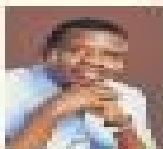


About the Book

The greatest of these gifts is the ability to give others the greatest gift you can make: purpose. It is the knowledge of the great and awesome God in the morning and evening of a day. This can be your journey's true north, your compass, your guidepost, and it can be the gift of greatness that God gives to you. This is the gift that this book is for you. It is, therefore, written for the individual that needs this to begin to move you great.

About the Author



PASTOR ADEDUN ADEROYE is the General Director of the Nigerian Christian Church of Christ, one of the largest indigenous churches in the world and also the President of the Church of Christ's Mission.

A prolific writer, he has a PhD in Applied Mathematics from the University of Lagos, Nigeria where he was formerly a mathematician. He is also an author and frequent guest speaker at major church conferences and conventions at sea level to Pastor Adedun's

small and a large audience at the home of the Holy Spirit. Adedun's research work, which has been published in several journals, is to assist the world's church in the use of mathematics in the church. He is a member of the church's leadership and they are shared with the church's leadership in the church's leadership.

Visit the author's website: www.adedun.com

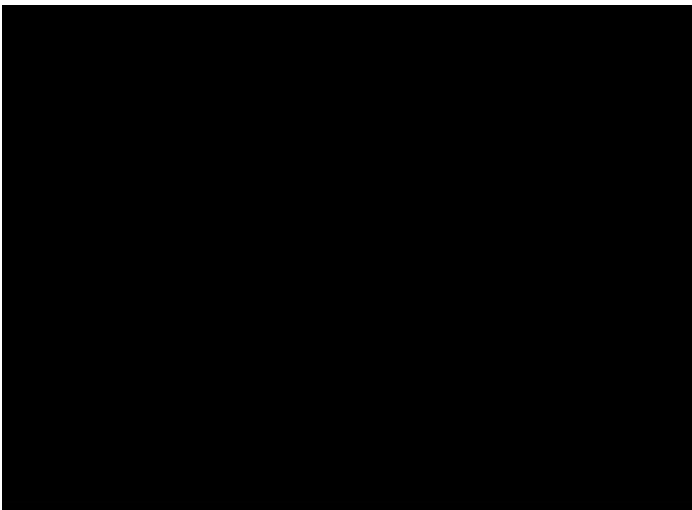


MATHEMATICS OF GREATNESS Book by Pastor Adedun

Dr. ADEDUN ADEROYE

Mathematics of Greatness

A Blueprint for Fulfilling Purpose



About the Book

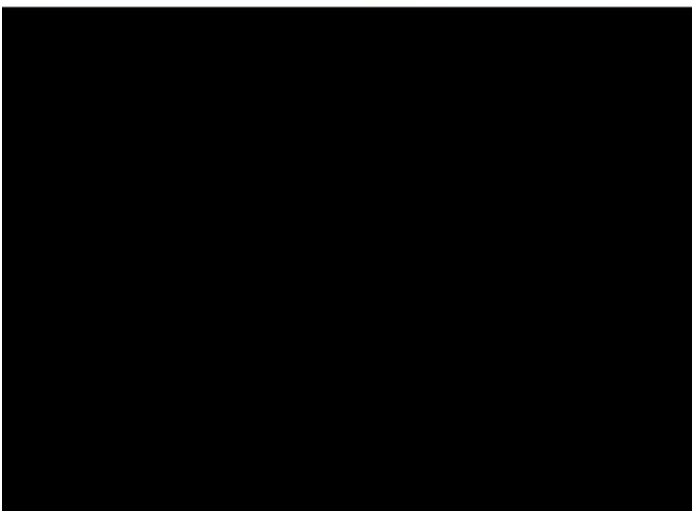
The author, Dr. Adebayo, is a leading expert in the field of mathematics education. He has written several books on the subject, including *Mathematics of Greatness*. This book is a blueprint for fulfilling purpose in the field of mathematics education.

About the Author

DR. ADEBAYO ADEBOYE is a leading expert in the field of mathematics education. He has written several books on the subject, including *Mathematics of Greatness*. This book is a blueprint for fulfilling purpose in the field of mathematics education.

Mathematics of Greatness
A Blueprint for Fulfilling Purpose

ISBN: 978-0-13-035312-5



MATHEMATICS
OF
GREATNESS

E.A. ADEBOYE

MATHEMATICS OF GREATNESS @2018

Pastor E. A. Adeboye

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

Published by:

Open Heavens Media Limited

No. 1 Holiness Road,

Redemption Camp,

Km. 46 Lagos Ibadan Expressway,

Ogun State, Nigeria. e-mail:

open_heavens@ymail.com

info@ohic.org

web: www.ohic.org

Tel: +2348169245246, +234-1-2931300

Designed & Edited by:

Open Heavens International Centre

All Bible quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible except otherwise stated.

TABLE OF CONTENT

PREFACE	5
CHAPTER ONE	6
MATHEMATICS OF GREATNESS	
CHAPTER TWO	46
LEVELS OF GREATNESS	
CHAPTER THREE	79
THE GREAT SERVANT	

PREFACE

Our Father is Greater than the greatest. Just as a lion cannot give birth to a goat, so also every child of God has the DNA of greatness in them. Unfortunately, many children of God don't end up achieving greatness. For you, you will attain your full potentials in Jesus name.

By the grace of God, I am what I am today simply because I am a child of the Most High and I have relied on Him completely. Your rise to true greatness cannot come without total reliance on the Most High. The equations that we will be solving in this book are built on the lessons I have learnt as I rely on God to make me great. As you study this book, resolve in your heart that only God can make you great and the principles you learn will work for you.

Welcome to Greatness.

Pastor E.A Adeboye

1

**Mathematics
Of Marriage
MATHEMATICS
OF
*GREATNESS***

Mathematics is not only the language

of science; it is the language

of life. Whenever

we look at things around us, we see the laws of mathematics working through them. For example, the law of addition is always in play when a child is born and added to a family. The law of subtraction comes into play when a person dies and leaves the world.

I was born into a very poor family, so I know what it means to be poor. By the grace of God, I have also been privileged to dine with the high and mighty, so I know what it is to be rich. It is better to have excess than to have shortage; it is better to be great than to be small. In this book, we will be analysing the elements of greatness using a few linear equations

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

(the fact that they are linear equations makes them easy to handle, quadratic or exponential equations are more complicated). My prayer is that as you study this book and practice what is being taught in it, you will draw closer to achieving greatness in your chosen field.

