

How to receive the
Mantle

Of
Power



Dr. D. K. Olukoya

How
to
RECEIVE
THE MANTLE
of
Power

Dr. D.K Olukoya

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All the scripture quotations are from King James Version of the Bible

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[PUBLICATION BY DR. D. K. OLUKOYA](#)

[PUBLICATIONS BY PASTOR \(MRS.\) SHADE OLUKOYA](#)

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CHAPTER ONE

HOW TO RECEIVE THE MANTLE OF POWER

When we talk of going through the school of power, it means to pass through a learning process, and with great expectation that at the end of the day, you will succeed. Many people will enrol in a school, but not all of them will conclude the programme. Some will pass, while others will fail. Some will fail because of lack of seriousness, nonchalance, lack of knowledge, or their inability to cope with the rigour involved.

Others will pass because they will follow the teachings and discipline. Even those that will succeed will come out in different grades. I believe you will succeed in Jesus' name. The questions are: Do you really desire to have power? Are you willing to pay the price, whatever it may cost? If your answer is in the affirmative, then you are ready to receive the mantle of power.

When we talk about the mantle of power, we are talking of an outward manifestation of God's power. I Corinthians 4:20: "For the Kingdom of God is not in word, but in power." Acts of the Apostles 1:8: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." The word "power" here is got from the Greek word "dunamis" from which we get the word dynamite. So, we can say, "You shall receive "dunamis" after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you."

WHAT IS A DYNAMITE?

Dynamite is a powerful explosive used in mining. It is used to break rocks and mountains. It means that when the power of the Holy Spirit comes upon you, it will break every impediment to the glory of God. When the power comes upon you, every hindrance on your way shall be exploded. This

power will only come upon you when you yield your life unto the Lord. That is why Isaiah 55:12 says, "For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

There is a going forth and a being led forth. When the Bible says you will go out with joy, it means that it is possible to go out with sadness. A lot of people go out and come back frustrated and unaccomplished. It says you shall be led forth with peace; that is talking about the peace of God being with you even when you walk through a bad environment. The Bible says that as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. As the Spirit of God leads you forth in this dark world, you will be at peace. The mountains and hills mentioned in that passage refer to hindrances on your way; such hindrances will break forth into singing. And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Everything will work for your peace. When the power of the Holy Spirit comes upon you, it will breakup all the hindrances and they will give glory to the Lord. That is why you need the mantle of power.

WHY DO WE NEED THE MANTLE OF POWER?

- . **To witness Christ to the world:** Acts of the Apostles 1:8 makes us to understand that the mantle of power will enable us to be God's witnesses. Wherever you go, the fullness of Christ will spring forth through you.
- . **To do exploits for God:** Daniel 11 :32: "But the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits." In difficult situations, such people will be able to prevail by the reason of the mantle of power.
- . **The mantle of power is an emblem of God's presence:** The presence of God causes terror to the enemies all the time. Psalms 16:11 : "In thy presence, is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." The joy of the Lord swells in you as the mantle of power falls upon you.
- . **For ransom from destroyers:** Hosea 13: 14: "I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death I will be thy

plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes." You need the mantle of power to be free from the powers of the destroyers. The enemy is out to steal, to kill and to destroy. But by this power, you will be preserved.

. **For the manifestation of Christ:** Jesus, who is seated at the right hand of power, said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." He really gives this power to as many as trust in and rely entirely on Him. So, His manifestation is the mantle of power.

. **To prevent our hearts from fainting:** Isaiah 40:29: "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might, he increaseth strength." The mantle of power is needed to strengthen our hearts because a lot of people today cannot cope with the situation of the present world. Satanic technology is advancing and the rate of growth of many Christians today is not adequate to withstand it. As a result of this, a lot of people are fainting and cannot really stand for the Lord. But the Bible says that, God gives power to the faint and to them that have no might He increases their strength.

. **To prepare us as God's battle axes:** We need the mantle of power to become God's battle axes. As the battle with the kingdom of darkness is getting more fiercer, there is the need for us to cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light.

HOW DO YOU RECEIVE THE MANTLE OF POWER

Let us consider the case of Elisha.

"So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was ploughing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him. And he left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, let me, I pray thee, kiss my father, and my mother; and then I will follow thee. And he said unto him, go back again: for what have I done to thee? And he returned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen, and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen, and gave

unto the people, and they did eat. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, ministered unto him." I Kings 19:19-21.

The passage is talking about the call of Elisha. The Lord led Elijah to cast his mantle on him, indicating God's call on his life. We can learn some lessons from this passage.

. **The immediate response of Elisha to God's call:** The Bible says he ran after Elijah. A lot of us today know that God is calling us to a specific thing, but we find excuses to delay our response to His call. We procrastinate and by this, abuse His grace upon our lives. For you to receive the mantle of power, you have to immediately respond to God's call. A lot of us would say that until this and that are fulfilled in our lives, we would not be ready to respond. If you really desire the mantle of power for yourself, you have to make up your mind to respond urgently to God's call.

. **Elisha made preparations to follow Elijah diligently without looking back:** He decided to give his parents a parting kiss. The Bible says that he took a yoke of oxen, slew them and boiled the flesh with the instrument of the oxen and gave people to eat. He organized a farewell party with all he had, He told his family that he was leaving them to follow the Lord whole heartedly, By this there would not be an occasion to turn back even if the way becomes tough. And even if he wanted to look back, there would be nothing to look back on.

