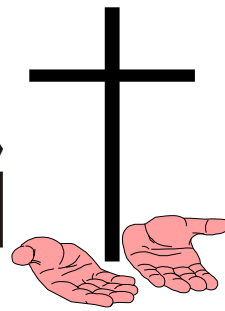


THE SYNAGOGUE

CHURCH OF ALL NATIONS



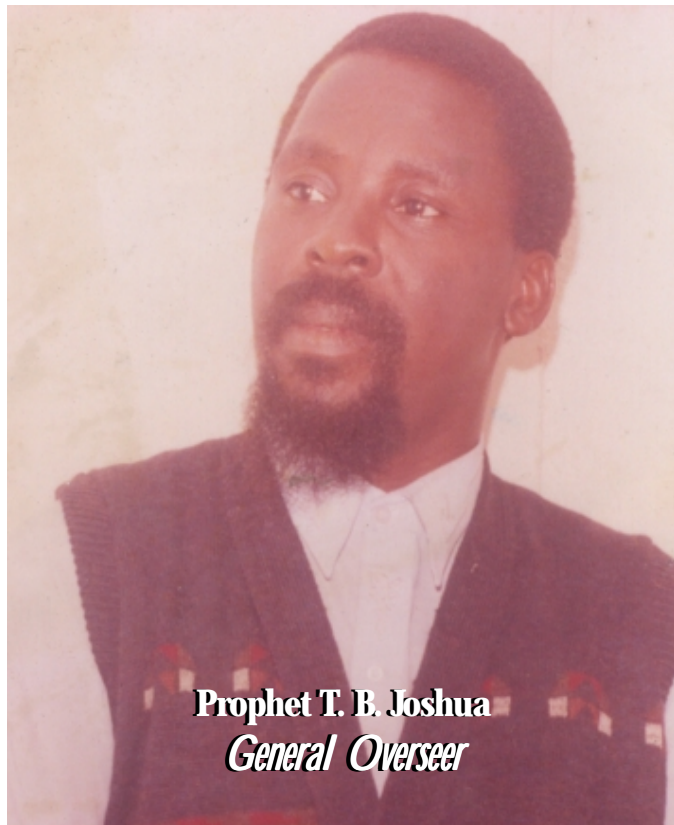
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HOLY SPIRIT, THE BEST INFLUENCE

Our Father in Heaven, we thank You for Your message which is Spirit and Life. Sin is unrighteous and not pleasing to You. The sins committed knowingly or unknowingly, Father, forgive them all in Jesus Christ's Name. Amen.

The Bible says that a christian's life comes from Christ Himself. Who is Jesus Christ? *"God is Spirit, and his worshippers must worship in Spirit and in truth"* (John 4:24). This means that our Lord Jesus Christ is Spirit, and He is always in our midst in the person of Holy Ghost, always beside every born-again christian. Without the Spirit of God, you cannot be born-again or be Christ-filled. We that are born of the Spirit are born again. Are you born again? If you are, you will do everything through the Holy Spirit. Who is the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is God. He is like God the Father in every way. He guides into all truth. He is our helper from above, helping believers to worship God. He is the only means of growth in our christian life.

People will accuse you wrongly and grieve your spirit thereby. Unless you are helped by the Holy Ghost, you will stumble and fall off the track of Salvation, because your enemies' design is to fall you flat. Remember what happened to our Lord Jesus Christ Himself when He asked His Father to allow "The cup to pass Him by." This was a moment of great temptation when He needed someone to strengthen Him to face the task ahead. Just then, the Spirit of Jehovah came upon Him and spoke to His heart, reminding him that "The cup" was part of the Will of God which must be fulfilled. Immediately, He was



Prophet T. B. Joshua
General Overseer

strengthened and said, *"Yet, not as I will, but as You [The Father] will"* (Matthew 26:39). In moments of crises, confusion and hard choices, the Holy Ghost intervenes and gives the believer a clear sense of direction and purpose.

**Not mine - Not mine the choice
In things of great or small**

Be thou my guide, strength, wisdom and my all.

The same Holy Spirit that strengthened Jesus Christ in trying times also lives in every born-again today.

