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Highways to our Supernatural Exemption in Hard Times!

BY DAVID O. OYEDEPO

The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be forever. They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied (Psalms 37:18-19).

We understand from scriptures that famine (hard times) is common to every generation. That is, every generation suffers one economic hardship or another. Interestingly, economic failure is not a function of population, it is just part of the times and seasons of life. Remember, there is nothing new under the sun. The Bible records that the patriarchs also went through hard times. For instance, there was famine in the days of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. However, in the midst of the famine, they grew, multiplied exceedingly and had possessions (Genesis 12:10-11, 26:1, 43:1-2, 47:15-19; Ecclesiastes 3:11).

We must understand that by covenant, we are ordained to be exempted from what others suffer. According to scriptures, while the Egyptians experienced severe famine and economic meltdown, the Israelites were divinely exempted at those

times. The Bible records that the Israelites were exempted in Egypt from the swarm of flies, which connotes decadence and stench. Also, they were exempted from the plague of death of cattle, which implies collapse of business and careers. Furthermore, they were exempted from hails and tempest mingled with fire, which connotes devastation and destruction. Again, they were not affected by gross darkness which connotes frustration, stagnation and despair. The plague of sudden death came in the land, but the Israelites were exempted (Exodus 8:20-24, 9:1-7, 18, 10:21-23).

This goes to establish that, while hard times are real, God's covenant people are never victims of its reality, because God will always exempt them in the midst of the terrors and turmoil of hard times. Remember, God said: *For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.* This means whatever God did yesterday, He is still doing and will keep doing. Therefore, the same way He exempted the Israelites from the plagues that buffeted the Egyptians, God shall be separating the redeemed from the evils of these last days (Malachi 3:6).

However, like the patriarchs of old, we must get on key with the covenant of seed time and harvest which is the secret behind our exemption. That is, it is by engaging the covenant practice of seed time and harvest that we are exempted from the horror, torture and torment of the world. Remember, it is not just a revelation of the covenant but its practice, as contained in scriptures that exempts us from economic gloom.

But, what is a Covenant?

A covenant is a deal enacted by God based on well-defined terms and sealed with an oath, thereby committing God's integrity to make good His promise. We discover from scriptures that covenant practice is the platform for empowerment into realms of supernatural blessings. This helps us to recognise that God's supernatural blessings are anchored on the covenant of seed time and harvest, which also connotes giving and receiving. As it is written: *While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease* (Genesis 8:22).

I have always said that the covenant is ever reliable and no devil can disannul it, when

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duly complied with. No wonder every genuine giver ends up a man or woman of exploits, which connotes pacesetting and trailblazing accomplishments. This is because by walking with the terms of the covenant, we commit God's integrity to make good His promise. We must understand that all our covenant fathers engaged the covenant of giving as a lifestyle and that engendered their supernatural blessings even in the midst of hard times. Therefore, there is no substitute to giving and receiving, for anyone who wants to enjoy all-round blessings. For instance, Abraham the giver was a covenant practitioner. When he offered his only son, Isaac, on the altar of sacrifice, God responded from heaven and said: *...by myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice* (Genesis 14:19-21, 22:16-18).

Thus, the Abrahamic covenant refers to the covenant of supernatural blessings that God swore to Abraham in response to his sacrifice on mount Moriah. One mystery about the covenant is that it is far beyond financial blessings, but procures for us all-round blessings (Genesis 2:18).

In other words, **the covenant of financial abundance is not only limited to financial blessings but also cover other blessings that money cannot buy, which include:**

❖ **Supernatural change of levels:** As it is written: *And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God* (Deuteronomy 28:2; see also Deuteronomy 28:3-7; Malachi 3:10).

The covenant has power to set anyone on high above all nations of the earth.

❖ **Deliverance from trouble:** Engaging the covenant of seed time and harvest delivers us in the day of trouble, preserves our lives and averts/terminates sicknesses and diseases. Furthermore, when we walk in the covenant with all our hearts, we become supernaturally fearless and become conscious of God's covering over our lives. As we all know, everyone is a victim of his/her fear, but when we become fearless, we become more than

conquerors as we don't lose any battle (Job 3:25; Psalms 20:1-3, 41:1-3; 1 John 4:18).

