

*Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be
born again [John 3:7]*

The Most Important Decision Every Man Should Make

FINDING PEACE WITH GOD



NOAH SIMPE
BEDIAKO

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

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Introduction

The Webster Dictionary defines decision as deciding on something. However, to decide is to make up your mind concerning something.

Everyone makes decisions everyday. We are called upon daily at every single moment to make decisions. God has given every one of us the will to decide on many things. It is a moment-by-moment process of life. Our very existence depends on decisions.

Honestly, every single action contains in itself several chains of decisions. For instance, eating begins with the decision to eat. Then you decide on what to eat; Would you buy it, or would you prepare the food at home? You keep answering the question of when, how, where, what, who, whom, and which, even if it is concerning a single meal.

In fact, you are the product of the decisions you have made over time. You are where you are, who you are, and what you are, all because of the many decisions you have made over time. The

difference between an engineer and a teacher is what decision they have made over time. What time they chose to sleep, and for how long, which subjects they chose to study, and a host of other things.

You should know by now that you are your decision.

This book is about the most important decision every man ought to make today.

What is the Most Important Decision?

The single most important decision every man should make is to decide to enter the kingdom of God

Where is the Kingdom of God?

The Kingdom of God is the spiritual kingdom that shows the rule and royalty of God. Though the seat of the kingdom is in Heaven, part of the kingdom dwells among men. Our Lord Jesus Christ taught in Luke 17:20-21 that;

“the kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you”.

The kingdom of God does not come with observation. It is spiritual kingdom.

I know that many skeptics want to know the

location of the kingdom of God before they enter. They want to see the kingdom before they make a decision, the paradox however is that no man can see it unless they are born again.

One day Our Lord Jesus was answering a question in John 3:3;

*“Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God**”.*

You must be born again before you can see the kingdom of God. It is a real kingdom, with kings and heirs. However, it is spiritual in nature.

God is the king of this kingdom, and we are the heirs to the throne. You enter the kingdom of God through a spiritual birth. Without mincing words, Jesus answered Nicodemus in John 3:5;

*“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God**”.*

How Do We Know that the Kingdom of God Truly Exists?

Sometimes, doing things for the kingdom of God makes you look like a big joke. We look like fools when we start talking about the kingdom of God,

but remember that, reality goes beyond visibility. There are so many things we accept as reality yet we cannot see.

I have learnt about atoms; I have passed examination on Atomic Physics, but I have never seen an atom. I only believed the report of those who have seen atoms, and rely on the proof of its existence. Have you ever seen gamma ray or an alpha ray? Have you ever seen radio waves? Many of us have never seen any of these rays. Do we then say that they do not exist? No, why then do we accept their existence?

1. We accept their existence because of the report of those who have discovered it.
2. And the proof they gave us to show for its existence.

In much that same way, I know the kingdom of God is real and exists, because of the testimony those who have seen it, and the evidence or effects of that the kingdom of God has on the physical realm. I bless God that His kingdom does not just exist in word but also in power. The Apostle Paul testify in 1 Corinthians 4:20 that “***the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power***”.

I have believed the report of the kingdom of God, and I have experienced its power in my own life first hand.

I have seen the sick healed, the oppressed set free, and the simple made wise. I have seen it many times. I have seen the sick healed among the heathen, among Muslims, among Christians and even among doubters. I always bless God that He uses me in many creative miracles.

To me, this is the evidence that the kingdom of God really exists. Firstly, I believed the report of the others, and then I saw the evidence in my own life. I believed the report, and signs followed me. This is the promise of God. Read Mark 16:17-20;

Mark 16:17-20

(17) And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

(18) They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

(19) So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

(20) And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Decide today and experience it tomorrow.

What is Life in the Kingdom Like?

Life in this kingdom is a life of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. The kingdom of God is a place in life. The kingdom is a realm in life. Those who enter this realm, live in righteousness, peace, and in the joy in the of the Holy Ghost. It is written very clearly in Romans 14:17-19;

Romans 14:17-19

(17) For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

(18) For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men.

(19) Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

This is a realm of life. The kingdom life is a higher life. After you enter in through a supernatural birth, you are empowered to live this higher life of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Signs of the Kingdom

1. RIGHTEOUSNESS

You receive the desire to live in righteousness, which is actually having a right standing with

God through faith in the finished work of Christ.

2. PEACE

You receive the desire to seek Peace and pursue it. This peace is the tranquility that comes through having total trust in God's promise to keep and provide for you.