There is a need for you to prepare yourself as you respond to God's call. You need to be ready to bear whatever it will cost you to follow the Lord. You need to be sure that you are not following Him just because of the earthly benefits that you will receive, but because of the eternal value attached. You need to count the cost, if you need the mantle of power because if there is anything pulling you back as you respond, the fullness of the power will not be made manifest in your life. There is a need for you to prepare your home, check yourself and the environment, because you cannot receive the mantle of power and be idle. God will endow you with power for a purpose. And the purpose may be difficult but you will make preparations for it.

The Israelites had no water until they dug the ditches. (2 Kings 3: 16). There was no healing for Naaman until he had the seven dips. There was no

oil until the vessels were gathered. And Jesus did not turn water to wine until the vessels were filled with water. There can be no harvest until the ground has been broken up. So you need to break your fallow ground. There can be no reconciliation without repentance, and no entrance into heaven without being cleansed by the blood of the Lamb.

Beloved, you need to count the cost and be ready to pay the price. What is the price? You must be ready to surrender your life and lay all you have on the altar of God.

. **Elisha did not make provision for any eventuality:** He did not try to keep anything he would fall back on in case things did not go on well with the call of God. The Bible says that he slew the oxen with the instrument thereof and it was not done gradually. He submitted totally. Unlike a lot of people who will say, "I am trying, let me do it gradually." God wants an entire submission. A lot of people are not flowing deeply in the power of God because they are yielding gradually. They don't want to give all unto the Lord. They still consider some things in the world dear to them, better than the riches of God's glory. The Bible says that after bidding his family farewell, Elisha arose and went after Elijah, and became his servant.

There will not be a quickening by the Holy Spirit until we are ready to give our all unto the Lord. The glory of the Lord will not be made manifest until all is laid at the altar. Elisha followed God diligently and the fullness of His power came upon him. 2 Kings 2:11-14: "And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the Lord God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over." He finally received the mantle of power.

Elijah told him that for him to have a double portion of his power, he must be diligent until he saw Elijah taken up. When the whirlwind from heaven

was taking Elijah up, one would have expected that Elisha would first lay hold of the mantle of power, which was his priority. But the first thing he did, according to the Bible, was to tear his garment into two before laying hold on the mantle. A lot of us are in a haste to flow in the power of God without being ready to pay the price.

The Bible says rend your hearts and not your garments. Before laying hold on the mantle of power, there is the need for you to rend your heart. When you rend your heart, then you will rend the heavens and the power will fall on you. The inability to rend the heart, which is a sign of unbrokenness has sealed up the heavens against many. For the heavens to open unto you, there is a need to break your heart before the Lord. For a broken and a contrite heart, God will not despise. When you are broken before the Lord, you will receive the mantle of power. There is a need for you to rend your heart today if indeed you want to flow in the power of God. In every aspect of your life, show forth His victory in every place by rending your heart. Then you shall be His true witness and an emblem of His presence.

It is God's desire to endow us with power. But are you prepared to pay the price? Are you willing to lay all at His altar?

Without this mantle of power, powers of darkness will operate in a greater dimension and a lot of people will be rendered captive. God is not just calling us to come, warm the chairs and shout Alleluia. He is calling us to confound the works of darkness in our environment. A lot of us are falling short of this because of our inability to lay all at the altar.

You can take the decision to come all out for Him now without any further delay, so that He will not leave you behind. If there is anything in your life, that you find difficult to give up for the Lord, take a bold step of faith towards conquering it. Remember that His grace is sufficient for you.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Lord, I rend my heart today before You, in the name of Jesus.
2. God, endow me now with the mantle of power, in the name of Jesus.
3. Lord, let your glory overshadow my life, in the name of Jesus.

4. Holy Spirit, put the sword of victory in my hand, in the name of Jesus.
5. I paralyze, every evil counsel against me, in the name of Jesus.
6. Let every evil priest ordained against me receive confusion, in the name of Jesus.
7. My body reject every evil arrow, in the name of Jesus.
8. Every spirit of war working against this country, be paralysed, in the name of Jesus.
9. All the satanic agents planning trouble for this nation, be paralysed, in the name of Jesus.
10. Let the spirit of peace reign in this nation, in the name of Jesus.

CHAPTER TWO

POWER FOR VICTORY

A lot of Christians are getting tired of weak Christianity such people have been asking questions on how they could make progress from their present level. They ask how they could obtain power. Therefore, the focus of this message is to supply answers to these questions, which have been the concern of most believers today, since almost everyone knows fully well from the word of God, that Christianity is a religion of power.

There is something within the subconscious mind of believers challenging them about whether they possess this power in their lives now. That is why this message can also be titled, "Lessons from the school of power" We will look at the lessons in seven perspectives. Therefore, I counsel you to read with the maximum concentration so that you could get the best from this message.

WHAT IS POWER?

Truly, power is derived from spiritual sources. Before anything could take place in the physical, some action must have taken place in the spiritual realm. When this occurs, nobody has any power to change the process.