❖ **It secures our posterity:** The covenant guarantees preservation of our generations. For instance, the generation of Abraham is silently ruling the world. There is no single exploit on the earth without a major Jewish input. One out of every five Nobel laureate in the world, in over one hundred years, is a Jew. Moreover, most of the amazing inventions in the field of medicine are Jewish facilitated. That means our seed time and harvest engagements do not just guarantee monetary returns but also secure and launch our posterity into realms of exploits. No doubt, God will always defend His children who walk in His fear any day, anytime and anywhere (Psalms 112:1-9).

Other blessings that accompany the covenant of seed time and harvest include divine health, protection, joy, peace, longevity e.t.c. When God's blessings come upon us, we become indestructible. For instance, every effort to destroy Joseph failed because there was a blessing on him. Covenant blessings put us above circumstances that destroy others, including death. John D. Rockefeller, one of the first American billionaires and a diehard tither, was struck with cancer. When the doctor said he would not see his 52nd birthday, he gave 50% of his fortune to bless humanity, and lived to be 93 years old. That is the longevity factor that accompanies the giving and receiving covenant (Genesis 37:28; Isaiah 65:21-22; Malachi 3:11).

Thus, money is only the elementary part of the returns of the covenant; the real part is the blessing that makes rich and adds no sorrow. This is why our seeds are not financial donations to help God, the ministry or the minister; rather, they are spiritual transactions that release supernatural blessings on our lives and guarantee our exemption in hard times (Genesis 8:21, 22:15-18; Proverbs 10:22; Philippians 4:19).

How, then, do we exercise our exemption rights?

• **We must have a revelation of our exemption in Christ:** Remember, we are members of God's family and as such, our cases are ordained to be different. The Bible records that we are spiritual Jews, ordained for exemption from the torment

of hard times. It is written: *And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise* (Galatians 3:2; see also Isaiah 5:13; Jeremiah 15:16; John 8:32).

• **Walk in the light of that revelation:** We must understand that revelation alone cannot deliver anything; rather, it is applied revelation that delivers proofs. We are in the stormy seasons of life, so we must keep putting God's Word to work. Remember, despite the heat of the famine, Isaac still sowed and that same year, his destiny changed forever (Genesis 26:13; Matthew 7:24-25).

• **Keep the love of God alive in our hearts:** As it is written: *And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose* (Romans 8:28; see also 1 Corinthians 2:9).

• **We must continue to engage in the covenant of seed time and harvest:** This is the only way to keep our heavens open and be exempted from what others suffer (Galatians 6:9).

• **Develop a covenant exemption mentality:** It is not enough to discover our exemption rights in Christ, we must keep thinking and speaking its reality, as God will only confirm what we declare (Proverbs 23:7).

In conclusion, we must recognise that at the root of God's blessings is the believer's obedience. For instance, at the root of the supernatural blessing sworn to Abraham was obedience to the covenant of seed time and harvest. Remember, it is following the steps of giants that makes giants; and the Bible admonishes us not to be slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises. Thus, there is what to do to access the realm of unending blessings (Hebrews 6:12).

I have often said that we can be sure of what tomorrow holds by doing what God tells us to do today. If we do not walk in obedience to His Word of seed time and harvest, we will end up frustrated in life. Remember, nobody ever lacks what he gives but what he keeps. Therefore, I decree the release of grace for steadfastness in our covenant practice of seed time and harvest, so as to enjoy supernatural blessings that will differentiate us from the world in Jesus' name! Remain ever blessed!

Jesus is Lord!

Amazing Testimonies!

Supernatural Advancement via Kingdom Engagement!

"When the *Wonder-Double* agenda commenced in 2016, my prayer partner and I locked our shops to go for the morning and evening gospel raids.

