret relationships correctly and conduct yourself wisely, you position yourself to receive the fullness of what God has prepared for you through

people.

Who Is Pronouncing Blessings over Your Life?

You must cultivate relationships with individuals who consistently speak blessings over your life. When you are aligned with your divine destiny, God determines who your spiritual leaders will be. Just as a sheep does not choose its shepherd, you do not ultimately choose your pastor—God does. In the same way, God appoints your spiritual parents. You must allow Him to take charge of this aspect of your life and acknowledge His sovereignty. While human decisions may play a role, divine orchestration is paramount. Trust God to connect you with the right spiritual authority who will guide, nurture, and pronounce blessings over your life.

You Do Not Choose Your Enemies

Jesus Christ instructs in Matthew 5:44: ***“But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.”*** Just as you do not choose certain relationships, you also do not choose your enemies. There are individuals whose hearts may become negatively influenced toward you. These are human adversaries—people who may oppose your progress and advancement. Interestingly, some may admire your personality yet resist your growth. They may become critics, persecutors, mockers, or opposers. As long as you are making progress in life, you will encounter such individuals. Even a life of integrity and good character does not exempt you from being misunderstood or opposed. Your response to such people is what truly matters.

Proverbs 24:17–18 says, “Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, and do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles; lest

the Lord see it, and it displease Him, and He turn away His wrath from him.” This Scriptural passage provides a divine template for handling opposition. You are not permitted to rejoice over the downfall of your enemies or wish them evil. Instead, you are to trust the justice system of God. Allow God to handle vindication and judgment in His own way and time. Also, Proverbs 25:21–22 declares, “If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; for so you will heap coals of fire on his head, and the Lord will reward you.” You are instructed to show kindness even to those who oppose you. When they are in need and you have the capacity to help, do not withhold assistance. Extend generosity and compassion. Such actions align you with God’s principles and position you for divine reward. Proverbs 16:7 further affirms, “When a man’s ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.” When you live in alignment with God’s will, He has the power to transform hostility into peace. Your responsibility is to walk in righteousness, kindness, and obedience.

Relationships You Are Privileged to Choose

There are relationships you are privileged to choose in life. You can choose your friends. Friendship is by choice, not by force. If someone desires to be your friend but you discover ideological conflicts or character flaws, you have the right to decide not to relate closely with such a person. Some individuals are not meant to be in your life because their presence may become a source of distraction or setback.

Marriage, on one hand, is within your power to choose. You have the responsibility to decide whom to marry and whom not to marry. One of the purposes of relationships before marriage

is to understand one another. Such relationships help both partners gain clarity and reveal similarities and differences in exposure, beliefs, and life perspectives. During this period, sincerity is essential—avoid pretense and be genuine with one another.

On the other hand, there are instances where individuals may not entirely choose whom to marry, as God may take the lead in that decision. This dimension reflects divine involvement in human relationships. God created people uniquely, with different assignments and purposes. He understands what suits each person, including the kind of spouse and relationship required to fulfill His divine plan.

For some individuals, God may reveal or direct them toward whom to marry. However, an extreme approach to this is the belief that “God must show you the person in a dream” or that “you must receive a specific word from God to validate your choice.” While divine guidance is important, it must be balanced with wisdom. ***Marriage involves values, ideological alignment, emotional maturity, social compatibility, and behavioral stability.*** While you have the power of choice, there are exceptional cases where God gives specific instructions. For instance, in Hosea 1:2–3, God commanded the prophet Hosea to marry Gomer, a woman with a history of prostitution. Even after she returned to her former ways, Hosea was instructed to take her back. This was not a logical decision but a divinely orchestrated one for a higher purpose. Matthew 1:18–19 says, “Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.” Similarly, Joseph was instructed by

an angel to take Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ, as his wife despite her pregnancy, which was conceived by the Holy Spirit. Initially, he intended to separate from her quietly, but divine intervention redirected his decision. In light of these examples, believers are encouraged to pray for the will of God concerning marriage. This is an area where divine guidance and personal responsibility must work together. Marriage requires alignment in purpose, values, and beliefs.

You must also be intentional about building a ***peaceful marriage***. Many conflicts can be avoided when both partners learn the art of forbearance, forgiveness, and maturity. Not every issue requires a response; some matters are best overlooked in love. ***Trust*** is fundamental and non-negotiable in marriage. It is unfortunate that some spouses struggle with trust, leading to insecurity, misunderstandings, and conflict. A lack of trust can destabilize even the strongest relationships.

People must understand that they have the power to choose whom to marry. Even when God inspires a choice, an individual may still decide otherwise—this is the exercise of free will. Such decisions are often influenced by perceived character flaws or incompatibility. It is gratifying to note that God often works on individuals over time. What may appear as a limitation today may be refined tomorrow. Rigidity must be avoided in marriage. Both partners must remain flexible, willing to grow, and open to change. Maturity in decision-making, communication, and responses is essential. Ultimately, a successful marriage requires intentional effort from both partners. It is a shared responsibility that must be nurtured with wisdom, patience, and love.