If you are not born of the Spirit, your life will be characterised by complaints. If you claim you are born of the Spirit, what are your identification marks? The marks are obvious: Your works will be eternal - living through many

generations. What eternal things have you to show to Jesus Christ as your imperishable works? These cannot be your chains of cars, houses, degree certificates; retinue of wives/husbands, children, many business outfits, fat accounts in both local and foreign banks etc. What then are your imperishable identification marks? You have reduced the gift of God to a matter of human wisdom and knowledge, power and might - worse still, you reduce the kingdom business to a mere academic exercise, acquiring many certificates as if matters of the Spirit are things that can be studied in schools - **Lord, help us to witness in both Word and Life.**

Being a child of God is a gift of God. Even so, you must keep all of God's commandments, and nothing short of this is required. If you fail one, you fail all. There are no short-cuts to spiritual maturity. Your forefathers claimed they were christians. What imperishable things did they leave behind for you apart from debts, shrines, enemies, inherited curses and afflictions? All these are the opposites of the legacies which the Apostles left behind for you. If this is so, why do you still follow your forefathers' footsteps? Like your forefathers, there is nothing good in your achievements that you can be remembered for. The truth is that you are still following the same paths of your forefathers. When you examine or assess your christian life under the identification qualities of the Holy Spirit, you will realise that your claims about your being born again are false.

The Holy Spirit is eternal, omniscient, omnipresent and omnipotent. Which of these qualities do you possess? If truly you are born of the Spirit, the Spirit inside you will lead you into accurate knowledge of the truth about your fellow brothers, and you will not accuse others

falsely. He will lead you to know the perfect truth and the truth shall set you free. Are you really free? You believe in Jesus Christ, but you refuse to emulate His character. God's Word reflects His Character. The Bible says that the Christ in you will do exactly, and even more than what He did during His earthly ministry. In our prayer to God, we learn to put on our Lord Jesus Christ as our righteousness in order that we may have free access to Him at all times, because we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. He is the same yesterday, today and forever (**Heb. 13:8**). If you say that you are born of the Spirit, what are the things you have achieved which unbelievers have not? Jesus said to His disciples, **"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father"** (John 14:12). If you say you are faithful to Jesus Christ, keeping all His commandments, what are the results of your faithfulness? The results of faithfulness cannot be the occasional peace and comfort which you experience today. If you are faithful to God, you will be Christ-filled. When you are Christ-filled, the Bible says that God's Rivers of blessing, victory, deliverance and healing must flow out of you for the needs of others. By God's Rivers of Life, we mean the Holy Ghost Himself: **"Jesus said in a loud voice... 'Whoever believes in me, as the scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him' "** (John 7:37-38). If really you believe in Jesus Christ, this **Living Water** will flow out of your innermost being to meet the needs of others.

Your own power can fail, but the power of the Holy Spirit will remain. You cannot withstand satanic challenges on your own, and that is why challenges force you out of your post. You were once an engineer, but you abandoned the

challenged by mere natural circumstances and took to other professions; you were challenged in your husband's house and you abandoned your home; you were challenged in your church which you soon abandoned; you continued to run from pillar to post until you became totally hopeless. At last, you started to point fingers at imaginary enemies, neighbours and relations instead of blaming your inability to stand challenges. The Bible says that we will be challenged, but God promised to see us through. Whenever you encounter challenges, do not abandon your post, keep on growing, knowing that God's love does not keep us away from experiencing challenges, but sees us through them.

You have now realised the cause of your failure in all your undertakings. You fail, because you rely on your human power, might, efforts, knowledge, education and position, all of which do not withstand challenges. This is why you are not growing in your christian life as the Spirit of God is not in you. As a child of God that you claim to be, you are supposed to grow in your christian life, because the Bible says that the Holy Ghost is the means of growth in our christian life.

Sin is unrighteousness. It is not pleasing to God. It must be dealt with, and the best time to do this is now, if not sooner. You need to be born again. The Bible says that the Holy Spirit enters into our hearts when we are converted (**Heb. 4:6**). When this happens, the Spirit of God will begin to speak to your heart and take control of your total being - your actions, utterances and thoughts. You will then do, see, say and think the right things at all times. He will lead you to pray, sleep, fast and do everything as the Spirit

Those who are being led by the Holy Spirit are very easily recognised by their works. In whatever profession they find themselves (engineering, law or medicine), they will do something new which other colleagues will marvel at - something completely new - because the Spirit is not interested in repeating anything of commonplace; He wants people to learn from the new thing and be improved in life.

wills, not as you will. It was the Spirit who spoke to Jesus Christ to fast in the wilderness for forty days and forty nights and also helped Him to overcome the temptation from satan.

