

Deeper Christian Life Ministry
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The Gateway to an Undefeatable Life
Ecclesiastes 10:15; Matthew 7:13-14

We thank the Lord for bringing us together. We thank the Lord for the conclusion of this convention. I pray that you will give all your attention, everything you've got, so that the word that comes at this time will reach your heart. You'll never be the same again in Jesus' name. As we come to hear the Word of God, we want to hear what He wants to say unto His people, unto the Body. The disciples never decided what Jesus Christ was to say. But Jesus decided. He got it from the Father. Then He gave it to the people. Then He said, "You go into the world and you teach them, continue to teach them everything I ever commanded you."

That's why we are coming at this time. You want to bow your head and close your eyes. You want to tell the Lord, "Oh Lord, speak to me...not what I want to hear, but what You want to say, what You want to tell me. Take me to the place You want me to be. Plant that seed within me that You want to bring forth, to bear fruit, for You and for the kingdom."

Pray that the Lord will make you to look away from your narrow desires, narrow aspirations, narrow ambition. Then look up that the Lord Himself will take you to the place He wants you to be...that our requests will not concentrate on physical, material things because if in this world only you have hope, you'll be of all men, of all women, most miserable...that God will lift up our hearts, our attention, to spiritual things. In Jesus' name we pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the conclusion of this convention this year. Thank You for giving us hope, not just hope of things present, but hope of things to come and the hope of spending eternity with You in glory. We pray, Lord, this hope You'll make alive in every heart even this time in Jesus' name. We've started the journey. We want to go through until the very end. We are praying, blessed Jesus, hold our hand and take us to the place You want us to be in Jesus' name.

We pray, Lord, you help us to leave the lowly things and the things of the valley and the things of this world and the things of the flesh and mundane things...leave them behind, and then reach for the stars in Jesus' name. Speak to every heart now, and take us to a place higher than we have ever been before. We thank You because we know You have answered. In Jesus' name we pray. And everybody said, "Amen."

Thank you very much. As we come to the conclusion of this convention, talking about hope, we're looking at the message *The Gateway to an Undefeatable Life*. That means, then, as you come to the Lord, you're thinking about one thing: life. What kind of life? Spiritual life, the higher life...the kind of life that pleases the Lord - that people like Enoch, and people like Noah, and people like Moses, and people like Joshua,...and those people like David and people like

Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel...and people like Malachi, like Peter, like Paul - the lives they lived. They left a mark in this world. Now we can follow through that life and legacy...that these people came to this world and they made a mark. So you want to think about that kind of life. What kind of life? The undefeatable life: the invincible life, the unconquerable life.

You see, there are people that barely live, and they're almost dead. They're still breathing, but as you look at the kind of lives they live, it's the life of complaint and a life of self-pity, a life of *what am I doing here?, what have I got here?, why has the Lord brought me here?* But we're talking about a kind of life that is undefeatable - when Satan comes at you, demons come at you, and the sin of this world...all they want to throw at you...the darts of the things of the world - that you keep standing, ***"...and having done all, to stand"***...a kind of life that says, "We're more than conquerors through Jesus Christ that loved us and gave Himself for us."

The undefeatable life...that you're not defeated by the little, little things that come and the little kind of the frowns of the world, and the intimidation of the world, and the tempters and the temptresses of the world. You're able to stand. You are saying, "No matter what and no matter where, I have that kind of life - undefeatable." Then it says, "There is a gateway that leads to that." If you never go through that gateway, you might desire and you might even have a great ambition and purpose of mind..."This is what I want, a life that is spiritual, a life that is supernatural, a life that's undefeatable," and yet you don't know the way to get there. You'll be like somebody groping in the dark. Then you say, "But I wanted to have it, but I couldn't have it."

Look at Ecclesiastes chapter 10, verse 15. ***"The labour of the foolish wearieth every one of them, because he knoweth not how to go to the city."*** ***"The labour of the foolish wearieth every one of them."*** You know sometimes you've seen a fly, an insect. An insect does not know that there is a glass window. The insect just knows that "Where I am going is outside there." An insect cannot tell that that window, which is a glass window, is a hindrance. So he flies with all the strength and hits at that window. But the insect is so small and his brain is so small that he keeps on hitting at that glass window until he's tired and drops dead.

Many people are like that, you know? They know that they want to a life out there, undefeatable, unconquerable, invincible...a kind of life that is spiritual and supernatural. But they keep on knocking and hitting at the glass window. They do not understand if you did that before, you couldn't get through. You did that again, you couldn't get through. Why don't you just relax and look around? Is there another outlet, a gateway by which you can go and then you'll be able to get through? That's the reason why you want to be wise. You don't want to be like that foolish ant or foolish fly that is just knocking at the glass window and you've not got what you are thinking to get.

Isn't that why some people gamble? All the money they have, they put it into lottery or whatever and they say, "I think I'm going to hit the jackpot." Then they lose all their money. Then they work again and get some money. They still cannot learn. They put it there again and they keep on...until their lives become so miserable. What they dreamt of earlier in life...and they put everything they've got into it...and you come to your thirties and the forties or seventies and eighties and you look back...you said, "I've been hitting the glass window all my life. I've put all

my strength, all my resources into this thinking it will yield something. It never yielded anything." Before you are eighty, why don't you just stop and think today?

If the glass window you have been knocking at did not give you an outlet and you couldn't get through to the place you ought to go, why don't you then think and say, "Hey, I have to stop. I'll not be like the foolish who wears himself and then does not know how to go into the city." I want to get to that city. You will get there in Jesus' name. So we're going to look at the gateway. We're going to look at the good way. We're going to look at the glorious way. We're going to look at this way that leads to the place we want to be...the undefeatable life.

I'm looking at Matthew chapter 7. We're looking at it from verse 13. ***"Enter ye in at the strait gate."*** Here is the Lord Jesus Christ that knows about this kind of life...abundant life, spiritual life, supernatural life...a life that is heavenly, glorious life, the undefeatable life. He says, "Here is how to get there...that you enter at the strait gate." ***"... for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction."***

And how many times some people, church goers, have read that? How many times some people...some of you who are here, especially those of you who are young...in your teens or in your early twenties, or maybe early thirties...you opened your eyes when you were born, you found yourself in church. You've heard most of the time many preachers preaching, telling us the words of Jesus Christ, "There is a wide gate and there is a broad way that leads to destruction."

You've heard it over and over for more than a decade or more than two decades, and you're still thinking that the broad way will lead you somewhere. It's not going to lead you anywhere that has life, undefeatable life. It's going to lead to destruction. The earlier you wake up and then buckle up and pinch yourself and say, "Hey. What am I doing? I've done this now for a decade (or two decades or three decades or five decades) and I've not made it. Why don't I get wise and turn around and take another way?" You'll take that way.