3. JOY IN THE HOLY GHOST

You receive the desire to joy in the holy Ghost, which comes through walking in the liberty that manifest in the presence of God.

Let us therefore take time to examine these signs, because they manifest the reality of the kingdom life; a life of right standing with God, of total peace in the heart, and of joy in the Holy Ghost.

The Secret to Righteousness

The kingdom life is a life of righteousness. It is a life of pleasing God. Righteousness is right standing before God. 2 Corinthians 5:18 says,

“all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation”

You must be reconciled to God - your Maker. You need to accept God's offer to repair the breach that Sin has created in your relationship with your Creator.

Your life was designed to be much better and more pleasing to God than it is now. God created you in His image and likeness to serve His purpose. God created you to live a life devoid of death, diseases and pain (See Genesis 1:26-28). We rebelled and turned away from God and from His purpose for our lives. We have fallen out of God's glory, and have lost the peace that preserves the soul. The prophets say in Isaiah 53:6 that

“all we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all”.

However, through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ, God has created a bridge by which we can be reconciled to Him. This reconciliation puts us in right standing with Him, and we become His workmanship and righteousness.

Righteousness is a life of equity and faith. It is about doing unto others what you want them to do unto you. Our love for God is seen in the measure of our love for our fellow humans. It is therefore required of a man who loves the Lord to love other humans. If any man claims to love God

but hates his neighbour, that man's love is vain.

The teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ reveals seven simple laws of righteousness. These laws motivate righteousness.

1. Love the Lord your God with all your heart
2. Love the Lord your God with all your soul.
3. Love the Lord your God with all your strength
4. Love the Lord your God with all your mind
5. Love yourself
6. Love your neighbor as yourself
7. Love your enemies and do good to them

The Secret to Peace

The word translated *Peace* is *Eirene*, which figuratively means *Prosperity*.

I challenge you that only peace with God brings true peace. Nothing satisfies, nothing fulfills, only peace with God settles the soul. Today, thousands of people have buried their heads in many vain pleasures; they are searching through all the nooks and crannies of this world in search of one thing - peace - but peace can be found in only one place; reconciling with God. The Bible says in Ephesians 2:14 that;

“he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath

broken down the middle wall of partition between us;”

Many of the wars in the world will cease today if we make this decision. Jesus Christ is our peace. He is the only one who made us one in God; by His death on the cross has broken down the wall of partition which divided us. We all need to find this peace. Nothing can make you restful, at peace with yourself and with others, except you find peace with God your Maker.

Money will not satisfy you, houses will not satisfy you. Marriage will not satisfy either. Gaining all the goodies of this world will not satisfy you. Only peace with God can satisfy your soul.

You may argue and deny the fact that nothing satisfies, but you know it very well, how in the depth of the night, when all men retire, you feel the emptiness. Jesus Christ can however give you that peace you seek. He can fill the void in your heart if you find Him.

The kingdom life is a life of prosperity that births peace. We should try to live at peace and help others to have strong faith. Peace and tranquility is one of the things that characterizes life in the kingdom of God. He that is born of God need not

fear. We have not received the spirit of fear to be timid, but of love, power, and a sound mind. It is life of power, love and of a sound mind. Let us therefore discuss pragmatic laws of finding peace in God.

Philippians 4:1-9 teaches on the secrets of stepping into peace. The apostle says

- (1) *Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.*
- (2) *I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, **that they be of the same mind in the Lord.***
- (3) *And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life.*
- (4) **Rejoice in the Lord alway:** and again I say, *Rejoice.*
- (5) *Let **your moderation** be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.*
- (6) *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*
- (7) *And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*
- (8) *Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are*

*just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, **think on these things.***

(9) Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

Peace comes by observing these simple rules.
Now, in summary, always remember these keys;

8. Agree with the brethren
9. Rejoice always
10. Be moderate
11. Soak in prayer
12. Meditate on positive things
13. Do as you see in your apostle

The Maxims of Joy in the Holy Ghost

Once we are born again, we should go out rejoicing because we hope in Him. He is our life and light. He is our shield, our buckler, and the lifter up of our heads. God is calling you to drink. He says drink of the water of life freely. These are the waters that birth peace. This is the river that makes glad the city of God.