Sometimes ago, when I was in England, I received a letter from the prison and I wondered who could have written to me from there. But when I opened the envelope, I was shocked to discover that somebody whom I thought as returned to Nigeria by that time, was the writer.

In his letter, he said "Dear Daniel, I wish to inform you that I am now in prison. Please pay me a visit and when you are coming, buy some apples, toothpaste and other necessary things for me. It is now I know that I should have listened to all the things you used to tell me instead of laughing and making a mockery of you."

Truly, he used to laugh at me and call me names in those days when I preached to him. So I went to see him at the prison. After passing through a rigorous prison protocol, I got to where he was when he saw me, he broke down in tears lamenting that if he had listened to my words, earlier, he would not have been clamped into jail. But funny enough, he had become born again and started preaching to other inmates.

What was his offence? I asked him if he was guilty and he said yes and asked the Lord to forgive him. He knelt down and asked for forgiveness. Thereafter, we transferred the case to heaven as he had repented.

When he was charged to court, those of us who understood that the real power source is from the spiritual, just laughed. On the judgement day, the presiding magistrate said, "As an educated and intelligent person with distinction and Master's degree to your credit, I can only come to one conclusion about you, I think you are mad. Therefore, I hereby order that you should be deported."

That was exactly what we had decreed and prayed for. This is to tell you that true power does not belong here, it is from above.

In another instance, a six-year-old girl confessed in a revival programme that she was the one who bewitched her father's hand. She said the reason why he could not stretch the hand was because they used it to cut firewood in their witchcraft meetings. Her father almost ran mad. If the six year-old girl was asked to engage in a physical combat with her father of about forty, he would probably have broken her bones into pieces but the girl was stronger spiritually because that is the power base.

In the light of this, we can say that power is the process of control given by God through the spoken words that cause things to happen. It is capable of producing an effect which is the spiritual ability to accomplish things. However, one of the problems of Christianity today is that power is fading out and this sad development first started from individual believers.

WHAT ARE THE SOURCES OF POWER?

Power emanates from three sources, namely: God, satan and man. The divine power of God is the positive one, satanic power is negative whilst the

human power is neutral, it can either be controlled by God's own divine power or satanic power. We are only able to bind the evil and spoil his works by the power of Christ; otherwise, we are no match for the devil.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AUTHORITY AND POWER?

People mix up these two words. They are two different things. As far as Christians are concerned, their authority comes from the word of God whilst their power comes from the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Many Christians have given commands to evil spirits by quoting the scriptures but lack of a good knowledge of where these scriptures are written have spelt defeat for them. This is the reason why Bible study must be taken seriously. Many are still joking with their Bibles. If they are asked to open to any book, they will begin to fumble with their Bible, looking for the index, and the pages. You must be diligent with your Bible study.

Our authority as believers is exercised in the name of Jesus and power is operated by the anointing of the Holy Spirit. That is why you see two different levels of operation between two Christians. One can issue a command to an evil spirit in a person and the evil spirit leaves immediately. Whereas another Christian could use exactly the same words but the spirit would say, "You are not serious" So the difference lies in the power backing up the command. Authority is given to all Christians without measure, but power is given according to your level of self-crucifixion and faith.

The moment a person gets born again, authority is automatically conferred on him. For it to move, the power of God must back it up. In other words, authority is the legal right of Christian, which you should claim and exercise. It is power that enforces your right as a Christian. It is possible to have authority without power, That can be a disaster. This is telling us the reason why the Holy Spirit is an indispensable factor in our Christian life. It is certain that no witch whether from the bottom of hell fire can kill you if you have the genuine baptism of the Holy Spirit.

WHAT IS OUR MATCHING ORDER FROM THE LORD JESUS KNOWING FULLY WELL

THAT WE ARE SOLDIERS OF CHRIST

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." John 14:12.

Just like the armed forces, Christian soldiers have their own matching order too.

"Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give." Matthew 10:8.

Our marching order is clearly spelt out here. It says, "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead and cast out the devils. As you continue to grow in your Christian life, if you fail to carry out any of these before you go and meet the Lord, you would have lived a powerless Christian life. What does the Lord expect us to be doing practically? How does the Lord want us to carry out our marching order? Should we just be hiding from our enemies? No.

The Lord expects us to be creating headache for our enemies, but it is unfortunate to see that the enemies are oppressing believers instead. I used to have some troublesome friends in those days. I mean troublesome as Christian warriors and not as hooligans. One day at a night vigil, they prayed the following prayer points, "Let all satanic transport services grind to a halt in the name of Jesus." As they were praying violently, all of a sudden, a nicely dressed handsome young man landed on the floor and was saying, "What brought me down, what am I doing here?" And they told him without mincing words that he had been brought down by the power of the Holy Spirit backing up their prayers. I know some believers who dare not attend night vigils or pray fire prayer simply because the Christian marching order is not clear to them.

Another troublesome friend of mine came across a magician performing with live snakes in a market place. He stood behind the crowd watching his magical feats. As he rained his incantations, expecting things to happen in order to catch his prey amongst the spectators, my Christian friend who was standing at the back nullified the effect of his incantation by saying, "I trample upon everything you have said, in Jesus name" And nothing really

worked for the magician that day. By the time it dawned on him that he could not make any headway, he left the place for another location. This is the kind of headache that God expects us to be causing for the agents of darkness. You should not be crying day and night that something is screaming by your bed or that birds are perching on your window. Why should you be under the fear of a strange bird, lizard and cockroach when you already have a superior power?