Then it says over there: ***"...many there be which go in thereat."*** That is something that gives me a warning: I should not follow the majority. The majority are wrong...the majority. "Many there be that go in thereat." In verse 14: ***"Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."*** Do you know what some people consider in joining a church? They consider the multitude. They see that church there...the minister is on TV and the minister has a kind of national recognition.

They say, "If I want to join a church, I think that's the church I'm going to join because many, many people are there." But do you know what Jesus said? Jesus said...in fact, just for that multitude, that's the first indication - you ought to sit back and say, "Am I sure I want to join that place?" Other people will look at a church, a church like this, and they see just a few people. I mean, I'm talking about in our regular church service. We appear many (here at the convention) because we are coming from all over the nation. This is good. I said, "This is good." It's just once a year and once in a while that we all come together, and then we have this crowd. But when you come to the regular church and the local church, then you enter in and you say, "I can count these people...*One, two, three, four*"...and when you count 35, you say, "It looks like these are not many. I don't think I want to come again." I think you want to come again because "few there be,

few there be, few there be that find it." It is that way, that gateway the Lord is leading us through. He's saying, "This is where to stay and this is where to find your place unto glory-land. You'll find it in Jesus' name.

We're looking at Luke chapter 13. ...To know that these are the very words of Jesus Christ and this is what the Lord is telling us. He's saying, "You need to make a good choice, a better choice, a wise choice." He tells us in Luke chapter 13, verse 24: *"Strive to enter in."* *"Strive to enter in."* Before I go on...you see, when you read the Word of God, you need to think about it. Some people...they don't understand "striving" to enter into the gate.

They come to church and they say, "You know what? When I come to church, I like people to comfort me and to pet me and to talk nice to me." There's a lot of struggle in the world. You have to struggle in education. You have to struggle getting a job. You need to struggle making the job stay. You need to struggle being able to manage your finances. You need to struggle to make the economy work for you. When I come to church, I hope somebody will tell the pastors over there that we have struggled from Monday till Saturday. When I come on Sunday, I want somebody to just pet me and talk nice to me and talk good to me because there is a lot of struggling (in the world); it's in the church I have comfort." But do you know what Jesus said? Jesus said, "When you come to church..." We need to emphasize something. "...you'll strive, you'll endeavor, you'll do something, you'll get out of yourself."

If there is any place you need to discipline yourself, if there is any place you need to say, "I need to bring every resource I've got and all the talents I have got, all the abilities I have got and get into this way." ...It's in the church. You might even relax when you get into the world because, after all, all the struggles we make in the world, getting money and getting name, getting car and getting property...all that will vanish away eventually. But the one thing that will last is this life eternal, life enduring, life undefeatable. And Jesus Christ said, "Strive." Give me that word. Say that again. Strive.

You know there are people that make the kingdom of God so cheap. They tell us, "It's all of grace." I heard that before. And it's not just starting this time. Sometimes when you read some of these people, they're very soft and everything looks nice. It's all of grace, all of grace. There is no striving at all. There is no trying at all. There is no resisting of temptation. Everything is just made for you. Christ did everything on the cross of Calvary. That same Christ we're referring to, He Himself said, "Strive." If it were not necessary, how would He tell us to do that? But temptation comes and no striving, no endeavor, no trial, no resistance against that temptation...you just do what comes your way. That's not the way that leads to life undefeatable.

It says, "Strive." Look up, brothers and sisters. This is a nation that puts so much value on sports...when I look at those people and I see them, they strive. Do they? Oh, and they do everything...everything they can do just to qualify to go to the Olympics. They strive and strive. They discipline themselves. They moderate their diet. They moderate their posture. They do all these exercises and the jogging and everything. Even those who are not in athletics in this country...think about the industry of just keeping fit and going to the gym almost everyday. Anytime you miss that, it's like you're feeling guilty. You're almost thinking you're missing heaven because you missed the gym.

But the people over here...they strive for this thing, just to keep the body in good shape. But then to keep your spirit in good shape and to keep your mind in good shape, and then to get to this life that is undefeatable...we do nothing about that at all. I think the average church member in this land, in this nation, gives more to dieting, and gives more attention and more thought and more activity and more striving to keeping the body fit than keeping their souls and spirits fit. Wouldn't you agree with that? That's what people do. Then we forget the words of Jesus Christ that said, "If you want to live this undefeatable life, here is one thing to do: strive to enter in." Because it says, **"For many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able."** I will enter in.

Now we're looking at Revelation chapter 22. I'm reading from verse 12. **"And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."** Listen to this. **"Blessed are they that..."** What? Tell me out loud. Brothers and sisters, if you read only commentaries and you don't read the Bible, it's like you're listening to the commentator on sports and you never see the athletes they're commenting about. All you think of is commentary on the athlete. The athlete they are commenting about...you never ever see them.

Many people...they read only commentaries and they read only what they call Christian books, and they do not read the Bible. They'll say, "I read this author. I read this author. I read this author." How about the Bible itself? Do you know what those authors say? The authors say, "What you do does not matter. Christ has done everything." When you read that over and over, you think that is true. But here it says in verse 14. Look at it again. **"Blessed are they that..."** Tell me out loud. **"...do His commandments."** Some people even tell us that it doesn't even really matter whether you sin or don't sin...whatever you do, it doesn't really matter. Christ has done everything.

In fact, they even go beyond that. They say, "You were saved before the foundation of the world. You were already born again before you repented. Before Christ even died on the cross of Calvary, before the foundation of the world you had been saved. So now that you came...even if you didn't come (to the Lord), have been saved. Now that you came, whatever you do doesn't matter. What you need to understand is that Christ has done everything." My Bible doesn't say that. Jesus didn't say that. None of the apostles said that. None of the prophets said that. Here, Jesus Christ Himself...He is the one talking.

You know in verse 12...He's the one that said, **"I come quickly."** In verse 13, He is the one that said, **"I am Alpha and Omega."** Then in verse 14, He's the one that continued and said, **"Blessed are they that do His commandments that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through..."** Where? **"...through the gates...through the gates"** We're talking about the gate, the gateway that leads us to that undefeatable life, that they **"may enter in through the gates into the city"**.

As we talk about the gateway, and we're looking at the undefeatable life, what are we going to say? What does the Scripture say? We're dividing the message into three points:

1. *The Gateway of Saving Grace.* The gateway of saving grace.
2. *The Good Way of Sustained Godliness.* ...Not convention godliness. It's not a week's godliness. It's not a temporary godliness. It is the one that is continual. It's sustained. The good way of sustained godliness.
3. *The Glorious Way of Shining Glory.* The glorious way, glorious way of shining glory.