Read carefully Psalms 46:1-5;

(1) *To the chief Musician for the sons of Korah, A Song upon Alamoth. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

(2) *Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;*

(3) *Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.*

(4) *There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.*

(5) *God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.*

There is a river that makes glad the city of God. The Scriptures say in Revelation 22:17;

“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely”.

God is calling every man. He is calling every one of us to come. He wants us to return from our backsliding and to take the water of life freely. The Bible says that, *“the bride says come”*. The bride is the church. God is howling out through His church. He is calling all the national to come and drink the waters of life freely. He is willing to give the waters of life freely. The Bible says in

Isaiah 55:1-3;

(1) *Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.*

(2) *Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.*

(3) *Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.*

Oh yes my soul shall delights itself in fatness. I have the everlasting Covenant of David. The joy in the Holy Ghost comes through stepping into the liberty of God. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. What then is this liberty, is it irresponsibility? I know it is far from that because 1 Corinthians 6:12 says,

“All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any”

It is also very clear in 1 Corinthians 10:23 that,

“All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not”.

These two Scriptures summarize the most

important maxims of finding liberty in the Lord. It is clear that;

**1. ALL THINGS ARE LAWFUL UNTO YOU,
BUT NOT ALL THINGS ARE EXPEDIENT,
PROFITABLE, OR EDIFYING**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; our actions therefore must show expediency. Life is a gift that must profit the Lord. Remember therefore to;

- Choose and do things that are expedient
- Choose and do things that are profitable
- Choose and do things that are edifying

**2. ALL THINGS ARE LAWFUL BUT DO NOT
BE BROUGHT UNDER THE POWER OF
ANYTHING.**

Habits are formed very quickly. Usually after a few experiences, your habits take shape. True liberty however, is the state of not being subject to anything.

**3. ALL THINGS ARE LAWFUL BUT DO THINGS
THAT PLEASE GOD**

Having been reconciled with God and becoming

His righteousness, it is just expedient that you do not offend your Lord further. The Bible says in Ephesians 4:30, "*Grieve not the spirit*"

If you serve Christ in this way, you will please God and be respected by people.

Why Should You Enter the Kingdom of God?

“It takes three things to enter into the kingdom of God; the desire, the decision, and the dedication”

Matthew 6:24-34 KJV

(24) No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

(25) Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

(26) Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

(27) Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

(28) *And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:*

(29) *And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*

(30) *Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?*

(31) *Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?*

(32) *(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.*

(33) *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

(34) *Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.*

There are two simple arguments for making this all important decision:

1. Entering the kingdom of God makes you better equipped for life on earth.
2. Entering the kingdom of God guarantees you eternal life in peace.

The Path to a Better Life

When we enter the kingdom of God, we do not just escape eternal damnation, but we are also better equipped for life.

The very processes by which we enter into the kingdom of God gives us the following advantages;

1. WE INHERIT GOD'S NATURE

The Scriptures teach in John 3:6-7 that, *“That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. (7) Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again”*.

By faith, we are born of God, who is a Spirit. This means you are born of God and you are a spirit.

2. WE BECOME PARTAKERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF ISRAEL

Ephesians 2:12 shows clearly that the blessings of Abraham are ours. Having been born again by faith, you know *“that at a time were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:”*

3. WE INHERIT GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES

Entering the kingdom of God is just a fantastic gesture. It is indeed a spiritual adoption according to 2 Peter 1:4, which qualifies us to inherit great and precious promises. Read this: *“Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust”*.

We have inherited exceeding great and precious promises. It is a bequest. We have been forgiven and have inherited the blessing of precious promises.

4. WE REIGN IN LIFE BY ONE, CHRIST JESUS

Revelations 1:5-6 teaches us that Jesus Christ washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priest unto God. This is the truth that sunk down well with the apostles. The Apostle Paul teaches in Roman 5:17 that;

Romans 5:17

For if by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

The grace and the gift of righteousness empowers us to reign in life.

5. WE RECEIVE THE COMFORTER - THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is God in us. He is our power and our comforter. He is our helper, which is why we have an edge over ordinary men. In John 16:7, the Apostle John records the Lord promises to us,

“Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.”

The Path To Eternal Life

Entering into the kingdom of God qualifies you to inherit and escape eternal damnation. The word says in John 3:16,

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life”.

We will not be here forever. Indeed, no man who has walked the face of the earth remained here. One after the other, they have all departed. We shall also depart one day, should Christ tarry. The

scripture says in Hebrews 9:27

“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:”

We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ to give account of our lives. Our lives on earth are short and vanish like vapour.