The Tool of Engagement with Your Superiors and Co-workers

in the Workplace

You may write to a company for employment. However, the moment you are considered and employed, you do not determine who your boss or co-workers will be. Some people assume that their boss will always conform to their preferences, but this is not the case. As an employee, you are expected to receive and carry out instructions from your superiors consistently. You must cultivate qualities such as humility, flexibility, friendliness, and strong interpersonal skills. Be known for positive character traits. Avoid disrespect and never insult your superiors. One essential quality to maintain in the workplace is straightforwardness. Do not be known for unnecessary criticism. Present yourself as someone who speaks the truth both in people's presence and in their absence.

Relating effectively with your superiors requires sensitivity and maturity. If you find yourself working under a boss who is harsh, frustrating, or difficult, you must learn not to be reactive. Avoid discussing your boss's weaknesses with others. Instead, deploy the tools of wisdom, patience, and understanding. Focus on your boss's strengths and overlook their flaws. Guard your heart against pride. Do not assume that because you are highly qualified, you cannot take instructions or be corrected. Remain teachable and respectful. Be a responsible employee who does not engage in unnecessary conflict with superiors. At times, when you have issues with your boss, some co-workers may attempt to encourage you to act disrespectfully. Be discerning—such individuals may not have your best interests at heart. In many cases, when an employee is dismissed, these same individuals may either take their position or recommend someone else for it. They are unlikely to advocate on your behalf.

As a believer, you must not be known for being difficult or

troublesome in the workplace. Strive to maintain a good record with your superiors. If your boss behaves in a way that seems to require a response, exercise patience and wisdom. Develop emotional maturity in your interactions with both your boss and your colleagues. Conduct yourself with professionalism at all times. Build and maintain healthy working relationships. There are appropriate ways to relate well with your boss, and wisdom is required to navigate such dynamics. Let the wisdom of God guide all your actions and decisions in the workplace. Proverbs 21:14 says, “A gift in secret pacifies anger, and a bribe behind the back, strong wrath.” This highlights the importance of discernment in relationships. While gifts may sometimes be appropriate, they are not always material. One of the greatest “**gifts**” you can offer is honor, respect, and loyalty. Cultivate strong relational ethics with your co-workers, and be quick to forgive. These qualities will not only preserve your position but also promote your growth and influence in the workplace.

How to Give Proper Interpretation to the Relationships in Your Life

a. Identify the nature of every relationship in your life

Clearly define the roles of the people around you—your parents, pastor, spiritual mentors, co-workers, boss, friends, and even adversaries. Understanding the identity of each relationship helps you relate appropriately and set the right expectations.

b. Gain insight into what must be avoided in each relationship

In managing relationships, many people focus only on what they should do but fail to recognize what they must not do. Ask yourself: What behaviors or actions are not acceptable in

this relationship? For example, there are certain words and attitudes you must avoid when interacting with your boss in the workplace. Knowing these boundaries will help preserve and strengthen your relationships.

c. Discover what you should consistently do in each relationship

Healthy relationships are sustained by intentional actions. Learn the attitudes, behaviors, and contributions required from you in each relationship. This understanding will help you nurture and maintain strong, meaningful connections.

d. Identify the relationships that are meant to be permanent

Not all relationships are seasonal—some are meant to endure. These may include relationships with certain friends, mentors, your pastor, or spiritual leaders. Once you recognize such relationships, be intentional about sustaining them by clearly understanding both your responsibilities and your limitations within them. In these enduring relationships, establish consistent patterns of engagement—monthly, quarterly, or yearly. Be deliberate about maintaining connection, such as through strategic visits or meaningful communication. When you visit, do not go empty-handed; express honor and appreciation in tangible or intangible ways. You must learn how to leave a positive imprint of your presence and personality in the hearts and memories of those who matter in your life.

Maintaining Balance in Every Relationship

At certain points in life, some relationships will naturally come to an end. Wisdom demands that you do not force such relationships to continue. Instead, free your heart and let go. Some relationships are time-bound and are only meant for specific seasons. You have the responsibility to manage and

multiply the relationships in your life. This requires understanding the dynamics of human interactions. People differ in gifting, exposure, intelligence, wisdom, competence, diligence, and creativity. No two individuals are exactly the same. Be kind and show love to everyone you encounter. Every relationship in your life has value. Although they may not all contribute in the same way or offer the same level of support, they all play a role in your journey. Some relationships are strategically positioned to grant you access to privileged information that will enhance your growth, development, and breakthroughs in life. Recognize and maximize such opportunities. It is essential for your relational capacity to grow. Develop yourself to the point where you can relate with people across different levels and backgrounds. Learn to engage others according to their level of understanding, exercising wisdom, patience, and discernment in all your interactions.

