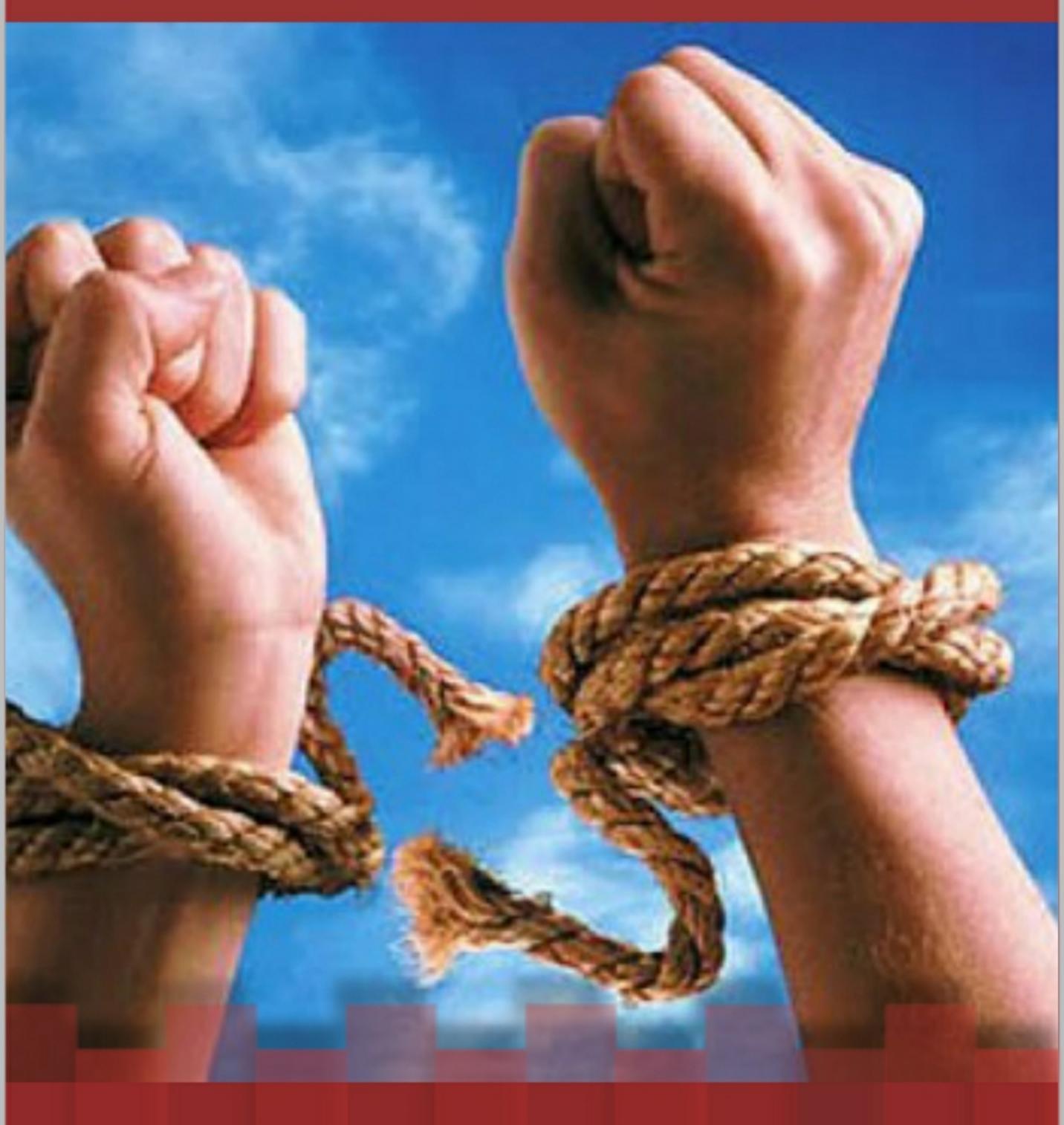
God's Remembrance and Deliverance



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GOD'S REMEMBRANCE & DELIVERANCE

LUKE 23:40-43:

- ⁴⁰ But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?
- ⁴¹ And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.
- ⁴² And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.
- ⁴³ And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, today shalt thou be with me in paradise.

(KJV)

When God remember a sinner for good, He forgives that sinners, forgets his past sins and delivers him or her completely from the power of sin that has enslaved him or her for a long time. When God remembered the mercies He promised His people Luke 1:72-75 "To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; The oath which he sware to our father Abraham, That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life". He forgave the woman caught in adultery and empowered her to "go

and sin no more" (John 8:10-11: When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more".)

A very important thing to note here is that two different types of divine remembrance cannot clash in an individual's life.

It is either God remembers the sins of an individual, closes the door of mercy and gets the individual punished, or He remembers His mercies and forgets the sins the individual has committed after genuine repentance (Ezekiel 33:13-16: "When I shall say to the righteous, that he shall surely live; if he trust to his own righteousness, and commit iniquity, all his righteousness shall not be remembered; but for his iniquity that he hath committed, he shall die for it. Again, when I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; if he turn from his sin, and do that which is lawful and right; if the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die. None of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him: he hath done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely live".)