Death however, is not finality. After death, there is judgment. At His appearing, the Righteous Judge shall judge us all. When men die, some go to Paradise and others to Hell. Reconciling with God qualifies you to escape destruction.

I hope you have not forgotten that we shall all die one day. I hope you know that death is not the end, but a transition. I hope you also know that we brought nothing into this world and we will carry nothing out (See Job 1:21).

Do you also know that life will end in one of two places - the Lake of Fire or the new earth?

Revelation 20:15

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

2 Peter 3:13

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Revelation 21:1

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

Did you also know that you actually decide and prepare the place where you will spend eternity? I can assure you that what you decide and do today will determine where you will spend eternity.

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Remember Lazarus and the Rich Man

In Luke 16:16-31, the Lord Jesus taught us that there was a certain rich man of great wealth, who was dressed in fair clothing and purple and delicate linen, and was shining and glad every day. Then there was also a certain poor man, named Lazarus, who was stretched out at his door, full of wounds, desiring the broken bits of food, which came from the table of the rich man.

Moreover, the dogs came and licked his wounds. Well, in time, the poor man died and angels took him to *Abraham's breast*. Then sometime later,

the man of wealth also died and was put in the earth.

Though they put the rich in the grave, he actually descended into hell. While in hell, being in great pain, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham, far away, and Lazarus on his breast.

He gave a loud cry and said, “Father Abraham, have mercy on me and send Lazarus, so that he can put the end of his fingers in water and put it on my tongue, for I am actually burning in this flame”. But Abraham said two things to him;

Firstly, he told him, “Keep in mind, my son, that when you were living, you had your good things, while Lazarus had evil things, but now, he is comforted and you are in pain”.

The second thing he added was that, “There is a division fixed between you and us, so that those who might go from here to you are not able to do so, and no one may come from you to us”.

Then the rich man said to Abraham, “Father, it is my request then that you will send Lazarus to my father’s house; I have five brother, and let him give an account of these things, so that they may not come to this place of pain”.

Some of us who are bluffing today might plead for mercy tomorrow. The rich man pleaded for mercy

and interceded for his father's house, from Hell. I tell you the truth, there is a prayer meeting going on in hell. Many people are praying there, yet they won't have any answers, because it is too late.

Let read what Abraham said to him; "But, Abraham said, they have Moses and the prophets; let them give ear to what they say". And he said, "No Father Abraham, but if someone went to them from the dead, their hearts would be changed". But Abraham gave him this powerful reply, "If they will not give attention to Moses and the prophets, then they will not be moved even if someone returned from the dead".

Three things stand out in this teaching;

1. THERE IS NO MESSENGER FROM THE DEAD

Firstly, it is very clear that God will always use the prophets and preachers in your cities as His messengers to share the good news of His kingdom with you. Neither God nor any man from the dead will come to you with a message. I am the messenger of God. By this book, God has sent me to you today to teach the truth of His kingdom.

Nobody will come from the grave; all the messengers are here with us. You either accept

our testimony or perish.

2. EVERY PERSON HAS A CHOICE TO MAKE IN HIS LIFETIME WHICH AFFECTS HIS OR HER DESTINY

You have a choice to accept or to refuse His invitation to enter the kingdom of God. You have a choice. You can decide on whatever you want. Just remember that the rich man chose to trust in his wealth, and neglected the message of the kingdom. He spited Lazarus because he was poor. But Lazarus heeded to message of the kingdom. Though he was poor, he was wise.

God has nothing against being wealthy. However, what shall it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his soul?

You have a choice which you have to make today, and not after death. Your choice is limited to today and not after you die. You have your own will though, and you are at liberty to choose what you want. Just remember, that the decision you make today will determine where you will spend eternity.

3. HELL IS A PLACE OF SUFFERING, WHEREAS PARADISE IS A PLACE OF PEACE

The rich man remembered things while in Hell. He remembered his brothers and the kind of life they were living. He remembered that in his lifetime, he had opportunities. He remembered many things.

The Bible says that he suffered great pain. He cried out for help but a big gulf separated them. He made requests but they were all denied. You have opportunities too; use it well. *The most important decision every man should make*, is to come and take the water of life freely. It is the decision to be reconciled with God. The decision to be reconciled to God assures us of life, which is a gift to all.