There was this other friend of mine who was posted to pastor a church situated in a street where there was practically a herbalist in every house. This brother decided to make it a do or die affair. He made up his mind to wake up everyday at 2 am, point at every house and say "I soak this house in the fire of God and I destabilize every demonic arrangement therein in Jesus name." He also coupled it with speaking in tongues. After two months of this exercise, the witchdoctors in the streets held an emergency meeting where they sent a delegate to see his General Overseer and requested that he should be removed from their street.

But the highly perturbed general Overseer told them that they were free to deal with him for he knew very well that they could not face him. That was how the herbalists lost their clients to the church of this brother and they began to wallow in poverty.

Sometimes ago, a witchdoctor husband of one of our converts traced his wife to our meeting with charms and threatened to deal with us if we did not release his wife. We asked him if he had come to fight us and he said no, but he would use his power on us. We told him that he could go ahead to use whatever power he had on us. But alas he failed woefully. He was enraged because he had lost his wife to Jesus.

I am emphasizing this for us to see that we are falling short of our marching order. Our shadows are supposed to chase demons. In fact, our spiritual level should attain such a height that even an usher in the church ought to be able to attend to any case of demonic attack, that is brought to the church. The efficacy of the power should be so real in us that we should be able to say, "Don't bother to take this one to the General Overseer. Let me take care of it

"We should all be able to carry out the marching order as attested to in Matthew 10"8, God wants you to be filled with power to the extent that when you pass by, witches will be running away from you. A witch should not be seen admiring your perfume and asking who plaited your hair for you. The fact that they were able to move closer to you is an evidence that you lack power. Even your saliva should carry fire and if an evil person is following you about in bed to collect the sand from underneath your feet, he will be electrocuted.

In a fellowship we attended a long time ago, our prayer was so aggressive that unbelievers could not dare pass by the church building. They knew that if they attempted to cross our bridge, they would be shocked. But why is it that evil people who are supposed to be running about seeking for our help are the very people giving us problems? Are they not the ones who ought to be running helter-skelter? Did our Lord and Master, Jesus not say, "Greater works than these shall ye do" Our lives should be a terror to evil people. If they lock up Christians, we expect the angels of God to come and open the door. The reason we don't see angels is that a lot of consecration is required, which many people cannot cope with. Every believer is meant to be a power generator. It is not only for Pastors, apostles or evangelists and ministers.

CHAPTER THREE

SECRET OF THE ANOINTING

As I said in the previous chapter, all Christians should be power generators. But then, this is not possible without the anointing. As you read through the New Testament, you will understand that anointing means the power that will enable you to function supernaturally. It is a supernatural power for a supernatural assignment. The question then is, how could you be anointed? How could you be spiritually equipped so that instead of running away from your marching order, you will stay and cause power to change hands?

The anointing is a kind of power that comes upon you to enable you to operate as Christian. Without it, there is little you can achieve for God. Something would definitely happen when the anointing comes upon you. It is the anointing that breaks the yoke of poverty, sicknesses and problems.

Isaiah 10:7 confirm this:

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing." Isaiah 10:27.

The anointing can crush all attacks launched against you. No matter the resistance of your attackers, the anointing would scatter their strongholds. It is the anointing that stands between the believers and the power of darkness. It is what makes the believer to shine. Even if the enemy has locked up your potentials, when the anointing comes upon you, they would be released. This anointing makes you to operate in the supernatural and increases your level of understanding.

Your first contact with the anointing is when you become born again because nobody can get born again except by the spirit of God. The book of John 3:3 tells us that except a man is born of water and spirit he cannot enter

into the kingdom of God. But believers need to be anointed from heaven to exhibit power.

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing." Isaiah 10:27.

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"But ye shall receive power; after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."
Acts 1:8.

It means that, without the power of the Holy Spirit, there cannot be anointing. Jesus was careful enough to warn His disciples not to venture to preach without this power. He charged them to wait at Jerusalem until they were endowed with power from on high. As a matter of fact, when they received the power, they were accused of turning Jerusalem upside down. The manifestation of the power made them VIPs in Jerusalem. When they locked them up in prison, the angel of God went there and got them out and charged them to go forth to minister the word. They went back to inform the chief priests and scribes that the men they put in custody were found preaching in the temples and market places.

When the power of God comes upon you, you will know. If I ask you whether you have been baptized in the Holy Spirit or not, and your answer

is "I am not sure" then what you are saying in effect is no, because when the power of God comes upon a person, he will know, as many things will happen.

You will pray in tongues, your prayer life will change, strange dreams will disappear and it will be as if heaven has come down. Also, it is one thing to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and it is another thing to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit. If the apostles needed more of the infilling of the Holy Spirit, then we need it much more in this dispensation. We should realise that the last days are here.

One blind man was brought to Jesus for healing. Jesus held his hands and took him outside the town where He touched him. Then He asked him, if he could see and the man said that he could see men walking like trees. Jesus touched him a second time before he could see clearly. In the same way, most of the modern believers need the second touch of God. It is when the power of God comes upon your life that things will begin to happen in your life.