FIRST SET OF LINEAR EQUATIONS *God is the Most High* ---- **Eq. 1** *God is All Sufficient* ----**Eq. 2**

Equation 1 - God is the Most High

Psalm 47:2:

*"For the LORD most high is terrible;
He is a great King over all the earth."*

The word 'Most High' is translated from a Hebrew word that means 'the supreme'. Our God is not only supreme, He is sovereign. He is the greatest and

highest being there was, there is and will ever be. Because He is the Most High, He controls everything, His will is absolute and so He does whatever He pleases. A good example that illustrates our God as the Most High can be seen in the story of Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel chapter 4. King Nebuchadnezzar, who was king of Babylon, was walking through his palace one day and boasting about how he built Babylon by the might of his power and for the honour of his majesty. While he was still speaking, the Most High passed judgement upon him, and for seven years, he lived as an animal in the bush. Once his senses were restored to him, the first thing king Nebuchadnezzar did was to give all the glory to the Most High. He experienced on a first hand basis the power of God, and his life was changed forever.

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

"Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and His ways judgement: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase."

Daniel 4:37

The son of a King is a potential king himself. He also has some authority, because he shares the DNA of the one who has all the authority in the kingdom. If you check through Jesus' ministry on earth, you will see that He was not working based on His own authority, but that of His father. For example when He was going to raise Lazarus from the dead, He called on His Father and said He should hear Him so that the people may know that He is His son indeed. He even said it expressly in John 5:19:

"Then answered Jesus and said unto

Mathematics of Greatness

*them, Verily, verily, I say unto you,
The Son can do nothing of Himself,
but what He seeth the Father do: for
what things soever He doeth, these
also doeth the Son likewise."*

A child's authority is always limited by the authority of his father, this is why when Jesus went to His home town in Matthew 13:54-55, after speaking with wisdom and doing mighty works, the people, trying to make sense out of it all

said in verse 55^a

"Is not this the carpenter's son?"

They wondered where He got the authority to do the things He was doing from, being a carpenter's son. Little did they know that His real Father is the Most High. This is the same with every human being on earth. How great you will

become is determined by who your father is. If your father is the Most High, then there is no limit to how great you can be. Many people claim that The Most High is their father, whereas the Most High does not even know them. If you are going to church, but still indulging in secret sin, the Most High is not your father. If you think it is okay to sin once in a while, after all God knows that you are human and He is a merciful God anyway; the Most High is not your father. He said in Revelation 3:16 that if you are not hot; if you are just lukewarm, He will spit you out of His mouth. If the Most High is your father indeed, then you will be hot for Him. You will live holy, you will pray without ceasing, meditate on His word day and night, you will evangelise, and

you will not forsake the fellowship of the brethren.

Now if indeed your Father is the Most High, there are two major things you need to take note of:

1. Psalm 82:6 says:

"I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High."

As children of the Most High, we are also gods in this world. As 'gods', we have dominion over everything on earth. We can command anything to do our bidding. This is why you can ensure that every contract you bid for is awarded to you. You can ensure that anything and anyone that tries to stand in the way of your greatness is removed immediately. No situation can overwhelm you on your path to greatness. Witches and wizards cannot stop you from fulfilling destiny

because you are a god and a child of the Most High.

2. Because our God is the Most High, He accomplishes all things for us whenever we ask Him to. Whenever we cry to God, presenting our needs, desires, and plans to Him, He will always show Himself as the Most High and turn things around for the better. David understood this, so he was able to achieve greatness.

In Psalm 57:2, he said:

"I will cry unto God Most High; unto God that performeth all things for me."

God was performing all things for David because He called on Him. If we don't cry to Him, He won't do anything for us, and so we must always make conscious effort to present our issues to God, after all He wants a relationship with us. My advice

for you is that you don't waste your time and energy trying to achieve greatness on your own, simply maintain a relationship with God such that whatever you hear Him say you also say and whatever you see Him do, you also do. When confronted with any challenge, simply ask Him for instructions and follow the instruction like David always did, before long, you will find yourself in the place of greatness.

Equation 2 - *God is All Sufficient*

Our God is called Jehovah El-Shaddai, meaning the All Sufficient God. When we say God is all sufficient, this means that He has everything you can ever need in abundance. His possessions cannot be measured. These days, there are all sorts of lists of the richest people in the world. My God cannot be on such lists because

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

He is in a class of His own. If you add the wealth of everybody on the list together, the amount you get is still not up to 10% of His wealth. In His city, the floors are made with pure gold. Who else can boast of such affluence? This is why sometimes when I hear the requests of some people, I shake my head in pity, because they don't even realise how much this God can give to them. Someone once approached me to pray for him because he had this terrible cough that was threatening his life. He said "Daddy please pray for me that God should let the cough go little by little" I told him I could not pray that kind of prayer. Some people go to the All Sufficient One and ask Him for things that their rich uncle can give them.

I always tell the congregation in developed countries that God always

sets up a buffet for His children. In most developed countries, there are food stores where you just pay a fixed amount and you can eat whatever you like. There will be all sorts of delicacies in large quantity, and you can eat whatever you want in whatever quantity you want. Some people go in there and just eat a slice of bread. I always wonder what such people are doing there anyway. Me, whenever I go, they would know that someone visited. I don't ask for small things when given a blank cheque, I ask for big things. The one who gave me the blank cheque had better be prepared. I used to have a very rich uncle, he was so rich that one day he visited the school in my home town and the principal presented to him some of their needs. He said they needed a girls' hostel, a boys' hostel and some classrooms. My uncle

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

came up and said he would do all that for them, but he asked if the principal himself had a house of his own, he asked if there was a staff quarters in the school. By the time he was done, he had given them far more than they asked for. When you go to my uncle to ask him for small amounts of money, he would tell you he does not have. You can leave grumbling but he wouldn't call you back. But if you return and ask him for a large amount money, he would then say "now you are talking, how could you have come the other time to insult me by asking for such small amount of money?" Many of us insult God with our requests. Have you not read about Solomon in 2 Chronicles 9:27? God made him so rich that silver was like stone in his kingdom. What do you need that is too much for Him to provide? There is nothing He does not

have in His possession. In precious stones, our God is all sufficient; Haggai 2:8 says all the silver and gold are for Him. In animal husbandry, He is all sufficient, Psalm 50:10 says every animal in the forest is for Him. In cash, His house is likened to a central bank where riches and wealth actually live; Psalm 112:3 says "wealth and riches are in His house". You name whatever you want, my God has it in abundance! He owns everything in the world and beyond. Don't ask Him for little things.