Daniel 12:3

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

The Mystery of Reconciliation

*Reconciliation is a diplomatic term,
which means to arbitrate, to reunion,
or to bring together.*

Through sin, you were separated from God, your maker. Your disobedience created a large gulf between God and you. You have shown by your actions and thought that you hated God and rebelled against Him, but God has in sundry times and in diverse ways tried to reconcile you to Himself.

I believe God is calling you to return. It is time to decide on this main issue. God wants you to decide on whether you will enter His kingdom or not. Making up your mind on this issue today can guarantee you a life of peace and prosperity. It costs nothing but faith in the finished work of Christ Jesus.

Did We ever Turn Our Backs on God?

You might think of yourself as good, but let me assure you that sin has separated you from your God. Sin has placed enmity between God and us.

There is a unilateral hatred between the Creator and His creature. Whereas the Creator loves His creation, the creation hates their Creator.

Recall that from the very beginning, God created man in His own image and after His likeness. God planted a garden eastward in Eden and put man there. God blessed man and his wife and empowered us to prosper.

Genesis 1:26-28

(26) And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

(27) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

(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 moveth upon the earth.

God was very much aware of the presence of good and evil. He however bundled the knowledge of good and evil into a fruit. God planted a tree called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. Man was permitted to eat of every tree except this single tree of good and evil, but one day something happened.

The prophet Moses teaches us in Genesis 3:1-24 that the devil tempted man to disobey God and man indeed disobeyed God. The Apostle Paul in Romans 5:12 teaches that; *“Wherefore, as by one man sin came into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned”*

We openly aligned with the devil and disobeyed God. We were alienated from Him in our minds and by our works. Nevertheless, God demonstrated His love for the world when He gave His only begotten son to die in our place, while we were yet sinners. According to Romans 5:6-8;

(6) For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

(7) For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

(8) But God commendeth his love toward us, in that,

while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Remember, God is calling us back. God gave His only begotten son so that we can be reconciled to Him. It is our turn to return. Isaiah 53:6

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all”.

God is calling us. It is time to return from backsliding. God is calling you back.

Steps to Reconciliation with God

The Apostle Paul taught in Romans 10:9-17, that salvation comes from hearing the message of the gospel, believing it truthfully in your heart, confessing it with your mouth, pressing into the kingdom, and steadfastly continuing in faith. So to be reconciled to God, you must;

1. Open up to hear the messengers which God sends to you.
2. Believe these basic truth of Scripture in your heart.
3. Confess the basic truth of the gospel with your mouth.
4. Press into the kingdom.

5. Steadfastly continue in faith.

By these five simple steps, any man can enter the kingdom of God. This is the day and now is the time. You can take the first step.

Open Up to God's Messenger

I have said already that God will not send messengers from the grave. God will always send a messenger from among us. The first step to entering the kingdom is hearing and hearing by the word of God as preached by messengers of the kingdom. Abraham told the rich man that his brothers have the prophets and Moses, and that they should listen to them.

Basic Truths You Must Believe

1 Timothy 2:5-6

- (5) *For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;*
- (6) *Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.*

1. THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

There is only one God - the father of Jesus Christ. Besides Him, there is no other God. The prophet Isaiah prophesied in Isaiah 44:6;

Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God”.

You have to be reconciled to this one true God. Besides Him, there is no other God. He is the Only Wise God.

2. THERE IS ONE MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND MEN

Jesus Christ is our mediator and bridge. Acts 4:12 says

*“neither is there salvation in any other: for **there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved**”*

Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and men. Believing on the Lord Jesus is the only way. Unfortunately, we do so many things in trying to make it to Heaven. However, those things cannot save us.

Going to the Bible college, Seminary, nunnery cannot save you. Writing your name in a Charismatic church cannot save you. Befriending

the most powerful minister cannot save you. Supporting the greatest mission or cause cannot save you. Being a member of the oldest church cannot save you. Observing the Sabbath does not lead to life. Sacrificing bulls and goats every year cannot save you. Knowing how to pray in the mountains cannot save you. Receiving miracles does not mean you are saved.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the only way to the Father, there is no other way to the father. The Lord said this in John 14:6 clearly,

“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me”.

This is another absolute Scripture. There is no way anybody can come to the Father except he comes through Christ. No other prophet or priest has the power to save. Only Christ, who is the Son, can set free or save. Only Jesus is the way. He says in John 10:9,

“I am the door: by me if any man enters in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture”.