Number one, we're talking about *The Gateway of Saving Grace*. As the Lord is leading us to life, life eternal, life spiritual, life supernatural, life unconquerable, life undefeatable, the gateway into that, the way we start, is to be able to have the grace of God in our lives. He tells us in Ephesians chapter 2...I'm reading from verse 8. ***"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."***

It's very good as we look at the Word of God and you look at the punctuation marks. They're very important because they tell us those verses...they stay together. You tie them together. You don't separate them. I'm sure you have heard..."What God has joined together, let no man..." Tell me out loud. "...let no man put asunder." I know we say that for husband and wife, but why don't we say that for the verses of Scripture? That "what God has joined together, let no man put asunder."

Look at verse 8: ***"For by grace are ye saved through faith..."*** That's not the end of the sentence. There is a semicolon there. Then it says, ***"...and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God..."*** Is that the end of the sentence? No. Look at it. Then it says, ***"Not of works, lest any man should boast."*** It tells us then, in verse 10, the consequence of that. You are saved by grace. You have nothing to contribute to that salvation the moment you came to the Lord. You were just a sinner. No matter how you had tried to do good, you couldn't really make it. But it's the grace of the Lord that brought you into the kingdom. Grace actually means *God's redemption at Christ's expense*. Christ did it all. Christ paid it all.

But then it says the purpose, the result, the consequence of that grace. Look at verse 10. ***"For we are His..."*** What? ***"...workmanship."*** When grace comes into us, it works on us and works within us and turns us around. So let nobody say, "Yes, I have that grace. I'm born again, only I'm not His workmanship." No. They go together. If you are born again, if you are a child of God, it says, "We're His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto..." What? I thought they said, "No good works are necessary at all." They said, "Before salvation, during salvation, after salvation, no good works are necessary. Just live your life. You're at liberty, and you can do whatever you want to do, and God doesn't mind at all."

Yes, He minds because it says, ***"We are His workmanship,"*** and it says, "We're created unto good works." Then He tells us, ***"...which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."*** That's why the Lord is saying now, "If you are born again, you've got the grace of God. Don't receive that grace of God in vain." You know there are people that can quote almost every verse in the Bible on grace. The only thing is that the effect of that grace, the life that that grace

produces, you cannot find in their lives. Those are the people that frustrate the grace of God; they receive the grace of God in vain.

You ask some people, "Can you really tell any difference between now...you say you have the grace of God...and the time you were an unbeliever? When you were an unbeliever, you know the way you used to live - get angry, and get fussy, and want everybody, bend everybody and conquer everybody to just be under your feet, not even under your control, but under your feet, and stamp on them. Now that you say the grace of God is there, you are born again, is it still like that? What has grace done? What has grace effected in your life?"

Here we are at this convention. We've been listening from the very first day. We're talking about hope for dry bones, and we've talked about quite a lot of things. With all that we have heard and all the prayers we have prayed, is there any change? Has grace effected any change, or do we still talk like we used to talk and act like we used to act, as if nothing has been done yet? That's receiving the grace of God in vain. The Lord is saying if we have this grace, if there is this life, eternal life that has begun...and the grace of God has come in, there is one thing you want to take care of: you don't want to take that grace of God in vain.

Where does the Bible say that? 2 Corinthians, chapter 6, verse 1. ***"We then, as workers together with Him..."*** ***"...as workers together with Him..."*** You have something to work on...on your personality, working together with Him. You have something to work upon...your character, working together with Him. You have something to work on...your ability to be able to go in the direction God wants you to go. You cannot do it alone. ***"Without Me, ye can do nothing."*** But with Him you can do everything.

You have something to work on. It says, ***"We then, as workers together with Him..."*** I'm asking a question...Do you work on anything after church service? ...on your character, on your lifestyle, on your demeanor, on your conduct. Do you work on anything at all? Do you just come to church, hear the Word of God, the grace of God is there, and you don't work on anything? And the children are saying, "Mommy, you came from the convention, and everything is still the same. The way used to shout at us and bully and all that...you're still the same mommy." "Daddy, you still get angry, the way you were. Nothing has changed. You still do exactly the same thing. Myself and the other children...we've been trying to see who will summon up the courage and tell daddy, 'Daddy, you are not treating us like you ought to treat us. We feel like slaves in this home. We're hoping that with the convention, and that kind of life that Jesus Christ spoke about, and all those preachers spoke about, we're thinking that you'd change. Daddy, I'm the scapegoat. The other children...they told me go and bell the cat. Whatever daddy will do, don't tell him that we sent you.' "

But you know, some of those children...they're holding a conference behind and they're saying, "We hope daddy will change. We hope mommy will change." Our parents, too...they are hoping that we children will change, that the grace of God will come into our lives and that grace will work out something, a kind of life that is spiritual, supernatural, undefeatable, unconquerable by any temptation. I pray that this will be the time the Lord will do it in Jesus' name.

I was talking to some people just a few months ago. We were at a crusade and after we finished the crusade, we had all these highly placed people put together. Then they came together. They were very many. I never saw a great number like that before of such highly placed people. The person who introduced me said, "Now, here is our time. As we are here now, here is the man of God," and said all the usual things they say. He said, "Whatever it is you want, here is the time." I know what they wanted me to do. They wanted me to pray for them to be healed and for them to have all this deliverance and everything.

So I came up and I said, "Now, here we are today. But I'm asking you a question. I want to ask Bartimaeus, you got your sight. I'm asking after the opening of the eyes of the blind, what next? Did he go out to get a job? What did he make of his life? I'm looking at the paralyzed man and I'm asking him, after you've got your healing from being paralyzed, what next? I'm looking at the woman with the issue of blood (12 years) and now you've got your healing. No more issue of blood. I'm asking the question, 'What next?' "

Church, if we concentrate on healing...there are many people on the street over there that are not sick, and I don't see them doing anything significant in life. What I'm interested in is *after the healing, what next? ...After the deliverance, what next? ...After all the answered prayers for our physical needs being met, what next?* I'm interested in *what next?*

I see this man in Acts of the Apostles chapter 3. Then Peter said, "Silver and gold have I not. What I have I give unto you. In the name of Jesus Christ, rise up and walk." Yes, I see the man jumping. I see the man leaping. But life is not jumping and leaping. I'm asking the man, "What next? Are you going to get a job? Are you going to be able to live for yourself? Are you going to be able to do something and make life meaningful after that healing?"