Solving Equations 1 and 2 Simultaneously

Solving these two equations simultaneously: the answer you get is God has dominion over all things and owns immeasurable wealth, therefore as His child, I have dominion over all things

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

and can have whatever I ask from Him. Many times I have heard people say “the sky is your limit”, well this may be possible if human beings promote you, but when it is the Most High that is lifting you, you can be sure that you will go beyond the sky. You need to understand the privilege you have as a child of God. Sometimes we try to rack our brains to think of how possible it is that God can promote us from where we are to where we want to be. Your brain is too small to do that calculation. You just tell Him how great you want to be and live by His Word, you will soon see yourself moving fast on the path of greatness.

“He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from

Mathematics of Greatness

the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and He hath set the world upon them."

1 Samuel 2:8

My God can promote anybody, no matter how low the person is. 1 Samuel 2:8 says He promotes people who live in the dust and beggars who beg on the streets to the level of the princes of the land. This is possible because God owns the whole earth and no one can question Him. Joseph entered into Egypt in chains, bound as a slave but before long, he became the Prime Minister. How come? His Father is the Most High and the All sufficient One.

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

SECOND SET OF LINEAR EQUATIONS

True greatness is from God --- Eq. 3

God prefers to make His own children great --

-Eq. 4

Equation 3 - Greatness is from God 1

Chronicles 29:11 says;

"Thine, O LORD is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all."

True greatness comes from God and God alone. Yes, there are many so called great men and women in the world who are not born again. Believe me honestly, their greatness is vain without Christ. Mark

Mathematics of Greatness

8:36 says what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his soul? All his gains are useless; vain.

Different people look up to different sources for greatness. Some look up to man. An example of this is when one looks up to a godfather to put him in a position of greatness, or when people come together to vote a person into public office. Whenever a man puts you in a position of authority or makes you great, there is always the possibility that he can remove you whenever he feels like, or your tenure can run out. Anyone who depends solely on man to make him great is attracting a curse on himself.

"Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

heart departeth from the LORD."

Jeremiah 17:5

Man can be a tool for God to use in making you great, but you must never forget this important equation in the mathematics of greatness - Greatness comes from God! He should be your only hope of greatness. Our God is a jealous God, He does not like to share His glory with anyone. The moment He sees that you are looking up to someone else for your greatness, He steps back. When God steps back, curses follow. May God not step back from your life in Jesus' name.

Some people go to the devil through one herbalist, cult or the other for greatness. Some even say they were given the offer and couldn't refuse it. Jesus Christ was given a similar offer in Luke 4:5-8, He rejected the offer with scriptures. There is

no offer of the devil that you cannot reject, you only need to activate the right scripture that will keep his mouth shut. Jesus knew that as enticing as the devil's offer was, it was a trap to veer Him off the path of true greatness, so he rejected it. If you search the heart of those who have accepted the devil's offer in the past, you will discover that they accepted because of how enticing it was, they thought "enough was enough of all these struggles", but when they got in, they realised that the struggles only just started. My father used to say that whatsoever you allow to be your master will take care of you with what he has. If Satan is your master, he will give you sickness, sorrow, fear and all kinds of problems. If Jesus is your master, He will give you good health, joy, peace and all kinds of blessings. It is only Jesus that can

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

give you blessings and no sorrow will be added to it (Proverbs 10:22). Don't listen to the devil when he comes through a seemingly caring person to promise you greatness, he is the father of liars! Jesus, the truth says in 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."

Any greatness not obtained from God is a counterfeit.

Equation 4 - God Prefers To Make His Own Children Great

If you were God and you have something that will give people some power and influence over other people, who will you choose to give it to? Rebels or obedient children? I am sure you will give it to the

Mathematics of Greatness

obedient children. God will not give greatness to anyone that is not His child, except when He wants to use that fellow to show the whole world that He should be feared as the One who is Greater than the greatest.

"For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth."

Romans 9:17

When God sees a fellow who has surrendered completely to His will, He has seen a candidate for greatness. If on the other hand, He sees someone who He made great not doing His will anymore, He is likely to replace that fellow with the one that is doing His will. This is why

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

God replaced Saul with David on the throne of Israel.

"And when He had removed him, He raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also He gave their testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will."

Acts 13:22

In the past, when I used to tell my children that God would soon raise them up to become leaders of their nations, they thought I was joking. Thank God they now see and believe what I have always said. I know this because my God prefers to give greatness to those who do His will.

According to 3 John 2, God is not interested in anyone prospering if the

fellow's soul is perishing. When He sees a perishing soul prospering, He begins to arrange a transfer of wealth from the fellow to His child (Proverbs 13:22^b).

⁵ And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and your vine-dressers. ⁶ But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

Isaiah 61:5-6

Because our God is the greatest, He has the ability to impute greatness into anybody He chooses. All power comes from Him and no one can question Him on whom He gives power and in what measure.

Solving Equations 3 and 4 Simultaneously

When you solve equations 3 and 4 simultaneously, you will discover that *true greatness comes from God, and He will only give it to His children.*

The question then is, are you His child? Does He know you? I am not referring to whether you go to church or not, I mean, can God vouch for you and say "I know so and so, if I give Him greatness, He will definitely use it to do my will." If this is not the case with you, then you need to repent and become His child for real. These days the world's concept of Christianity has taken different forms. God cannot be deceived. If you are not truly and wholly like Christ, forget about greatness. If you are a Christian on the outside and something else on the inside,

don't ask Him to make you great, He won't answer you. If you are a true Christian now, but you are hoping to be great so that you can use your influence to deal with some people and oppress others, God knows your heart. You better repent now if you want Him to make you great.

Don't go to the devil for greatness. The end of that is weeping and gnashing of teeth.

THIRD SET OF LINEAR EQUATIONS

God's Principles are failsafe --- Eq. 5 Anointing is required for Greatness --- Eq. 6

Equation 5 - God's Principles are failsafe

Our God is a God of principles; there are certain conditions that must be met for certain things to happen. If you want to be great, then you have to meet the conditions of greatness as stated in God's

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

Word. Some of these principles include:

You Must Be Hard Working.

"⁹How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? ¹⁰Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: ¹¹So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man."

Proverbs 6:9-11

Our God, as great as He is, still works. Some people say that God rested on the 7th day of creation and since then He has been resting. God?! Resting? God that attends to the prayers of people from all around the world daily? Psalm 121:4 says He never sleeps nor slumbers. After the 7th day, He went back to work and has been working ever since. Jesus Christ

confirmed this in John 5:17:

“But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.”