CLARIFICATION ON SPIRITUAL LANGUAGES

Proper Interpretation of Spiritual Languages

You must learn how to interpret spiritual languages accurately. There are spiritual signs and expressions through which God communicates His mind to His children. If you lack spiritual awareness and sensitivity, God may be speaking, yet you remain ignorant of His channels of communication. Below are some of the spiritual languages through which God speaks:

a. The Surge of Power in Your Body

How do you interpret the surge of God's power in your body? This experience can occur during personal devotion, in church gatherings, during praise and worship, or in moments of prayer. Many refer to this as the anointing or the presence of God. This surge often comes with a purpose—it signals that a spiritual assignment is at hand. Whenever you experience such a manifestation, it is a moment to speak and declare words from your heart. The words spoken during such times carry spiritual weight and can bring about lasting results. Make bold decla-

rations concerning your life, destiny, and expectations. Some believers have grown in sensitivity to the point of discerning the ministry of angels during such moments. Others may associate this experience with a healing anointing. Regardless, you must seek understanding. Ask the Holy Spirit: “What is the meaning of this surge of power within me?” Be attentive to His response. God is always willing to enlighten you through His Spirit when you inquire.

b. Recognizing the Absence of Peace

There are moments when you feel a sense of unease without a clear explanation. You may not be able to identify the cause, yet you sense that something is not right. This is often a lack of peace. Such an experience can be a spiritual signal—God drawing your attention to something that requires discernment. It may be a call to pause, reflect, and seek divine insight into matters not yet visible.

c. Understanding Angelic Visitations and Presence

When angels operate within a territory or around your life, spiritual discernment is required. Their activities should not go unnoticed by spiritually sensitive believers. You should seek understanding regarding their presence:

- Why have they come?
- What is their assignment?
- Where are they sent from?

Some individuals may have angelic assistance assigned to them. In such cases, they must grow in awareness and understanding of these operations. The Holy Spirit can reveal the purpose

and assignment of angelic activity in your life. However, as a believer, do not become overly focused on seeing angels. If God intends to send an angel to you, He will do so according to His will. Your focus should remain on God. If necessary, you may ask God concerning angelic assistance, but always prioritize your relationship with Him.

d. The Stirring to Pray

A sudden urge or burden to pray is a spiritual language. At times, you may not initially feel inclined to pray, but shortly after, you experience a strong prompting to engage in prayer. This stirring is often the Holy Spirit quickening your spirit. Through your obedience in prayer, God may accomplish His will in your life or in the lives of others. Whenever you sense this prompting, respond promptly. Such stirrings may also extend to preaching, giving, or offering counsel.

e. The Arrival of a New Season

The awareness of a new season often comes as an inner knowing—a deep conviction that something is shifting in your life. You may sense that change is near, even before it becomes visible. This awareness is a spiritual language that must be discerned. It signals transition, preparation, and the unfolding of new opportunities or responsibilities.

f. A Silent Call to Prayer

At times, you may find yourself waking consistently at a particular hour, especially during the night. This may be a spiritual prompting—a call to prayer. Such experiences require sensitivity. Rather than ignoring them, recognize them as invitations to commune with God. Responding to these

moments can unlock deeper spiritual encounters and direction.

g. Songs in Your Heart

When a song continually rises in your heart, it may be a spiritual communication. If a particular song repeats within you over a period of time, it is not coincidental—it is a signal. Pay attention to the lyrics of the song. Often, they carry a message that reflects God’s mind and intention for your life. The songs of the Spirit require your attention and meditation.

h. Scriptural Passages in Your Heart

Another form of spiritual language is when a specific Scripture comes repeatedly to your heart. This is a divine prompt. When this happens, intentionally open your Bible, locate the passage, and study it meditatively. Engage with it in prayer and allow the Holy Spirit to bring understanding. Additionally, you may notice certain teachings, messages, or sermons appearing repeatedly—whether through audio or video. This may not be random. God may be directing your attention to specific truths for your growth, guidance, or protection. Take responsibility to listen and receive what God is communicating through such channels. These messages are often meant for your spiritual advancement and safety. Developing sensitivity to these spiritual languages will position you to understand God more clearly and walk in alignment with His will.



About the Author

Niyi Makinde is an apostle, author and crusader. He is the author of hundreds of books on multiple subjects. He writes with high inspiration and creative wisdom. Great leaders recommend his books. As a minister, he is widely known for healings and miracles. Apostle Niyi Makinde is the pioneer and president of Rebirth Global Church, a network of churches across the globe. He is also the pioneer of Connect Global, a larger body of churches and ministries across the globe. He hosts the annual Connect Confluence, a global gathering of many believers, various churches and ministries. Niyi Makinde is highly esteemed and respected by great leaders. He is known for simplicity, integrity and uncommon wisdom. Many great leaders consider him one of the wisest and greatest among men. He is a father figure and oversight over many churches, ministries and Christian networks.

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