That's why I'm going about...and anywhere I go I tell our people and I tell other people too who care to listen that it's not all about healing, it's not all about deliverance because after all those miracles, what next in our lives? It is that *what next* thing we ought to concentrate on. We are going to concentrate on that. So that's why the Lord is saying, "We, therefore, as workers together with God...***we beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.***"

When we have got the grace of God at salvation, the Lord is saying, "Don't receive that grace of God in vain." Let something work out in your life. Let it affect your character. Let it affect your attitude. Let it affect your disposition. Let it affect your response to that grace of God so that we're not receiving the grace of God in vain.

Do you know what some people did, and what some people are still trying to do today with the grace of God? We're talking about the gateway through or the gateway of saving grace. We're looking at Jude verse 4...what they did with that grace. Here is what it says: "***For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning...***" What? Into what? "***...turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness.***"

You know, you meet a lot of people today who say they are Christians, they're born again, they have the grace of God, and they can quote it for you..."We're saved by grace through faith, that

not of yourself; it is the gift of God." Then I say, "But where is the evidence of that grace in your life?" "Oh," they say, "Don't look for evidence. I just know that I'm saved and it is all by grace. Christ did everything."

I say, "You still nag and beat your wife at home when she does something. If talking cannot do it then something else will have to do it." America does not mean that...we're still Africans, and the way Africans bring their wives under proper order is...if you don't you have a cudgel, you have a belt. I say, "You are born again?" "Of course, yes. What does beating my wife have to do with having the grace of God? It's all of grace." They turn the grace of God into lasciviousness. That's what the Lord is saying..."Don't do that." If we're going to have the way that leads to life eternal, and we're going to have what shows that we have really met the Lord, that grace will work out something in our lives. This is the undefeatable life. I pray it will come to everyone of us in Jesus' name.

While I'm talking, don't just let me talk into the air. Let me talk to your heart. You need to be thinking about your own life and your own character, your own attitude and your own comportment. You need to be saying, "With my wife, how is it? With my husband, how is it? With my children, how is it?" Those of us who are leaders and preachers in the church: "With the members of the church, how is it?"

Sometimes I used to think...and this gave me problems when I was not a preacher, when I was just an ordinary member of the church. In the church I went at that time, I listened to the people. If we were saying something, discussing something...then when they saw the pastor coming, they would say, "The pastor is coming." I said, "When the pastor was not here, Jesus was here; 'Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there in their midst.' When the pastor was not coming, God was there all the time. We were carrying on and talking what we were talking. Now that the pastor is coming, what's the big deal? Do we fear the pastor more than we fear God?" Later I became a Christian worker. Later I became a pastor myself.

Now, I realize as I have many pastors under my supervision and leadership...and I talk to some of the members of the church whenever I have time. I see that some members of the church fear the pastor more than they fear God, more than they fear Christ. They tremble in their shoes, in their boots. They say, "If the pastor knows that..." I say, "Are you worshipping the pastor?" Sometimes a member of the church will have a difficulty with a particular pastor in a location. Take New York here, for example. We have different, different branches. I meet somebody and I say, "I didn't see you in church." "Oh, Pastor, I'm not going to that branch. I'm not going to the church anymore." I say, "What's happening to you?" They say, "Something happened between me and the pastor and I cannot go to that church anymore." I said, "We have many branches. If that branch is not helping you, do you want to go to hell because you're afraid of pastor so-and-so? Go to another branch." "If the pastor hears that I leave our branch and go to another Deeper Life branch, my trouble will multiply." I think, *What kind of fear is this, that the person knows the right to do to get to heaven?* He knows the right thing to do to say, "If that place is not profiting me or benefiting me, and I'm having something I'm grinding with the local pastor there, I want to get heaven. Since there are so many branches, let me go to the other one." But he's so afraid that so-and-so will not hear. I'm asking you a question: If Jesus heard that this location is

not right for you and you went to another location to hear the Word of God, will Jesus punish you for that? No. But you're afraid of the pastor more than you are afraid of God.

I asked the other pastors, too...I said, "Why don't you help me follow up this person?" "Ah, I cannot do that. If his own pastor heard that I followed up on him and I brought him to my church, I'd be in trouble." I said, "What kind of church is this...that we're not thinking about the souls of the people? The people...they themselves are not thinking about their souls. They're not at liberty to be able to go to a church that will benefit them.

In fact I'll tell you...maybe you've not heard this or something like this before. If the Deeper Life in town is not able to feed you (and then you just say, "I can't go to church. I'm just going to stay by myself"), don't do that. There is another church that may not be Deeper Life. If they're preaching the Word of God, go there. We want you to get to heaven by all costs.

It is not that *I must stay in Deeper Life even if they're killing me and destroying me...I must stay there*. The Lord Jesus said, "No." He died for everyone. He doesn't want you getting lost because you have a difficult situation in a local church. Find a place you can worship God and get to heaven. Is that all right? But if you have all this fear and timidity and you cannot stand and it appears that Deeper Life, Deeper Life, Deeper Life... I'm Deeper Life myself. I'm, of course, Deeper Life number one. Praise the Lord.

But you know, I try to be my best as a pastor, but my best has not always gone down with everybody as the very best... I told you yesterday of one of our pastors that I transferred. Then he left Deeper Life and went to start his own. What if he just said, "Well, I disagree with Pastor Kumuyi"? And, "because I disagree with pastor Kumuyi, I will now go to Deeper Life, but I'll not start anything. I'll not do anything. I'll just remain there and die and go to hell because of disagreement with pastor Kumuyi."

How wise would that be? Take care of your soul. He went now to another place. In that other place, he still continued with the Gospel. I saw him recently. Anytime I phone him, I say, "Son, Isaac, how are you?" Then he says, "I'm doing fine, daddy." He brought his wife to me and brought all the children to me and said, "Look at this and look at this and look at..." He even began to tell me some things. He said, "This went wrong in the church. This went wrong in the church. Daddy, what shall I do?" He's not in Deeper Life anymore. He's in his own church, and he's asking me for counseling. "What shall I do?" I said, "You know now, you are an overseer." He said, "Daddy, don't talk like that. Whatever you tell me to do, that's what I will do." Isn't that beautiful? Isn't that better than just staying at home and not going to any other church because he has a disagreement with Pastor Kumuyi?

I pray the Lord will set you free, that you will come to this church not worshipping a man. You'll come to Deeper Life...and it's not that you become so afraid that the grace of God cannot work out something in our lives. You think about it as I talk. The pastors are here, they're looking at me eyeball to eyeball. Then as I look at them, if I were to be afraid, Pastor Oni is here taking me up and down... If I were to be afraid....