Many believers have never seen any vision or divine revelation or prophesied before. All they do is just to come to fellowship, and allow others to do things in the fellowship. When the Lord comes and brings out the record of our services, what will you tell Him?

WHAT IS THE DOUBLE PORTION ANOINTING?

In 2 Kings 2, we see an important thing. We know that the Old Testament is a shadow of the New Testament. And whatsoever has been laid down for us in the Old testament, has its substance in the New Testament.

There we read about two men, one is known as Elijah. His name means God is God. And we have Elisha, who had double portion and his name means God is salvation. These two people were men of God who gave us a pattern of how we might move if we really want power. Elisha was a very important and wonderful prophet in the Old Testament. He was very important for several reasons. For example, we don't know anything about

the parents of Elijah, meaning that, your parents do not have to be important for God to use you.

In fact, in some places in the Bible, some parents were downright demonic but their children were men of God. For example Jehoshaphat, the king of Israel. His father was demon-possessed and the Bible did not hide it at all. We don't know anything about Elijah's parents but he was the first prophet to announce punishment against God's enemies. He decreed that there will be no rain nor dew except by his word. And for three and half years he closed the windows of heaven and put the key in his pocket. That was in the old Testament, and the Bible says that we have to do better than that.

That is why the book of James says that Elijah was a man of like passion as us. He was the first prophet to multiply food. Although our Lord Jesus Christ did a lot of it later He was the first prophet to raise the dead, he was the first prophet to call down fire. Before Elijah, nobody ever did. Now, Elijah was going away and a replacement had to be made.

So, the first qualification for somebody who wants the double portion of God's power is that he must receive a call. The reason you are a child of God now is because God has called you. You did not become that by your own design. In fact, many people would not have come to the Lord at all if not for the fact that He drew them with a powerful hand. Some would have still been dancing away at the social parties of the world. But the Lord created situations for them to drag them to the gospel, Now they realise that they have a better life in the gospel.

The church as a whole, is a composed of people who were called out from the world. The Bible says: "Come out of them and be ye separate" God called you out by unseen ordination, not by anybody's brain. God calls out His people. You don't become a member of the church by somebody writing your name in his or her register. You don't become the member of the church just because on your fortieth day, you were taken to the church. No. It is something only God can do.

Elisha now received his call, it was unexpected. He did not question the call. He just accepted it. He did not struggle with God.

And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room. And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay. Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him. So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him. And he left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, Let me, I pray thee, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow thee. And he said unto him, Go back again, for what have I done to thee? And he returned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen, and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen, and gave unto the people, and they did eat. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him. I Kings 19:16-21.

The call was unexpected, but the man understood it. He did not question it. They did not force it upon him. It was unconditionally accepted. The Bible says that many are called but few are chosen. God has called you and that is the reason why you are a Christian. Elisha was already a warrior. These days, some people just come and say, "I am not working again. God has called me."

The person who says God has called him has done nothing for two years. He is just sleeping and waking up. Occasionally, he would go to the business to make some noise in the name of Preaching. He tried carpentry, it did not work. He tried bricklaying, it did not work, he tried to be a bus conductor and that did not work, so he stayed at home. Now he said that God has called him. It is a big lie.

Those that God called in the scriptures beginning from Abraham to the last person were busy doing their thing and God called them for what they were. They were busy men working. We still have to pray for a lot of people to be delivered from the spirit of laziness. Elisha was not lazy. He was busy working when God took him. We have another man in the Bible called Amos who was preaching his message and the chief priest came unto him

saying, "O seer, don't prophesy here, we don't want that kind of message here. How could you be saying that Israel shall go into captivity. Go back to Judah and eat the bread there" So, the work of God was described as eating of bread.

But Amos said, "Once I was a herdsman and a keeper of sycamore trees and the Lord took me from doing that work saying go unto my people tell them about the transition, but you high priest, because you said don't preach here, don't say what God wants you to say, hear the word of the Lord", then he issued curses on him. He knew who called him and what he was doing. So think about it. Some people who say they want to work for God wake up by 2.00 am to do what? Certainly, God has not called them. To obtain the power of God, you must be serious with God.

Prayer Points:

1. Holy Ghost, ignite my fire, in Jesus name.
2. Let the flood of God's power soak me, in the name of Jesus.
3. Lord, make this week a week of power for me in the Name of Jesus.
4. I refuse to fail, in the name of Jesus.
5. Every stranger in my life, depart by fire, in Jesus name.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE MANTLE OF POWER

And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. He took Zip also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over. And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.
2 Kings 2:11-15

There comes a time when a serious minded believer receives the mantle of power. The mantle of power represents the anointing of God. When the mantle came upon Elisha, he received the anointing of power.

The mantle that came upon Elisha represents the anointing. Immediately it came upon him, the Bible says that he moved. There was no reluctance at all. It shows that the man had a good relationship with his parents and neighbours. He gave them a bye-bye party to say thank you very much. The reason many people will not grow in the Lord is because they are still attached to their mother's apron strings. Elisha was not like that. He burned the bridges behind him and renounced his former life. This is the secret, beloved.

If you carry the things of yesterday on your shoulder, there will be no double portion. Paul said, "forgetting those things that are behind and looking forward" One-Way to fall very quickly is to be looking at the back.