Later that year, my friend went to the Embassy for visa application and she was given her visa. I went after and got mine too. Then, the Holy Spirit instructed me to sow all the money I had saved, into the new zonal centre we were merged with and I did.

Behold, God favoured me as I was able to get my ticket fee. On getting to the United States of America, I was told that I couldn't get a job until I worked with someone else's residential papers. I discarded the advice and continued to engage in Kingdom advancement prayers. Miraculously, God connected me with someone and I secured a job. Now, I am paid in six digits every week. I give God all the glory!"

---**Alexander Adeobu**

Miracle Job via Shiloh Sacrifice!

"I believed God for a job higher than my qualification because my previous job was to expire in March 2017. Meanwhile, I gave my Shiloh Sacrifice and first fruit in January 2017, even after my boss told me there would be no space for me after the expiration date.

Miraculously, the same boss who told me there was no space, informed me about another opening in the organisation and prepared me for the interview to ensure I got the job. To the glory of God, I got the job with amazing benefits. I give God all the glory!"

---**Tosin Arotiba**

Supernatural Promotion!

"During Shiloh 2015, Bishop David Oyedepo told us to drop a settlement sacrifice. My mother dropped the sacrifice and tagged it 'Olugbenga Emmanuel Ogundare's settlement sacrifice.' That same Shiloh, I interceded for all my siblings for divine favour.

Two weeks after, one of my siblings was appointed as the Chief Registrar for Lagos State Judiciary. Also, I remembered a particular preaching in church that, 'You don't stop praying until you see what you are asking God for in your hand.' So, I continued praying.

During Shiloh 2016, I asked God for His favour over my siblings. Two months after, one of my brothers was also appointed Honorable Justice for Lagos State Judiciary and he was sworn in on March 8, 2017 as one of the judges of Lagos State High Court!"

4-Year Barrenness Terminated via Prophetic Declaration!

"In February 2014, after series of miscarriages, my husband and I came to camp in Canaanland to seek the face of God on the issue. One of the days, we saw Bishop David Oyedepo in front of the secretariat and ran towards him for fatherly blessings. After I told him my predicament, he laid his hands on us and declared that in nine months time, we would return to testify. Today, God has fulfilled the words of His Prophet and blessed me with a baby. We give God all the glory!"

Career Restoration & Divine Healing!

"I am one of the first set of Bishop David Oyedepo's converts. The Bishop met me at Toll Gate and invited me to church. Meanwhile, I was jobless and for ten years, my son was asthmatic. Behold, within two weeks, God restored my job.

Furthermore, in one of the services, the Bishop said that our problems would respond to whatever name we called them. When we got home, my son was attacked with asthma. Then, I gave him the inhaler but he refused to use it. He said that he had changed the name of asthma to ordinary cold. Thereafter, he requested for Paracetamol. Since then, he has not felt any symptom of asthma.

Also, I travelled for a seminar and was attacked with partial stroke. I engaged the mystery of the

Communion and within 24 hours, the stroke disappeared. I give God all the glory!"

Rescued From Death!

"On March 20, 2017, two men entered our compound and said they were informed that we needed drivers. After much interrogation, they said they got the information from Winners' Chapel but when we greeted them with our Covenant Greeting, they could not respond. So, we knew they were lying.

Thereafter, they shut the gate and brought out two knives. The first intruder knocked me down and the knife was very close to me. However, when I screamed the Blood of Jesus, he was blindfolded and could not see the knife. Meanwhile, the mantle I had on my shoulder fell off; I picked it and hit the intruder with it. Immediately, he fled out of the compound.

The other one went upstairs and wanted to stab my husband; but by divine intervention, he was overpowered and dispossessed of his weapon. We give all the glory to the God of this Commission, Who saved our lives!"

Miracle Job via Kingdom Endeavours!

"I believed God for a miracle job. When *Operation Come And See* was announced, I dived into it. In one of the *Mid-Week Services*, I keyed in to the prophetic word from Bishop David Oyedepo that we are neither serving God for the sake of it nor serving Him for fun because He is a 'Rewarder' of them that diligently seek Him. So, I engaged aggressively in prayers, reaching out to the lost and bringing them to church.