Let's say somebody has a problem in his church and confronts me and says, "This is what is going on." Then when I am preaching I become so afraid of my own son, so afraid of a pastor under me, that I cannot say what I need to say. That will be bondage of the highest order. When the GS (General Superintendent), and the pastor, has to be afraid of the people he's guiding and leading, that's bondage. I want every bondage in this church to be broken. That people come to church with a free mind, with the grace of God. They just know that *I'm coming to church to serve the Lord and I have the freedom of mind, I have my heart there, and I just love that church.*

The places I go...you would be surprised. That's why sometimes now they have all the security around me when I go to Nigeria and I move here and there....because some of them...it's not because they want healing or prayer or anything. They just want to talk to me. This time that Mommy went home to glory, how the people come. Sometimes, like last Sunday I was in church. After we finished the service, somebody came in and just said, "How are you doing pastor?" I said, "I'm doing great." He said, "Do you feed regularly? Do you do this? Who does this for you? What can we do for you?" That's the kind of church we ought to have. It's not a church where we're all tensed up and we're all afraid. You're afraid to put your leg there and put your mouth there. It's a family. I said, "This is a family." We're going to remain with that attitude. That's the grace of God working in our lives.

As I came over here to the United States, somebody called from another country and said, "I heard you'll be passing through our country when you leave the United States." I said, "Yes, thank you very much." He said, "What can I buy for you when you come?" Just a member of the church. That's a good relationship. It's not just that the pastor is coming and everybody is ducking somewhere and hiding somewhere. "He must not see me." What are you doing that we shouldn't see you? What's the secret thing? What's the lie?

Then sometimes you go to a place and I'm counseling somebody or somebody stops me by the staircase and I'm talking to that person. I'm very observant. I'm not a psychology man, but I did a little of psychology in education. You are talking to somebody and, all of a sudden, the person becomes almost absent-minded. The person is fidgeting and jittery. Then he's looking another direction and I say, "I'm talking to you. Why don't you look at me?" He said, "Our pastor is passing, and when I finish with you, the pastor is going to ask me what I was discussing." I said, "You are not free? I'm your father in the Lord. I'm the GS. I'm the one that makes the Deeper Life branch here, anywhere, possible. Here you are. You are talking to me. You're so much afraid that your pastor will see that you're talking to me and then he'll question you later? I should have the liberty to talk to anybody I want to talk to...and nobody getting afraid that *If my pastor sees me, if this one sees, if that one sees me...* That's bondage. That's what the Lord came to deliver us from and that's why he's saying, "The undefeatable life." If you're just living your life because of so-and-so and because of...., you'll never live the undefeatable life. It's the life that is free...that you know that this is the way to go.

Whether I'm there or not, pastor is there or not, or whoever is there or not, you are going to live that life. You will live that life. You don't get offended when you hear the truth. Sometimes when you tell them the truth they get offended and they frown. They're unhappy. I say, "My brother, what's your problem?" "You said this when you were preaching." I said, "But is it true?"

"Yes, it is true. But..." How is it that truth is getting you offended if you're a child of God and you're following the Way the Truth and the Life? How does truth get somebody offended?

I'm talking about grace...the grace that comes into our lives and just sets us free. I pray you'll be free in Jesus' name. Not "free to sin", but "free to live in righteousness". You're free to live in that righteousness whether somebody is watching, looking over your shoulder or not. I'm looking at this in Jude. It says, "They turned the grace of our God into lasciviousness." It says, **"...and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ."** What else do they do?

Let us look at 2 Timothy. It's talking about the grace of God and what this grace of God ought to do in our lives. The grace of God...the grace of God. 2 Timothy, chapter 2. I'm reading from verse 1. **"Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."** **"Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."** As this grace comes into our lives, we don't just remain static and remain just at the same level. We become strong in that grace of God.

In verse 2 it says, **"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."** Trials come, temptations come, difficulties come, challenges come. It says, "Because that grace of God is in us and we're strong in that grace, we must be able to endure the trial, the temptation, the persecution, and the challenges that come our way."

In verse 4: **"No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully. The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits."** Look at verse 7 now. **"Consider what I say..."** All these things we are saying...consider them. Work on them. Turn around. Let there be a change. Let the Word of God that comes from the throne of God and comes into our hearts...let it make a turning around in our lives. **"Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things." "... and the Lord give thee understanding in all things."**

We're looking at number two, now: *The Good Way of Sustained Godliness*. The reason we're talking about all this is so that, number one, you'll be free from whatever attachment you have. Then you'll be able to live the life you want to live. You will know that I am in here just for myself. There is a reason you came to church...it's because you wanted to get saved. The reason you keep coming to church is because you want to get to heaven. So you never remove your mind from that focus. The reason I go about preaching is to get people to heaven. My reason for going about to places is not to support any ministry or support any minister or to be able to say, "Well, whether the thing is right or wrong, just follow through." I want to be able to take as many people as I can to heaven. You will get there.

The reason sometimes...I told you in my message...I think it was on Friday. I said some people behave like babies. Some people behave like toddlers. And when you're praying, they say, "That's enough. That's enough." After I said that, some people...I know this society. This society is a society that says, "No, you cannot control us." When I said that, some people still did that

after that service. So I came yesterday and I said it again. If you do it again now, when I come next time, I'll say it again because I know that if you don't give the Holy Spirit the leeway, the green light, and the liberty to do whatever he wants to do, and you take the place of the Holy Spirit...I know the consequence upon your life. That's why I keep on saying that, so that you will wake up one day and then you'll let go and let God be God...so that the people that need to pray and the people that need to seek the face of the Lord and the people that need to find their way back to Calvary...they'll be able to do that without your hindrance and without your interference.

That's the reason why I keep on saying what I'm saying. If we get it this time, I'll be so happy I'll be running back. I'll say, "I need to get back to that place again." But if you don't get it, I'll say, "I think I need to come back earlier because those people...I said it. They didn't get it." Then I'll come back and say it again. I said, "I'll say it again." After all, all you can do is frown at me. You still have some Nigerian/African respect not to slap me, I hope? Even if you did, I'll pray for the grace of Paul the Apostle that none of these things move me, "neither count I my life, my personality dear unto me." But I'll finish the work that God has given me to do. The reason for that is just to make sure that by all means we get there. We're going to get there.

We're looking at the second point which is *The Good Way of Sustained Goodness*. Titus chapter two. I'm reading from verse 11. ***"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness..."*** That's what you need to do. ***"...denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly..."*** When? ***"...in this present world."*** ...that we live in godliness.

Let's look at 1 Timothy chapter 4, verses 7 and 8. ***"But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto..."*** What? ***"...godliness."*** Exercise..."exercise thyself unto godliness." I said it earlier, that this nation in particular...I think this nation is the leading nation on exercise, exercise. The industry is getting wider and wider. The people want to live up to a hundred years and 120 years. They're telling us that the science and technology here now...if you eat the right thing and exercise the right way, you can live up to 90 and up to 100.