God is always working, and there is a saying “like father like son”. If you are truly His child, you will also be hard working. If you are hardworking, you have satisfied one of His conditions for greatness.

You Must Be Obedient To His Every Instruction.

“And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all His commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

nations of the earth: ² And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God."

Deuteronomy 28:1-2

On your path to greatness, God will be giving you instructions. If you obey, you will be great, if you disobey, then forget about greatness. One person that really understood this is King David. Before He made any move, he asked God for instructions. He even said in Psalm 119:105 that God's Word is a lamp to his feet and a light to his path. In other words, His every step was guided by the light of God's Word. No wonder he was the greatest king that Israel ever had. Up till today, the Israelites cannot forget

King David. Isaiah 1:19 says

"If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:"

The fact that you have read this book to this point shows that you are willing, now you need to add obedience so that you can achieve greatness in your land.

You Must Be Diligent

Many people mistake diligence for hard work. Diligence is a little more than hard work. The Webster dictionary defines diligence as steady, earnest, and energetic effort. Diligence is one of God's conditions for greatness.

"Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men."

Proverbs 22:29

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

Some people start business today and expect it to yield as much profit as the industry leader by tomorrow. Some people start a ministry this year, and expect it to grow as big as those that have been in existence for 30 years within 6 months. When they don't get the expected result, they become frustrated and jump to something else. The Bible says in Isaiah 28:10:

*"For precept must be upon precept,
precept upon precept; line upon line,
line upon line; here a little, and there
a little:"*

You need to understand the principle of precept upon precept. When God made man, He put the principle of precept upon precept into play. He made only two people and told them to multiply. Today, we have over 7 billion people on

earth. This happened little by little, He did not make all 7 billion people in one day. There is a time to be a baby and a time when you can eat strong meat. There is a time to learn the ropes and a time when you can create the ropes. Those who try to suddenly get to the top always crash suddenly. When God arranged for Joseph to go to Egypt, He did it because He wanted Joseph to be the Prime Minister there, however, Joseph had some lessons to learn first. He learnt in Potiphar's house as well as in the prison before he finally became the Prime Minister. Jesus Christ also started His ministry 30 years after He was born. Even though He had come to save the world, He did not go to the cross to die immediately, He took it precept upon

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

precept. At the wedding in Cana of Galilee when His mother told Him to turn water to wine, He told her His time had not come yet.

“For who hath despised the day of small things?”

Zechariah 4:10^a

Don't despise your days of small beginnings, for you will surely grow to greatness if you remain diligent.

What You Sow is What You Reap

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” Galatians 6:7

If you want to be great, sow greatness in the life of others. Some people think that the smart way to become great is to pull

others down, they don't realise that they are sowing the wrong seeds and will soon reap what they sow. Whenever you have the opportunity to help someone achieve greatness, don't hold back. The more people you help to become great, the greater you will be. By God's grace, one major reason why many people call me a Pastor of Pastors is because I have mentored and raised other great pastors. Don't look out to invest only in those that can pay you back, invest in as many as you can.

*"Cast thy bread upon the waters: for
thou shalt find it after many days."*

Ecclesiastes 11:1

Become a part of many people's success stories. Don't feel intimidated by anyone who seems to have more potential for greatness than you, rather mentor them

and help them harness their hidden potentials. As you do this, potentials you never knew you had will surface. I tell you this in confidence because it has happened to me. When you sow the seed of greatness in others, you will reap it in many folds.

You need to also sow seeds into the lives of great people, especially people who have achieved greatness in your area of specialisation. You can attract the grace on their lives with the seeds you sow to them. You however have to be careful whose life you sow into.

Equation 5 - Anointing is required for Greatness

For greatness to be achieved by any person, a special anointing from God is required. This anointing will mark you out for greatness. Once you get the

anointing, God begins to order your steps towards greatness. Your mind and everything around you will begin to propel you into greatness. The day David was anointed by Samuel, the Spirit of the Lord came upon him. You don't need anybody to tell you that when the Spirit of the Lord comes on someone, greatness is a sure thing, because our God is a great God.

"Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah."

1 Samuel 16:13

Now, how do you get this anointing? First, you can get it through an anointed man of God just like David did. When an

Pastor E. A. Adeboye

anointed man of God anoints you for greatness, everything changes and the anointing begins to propel you to greatness. Secondly, you can get the anointing for greatness if God is always with you. How do you get God to be with you? By living a lifestyle of praises to God. Praise was David's lifestyle, so God was with him and he became great.

*" And David went on, and grew great,
and the LORD God of hosts
was with him."*

2 Samuel 5:10

Psalm 22:3 says that God inhabits the praises of His people. Believe me honestly, if you praise God regularly and His presence is constantly with you, your greatness is sure. Thirdly, you can get the anointing by not just being righteous, but also hating sin.

Mathematics of Greatness

"Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows."

Hebrews 1:9

You should hate sin so much that anywhere you see sinners, you just want to tell them about Jesus so that they can be saved. You should not be comfortable in the midst of sin. I don't understand when some Christians say that they don't drink, but they hang out in the bar where alcohol is served all around. How can you be comfortable and relaxed with sin all around you?

Solving Equations 5 and 6 Simultaneously

Solving equation 5 and 6 simultaneously,

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

we discover that to be great, you must abide by God's principles of greatness and be anointed by Him. When you check through the scriptures, you see that everyone who was anointed by God ended up great, except the ones who stopped living by God's principles (for example, King Saul). You need to understand that it is not enough to be anointed by God for greatness, God can change His mind at any time about anybody. This is why I live every day of my life with caution. It is better not to have been great at all than to become great and then God pulls the fellow down. There is nothing as terrible as being called an ex-champion. You need to also live your life with caution. Samson was anointed from birth for greatness,

Mathematics of Greatness

but he lost caution on the lap of Delilah, so He lost the anointing. May you not lose your greatness in Jesus' name. Get the anointing for greatness, but don't forget the principles required.

2

**Mathematics
Of Marriage
LEVELS
OF
*GREATNESS***

Greatness is in levels or

categories. For example, the Local

government chairman is

a great man in his Local government, the governor is a great man in his state, the president is a great man in his nation, and even some presidents are greater than others. The following Bible passages reveal that the Bible recognises different levels of greatness:

“³⁴ And he said, I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵ And the LORD hath blessed my master greatly; and he is become great: and he hath given him flocks, and herds, and silver, and gold, and menservants, and maidservants, and camels, and asses.”