I was mocked while sharing fliers but I was never deterred. Miraculously, on March 15, 2017, I received a message for a job I did not apply for and on March 31, 2017, I was given my appointment letter to resume work immediately. Indeed, it pays to serve God! I give all the glory to the God of this Commission!"

---**Shaibu Felicia**

Amazing Testimonies!

Miracle Baby via Prophetic Declaration!

"I got married in 2013 and believed God for the fruit of the womb. I attended Shiloh 2015 and keyed in to every instruction given by Bishop David Oyedepo. Thereafter, God remembered me. Today, God has made me a mother of a bouncing baby girl. I give Him all the glory!"

---Mrs. Nkechi, U.

Bouncing Baby Boy via Obedience to Prophetic Instructions!

"We got married in April 2015. Just like every married couple, we believed God for immediate pregnancy to no avail. Each time my mother-in-law called me to ask about the situation, I replied that God had done it and the baby was kicking fine. Our faith was never deterred because we held on to Bishop David Oyedepo's statement that, 'When your cloud is full, your rain will fall.' As such, when the *Wonder-Double* agenda was declared, we engaged in outreaches, Kingdom-focused prayers and brought new converts to church.

During the 21-day prayer and fasting in January 2016, we engaged rigorously and wholeheartedly. The first item on our prayer list was for God to give us our own child. However, Bishop emphasized during the fast the need to pray for the Kingdom and church members. As such, we had to stop praying for a child and started praying for the Kingdom, members of the church and non-members who also believed God for children.

During the third *One Night with the King* service, which was also the last week of the fast, Bishop re-emphasized that we should demonstrate our love for God by inviting at least one soul to church. I took days off from work that week and lodged at the Camp House. I invited two of my colleagues who also camped with me and two others for the *Feet Washing Service*. I prayed that God would give them encounters since they were invitees.

To the glory of God, they gave their lives to Christ. After the first service of that Sunday, they pleaded that they wanted to wait for the remaining services. Hence, we attended five services. However, during the third service, my blood flow started. I was almost in tears but kept my faith alive to avoid questions from my invitees. On my way to the Camp House to clean up, the Holy Spirit told me to return to church. I obeyed immediately, not minding the flow.

The following month, which was February 2016, I was confirmed pregnant. All through the pregnancy, my husband and I participated in almost all the outreaches, engaged in Kingdom advancement prayers and brought new members to church with our car. We also provided a bus to convey members, who reside in our estate, every Sunday till date. On November 6, 2016, God blessed us with a bouncing baby boy. We give all the glory to God, Who is a 'Rewarder' of them that obey His instructions and diligently serve Him!" ---Nneka

Prophetic Blessings

When the whole world is confused, the light of heaven will show forth for you!

Nothing will decay in your hands!

You will never be stranded or stagnated in any venture!

The hard times notwithstanding, you will be scaling new heights!

I command your hanging blessings to be released!

There shall be no more dry seasons in your life!

You shall remain a testimony of envy among men!

I curse every force holding you down on the same spot!

What destroys others will never access your household!

Jesus said You Must be Born Again!

Have you ever asked Jesus to come into your heart?

That is, are you BORN AGAIN? If your answer is "NO", or you are not sure, please pray this prayer with all sincerity and confidence! Lord Jesus, I come to You today!

I am a sinner, I cannot help myself. Forgive me my sins. Cleanse me with your precious blood. Deliver me from sin and Satan, to serve the Living God. Today, Lord Jesus, I accept You as my Lord, and my Saviour. Thank You Jesus, for saving me! Now I know, I am born again!

Worship with us in any of these

■ 6:00AM ■ 7:35AM ■ 9:10AM ■ 10:45AM ■ 12:20PM

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MID-WEEK SERVICE

holds on Wednesday at

All Zonal Fellowship Centres, including Canaanland.

TIME: 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

JESUS IS LORD!



"Bind up the Testimony and Seal the Law among my Disciples." -Isaiah 8:16