I'm asking, "Why do you want to live up to 100 and up to 120 years of age, and there is nothing you've done for the last 70 years?" You don't have any plan to do anything different. Why just live long and then there is no quality of that life. It's not just exercise. It's the godliness. If we become more serious about godliness than we have been, more than we have been on exercise, then we'll be going somewhere. We will get there in Jesus' name.

Then it says in verse 8: ***"For bodily exercise profiteth little." "For bodily exercise profiteth little."*** It will only make you to shed a little weight and can make your heart condition to be better and can get rid of stress and some of these things, but all that still profits little. But then he tells us: ***"but godliness is profitable..."*** How? ***"...unto all things."***

Why don't you spend more time on that, then, instead of just looking at the weight and weighing yourself every time and saying, "I'm going to shed this, I'm going to shed that..."? That's good, that's good. You can shed that. But how about the other things you are to shed - in your character, in your behavior, in your attitude...the anger, the malice, the unforgiving spirit, and the greed and the covetousness, and all these negative interpersonal relationships? ...that you shed all

those things. That's why it says, ***"but godliness is profitable unto all things having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."*** Godliness.

We're looking at chapter 6 of 1 Timothy. I'm looking at it from verse 3. ***"If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness." "...doctrine which is according to godliness."*** The doctrine we need to preach and emphasize is that which leads us and leads our hearers, leads the people unto godliness.

Look at verse 6: ***"But godliness with contentment is great gain." Godliness with contentment - that is great gain. "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is..." What? "...the root of all evil."***

I know some people, especially those in our country here, we have these motivational speakers that talk on prosperity, prosperity. They are very quick to point to this verse and they say, "The Bible says the love of money is the root of all evil. He doesn't say *money*." Yes, I understand. I understand. But show me the man that has money and is not going to have the accompanying thing...the love of money with it. Very few of them.

You know that over here we have seminars held for only millionaires. There are people that are striving and striving and striving and want to be able to qualify and get into that kind of seminar. I think you need to strive to get to the seminar of holy people, righteous people, saintliness, and godliness, because ***"the love of money is the root of all evil"***.

Sometimes you're in this job. You want to get that job and get that job and even refuse to take care of yourself and take care of your family because you want to amass quite a lot of wealth. Don't let all these people brainwash us and say, "We need to have this. We need to have that." Prosperity is good, but if that prosperity goes between you and eternal life, that's going to be terrible. I said, "That's terrible."

Look at verse 10. ***"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after..."*** What? After that, what? Then what? And then? And then? And then?

He says, "Pursue that. Run after that. Follow after that." If you pick them one by one and you make an effort...that's where we got started...that you strive, you make an effort. You say, "How much of righteousness do I have in my life? How much of godliness do I have in my life? How much of love do I have in my life? How much of faith, how much of patience or of meekness do I have?" and you strive after that, and you pursue that with all your strength. Then it says in verse 12: ***"Fight the good fight of faith..." "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses."*** I pray God will help us.

Let's look at 2 Timothy chapter 3, verse 5. *"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof."* *"Having a form of godliness..."* There are people that have the outer shell of godliness. That's why I spoke to you yesterday...brothers and sisters, would you please look up? Sometimes as a Deeper Life pastor, when I see that we are having the wrong kind of emphasis...maybe we were guilty, those of us who are pastors were guilty for putting across that wrong kind of emphasis. Then we come back to correct it now.

When we correct that kind of emphasis, there are some people, some of the members of our church...they hold onto that form of godliness and they say, "No." In fact, some of them become so bold...I would say so stubborn...to say, "Even if," then they mention my name... I think that's going too far. "Even if Pastor Kumuyi comes here and tells me that," they tell their pastor, "I will not do that." I think that's going too far.

What am I talking about? Yesterday I mentioned about wearing a scarf or wearing a hat. What if I came here and I dressed in a suit like this and I put the Yoruba (or Ibadan) cap on it. That looks like nice? What if I dressed like this and I put the Ibo (that red cap, you understand?) and put a feather here? I think that will look nice. You look very strange to the people. You'll not able to evangelize. Jesus said, *"Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."*

All we are saying is *we have a goal*. Therefore, if you come on here...we're talking about your dress. See the way the choir dressed this morning...the combined choir? What if as they dressed in the combined choir...instead of wearing the hat they wore, what if they wore the turban, the kind of thing you wear in Nigeria? It doesn't match.

Then we who are your leaders who taught you the other one...we're telling you now, this is the way to do it so that you'll be able to reach the community here. Some people will say, "Even if Pastor Kumuyi comes here and tells me that, I will not obey." Where is the grace, where is the respect for leadership? Because it says, "Obey them that have the rule over you." We cannot even correct that minor thing. While all that (the scarf) is there, there is animosity within. There is unforgiveness within, and there is malice within. We cannot relate with our brother, our sister. Which one is more serious? What is God going to judge us with on the final day? Is He going to judge us on the scarf or on the malice?

Look at the whole of the Gospel according to Saint Matthew. How much, how much emphasis is placed on dressing? Look at Mark and look at John, look at Luke. How much emphasis is placed on dressing, on cap or scarf? Look the Acts of the Apostles and look at the Romans. Read everything. The only thing you can find is in 1 Timothy chapter 2, verse 9, and then 1 Peter chapter 3. Because of just those two verses, we leave the weightier matters of the law...the evangelism God has given us to do...we don't concentrate on that. This is the only thing we want to concentrate on. That's not godliness. The stubbornness is there. The incorrigibility is there. Then we just hold onto that.

Is the scarf going to take you to heaven? And all these other sisters who are wearing the cap...is that going to take us to hell? Where there is no authority, there is no father-figure, there is no pastor that can talk to us, and there is nobody that can say, "Sit right. Shape up. Do this. Do this." We cannot...even myself...now I'm just like paralyzed, incompetent to talk to the people that say

to your face, "Let him come and tell us. We will not do it." Then I say, "Now, where do we go from here?" The is the Deeper Life we raised up.... If I go home to glory,...

When I was in Abuja, one of the pastors was crying. He was praying. After I'd finished giving a particular message, he cried. He cried his heart out. He said, "We shouldn't thank God for anybody dying," but you know how he prayed? He said, "God, I thank you that it is his wife that died...that this man did not die...that what if instead of his wife dying, it is this man that had died? Then he will take all this wisdom and all this impartation...he'll take it to heaven and we are here."