This Jesus Christ is God - the omnipotent, the One who can swear by none other, but by His own self. In Him is no sin or variableness. The man's statement begins with “I am”. This “I am” is the name of God. It is absolute and powerful. We that know that:

The Apostles were confident and spoke with absolute certainty. One time, when the jailer asked the most important question in life, the answer given was the same. He said, “*what must I do to be save?*” The Apostles answered in Acts 16:31,

“And they said, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house”.

All these testimonies points to one thing - Christ. He is the only way to God. None other name can save. The Apostle Paul’s testimony confirms this truth. He fought the truth for years, and then found out that it was simply irrefutable. Then he wrote to Timothy after several years and said;

1 Timothy 2:5-6

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Perhaps, you may be thinking, how can this be truth? After all, He testified of Himself. Well you may have a good and logical point, but you are not the first person to ask such questions. When the Bible scholar, Nicodemus, wondered how this was possible, the Lord Jesus answered him simply;

John 3:7

Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Maybe, you want to search for all the alternatives or even a better way to make it into life eternal. Well, you may search all you can, but I can assure you that every sincere search will lead you to this same path. There is only one name that can save. Amen!

3. JESUS CHRIST GAVE HIMSELF AS A RANSOM FOR ALL

Romans 5:12-15

(12) Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

(13) (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

(14) Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

(15) But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

That Adam sinned, means that all have sinned.

We are all guilty of sin.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Being guilty of sins means, we are condemned to die, and the wages of sin is death but life is a gift.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Remember that without shedding of His blood there would be no remission of our sins.

Hebrews 9:22

*And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; **and without shedding of blood is no remission.***

Only Jesus has the blood that can pay the price of sin. Now, because God loved the world, He gave His only begotten son to die for us. In fact, God took on the form of man and died in our place. He died so that we can live. Better still, He rose from the dead to give us hope.

Jesus Christ is our mediator, He paid the price and brought us back to God. Jesus Christ redeemed us from our bondage, and then justified us for the salvation and love of God. Indeed, God so loved

each one of us that He gave us His only begotten son as a ransom for us.

Without an iota of doubt, we can clearly see how sin has devastated humanity and our existence, but there is hope. God has never abandoned man, not at any point in our history, though we have rebelled so many times. Since creation, God has at sundry times and in diverse manners implemented mitigative measures to salvage humanity, but in the fullness of time, the big one was released; God gave His only begotten son to save the world.

John 3:14-17

(14) And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

(15) That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

(16) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

(17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

We can actually be free from sin through the finished work of Christ Jesus on the cross. This is because “*without the shedding of blood there can not be the remission of sin*”. Jesus Christ is actually

the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world. Indeed, Jesus Christ is both our Mediator and our Ransom. When we return to Him, He will justify us. This makes Jesus Christ absolutely the only way to the Father. Without believing in the Son of God, you are already condemned.

John 3:16-17

(16) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

(17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

See John 5:24 also;

John 5:24

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

Remember, there is only one way to peace with the Father. I spend my time seeking and preaching to the lost, teaching the church, healing the sick, and casting out devils from the oppressed because this is the good news which the rest of the world must hear. The news is simple; We were dead in trespasses and sin, but

by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our sins have been atoned for. There is therefore the promise of eternal life to be inherited by all those who hear, believe and confess the deity, the death, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

You really need to find peace with God. You really need to be reconciled with God. It is not about what you do, but it is all about having peace, being reconciled with God. This peace comes after you are saved by grace, through your faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Why then do we need to be saved by grace through faith? Can't we just begin to live right and be right with God? Beloved, if it were possible to live right on our own, and to have peace with God, then the sacrifice of Christ on the cross is the greatest mistake.

In reality, the sacrifice of Jesus is the greatest thing that changed the course of the history of man. This is because the remission of sin only comes by the shedding of blood.

Consider these four thoughts;

1. We have all sinned and come short of the glory of the Lord (See Romans 3:23).
2. In fact, the wages of sin is death, eternal death, but life is a gift of God through Jesus

Christ (See Romans 6:23).

3. The gift of life comes after the remission of sin.

The scriptures teach clearly that without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin. (See Hebrews 9:22)

4. This eternal life comes after you have accepted the gift which God offered to us.

John 10:10

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

It all begins with being born again.

How to Receive Eternal Life

You can receive this gift and grace of God through faith and confession

Romans 10:9-10

(9) That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath

raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

(10) For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Praise the Lord! Whosoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Saved from what? Saved from the bondage of the forces of this life. This comprises of;

1. The devil.
2. The elements of creation; called world.
3. Death and corruption.
4. The flesh.

There is no alternative means to life and the kingdom of God. Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life.