The robber in the bible passage above was remembered and was saved. There are lessons to be learnt from the robber on the right hand of the Cross. One of such lessons

is that God is not only capable to save but is every ready to save.

The robber said: "Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom". And Jesus was waiting for the robber to speak. Certainly Jesus responded immediately: "Today you will be with me in paradise". It was as if Jesus was waiting for the robber to speak. Certainly Jesus wanted for the robber to speak. Certainly Jesus wanted to rubbish the devil who might have been rejoicing that he was about to receive one more soul into the kingdom of hell. Jesus however snatched that soul from hell at the last minute.

The good thing was that the one who appropriated the benefit of the atonement on the robber. So there was nothing the devil could do. Another good thing about divine remembrance for salvation is that the process is simple. Genuine turn-around from wickedness to godliness (i.e. repentance) will earn earnest seekers of salvation divine remembrance. Zacchaeus was one of such seekers who genuinely repented after meeting the Lord. As a mark of repentance, of his own volition, he said to the Lord in **Luke** 19:8b:"And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold". Immediately the Lord in Luke 19:9-10 replied: "...... This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he is a son of Abraham. For the

son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost".

Genesis 8:1-4

- 1 And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters assuaged;
- ² The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained;
- ³ And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated.
- ⁴ And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat.

(KJV)

When the world was in enmity with God and He decided to destroy it by a flood, Noah found favour in the sight of the Lord according to Genesis 6:5-8 "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord". Though Noah and his family escaped from the flood,

they were however caged in the ark, which of course would have become something else after some days of eating and passing of body waste in the ark. God remembered Noah and all the living things with him in the ark. May the Good Lord remember you for good today in Jesus' Name.

There are some revelations we can catch in this story. One of such is that when God remembers an individual in trouble and bondage, the following things would happen: the wind of the Holy Spirit will blow away all the challenging situations (Genesis 8:1 "And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters assuaged"). The terrible waters will be dried up and the fellow will escape being drowned (Genesis 8:2 "The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained"). Moreover, the tempestuous life will become peaceful (Genesis 8:4 "And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat".)

Beloved of the Lord, there are conditions for God's remembrance to facilitate deliverance as experienced by Noah and his family. One of such conditions is godly living, even in the midst of a perverted generation of men. It is a pity that many children of God in the 21st century live ungodly lives with the excuse that the world is perverted.

Jesus Christ said Noah will be a witness against these so-called children of God who would attribute their worldly and ungodly living to the fact that their world was ungodly (Matthew 24:37-39: But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be".)

Pay attention to God's testimony concerning Noah: "And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation". Genesis 6:9

Another of these conditions is a life of worship. God must see in you the desire to worship Him before He can remember you for good, because He is a prudent investor (Genesis 8:20-22 "And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the LORD smelled a sweet Saviour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more everything living, as I have done. While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease".)

I pray for you that the Almighty God will remember you for deliverance today in Jesus' Name. Please ensure you live a godly life and cultivate the habit of intense worship. You will then experience divine remembrance.

1 Samuel 1:17-19:

- ¹⁷ Then Eli answered and said, go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him.
- ¹⁸ And she said, let thine handmaid find grace in thy sight. So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad.
- ¹⁹ And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before the LORD, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the LORD remembered her.

(KJV)

One truth the children of God must continue to remember is that it takes divine remembrance to daily experience deliverance in their lives and ministries. The best way to explain this is to interpret "remembrance" as "attention", because God is never forgetful. In Isaiah 49:15 God said: "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee". So, God does not forget, but He may decide to ignore you if you continue to live in sin.

One person that experienced divine remembrance was Hannah. The Lord remembered Hannah by paying attention to her prayer in answer to Eli's prayer. 1 Samuel 1:17 says: "Then Eli answered and said, go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him". Hannah was under the bondage of barrenness for several years, but when God remembered her, she was delivered from the bondage of unfruitfulness. To someone using this book, I pray that the Almighty will remember and deliver you from all forms of bondage today in Jesus' Name.

Let us learn from Hannah what she did to draw divine attention to herself and her situation. First, she prayed earnestly and fasted for God's attention. At times we need to demonstrate our seriousness concerning what we really want God to do for us by embarking on prayer and fasting. Jesus taught His disciples this truth in Mark 9:29 "And he said unto them, this kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting".

In addition, for God to remember you in your unpleasant situation, you have to cooperate with Him by playing your own role. My experiences have revealed to me the mistakes some children of God make as they expect God to play their own roles together with His. This ended at Calvary where God suffered as a man, but there He declared: IT IS FINISHED.

If you are looking for a job, write applications and go out to attend interviews because

God will not write an application letter for you, neither will He attend the interview on your behalf. Sufficient is the fact that He will back you up during the interview. The Bible reveals something that many may not pay attention to which, of course, was fundamental to the divine remembrance of Hannah. What is it?

1 Samuel 1:19d says that: ".....and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the LORD remembered her".

What could have happened to Hannah's prayer if she and her husband did not play their part in this regard? Beloved, let us cooperate with God, He will remember us for good in Jesus' Name.

Pray, fast and take steps under the guidance of the Holy Spirit concerning that situation that is bothering you. You will experience divine remembrance and deliverance.