Anybody who looks back still finds the old life exciting. Some people would say, "if God does not answer me on time, I will go back into the world. The devil does not waste time finishing the account of such people, so that they won't have the opportunity to run back to the Lord.

You won't see your tomorrow as far as you live in your yesterday. You should not allow one mistake that you made ten years ago to be ruling your life now. If you still continue that way, forget the anointing because you are a yesterday person. Recognize that Elisha had parents too, he had a job and labourers but he burnt the bridges behind him. Likewise God has called you from the world so there must be a difference.

Believers do not go to worldly parties; they don't cook their food for them and do not eat their meat. We are supposed to be strange to them. Many believers don't want to look strange and the Bible says we are peculiar. They should look at you and see a difference. It is time for us to be making impact.

The Bible did not call us to come and live a quiet life. They were busy causing trouble all over the place for the enemy. They were acting according to the word of Jesus that says, "If you are driven away from one city, go to another" That is what the Bible says: But if you are afraid nothing will happen.

When you receive genuine power, you can't sit down, it is impossible. Somebody said that he received the Holy Spirit and now he is moving about like an old vehicle as if the Holy Spirit too has become old inside of him. No, something is wrong somewhere. The moment you get it, you cannot do without talking about Jesus, or without praying. It is going to be impossible.

There must be a clear demarcation between the people of the word and the people of the world. God's children must be God's children. It is clear. The situation these days where it is difficult to differentiate from people going to disco party is not what the Bible says. It says be ye separate; Let them know you for what you are. Declare your stand make it plain.

Some people say, "give unto Caesar what is Caesar's" it is only an excuse for them to commit sin. There is no Caesar in this matter at all. What God is saying is that there must be a clear demarcation. People of the world may look at you and say that you are looking dull. It is better to look dull and,

make heaven than to have the brightness of the world with crocodiles walking about in your legs and go to hell fire.

There must be a difference. You don't honour every invitation because you are separate. For example, nobody sends me an invitation card to come to parties any more.

They ought to give that kind of testimony about you.

In 2 Kings 2, when Elijah was going away, there were many sons of the prophet. But surprisingly, Elisha was still the only person following Elijah and there were many obstacles so that he would not be able to receive a double portion. But God helped Elisha and God shall help you today in Jesus name. Amen.

"And it came to pass, when the Lord would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal" 2 Kings 2:1-2.

Gilgal was where Israel first encountered hindrance on their way to the Promised Land. Gilgal is the place of religious activities with no power. If God takes you to Gilgal, He wants to know whether you will stay there. The Bible says "Avoid all those who have the form of God but deny the power thereof" There are still many people in Gilgal. They are only engaged in religious activities no power. It is practicing empty religion and church politics verse 2 says:

And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Bethel (that was obstacle No 1, it says stay in Gilgal). And Elisha said unto him, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel.

"And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head today? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace. [4] And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here; I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho. " 2 Kings 2:3-4.

He was again asked to stay at Bethel, but he said, "No, I am not going." Abraham was at Bethel, Jacob was at Bethel and Saul lost all that he had at

Bethel. Another Bethel that the bible calls the house of God was later converted to a place of idolatry by Jeroboam. So, Bethel could be called a place of major decisions. It is a place where you wrestle with God, it is a place where you yield yourself and die to your own desire. It is a place of complete consecration. After you have taken the decision to stop your powerless Christianity. The next thing that happens is that you must consecrate yourself. It is a shame to see that most of the powerful sisters around now are old women. Why? What happened to those who are within ages sixteen and forty? They would say, "I want to go and see Mama so, so and so to pray for me. I want to go and see Baba so, so and so, let him pray for me" I wonder when they too will begin to pray for others. When will they grow above that stage? It is a shame. Instead for some people to settle down and see that they consecrate their lives enough, they are busy discussing fashion. They refuse to see the design of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is saying day and night, "Get out of this weakness and receive power" The Bible says: "When the son of man shall come, will he find faith in earth? It is only you that can answer that question.

The most popular gift that people exercise in the church today is prophecy. The reason the other gifts are not common is that they require more consecration, you need to be holy. It is something you must open your mouth after eating two bowls of eba and begin to talk. A lot of people are so afraid of living a consecrated life.

Consecration is to yield yourself on the altar of God. When God says, "My son, come out," all you need to say is, "yes Lord" and take action. But when you say, yes and you are still in Gilgal, it means that you are still arguing. Elisha did not argue. He moved forward. In verse 4, Elijah asked Elisha to tarry at Jericho but he refused to stay there. To obtain the mantle of power, you must tarry at the pale of warfare. You must fight until you prevail.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE ROLE OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Jericho was that place where Joshua met the captain of the Lord of host in the Bible. So, Jericho to us now is the place of warfare. A place of war against the devil, a place of spiritual opposition. Joshua was tested at Jericho. Jericho is a place of conflict. At Gilgal, you have spiritual activities with no power. At Bethel, you die to yourself and at Jericho the place of conflict, you fight.

Others may have religious things and ceremonies but what you need is more of God's power. Somebody could have a Ph.D in Bible knowledge but lack the power of God. Such a person would soon abandon his Ph.D and run after a small boy who can demonstrate the power of God. So you can have all the knowledge you want to have and all the ceremonies but what we require is more of God's power. When you fight the devil, you get recognition in hell and in heaven.

