Born for heaven international ministries

 ‘2011, the year of the best’

When tragedy strikes

Satan loves to destroy, whenever something is beautiful, whenever something typifies Christ, whenever something is of good report, whenever it is exemplary and beneficial. It is always Satan’s main purpose to destroy that, because a good report and a good image is contrary to his image and message; thus Satan always fights to keep that image away from the public eye or else many will be convinced that the best is attainable and possible.

Satan’s duty is not to attack that which is shining brightest. Generally speaking, Satan strikes when we least expect it; right at the time when our guards are off. He is a master at bringing tragedy. We then need to know how to act when tragedy strikes.

When tragedy strikes, Satan wants us to bow down to him, to cry, to lose hope, become discouraged and stop doing whatever God had in store for us to do as an assignment. Hopelessness is always the norm, when tragedy strikes. Therefore we give him full victory when we cry and bow down during our struggles and suffering. Tragedy generally strikes at the peak of our lives, right when we are at our success rate. When the light is shining brightest. Yet, the best thing to do is ask ourselves: what would God want us to do when tragedy strikes?

In Genesis 3:11b God asks his best friend whom he trusted; have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat? Man, God’s best friend had betrayed him. Generally, best friends don’t betray each other without the influence of an external force; it is generally with the influence of a third party that the bond of love and fellowship is broken apart. In this case, we see that Satan was to blame for he was the one who brought up the idea. God however did not give up on man because he knew that it was influence that made him do that. Cut off that influence, and that relationship could be rebuilt.

It would take thousands of years however, before it could be restored. Hence the open fellowship they enjoyed had to be severed for a while, as restoration was taking place. Thus man was demoted (Genesis 3:22-24) But communication still continued, for after all, they were once friends (Genesis 3:20-21)

As for Adam, the bible says he knew his wife and his bare him children, they still acknowledged God and continued to fulfill the mandate of filling the earth, for that was their assignment, although the enemy owned the land (earth).

In other words, God did not sit down and cry and feel sorry but he continued on. Adam did not sit down and try to commit suicide but proceeded with his life, it was not the same though, but they progressed. Christianity is a battle for whom to love. Satan wants us to love him. God wants us to love him. Satan does not give us love in return; God loves us back in return, more than we love him.

If we lose half a litter of milk to the ground and have half left, we can do nothing but use the remainder and see if we can find ways to get another liter. That is the way God moves, he moves forward. Everyone loses something, Businessmen lose their investments, teachers lose their best learners, mothers lose their children, presidents lose their positions and kings lose their crowns. History has shown over and over again. However, it is what we do after losing that either makes us winners or losers. If you get up and continue, you are still a winner! God is a winner therefore he continued on. God did not stop, he didn’t close the heavens and proclaimed a national mourning day; God proceeded.

God did not ignore the fact that he lost his friend, in fact he demoted him. Yet he thought of ways to regain him to his position. Winners focus on regaining what they lost. But losers keep crying and never stop crying over what they lost, they never recover, they die losers.

God forbids that we should die as losers, for he said unto us; “we are more than conquerors”, thus we should focus on attaining the position of more than conquerors. If your wife stabs you on the back, keep moving like Adam did. He continued with his wife and they filled the earth. If your child stabs you, keep moving. For he might be like Cain, but God can turn him like Abel. Anyways, you should keep on moving, if none wants to change, God can create another one like Seth (Genesis 4:25) Seth made people to call on God. Thus revival broke out after the new son was born, to replace what was lost.

In war, generals know that not everything might go as planned; sometimes the enemy attacks unexpectedly, what then should be done? They opt for plan B. Plan B is there because there is a possibility that A might not succeed. It is not a lack of faith; it is the acknowledgement that the enemy might be stronger at that point. Acknowledging that is wisdom, when we are struck by surprise in the circumstances of life, we will be able to advance because we know, that tragedy does strike, it is all about knowing what to do when it strikes. Do we move on, or do we sit down and let the enemy take over?

Allowing the enemy to take over our territory is worse than being struck the first time. We should not allow that no matter what. Many times, the enemy not only strikes us once, but advances to humiliate us. Fighting is an art and a skill, and spiritual warfare is no different. We might be beaten down by the circumstances around us, but we must not allow ourselves to be killed by it. We must have hope that we will win anyway because we have the greatest winner in us: Jesus Christ! Hebrews 10:35 John 5:4

A man in the bible who knew how to endure tragedy was Samson, when he knew that the secret to his strength was coming back, he positioned himself where he could hit his enemies the best: and he succeeded in destroying more people than he ever did in his lifetime. Although he died with them I believe that the enemy could not torment the people any longer, for the kings died with him and the land was left without king, so how could they oppress the Israelites? I believe that Samson left peace to his people for some time, and left a sense of hope that the impossible was possible. Judges 16:23-31

David was a man who worshiped God and was loved dearly by God. Understand that when a man is loved by God he is also hated much by hell. Thus David was a man who suffered tragedy after tragedy even from his youth.

Saul wanted to kill him, yet he kept on his vision and mission. When David sinned against the Lord, he had to face the consequences. Yet tragedy came to him in a most unexpected way; 2Samuel 11. 2Samuel 12:15-22. After his child died, God blesses him with another child: Solomon, who would then become the wisest king and richest man that ever lived. That was God’s comfort to him for losing his son.

Years later however, the worst struck him; His son Absalom raped his daughter. 2Samuel 13:1-2. He ran away into exile and returned years later, to be reconciled. Just when things seemed calm however, who else strikes where it hurts the most? Absalom! 2 Samuel 15-18. David had to flee for his life, for his own son wanted to kill him. Yet he had to depart or else his sin would surely have his life: Love is what helps us deal with tragedy, for David knew that it was still his son, evidenced in Chapter 19, when he cried because of his son’s death.

His son went as father’s wives to dishonor him. Satan is a master at destruction, but his days are shortened. God rewarded David at the end and restored back his throne, he will not forsake those who love him, what to do when disaster strikes? Continue loving the Lord.