John 3:3

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Confession of Faith

Dear Friend,

Only one thing that matters; that is to have peace with God. Gaining the whole world without first receiving this peace, will still not satisfy you. We

find true peace when we are reconciled with God.

If there is any single decision you want to make today, it will be a decision to be reconciled to your Maker. You are just a decision and a prayer away. Do not deny your soul the opportunity to have peace with God. Actually, this is the deepest desire of your soul. Allow God into your heart and you will find peace forever. Amen!

You can pray this prayer with me, and you would be on the tar mark, all set for your journey of life eternal.

Father, I acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Your Son. He came to this earth in the flesh, He died in my place on the cross, and was buried. However, on the third day, You raised Him from the dead. I believe this with all my heart, I confess it today, and it will remain my confession for the rest of my life, in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen!

Now, as a result of this your confession, you have received power to become the very child of God.

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on

his name:

This power translates you into the kingdom of God. You become a citizen of God's kingdom.

Colossians 1:12-13

(12) Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

(13) Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

We know that we have peace with God through confessing with our mouths and believing in our hearts that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that the Father raised Him from the dead. As we believe Him, He gives us the power to become sons of God too, even by believing on His name. As a result, we become sons of God. This is what we read in John 1:12, that,

“as many as received Him, to them He gave the power to become sons of God, even them that believe on His name”.

Praise the Lord! We have the power to become the sons of God through believing on the name of Christ and receiving Him. As sons, we are heirs to the throne of God. He actually translates us into the kingdom of His dear Son.

Our faith makes us citizens of a new kingdom. We must therefore begin to live a new life. The kingdom life is not just a matter of entering into the church and having your membership regularized.

God's kingdom is not about being religious, nor is it about eating and drinking. It is about pleasing God, about living in peace, and about true happiness, which all comes from the Holy Spirit.

Romans 14:17

For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Pressing into the Kingdom

Luke 16:16

The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

In this verse, the Lord Jesus is saying that since the time of John the Baptist, the kingdom of God is preached. The kingdom of God has been proclaimed in many ways and in many places. Though the preaching of the kingdom is important, every believer should first strive to enter in. The Scripture says, “*every man presses into it*”.

The kingdom is for men and women who are committed to press into it.

Philippians 3:1-21 teaches clearly us the secrets to press into the kingdom;

Beware of Dogs, Evil Workers, and Concision

Philippians 3:2

Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision.

This Scripture is telling you to beware of people who do not follow the teachings of the apostles. Then it says we should beware of those who are experts in working evil. And then finally we are to beware of people who cause division in the church. If you want to press into the kingdom beware of these guys. These days, they are everywhere. They are in church, they are in our workplaces, and even in our homes and families.

Count all Things Which were Gain to You as Loss for Christ

Philippians 3:7

But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

Yes, indeed some things were gain to all of us, but having met Christ, we count them but loss. We have determined to let those things go for the sake of Christ. The Apostle Paul says in Philippians 3:8-11 that;

(8) *Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung,*

FIRSTLY

that I may win Christ,

(9) *And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:*

SECONDLY

(10) *That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;*

THIRDLY

(11) *If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.*

Never Be Complacent

Never count yourself to have arrived, but press forward. Complacency make many cats sleep with hunger.

In effect, Apostle Paul said, “I do not live my life as though I had already attained, either were already perfect; but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus”. He said in

Philippians 3:13-15

(13) Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

(14) I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

(15) Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

Mind the Same Things

Philippians 3:16

Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

Never outgrow the principles of faith that have kept you going. I have been (1) praying, (2) studying, (3) giving, (4) fellowshiping, (5) obeying, (6) witnessing, and (7) working with my hands quietly, ever since I decided on entering the kingdom of God. These are the seven forces that

kept me driving on.

Follow Your Apostle

Philippians 3:17-21

(17) Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

(18) (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

(19) Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

(20) For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

(21) Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

There are things that will always try to make you disloyal, but please strive to press on.

In conclusion, we have learnt that it is important to count all things as dung, and press towards the mark of the Lord's high calling. These truths are universal.

Continuing Steadfastly in the Faith

Let us examine 7 important daily habits of men who are pressing into the kingdom of God.