And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on. And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan. And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground. 2 Kings 2:6-8.

And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be take no way from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah

went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over. And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him. 2 Kings 2:9-15.

Jordan, the last point of call, is the place of spiritual vision. What do you see? The devil fights to keep believers blind. It is the place of vision. Elisha passed his own test. He saw what others did not see and when he saw it, his first act was an act of humility. He tore his own cloth then took the mantel and with it he cried, "Where is the Lord of Elijah?" And the God of Elijah answered. He smote the waters and he passed by to the other side. These five steps that we have gone through are the keys for operating in the double portion of God's power.

By now, you should know whether you are in Gilgal, Bethel, Jericho or Jordan. You should know where you are. I believe that many days before that day, Elisha would have stopped eating. He knew that Elijah was going away and if he received just one portion, the problem that came upon Elijah where he; said, "Kill me for I am not better than my fathers, would come upon him" And if he had only one portion, he won't be able to cope, so he needed double. If Elisha was asking for double the anointing of Elijah, we of the present day, should ask for a seven-fold of what the apostles received to cope with what is happening now and with the evil that is circulating around us.

A sister who did not have fire went to preach somewhere. The man she met in the house offered her a drink and she declined. He switched on the cassette player and there was reggae music. After sometime, the sister who came to preach began to tap her feet. Later, he removed the cassette and put in another one and the sister sang a little bit of it too. It is very important for

us to pray the world out of our system. We should pray out the worldly music from our brain and all the things we learned from the world. They have to go completely.

The man said: Okay start preaching" She started and suddenly the man said, "Stop. Don't mention that name again. Who is Jesus? The sister was shocked to see the man's countenance change. Suddenly the man opened a wardrobe and in it were human heads, skulls, legs, hands etc arranged and labelled. The sister was glued to her seat. Then the man said this is your last preaching you better preach it very well"

The sister started to say, "Touch not my anointed, do my prophet no harm" The man said, "You, what power do you have. You don't have anything, even the small fire that some of you carry about, you don't have"

Then she started to shiver and to speak in tongues but it was powerless tongues because she could not stand up again. The man opened another wardrobe and a big snake crawled out and coiled around the sister and began to squeeze her. She began to call Jesus.

Eventually, God helped her that day and she was able to go out, but she was not herself again. "When she came out of the house, some people around there told her she was the first person that they had seen go in there and came out. They said when we saw you carry your Bible and went in there, we thought you had the power to challenge them" The sister could not talk, she rushed to her pastor and asked him to pray for her. The pastor prayed and it took her several days' fast to get out of the trouble.

If worldly military officers are improving on their weapons everyday, the devil will not be that foolish not to improve on his own weapon. And if the devil is improving on his weapon, and you as a Christian, you are still speaking in the tongues you got in 1990, you are still talking about empty holiness, empty sanctification and empty salvation with no power, then you need to ask for power today.

Jesus told His disciples that they shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has fallen upon them. It is when the power falls upon you that you shall become a disciple. This can happen to you when you are genuinely born again.

CHAPTER SIX

THE FIRE FIGHTER

You can ignite fire in your spiritual life. What are the fire igniters?

. **Stubborn faith:** These days, people torture themselves. Some wear strange dresses, others decide not to barb their hair, some wear tall caps, some disfigure their bodies, they make a lot of sacrifices because they want power. But the greatest thing is faith. The Bible says, "For without faith, it is impossible to please God. For he that believe God must believe that he is and He is a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him." Many people say that they believe God, but they fail to make 100% commitment. Stubborn faith is mature conviction that cannot be shaken either by the environment or your circumstances. Stubborn faith is when you burn the bridges behind you. You destroy the vehicle that I can take you back to your former positions.

You must burn off every avenue of retreat. That is what I mean by stubborn faith. If you will start practicing that, you will be shocked what will happen. What people are saying is not possible would be possible for you. When they say, "you will fail this exam" you will say, "No, I will pass it in Jesus name" That is how to operate. Whenever they told Jesus in the Bible that a child was dead, He would say, No, he is sleeping"

. **Effective quite time:**

"For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.." Isaiah 30: 15.

"And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, (this is Jesus) he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed." Mark 1:35.

You have to set apart a suitable time each day to meet the Lord. It should be a time when you withdraw from every distraction and be in communication

with God. If your quiet time has no life, forget spiritual growth, victory and dynamic Christian life.

The quiet time is your source of strength. Unfortunately, city life is turning people to weaklings. Very early in the morning some people have rushed out of the house. Some carry their bibles in their pockets and say they will read it in the bus. But when they get to the bus, somebody else has entered and is advertising one medicine or the other and begin to make noise and they cannot concentrate. They would plan to read it the next day, only for them to get there and two people would be fighting and beating themselves up in the bus. So, you must create time out of no time for your quiet time.

You may say, "I have no time" you will have time when trouble comes. There is no escape if you want to ignite your life. So, you should create time. If you are the kind of believer that observes your quiet time only once in a while, you will not be able to grow. Or if you just open any part in the bible and do crash programme quiet time, it won't work. It has to be organized and done thoroughly.