Another one said, "How is it this man is just coming now? We've made so many mistakes in our church. Now this man is just coming now to set us right?" Another fellow said, "Are you not even happy he's leaving the Deeper Life in Lagos and he's coming to us now?" The outsiders, they're hungry. And they're saying, "We are thanking God that he came." Then I come to my own people, the people I raised up. Many of you were born again in Nigeria, either at the retreats or at a particular meeting that I held. You owe your spiritual life, you owe a lot of that to me. Now I come over here. Just because you moved from Nigeria to America doesn't mean I'm not your father anymore. Then you have the effrontery and the boldness to say, "Even if Pastor Kumuyi says that, I will..." Who are you?

Between Moses and all those other people gathering manna on the ground, don't you see the distance between them? Paul the apostle said, "I shouldn't be boasting. I shouldn't be telling you who I am. But because you didn't recognize who I am, I have to tell you people that this is who I am. If I'm not a father to the rest of people, am I not a father unto you?" I think we need to change our language. We need to change our attitude.

You don't want me to come here and be subservient to you and become like a slave to you, that I then cannot have the boldness to tell you, "This is the right way to go." I think you need to encourage me to be bold and to say what I need to say so that we'll set everything right in Jesus' name. Praise the Lord. If you want to clap, put your hands together. Amen.

This last time I went to Abuja, I heard another language. I told them and I'm fulfilling my promise...I promised them in Abuja...I said, "Anywhere I go, now, I'll tell them what your people do." I used to say, "Put your hands together," but you know, they say, "jam your hands together." Praise the Lord. Those people really jam their hands together, and something really happened. Now we're talking about this good way of sustained godliness. I pray that the godliness will be sustained in our lives in Jesus' name. He talks about the people having a form of godliness and then denying the power thereof. It says, ***"From such turn away."***

We're looking at 2 Peter chapter 1. I'm reading there to you from verse 3. ***"According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness."*** He has given it to us. Let's seize it. Let's take it. Let's accept it. I pray that it will profit us in Jesus' name. It says, ***"...through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."*** I pray God will do it in everyone.

Point number three: *The Glorious Way of Shining Glory*. The glorious way of shining glory. As the Lord is leading through the gate and then through the way that leads unto life eternal, He wants us to understand that the reason why Jesus Christ died for us is so that He can bring us to glory. We're looking at Hebrews chapter 2. He wants to bring many, many, many sons unto glory. He'll take you there. I said, "He'll take you there." We're looking at verse 10. ***"For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory." "...in bringing many sons unto glory."*** The Lord wants us to go to glory. He wants us to get to glory. We're going to get there.

Then it says in the latter part of verse 10: ***"...to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings."*** How does that happen? How is He going to take us to glory? We're looking at 2 Corinthians chapter 3, verse 18. ***"But we all..."*** Not just some of us. We all, everyone making up his mind saying, "This is mine." The Word of God is for everyone and "We all..." it says in verse 18, ***"...with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord..."*** We behold His glory. We behold His majesty. We behold His shining light. We behold His exemplary light. We are beholding the face of the Lord in glory. Then it says, ***"[We] are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."***

It says, "As we behold Him..." And we see His majesty. And we see his glory. And we see His honor. We see His exaltation. Then we keep on looking at Him as our master, our model, our Savior, our Lord, our King and Redeemer. It says that beholding with faith will also change us from glory to glory. We don't look at the things around. We don't look at the things we suffer. We don't look at the deprivations that may come. We just look at Him, and then that glory will come.

We're looking at 2 Corinthians chapter 4, from verse 16. ***"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."*** When you keep on looking at the Lord and you don't think about the things that surround you and the things that might look like pressure upon the people of the world. It says, ***"While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."***

We're looking at 1 Peter chapter 4. I'm reading from verse 14. The glory that comes, even when you're persecuted, even when you're slandered, even when you have some challenges. You have the glory that comes. ***"If ye be reproached [insulted, abused, taken advantage of] for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part He is evil spoken of, but on your part He is glorified."*** Our lives will glorify the Lord.

What then do we do? What's the act or the decision we ought to have? We're looking at Colossians chapter 3, verse 1. ***"If ye then be risen with Christ..."*** We're risen with Christ. We died with Him. We're crucified with Him. We're buried with Him in baptism, water baptism. Now he says we're risen with Christ. ***"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are..."*** Where? ***"...above."*** Put your emphasis there. Concentrate on that. Focus on that. And ***"seek those things which are above."*** Seek spiritual things more than material things. ***"Seek***

those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection..." Where? *"...on things above."* *"Set your affection on things above."*

The community in which we live, the society in which we live has a way of setting our affection on things below. You need to make an effort and say, "No. I'm not going to allow the condition of this place to make me just be looking down, looking at material things...possess this and have this and gain this and get this and acquire this, accumulate this. I just want to set my affection on things above." Set that affection on things above, *"...not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him..."* Where? *"...in glory."* I pray you'll be there.

If we'll take this gate and get into the narrow path, and then you channel your life and lead your life according to this word we have heard today - of saving grace and of sustained godliness and of shining glory.... I pray that when that time will come and Christ will break open the heavens, and then He'll come for His own and the dead in Christ shall rise, and we which are alive will be changed, and then we'll go with the people. I pray, "You'll be there." When the saints go marching in.... I will be there. I said, "I will be there." I pray you'll be there in Jesus' name.

Why don't you rise up, then? And let's talk to the Lord and say, "Lord, this is the way You are leading us." We've heard the Word of God, and the Word of God does not offend us. The Word of God does not make us to be on edge. The Word of God just makes us to say, "Lord, what I see not, teach thou me. If I've done anything wrong, said anything wrong...if I've gone in any wrong direction, set me right. I'm willing." That's how to get to heaven. We don't get to heaven by struggling with God and struggling against God and fighting against His Word, arguing against it and complaining in our mind and saying, "No. We'll not take that." It's the obedient people that get to heaven.

You tell the Lord, "Lord, I want to be there." You'll be there in Jesus' name. The way of grace, the gateway, the gateway of saving grace...the gateway of saving grace. Let that grace be in your heart, be in your life. And if you've been hearing about this grace, the free provision of the Lord that leads us to life eternal...have you taken it to heart? Have you accepted it? Are you telling the Lord, "Oh Lord, oh Lord, oh Lord, do this for me"?

The grace that saves and the grace that sustains in that salvation, and the grace that keeps us sanctified, purified, holy and godly...the grace that makes us to deny all ungodliness, and the grace that softens our heart, the grace that doesn't take offense at the teaching of the Word of God...the grace that is willing to turn around and be the kind of person, kind of brother, the kind of sister, the kind of preacher, the kind of pastor, the kind of minister we ought to be.