In a moment of prayer, the Holy Spirit supplies the words for prayer, and also prays within us as He spoke through Jesus Christ to put satan on the run. If you do everything as Christ would have done them, you will get results in all your undertakings. But today, you fast, pray and observe night vigils without results. Rather, you experience nightmares, afflictions, poverty, diseases and set backs - all because you are not led by the Spirit. When you fast and pray without

being led by the Spirit, you are merely observing historical and conventional events, completely short of divine purpose.

You should therefore yield to the Spirit and be Christ-filled. When you are Christ-filled, you will not imitate anybody in your actions and utterances; you will do everything according to the direction of the Holy

Spirit. The Spirit will continue to speak to your heart and you will do new things always, not imitations. When you do new things, you will record new results. You are not able to achieve new results today, because your attitudes, vision, wisdom, power and style are all old fashioned, commonplace and of human origin - a mere repetition of what others around you have been doing. This is why you are not always happy when you see someone else doing new things and achieving new results. It is the Spirit of God that leads one to achieve new results.

Those who are being led by the Holy Spirit are

very easily recognised by their works. In whatever profession they find themselves (engineering, law or medicine), they will do something new which other colleagues will marvel at - something completely new - because the Spirit is not interested in repeating anything of commonplace; He wants people to learn from the new thing and be improved in life. The case of Peter and the cripple at the Beautiful Gate was a good example of the new thing that is more than silver and gold. Though the crippled man was there at the gate even during the earthly ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ, he was left unattended (to) so that the Spirit would use him (the cripple) to demonstrate the new thing through Peter. If Peter had done only those old things his Master, Jesus Christ, had done, there would have been nothing unique in Peter's ministry. You should therefore ask God to do something new in your life. There is no way you can do something new without an independent mind

Remember that satan hates anyone who can think for himself. If Peter had consulted other people about the need to heal the cripple at the gate, some of the people would have even discouraged him from the plans. When the Spirit is leading you, He will endow you with an independent mind and discretion, and you will be able to chart your own course independently.

However, many people cannot think for themselves or take decisions on their own. They are often misled by their earthly mentors, lords, pastors and others they so much trust, to do things even against their own wills - they are led to pray against other churches, men of God and fellow brothers, because they lack the independent mind which is a gift of God. In this case, they are made to be like their earthly mentors and lords.

To be like Jesus Christ is our goal. A true christian is made in his heart to be like Jesus Christ (*ICor. 2:16*). He has no need to copy any man, because the Spirit of Christ that dwells in him is omnipotent, all-knowing, eternal and omnipresent. His outward appearance does not matter, because the Lord looks at man's heart, not his outward appearance. *"... The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart"* (*1Sam. 16:7*). Since we are made in our hearts to be like Jesus Christ, you should strive towards the imperishable accomplishments which will continue to speak for you.

I leave you here in faith and I pray that God gives you the grace to meditate on the message in Jesus Christ's Name. Amen.

Note: Before filling your prayer request and petitions, read the prayerful words of encouragement below:

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

- 1. God made Daniel, the slave, a leader.*
- 2. God looked at David, the shepherd boy, and saw in him a king.*
- 3. Moses was a murderer and God saw in him a deliverer.*
- 4. God looked at the barren woman called Hannah and saw in her the mother of a great Prophet.*
- 5. In his nineties, Abraham was childless and God saw in him the father of nations.*
- 6. God changed Saul, the persecutor, to Paul, the Apostle.*

Please God, look at me a sinner, forgive me my sins, have mercy on my petition and grant my request before you. If God could turn Moses, the murderer, into a deliverer and also wipe away tears of barrenness from Hannah's eyes; if God could bless poor Jabez, God can also turn around the situation of my life today in Jesus' Name, Amen. (Mal. 3:6 and Heb. 13:8).

Emmanuel!!! Isaiah 7:14 Meaning God With Us. Greetings From The Synagogue.

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