Genesis 24:34-35

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

"¹² Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him. ¹³ And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great:"

Genesis 26:12-13

"⁴² But when the cattle were feeble, he put them not in: so the feebler were Laban's, and the stronger Jacob's. ⁴³ And the man increased exceedingly, and had much cattle, and maidservants, and menservants, and camels, and asses."

Genesis 30:42-43

From the above verses, we see that Abraham was great, Isaac was very great and Jacob was exceedingly great. Of a

Levels of Greatness

truth, there are different levels of greatness and the knowledge of this alone makes me rejoice, because it means that no matter how great I have become, I can still forge ahead and become even greater. Many times, I have seen people who have achieved some greatness begin to misbehave – they stop attending church services because they are now 'busy', they start to disobey God's instructions, they begin to hang out with people of the world because 'levels have changed'; I wonder if these people do not know that the one who made them great can make them even greater, He can also decide to take away the greatness He has given them so that they fall to a lower level of greatness. Many people have hindered their own progress into higher

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

levels of greatness because to them, they have arrived. I always tell my children, success is not a destination, it is a journey. You never arrive at success, you keep walking in it. This is because success is a two lane road without a stopover, as some are moving forward, some are moving backwards, those who think they have arrived at their destination will soon discover that they are moving backwards.

Beloved, it does not matter how much greatness you have achieved so far, you can still be greater, there is still a lot of room ahead for progress, if only you remain steadfast in the Lord. When we moved into the new auditorium we call Arena on the Redemption Camp in Nigeria, I was very grateful to God for the

Levels of Greatness

achievement because the auditorium was really massive (in my eyes). One night on my prayer walk, I was appreciating God from the depth of my heart saying this was a life time achievement, then the Lord told me to keep quiet, He asked what I meant by 'life time achievement' when that was just the children's auditorium. He also said I should not mind those calling the camp a city, that the city He promised me was yet to be built. Here I was thinking I had achieved greatness, but the Lord was saying "I have not started with you yet". He was very correct because now we are in a 3km by 3km auditorium and He still isn't done yet.

God Has More in Store For You

If you think you are already made, then

you need to study what the Bible says about greatness very well so that you can get a better perspective of God's plan for you. Amongst the three levels of greatness which we discussed at the beginning of this chapter, Abraham was on the lowest level and we get a glimpse of how great he was in Genesis 14:14-16:

¹⁴ *And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan. ¹⁵ And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus. ¹⁶ And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people."*

Levels of Greatness

From Verse 9 of Genesis 14, we see that four nations had come against five nations, including Sodom and Gomorrah. These five nations were defeated by the four nations and their kings had fled. Abraham got the news that his brother had been captured and without consulting anybody, without asking for help from any king, he went against the four nations and he defeated them, implying therefore that he was not only stronger than the four nations he defeated, but even stronger than the five nations that they had earlier defeated. Now, who are the soldiers that Abraham took to war? Verse 14 tells us that they were not soldiers, they were his servants, members of his household and they were three hundred and eighteen in number. The Bible makes it clear that these

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

servants were all born in his own house. Now, my question to you is, how many people are in your household that you feed every day? How many children have you raised from childhood to adulthood? Can you go against one nation and defeat it, talk more of five nations? If your answer to these questions is no, then it is clear that you are not yet made because we have not even started discussing those that were on higher levels of greatness.

Isaac was greater than Abraham. We get a glimpse of how great he was in the passage below:

¹³ And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great: ¹⁴ For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants:

and the Philistines envied him. ¹⁵ For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth. ¹⁶ And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we. ¹⁷ And Isaac departed thence, and pitched his tent in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there. ²⁶ Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar, and Ahuzzath one of his friends, and Phichol the chief captain of his army. ²⁷ And Isaac said unto them, Wherefore come ye to me, seeing ye hate me, and have sent me away from you? ²⁸ And they said, We saw certainly that the LORD was with thee: and we said, Let there be now an oath betwixt us, even betwixt us and thee, and let us make

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

a covenant with thee; ²⁹ That thou wilt do us no hurt, as we have not touched thee, and as we have done unto thee nothing but good, and have sent thee away in peace: thou art now the blessed of the LORD.

Genesis 26:13-19, 26-29

Has your nation envied you so much that they send you out of the country? Have you become so great that even when, out of envy, your nation issues a policy to hinder your greatness, it does not affect you one bit? Rather, you grow so great that the president has to visit you with the Chief of army staff to plead with you not to attack them. If you have not become as great as this, then you are still on a very low level of greatness.

Our next example of a higher level of greatness is Jacob who became

Levels of Greatness

exceedingly great. Now, Jacob got the blessings of his father, while Esau got the remnant blessing. Let us look at what the person with the remnant blessing achieved, then we can at least have a faint idea of how great Jacob was.

⁶ And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, We came to thy brother Esau, and also he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him.

Genesis 32:6

This passage does not tell us how many people were in Esau's household, it only tells us the number of men who followed Esau out - four hundred bodyguards. Hence, Esau was feeding at least four hundred bodyguards daily. We have had Presidents visit us at our programs on the Redemption Camp in Nigeria, the

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

highest number of bodyguards that has come with a President before is not up to 300 people. Here is Esau, the one with the remnant blessing, having four hundred body guards. How many body guards do you have?

God's Plan For You

God has a whole lot in store for you. One thing I love about my God is that He is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). What He did in the days of old, He can repeat again. It does not matter who you are today, my God can make you an envy of nations. He does not lie, His Word is yea and amen; He said in His Word that you will lend to many nations, this means that you will have so much money that you cannot possibly spend alone, then nations will apply to borrow some money from you so that

Levels of Greatness

they can at least balance their budget for the year. You will then choose the ones you want to lend to, and it won't be only one nation that you will lend money to, they will be many. He also said that you will reign over many nations, in other words, you will be greater than just being the president of a nation, you will be calling the shots in several nations of the world. This is expected anyway, after all, it is your money that they are using to balance their budgets.

“For the LORD thy God blesseth thee, as He promised thee: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow; and thou shalt reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over thee.”

Deuteronomy 15:6

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

What is expected of you if you want to enjoy this level of greatness? We see the answer to this in the previous verse:

"⁵ Only if thou carefully hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all these commandments which I command thee this day."