The grace that is willing to say, "Oh Lord, I know it's me. It's not my brother. It's not my sister. It's me, Oh Lord, standing in need of this grace." Let's tell the Lord. The gateway of saving grace...that grace will bring meekness. That grace will bring humility. That grace will bring peace. That grace will bring good relationship. That grace will bring a softened heart. That grace will bring obedience to the Word of God.

Grace, grace...and don't turn that grace of God into lasciviousness. Don't turn the grace of God into self-centeredness, self-pleasing, self-will. The grace, the grace that comes upon our lives and turns us around, makes a change in our heart, makes a change in our lives, makes a change in our relationship, makes a change between husband and wife, between parents and children, between members of the church, and the ministers of the church.

The grace that gives us that meekness and that love and that forgiving spirit, that changes the character, that changes the conduct, that changes the behavior, that changes our interpersonal relationship. Grace, grace, grace. God's grace that is greater than all your weakness, greater than all your deficiencies, greater than all your incompetency...the grace that makes us the people we ought to be...the grace that makes us the man of God you ought to be, the woman of God you ought to be, the child of God that you ought to be. Grace...grace of God.

Grow in that grace. Continue in that grace. Live in that grace. Let that grace affect and influence. Let that grace affect and influence every area of your character. That grace leads to godliness. We have the promise of godliness. We have the power for godliness. We have the possibility of godliness. And it makes us persistent in godliness, righteousness, sanctified life, sanctified heart, sanctified attitude, sanctified behavior. The grace that leads to godliness...godliness in the day, godliness in the night, godliness in the church, godliness in the place of work, godliness with brothers, godliness with sisters, godliness in the private and godliness in the public. Grace that leads to godliness.

The Lord is telling us to put more emphasis on the exercise of that godliness. Exercise yourself unto godliness, that as this society is very serious, dedicated, almost fanatical on physical exercise, you become so given and so focused and so addicted to godliness...exercise in godliness. Allow the Lord to make the shift in your heart, the turning around in your heart.

Does your language need change? Does your attitude need change? Does your comportment need change? Does the way you feel in your heart need change? Do you need a new touch of godliness in your mind, in your brain, in your heart, in your spirit, in your behavior, in your conduct, in your character...a touch of godliness, divine touch. Transformation into godliness...godliness...godliness...godliness with contentment is great gain. Tell the Lord. Tell the Lord.

Beyond healing, beyond deliverance, beyond prosperity, beyond having property, beyond clothing, beyond beauty, beyond being in good shape...godliness is more important. Godliness is more important. You tell the Lord that the Lord Himself, the Lord Himself, the Lord Himself...because this is His purpose and this is the priority...godliness...godliness in your heart and godliness in your home...godliness in your interpersonal relationship. Godliness in following after the Lord. And it's grace, more grace, greater grace, that brings that about in our lives. You need to make up your mind, though. You need to take a decision and say, "Lord, Lord, Lord, You'll accomplish this in me. You will accomplish this in me. Godliness."

Pray that God will help you not to hold onto a form of godliness. This outward dressing and putting such emphasis on just external things...then the internal life, holy life, the meekness, the humility is lacking, yet all the emphasis is on this form of godliness on the external. And we

judge other Christians, evaluate other Christians, on the basis of just external things. You tell the Lord, "Now I'll put the emphasis where the emphasis ought to be."

The inner life, the spiritual life, the godly life, the righteous life, the sanctified life...under the control of the Spirit of God. That will be the wonderful evidence, the wonderful evidence that you have been at this convention, and that the convention has done some things, done something, inside your heart, inside your life.

Godliness...the godliness that comes through sanctifying grace, sufficient grace, sustaining grace in your life. Tell the Lord. Tell the Lord. Without holiness, no man shall see the Lord. ***"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."*** What shall it profit, my brethren, if we have the gain of all the things in this world? If only in this life, in this world, you have hope in Christ, you'll be of all men, of all women, of all church members the most miserable.

It is when you come to the Lord and you put the right thing in the right place, the first thing in the first place. And you say, "Yes I know. Yes I know. It's the inward character, conduct, lifestyle of godliness that actually matters in the sight of the Lord." "For man seeth in the outward sense, at the outward, but God looks at the inward." That inward life is what God is wanting to concentrate upon.

Have this godliness. That's what it takes to get to heaven, you know? "Blessed are they that do His will, that they may have right to enter through the gates into that holy city." Tell the Lord. Godliness...godliness, holiness, sanctification, purity of heart and purity of life...tell the Lord to do it. He's no respecter of persons. He did it for people like Enoch; He can do it for you. ...Changed their hearts. ...Changed their personalities. ...Changed their conduct. ...Turned them around. Made them the people, the kind of people, they ought to be.

If you will pray with importunity and persistence, the Lord will do it. The Lord will do it. The Lord will do it. Give Him a chance to do it in your life and establish this godliness of heart and godliness of life so that people will see that godliness. They'll glorify God through your life.

There will be shining glory. "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Christ in you, living big and living strong, living righteously and holy and godly in you. That's the hope of glory. The intention of the Lord, the desire of the Lord, and the reason why the Lord went to Calvary to die for you and for me, is so as to bring many sons to glory. Let Him hold your hand. Let Him lead you. Let Him guide you and lead you unto glory. The Lord will do it. The Lord will do it. The Lord will do it...wanting to bring many sons unto glory...wanting to bring many sons unto glory. He'll do it.

Beholding Him...beholding Him. Looking at Him...His lifestyle, His behavior, His demeanor, His humility, the way He did the will of the Father (every time looking at Him). Modeling your life after Him, making Him your master, your model, your mentor, so that He'll bring up this life in you and then your light will shine. Men and women that see you...they will glorify God through you.

Concentrate on things above, not on things on the earth. Set your affection, set your heart, set your love, set your desire, set your ambition on things above and not on things on the earth. Things above, things above...center your thoughts and center your mind and center your will and center your ambition and center your aspiration on things above, and not on things on the earth.

Let your life be hid with Christ in God. Say, "Lord, here am I. Lead me on from now on. Lead me on from now on. Lead me on from now on, that the mundane things of this world that captured my heart in the past, the greed, the covetousness, the love of money that captured my heart in times past will not be that way again. My focus, my mind, my will, my prayers, my aspiration, my priority...everything will be on things above, not on things on the earth.

I'll labor more for spiritual things than material things. I'll pray more for spiritual things than material things. And I'll strive more for spiritual things than for material things. I will not allow the little little things of this world to cloud my vision, to block my vision...looking above, looking above, looking above until I have that for which Jesus died, until I possess that which Jesus purchased on the cross of Calvary." Talk to the Lord. Talk to the Lord and say, "Lord, here am I. Here am I. Do it Lord."