Luke 4:16 (ESV)

*And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And **as was his custom**, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.*

All great men of our faith had certain important customs and habits which they kept. We cannot do otherwise if we want to get the same great results as they got.

Daily Study

Read and live by the Bible daily.

It takes barely five minutes to read an average chapter of the Bible. You should decide to read at least a chapter of the Bible every day. Then pick

a verse of that chapter and mediate on - think continually about - what it should mean to you. The Apostle Peter says in 1 Peter 2:2 that;

“As newborn babes, desire earnestly the pure mental milk of the word, that ye may grow up to salvation,”

Daily Prayer

Daniel had the habit of praying three times a day. It is written in Daniel 6:10

*“When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. **He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously**”.*

It is important for us to have our daily quiet times. Pray at least one hour a day. The Apostle Paul admonished Timothy in 1 Timothy 2:8 that;

“men pray in every place, lifting up pious hands, without wrath or reasoning”.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Pray without ceasing.

Daily Fellowship

Do not forsake the assembling together of the saints. Attend fellowship meetings regularly. Keep company with saints and forsake the company of sinners.

Hebrews 10:25 (ESV)

not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Daily Obedience

To continue in the faith, you must purpose to obey the Lord daily. Let's read Acts 2:41-47, the Bible tells us that on the day of Pentecost, about three thousand souls made the decision to enter the kingdom after Apostle Peter had preached.

Acts 2:41-47

They therefore that received his word were baptized: and there were added in that day about three thousand souls.

After they believed, the Bible says;

(42) And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

(43) *And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.*

(44) *And all that believed were together, and had all things common;*

(45) *And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.*

(46) *And they, **continuing daily** with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,*

(47) *Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*

You must learn to obey the truth.

Daily Witnessing

Testify about Christ in word and deed. God has called all of us into Christian ministry. We have been given the ministry of reconciliation. He has given each one of us a gift, with which we ought to serve God in the harvest of souls. (Read more about this in my book, *The Most Important Call Every Man Should Heed*, also available at simpebediako.com)

1 Peter 4:10

As every man hath received the gift, even so minister

the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Your life must reflect that you have found a new way of living. You do not just have to tell people, but your life must show. The Lord is not seeking perfection, but you must head towards perfection.

Daily Working

The Lord desires that we work with our hands, and live quiet lives.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 CEV

(11) Try your best to live quietly, to mind your own business, and to work hard, just as we taught you to do.

(12) Then you will be respected by people who are not followers of the Lord, and you won't have to depend on anyone.

Daily Giving

Maintain the divine exchange. Bring a portion of your material blessing to the man who labours at the altar. This makes you receive supernatural supply. The divine exchange is one of the most important mysteries that all children of God

must keep. It is the call to be good stewards of God's blessings. It is the mystery to giving God a portion of your material gain, to receive of His blessing in Heaven.

In Malachi, the word says, prove me in this, that you shall bring your tithes and offering, and I shall open the windows of Heaven and pour my blessings upon you. Your faithful giving will provoke the love of God.

2 Corinthians 9:7

(7) Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

You will press into the kingdom of God if you maintain your divine exchange.

Your life will never be the same again

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What is the most important DECISION in life?

You must be born again before you can see the kingdom of God. It is a real kingdom, with kings and heirs.

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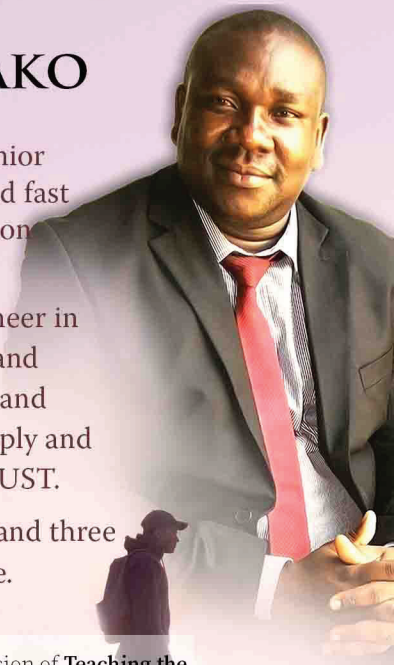
The single most important decision every man should make is to decide to enter the kingdom of God

NOAH SIMPE BEDIAKO

Reverend Noah Simpe Bediako is the Senior Pastor of HighCity Church, a thriving and fast growing Bible-based church with a mission to gather men unto eternal life.

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