Deuteronomy 15:5

"Only If"

The Bible is specific; the verse starts with "Only if". In other words, there is no alternative route to getting this blessing. Many people have options on how to become great. Little do they know that they are undoing themselves. Some trust in other people to make them great. The hand of man can fail! Men disappoint. It is in their nature; a man can just decide

Levels of Greatness

tomorrow that you have offended him, so he will not help you anymore and there is nothing you can do about it. Men are also limited in numerous ways. The level of greatness that God wants to take you to is not one that any man's hand can reach. No one can make you greater than himself, (that is if he can even make you as great as he is). Men have limits and if you don't want to remain on a low level of greatness (if it can even be termed greatness at all) then you cannot depend on man. Men also die or get demoted. Have you considered what will become of you if that person you are depending on dies today, or if he is removed from that position of power? My God can never die, He is the Ancient of days, He is the Rock of ages, to His reign there is no end, He had been the greatest before you

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

were born and He will still be the greatest after you are long gone. If He is your source of greatness, you can be rest assured that He will always be there when you need Him.

Some people depend on the devil for greatness. What a pathetic set of people. The devil is not a fool. He does not give anything out free of charge, he always takes something in return and what he takes is always of priceless value to the owner. We see this in Luke 4:6-7:

"6 And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. 7 If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine."

The devil does not mind giving you some goodies, but you must worship him in

return. In other words, your life belongs to him. This means that at the end of time, all those who the devil gave 'greatness' to will end up with him in the lake of fire. They will enjoy some goodies here on earth for some years, then go and suffer for eternity in hell fire. I have always said it, when you see an unbeliever prospering, you better don't envy him. He is just like the ram that is about to be slaughtered for an occasion. The other rams will be envying him as the owners are feeding him fat, before long, he will be looking robust and fresh, all just in anticipation for the day that the owner will serve him as a delicious meal to his guests. The devil's sole mission is to steal, kill and destroy lives and destinies (John 10:10). And he does that with so called greatness as bait; don't fall into his trap. It

is only God that can bless and there will be no sorrow added to the blessing.

“Carefully Hearken”

To carefully do something is to pay attention to details. To God, incomplete obedience is disobedience. This is why in the case of King Saul, even though he had gone to Amalek to war as commanded and killed almost all the people and

cattle, He still said in 1 Samuel 15:22^b:

*“Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,
and to hearken than the fat of rams.”*

This means he was considered to have been disobedient. You need to make the decision not only to obey God, but to obey Him to the letter. You must take every single word that comes out of His mouth with utmost importance. You can't choose which to obey and which not

to obey. You can't obey Him based on convenience or how sensible the command sounds to you. If you do, then you are not yet ready for greatness.

I was sitting in my office one day when one of my acquaintances came visiting and as we were talking, he said "I am going to America for a Christian conference." I said, "Oh good. God will go with you..." Suddenly, he said to me, "Would you like to go?" "Of course, if it's a Christian conference, I would love to go. But I don't have the money to cover the expense so I won't be going." was my reply. He said, "That's no problem; I will buy your first class ticket and pay for your accommodation. I will even give you pocket money to spend." I was happy. What a great day. After he left, my Commander-In-Chief said, "Son, you are

not going anywhere." "Yes Lord, but why? I didn't beg him for it. He was the one who offered. It is something that is going to be beneficial to the church." The Commander-in-Chief had spoken, and He didn't give an answer to my question. So I picked my phone and called the man that had generously offered to sponsor me to the conference just as he was getting back to his office. "Thank you for your offer, but my Commander-in-Chief says I'm not going anywhere." So I didn't go. He went for the conference and came back; few days after he returned from the trip, he was arrested. He had been involved in fraud and an investigation commenced into how he had spent the stolen money. It would have come to light that this man had sponsored a trip

abroad for the RCCG General Overseer. This scandal would have definitely put a dent in my name and affected my journey on the path to greatness. I was a boxer when I was much younger, and every boxer knows that if you want to be successful, then you must listen to your coach. A boxer that does not listen to his coach is doom bound. If you choose to listen to your coach only in areas that are convenient for you, it would be in the area where you have not listened that your opponent will get you. You must hearken carefully to God's commands. He is your coach, He knows far more than you, He has been here way longer than you, so He knows the history of those who made it and those who failed, He knows what made them succeed or fail

Pastor E.A. Adeniyi

and He is willing to guide you to avoid the causes of failure and embrace the path of success. He sees far ahead of you, so He can tell what the result of your actions will be, that is why He directs you on what to do and what not to do. The earth and its fullness are for Him, so He can control them all to favour you, but when you are rebellious to Him, then you are saying you don't need His help.

"The Voice Of The LORD Thy God"

Do you seek to hear Him? How often does He speak to you? Is He your God? There is nothing as beautiful as hearing the voice of God, and there is nothing as rewarding as hearing Him speak to you after painstakingly seeking to hear Him. The problem for many Christians is that they are never patient and diligent

enough to actually seek to hear God speak. If anyone pays the price of consecration and obedience, God will speak at the appropriate times and that fellow's greatness will be unlimited.

David became great and won many battles because He always heard the voice of his God. He never moved without hearing from God. Do you still do things without getting His opinion? We were about to go to Benin for a crusade, all was set, then I went to get God's opinion and He said we should go to Ede, Osun state. We had just done a crusade in the neighbouring town, so it was expected that those in Ede would have been in attendance, but I still hearkened. During the crusade, the king of Ede who was a Muslim, came up to greet the people and he said that he didn't

have money but he had plenty of land, so we should just tell him whatever quantity of land we wanted and he will give it to us. After the crusade, I had a meeting with my people and we decided to ask for 50 acres. Then I went to ask God's opinion and He said "ask for 500 hectares". This was strange, because the whole of Ede was not up to 500 hectares, but I did as commanded. When we made our request, the king called his chiefs for a meeting and they had a heated argument amongst themselves, then one of them reminded the king that he was the one who told us to ask for whatever quantity of land we wanted, so he had to keep to his word. In your own favour, always seek to hear Him before you move. David, the greatest king that Israel ever had said in Psalm 119:105:

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,

Levels of Greatness

and a light unto my path."

"Which I Command Thee This Day"

The only way to become as great as God wants you to be is if you can hearken to His voice and obey all His commandments daily! The day you stop obeying His commandments is the day that you have disqualified yourself from progress on the journey of greatness.

