

16th November, 2008.

Theme: Possess your Possessions

What is that in your Hand?

Introduction:

Most times we cry for lack of opportunity to excel in life and to fulfil our destiny. We look at the gifts of God in lives of other people and we wonder: I wish I could have gift of singing like Sis. This or Bro. That. We tend to always want what others have. We regret we were not born into a rich family otherwise we would have excelled in our studies. We regret that we don't have this gift or that gift and sometimes we even pray for what we already have or what we don't even need.

Ecc. 1: 9-10 makes it clear that everything that will be has been and there is nothing new under the heaven. They are there already. You only need to possess them. Ps. 68:19 says God daily loads us with benefits. Then to sum it up when we happened to have accepted Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, Ephesians 1:3 says: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places". Romans 8: 32 says: "He that spared not His own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us ALL THINGS?"

This morning by the grace of God, we shall be challenged to utilize what God has given us to the optimum and through them we shall possess our possessions in the name of Jesus.

We shall attempt to answer the following questions:

1. What is in your hand?
2. How do we guide what is in our hands?
3. What do we do with what is in our hands?
4. How do we prosper with what is in our hands?

What is in your hand?

In Exo. 4: 1-5: God wanted to use Moses and he had to use the "rod" he has been using all the while as a servant in the service of Jethro. God did not send him to a school of

Ministry to equip him nor was he sent to a speech therapist to be able to know how to speak eloquently. The “ordinary rod” became a weapon of miracle. God used him the way he was. His rod became a weapon of offence to buffet Pharaoh and the people of Israel.

In 2 Kings 4: 1-7: He did not know the power that was in what was in his house. The same pot of oil that was in the house that was not used made her an oil merchant. As many as are here with financial burden especially that of debt, the Lord will change your story in the name of Jesus. The man of God merely asked: What have you in the house? The question was not how much can you borrow or where can you find job. The seed of prosperity is already in your house. Stop looking elsewhere (say that to your neighbour).

In 1 Kings 17: 8-16: the woman of Zeraphath was fed with what she had already in her house. She flourished throughout the period of famine. During this period the Lord will sustain you in the name of Jesus.

In Mat. 15: 32- 39 there was this “mere lunch pack” that the mother of one boy prepared for his son. It was an ordinary, usual pack that a mother would prepare for the child; but she did not know that it was a seed that would feed 4,000 people. There is a seed already planted in your life. It will grow and feed so many people spiritually and physically. The Bible says in Genesis 1: 28: “And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air and over every living thing that move upon the earth”. What is that package you have with you? It is a seed of blessing and the Lord will prosper it in Jesus name.

Do not say I have nothing. I have no gift or anything. We all have gifts endowed on us. The parable of the talent makes it clear that all the servants were given talents according to their ability. No one got nothing. Mat. 25:14-30.

How do we guide what is in our hand?

1. We should value it: I Tim. 4: 12. Let no man despise the gift in your life. Some children are discouraged because someone has said they will never make it. Reject it and value the gift in your life. Also value the gift of God in the lives of other people as well.
2. We must not neglect the gift: I Tim 4:14-15.
3. We must trade diligently with what we have and make profits from it: Mt. 25:14-30; Rom. 12:11. “Not slothful in business, fervent in the spirit, serving the Lord.
4. Be focused on what you want to achieve in life.

How do we deal what is in our hand?

We need to be careful with the gift that the Lord has given to us. The rod of salvation became the rod of destruction in the hand of Moses. Our wealth, our voice, our academics, our beauty, our eloquence and the endowment of God in our lives can become a snare to us just as the gold became snare to the people of Israel. We must be careful to manage the resources and not make them our God. The bible says woe unto him who makes man his helper. Our confidence must be in the Lord.

How do we prosper with what is in our hand?

1. By acknowledging the source of all as God and that he has supremacy over the use of it.
2. By releasing it to God for his use and for His glory. Peter and his brothers released their fishing boat to the Lord and at the end they were able to transform their barrenness to bountifulness. (Luke 5: 1-4).
3. By using our gifts for the edification of the body of Christ.
4. By deploying our gifts with the name of Jesus: Act. 3: 6.
5. By allowing the Holy Spirit to direct the use of our gifts: II Tim. 1:6-7.

Possess your Possession in Christ Jesus.