- . **You must crucify the flesh:** The flesh must die so that God can use you. If the flesh is still controlling your life, you won't be able to ignite any fire.
- . **Regular fasting and prayer:** The Bible makes us to understand that, some things cannot depart except by fasting and prayer.
- . **You must always share your faith with others:** Tell others about the love of Christ. Tell them about the love of Jesus. The more you talk about Jesus, the more you are charging the battery of your spirit.
- . **Develop hunger for God's word:** Develop intense hunger for it.
- . **Walk in the spirit.**

As you keep doing all these, you will find that power will come. As the power comes, you will know that something has happened to you. When God takes up your life and finds that there is no fire in it, He will put it down and wait for you to become serious. When are you going to put on the whole armour of God? When are you going to put on all His righteousness? God has His own part and man has his own part. God's part, He would do.

When you do your own part first then God will do His own. That was what happened at Mt Carmel.

Elijah did his own part, he repaired the altar cut the animal into pieces and he put the legs there. So that leg that goes about aimlessly visiting useless people, doing aimless journey, they are doing one party in Epe off you go, born again Christian. They are doing another one in Ikorodu; off you go again, those your legs have to be crucified. You better place them on the altar. The arms, head etc too went there one after the other and piece-by-piece.

There are some people who are only three-quarter born again. Some are one tenth born again. For some people, the only thing that is born again is their hairs and their ears. They do not wear earrings or stretch their hair that is their own idea of being born again. If you touch any other part, it will spark like fire. For some people, it is only their stomach that is born again and the reason that is born again is that sometimes there is no food; they will go on compulsory fasting. Touch other parts, they will spark like fire.

God wants everything on the altar, including your money and yourself. Sometimes, the way you can know how far somebody is moving with God is by what he gives to God. If he spends much on himself and less for God, you know where his priority is. Everything has to be on the altar. When Elijah put everything on the altar, he got results. Stop comparing yourself to other people. Do not say, "I thank God I am not like sister so, so and so. You are wasting your time.

The Bible says: "Comparing themselves, they are not wise." If you look at yourself and say "At least, I am trying" It means you are giving yourself a pass mark and that is not the certificate from the school of power. God may be pointing to some things in your life one after the other that have to be sorted out. And if you don't sort them out, He will refuse to do His own part. It is not God's business to pray. Elijah prayed and it was God's business to send fire. Sending the fire was His part of the contract. If Elijah had not fulfilled his own part, the Lord would have abandoned His own section.

Now, God is waiting for you and I to fulfil our part of the contract. The question is, are you ready? Will you be willing to give all on the altar? Will

you be willing to abandon all and follow Christ? Or are you afraid that if you become too serious with this matter, God would send you to Congo now, and you feel that you cannot go to Congo now because there is no car, you have not built a house, you don't have many of the things that your mates have. Many of your mates who have them, where are they now? Think about it.

Won't it be wonderful if just your shadow is enough to chase out evil spirits? You don't even have to talk, your presence alone or your shadow is enough to chase them out. This is a very serious matter. We need seven-fold of what the apostles had, not even double. Double will not help again. The apostles died a long time ago and the devil has increased and improved since that time. We need to ask for the flood of the God's power. It is time to act.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Holy Ghost fire; ignite my life, in Jesus name.
2. Let the flood of God's power soak me, in Jesus name.
3. Lord make this week a week of power for me, in Jesus name.
4. The spirit of resurrection fall upon my life, in Jesus name.
5. Let my prayer stones be converted to the blood of Jesus and locate my Goliath today, in Jesus name.
6. I dismantle every satanic agenda for my life, in Jesus name.
7. Lord, advertise your power in my life, in Jesus name.

Publication by Dr. D. K. Olukoya

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53. For We Wrestle ...
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62. I Am Moving Forward
63. Idols Of The Heart
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65. Igniting Your Inner Fire
66. Is This What They Died For?
67. Kill Your Goliath By Fire
68. Killing The Serpent of Frustration
69. Let God Answer By Fire
70. Let Fire Fall
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72. Lord, Behold Their Threatening
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144. The Chain Breaker
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146. The Enemy Has Done This
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Whatever event, occasion or situation, there is always one type of attire or the other. However in the spiritual realm, there is an all-time and all-situation attire which is the MANTLE OF POWER. When you have on you

the Mantle of Power, you become untouchable and all-time conqueror. The knowledge on how to acquire the mantle of power is given a lucid and graphic details in this book.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr.D.K.Olukoya is the General overseer of Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries and The Battle Cry Christian Ministries.

The Mountain of Fire and Miracle Ministries' Headquarters is the largest single Christian congregation in Africa with an attendance of over 120,000 at any Church Service.

MFM is a full gospel ministry devoted to the revival of Apostolic signs, Holy Ghost Fireworks, miracles and the unlimited demonstration of the power of God to deliver to the uttermost.

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Dr.Olukoya holds a first class honours degree in Micro-biology from the University of Lagos and a PhD in Molecular Genetics from the University of Reading, United Kingdom. As a researcher, he has over seventy scientific publications to his credit.

Anointed by God. Dr. Olukoya is a prophet, evangelist, teacher and preacher of the Word. His life and that of his wife, Shade and their son Elijah Toluwani are living proof that all power belong to God.

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