Holiness is a daily thing; you have to learn to daily renew your commitment to be completely obedient to God. Holiness simply means complete obedience. That is why, by God's grace, I have no problem with holiness, I just obey my Commander-in-chief and wait to see the results. Believe me honestly, if you live a lifestyle of holiness, very soon, the world will know that the Almighty God can

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

turn nothing to something. He has always been in the habit of making something out of nothing; He took the lunch of a boy and fed thousands with it, He took water and turned it into the most quality wine that the master of ceremony had ever tasted. When he chooses you to be great, nobody can stop you, and if your making is of God, no human being can break you.

Moreover, if you cannot be obedient to your Commander-in-Chief every day, how will He trust you with greatness? While we were still at one of the old RCCG auditoriums in Nigeria, I was preaching on the altar when God suddenly spoke to me that there were some people in the crowd with severe back pain who couldn't even bend to

touch their toes. He asked me to tell these people to come forward and I did. I thought God would then say, "Now, go and lay hands on them, and pray for them." But He didn't, He instead said, "Dance round them." "Dance? Around sick people? Why will I say I'm dancing? I'm dancing because your back is aching? Won't it look as if I am making jest of them? By the way, isn't it childish to be dancing and everybody will be watching?" Yet, I had to listen to Him and do what He said. So I danced around them; the instrumentalists played and I danced. I looked like a silly man dancing around these people and to make matters worse, I was the only one dancing. After I had danced for some time, God said "That is alright. Tell all of them to touch

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

their toes." They were all healed; every single one of them. Now, it was not my dancing that healed them; God just wanted to find out if I will obey Him, as unusual as the command was. Do you want to be great? You must learn to be obedient every day and every time. When your Commander-in-Chief says that you should "win souls", your answer should be "Yes Lord".

Greatness Comes With Material Wealth

It is important to know that greatness is not necessarily a function of material possession; you can have all the money in the world and be useless. But we will be deceiving ourselves if we think that there is greatness in poverty. I have been very poor before and believe me honestly, there is no iota of greatness in poverty. I

Levels of Greatness

pray for you, when people talk about you, they will say your greatness is an exceeding one.

I know a man that can be called very great, at least from the perspective of financial blessings. The mother of this man was a great woman, she was the leader of the market women in the town they lived in. But the man happened to be the only son, and rather than relax to enjoy his mother's wealth, he worked very hard for his own money, he wasn't a spoilt brat, he worked so much more than his mother did and he became so rich that by the time of his death, he had at least Fifty Six million dollars in a bank in faraway Australia, not to talk of London or America. He was driving in Yaba (Lagos, Nigeria) one day and his car tire

went flat, while the driver was changing the flat tire, he went for a stroll, came across a bank and suddenly remembered that he had saved some money in that particular branch about ten years ago. So he went in and said "I kept some money here ten years ago, I want to find out how much interest it has accrued" He was asked for how much the money he saved was and he said "eight million pounds." This man had forgotten that he kept that kind of huge amount in the bank. There is another man who went for a drive in his Rolls Royce and saw a dirty factory. The dirty state of the factory caught his attention and he decided to make enquires about the factory, only to find out that that was where Rolls Royce cars were made. He couldn't believe that the place that made the car he drives in could

be so dirty. So he went into the factory and asked to see the owner of factory. When he was taken to the owner of the factory, he immediately told him "I want to buy this factory" The owner of the factory said "It is either you are drunk or you are crazy. Just a product from this factory costs a fortune and you want to buy the whole factory?" The man insisted that he wanted to buy the entire business, and the factory owner asked "Who told you I need money, who told you I want to sell?" But this man made the factory owner an offer he couldn't refuse and in less than an hour, he signed off the factory to its new owner. When God makes you great, you will be so rich that what people call big money will be change to you. Money will not be your problem again. You won't even need to do calculations

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

before you buy whatever you want. Money is a defence. If you don't have money, the one with money can ride over you. This is why when God makes a person great, He gives him money. Some people went to a Pastor who had just bought a piece of land for a church and asked him "how much should we pay you so that you leave this land for us" he responded "how much should I pay you so that you leave this town completely?" He could respond this way because money was not his problem at all. When you go and preach to the people of the world, they should look at you and long to serve the God you are introducing to them so that their lives can become better.

3

**Mathematics
Of Marriage**

***THE
GREAT
SERVANT***

The Great Servant

"¹¹ But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. ¹² And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted."

Matthew 23:11-12

Ignorance of the above passage is one of the major reasons why many people have not achieved greatness. God is a just God and He is not interested in those who will use their greatness as a means to oppress others. If you truly want Him to make you great, then you must be willing to serve; the more willing to serve you are, the greater you will be. Humility is a major prerequisite to God raising a man up. If you are not humble enough to serve others, then you are not willing enough to become great. If already, in the little position that you are, you are a terror to

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

those under you, you are oppressing them and walking around with your shoulders high in pride just to show that you are the boss! You can feel comfortable in that position because God will not take you higher. He said it is those who are faithful in little that He will

give more (Luke 19:17). James 4:6 says:

“But He giveth more grace. Wherefore He saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.”

How can you be great if God is resisting you? You cannot achieve anything great without the grace of God. This is why I am appealing to you, if you want to be great, never see anybody as too small to be served by you. Never exalt yourself, rather, let God exalt you. The way you

look at that fellow may just be your hindrance to greatness; the way you talk to or about that cleaner in your office may just be what you need to change so that you can become great.

Many years ago, I was doing a prayer walk when God told me to bend, I bent immediately, then He said I should draw the figure of a man in the sand. I drew the stick figure of a man, then He said I should erase the figure I drew, and I did so with my foot. He then said "I made you as you made that drawing, the day you become proud, I will erase you and any memory of your name from the face of the earth". I was immediately gripped by fear. What happened that day was, God was about to promote me, but He needed to clear the humility part first. Thank God

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

I complied and became humble, imagine what I could have missed if I didn't comply.

Your primary duty when God raises you up is to serve others, you should never forget this. Some people use their position of authority to ensure that others don't become great, they are missing it completely. Your position of authority is only an opportunity for you to harness the potential in others and become a part of their journey to greatness. The truth is, you are only a leader because there are followers. If there were no followers, who will you be leading? It is because of how important the people are that God chose you to lead them, not because of how important you are. You must not look down on those who you are to lead, because the leader can easily be replaced,

but can a president decide to replace the citizens of his country? They are the reason you are great, so you should be willing to serve them, not lord it over them.

The Sacrifice of the Great

Since the great is the chief servant of both God and others, there are sacrifices that come with being great. Your motivation and goal should not be titles and accolades, these will come as honour for your sacrifice; your focus should be service. I have always told my pastors, that the hand that cannot do manual labour cannot raise the dead. If you want greatness from God, then get ready to serve and serve sacrificially. When you become great, people will not let you rest, they will always come around you in an attempt to get solutions to their problems. They will come at odd hours of

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

the night, with problems that they desperately need solutions to, you must be willing to help them. I told one of my sons who works with me that our day starts at 5am, but when it will end, we don't know, because we must be available to serve at all times. It takes sacrifice to visit the sick, help the needy, take up other people's burdens in an attempt to find a solution; it takes sacrifice to spend more time in the air than on land because you are going to preach the Gospel to the people that God sent you to, whether you feel like staying at home to rest or not does not matter. It takes sacrifice to arrive after a long flight and immediately start attending to people instead of resting, but it is the sacrifice of greatness.

Are you ready to serve? To be great is to serve God and humanity. You must be

willing to defend the weak. You must be ready to stand up for others who might not be strong or privileged enough to stand up for themselves. David's path to greatness started when he stood up to defend his people, he had been doing the same thing for the sheep in his care in the past. The children of Israel were being mocked by Goliath, and David decided to stand up to him.

³²And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. ³³And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth. ³⁴And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion,

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: ³⁵And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. ³⁶Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God." ³⁷David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.

1 Samuel 17:32-37

David told the king that he would fight on behalf of his people. He stood in the gap for them. As a person aspiring to be

great, are you ready to stand in the gap for others? Are you ready to fight spiritual battles on behalf of your followers? Are you ready to fight the forces of darkness that are trying to destroy your people? Or are you only concerned about yourself?

When your focus shifts from “what will I eat?” to “how many people can I feed?”, then you are on the path to greatness.

Determination Must Meet Expectation

Several years ago, around 1984, I heard about the great work God was doing in South Korea through the ministry of Dr. David Yonggi Cho. At that time, he had the biggest church in the whole world. So I went to this man’s church to learn from him; I wanted to know what made him so successful in ministry. When I got there, I

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

listened very carefully to everything Dr. Yonggi Cho had to say. He taught us about house fellowship and other things, but he kept on coming back to one thing; Prayer! Prayer!! Prayer!!! He was a man of prayer. In fact, he bought a whole mountain into which he dug little holes for people to crawl into and pray. I and the people that came together at that time were taken on a tour to that mountain, after telling us the story of how the mountain came to be, they left us to pray. I had a lot to pray about, I was really tired of labouring in vain. So I prayed and prayed and forgot that we were timed. By the time I checked my watch, I discovered that I had been in that hole for about two hours and I was the only one left praying.

Thank God that I am a black man; they waited for me because they knew that the only black man who came with them had not returned. When I got back to the bus, they were very upset with me, "Why did you keep us waiting for so long!?" they asked. I told them "I am sorry, I thought we came here to pray" They said "Yes, but are you going to pray about everything in one day?" They were so upset that no one spoke to me all the way back to the hotel. Today, everyone can see the result of my prayers. Determination met with expectation that day. I went to South Korea because I was determined to become great, I learnt that prayer was the major tool that made the man I went to learn from great, so my expectation was

high, knowing that if I could pray through, I will break through.

The woman with the issue of blood had heard about Jesus and how He was going about healing all kinds of sicknesses. Her faith was high, she had an expectation, so she said "If I can just touch the hem of His garment I will be made whole." But she knew she wouldn't be able to touch Jesus' garment if she stayed put in her house, so she decided to leave her house to go in search of Jesus. She was determined at all cost to touch the hem of His garment. She went in search of Jesus despite how weak she was, she did not even care that her odour may make people to abuse her, she went out,

pushed through the crowd and made sure that she got her miracle . Determination met expectation.

Blind Bartemues heard that Jesus was passing by, He knew that Jesus could open his blind eyes, now Jesus was right here in his neighbourhood, he had a great expectation and he was determined enough to not care what people said about him. He shouted loudly just to get Jesus' attention, people were abusing him and Jesus did not respond, but Bartimeus was not going to take no for an answer, he shouted even more. When Jesus finally stopped to attend to him, he was so sure that the end had come to his suffering that he immediately threw away his garment. Determination met expectation.

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

Between the promise of God and the manifestation of that promise, the devil will try his best to stop you and make you give up, but you must not allow him. If blind Bartimaeus had allowed himself to be stopped when the people around told him to keep quiet, he wouldn't have been able to get Jesus' attention and he wouldn't have received his sight. This attitude is what is lacking in this generation. When faced with little challenges, rather than push through those challenges, people rather quit. No quitter can ever achieve greatness. In Genesis 37:5-11, God showed Joseph how great he would become; he saw in dreams that his brothers, father, and mother all bowed to him. He didn't even know that it would eventually be the whole world

bowing to him, God showed him just a glimpse. That glimpse raised an expectation in him, but the devil was not going to leave him without challenges; he found himself sold into slavery and then later in the prison, but Joseph remained determined, he did not dip his hand into sin, he was determined to remain in God's good books so that his expectations of greatness can be met. Interestingly, everything the devil did was just taking him closer to the greatness that God had in store for him. Imagine if Joseph gave up at some point, he would have been in the right location for the achievement of his dreams but would have just been roaming about aimlessly.

Because Joseph had not given up on his dreams, he refused to annoy God. He

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

thought to himself; "there is just one person that can make my expectations come to pass, I will not annoy Him." This is why I am making a very passionate plea to you; never cut corners on your way to achieving your dreams, don't pollute your destiny with sin. It is one thing not to give up on your dream, and it is another thing to stand strongly on the fact that it is only God that can make your dreams become reality and so you shouldn't annoy Him.

People have asked me again and again; "Sir, why do you keep emphasising on holiness?" One reason, apart from making it to heaven, is that no matter how big your dream may be, if you don't annoy God, the dream will come to pass. All my friends call me the big dreamer. I

dream big, if I tell you one of my dreams, you yourself will call me the big dreamer. But the truth is, I have learnt to dream only big dreams because I know that as long as I stay pure and holy, all my dreams will come to pass. If you will be determined to stay away from sin, if you will keep yourself pure, all your dreams will come to pass.

Joseph was thrown into prison. Nothing can be farther from the throne than the prison, but because Joseph was faithful to God, God was faithful too, and he was taken from that prison to the position he was destined for. Isaiah 1:19-20 says if you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land, but if you refuse,

Pastor E.A. Adeboye

if you rebel, if you will not obey Him, then
you can't blame God for the outcome of
your life.