

Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 52

The Letter of Jesus to the Church in Thyatira Part 4

“18 And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass; 19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first. 20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. 21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. 23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works. 24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden. 25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come. 26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: 27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. 28 And I will give him the morning star. 29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” (Revelation 2:18-29 KJV)

“24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.” (Revelation 2:24 KJV) Here the Lord is speaking to those who are faithful in the church of Thyatira, who were less in number in comparing to the rest of the church members, but they were well known by their work, service, faith, holiness, obedience, and patience as we discussed before, ***“19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.” (Revelation 2:19 KJV)*** Here the Lord described them that they were clean from that doctrine, ***“as many as have not this doctrine”***: The meaning of doctrine is the way to live. Those they were living in holiness and they were not doing or condoning immoralities, they were not accepting food offered to idols, they were not using and doing politics, nor playing church, nor doing murders by harming others and taking their ministries. They had not gone deep into the depth of Satan and its cunning schemes to bring destruction into the body of Christ by allowing immoralities and fornication in such forms, such as boyfriend and girlfriend, live-in relationship, divorce and remarriage, or single mother or single father allowing them to marry other than the father or the mother of her or his children. The Lord when he said, ***“and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak”***, what He means with ***“as they speak”***, is that those who are like Jezebel when they will speak, in their speech they will justify and approve all these immoralities and present them as something holy and acceptable in the eyes of God, but the Scriptures condemned all such. People like Jezebel, they will tell stories and explanation to justify Valentine, Halloween, divorce and remarriage, etc. They have their own set of stories for justification.

I will put upon you none other burden: So here the Lord acknowledging the burden of those faithful workers who were there in the church of Thyatira, and is advising them to

continue there and stand firm against all the schemes of the devil and what he was using from people to implement his wrongdoing and wickedness. It is a burden to be in the same church where people will do wickedness and politics to take your ministry, as well as you will be tormented with their immoral practices, makeup, indecent dress, their parties, money spent on worldly things, and wasting resources and corruption in offices. Here the Lord is telling to the faithful people there in Thyatira, that this is enough for you to bear such, and that is your good work, service and ministry for the Lord when you are still there standing firm resisting the devil and its schemes. They needed to always condemn and oppose such evil practices that were taken place in that church.

God wants us to be firm like Naboth who refused to give the vineyard to Ahab. **** We too need not to give in and give our ministries and offices, whatever the cost, to others who are greedy and manipulative and evil doers who use the church offices for living and for luxurious worldly life.***

In addition to the idols of greed, gluttony, and immorality, God wants us to be firm against the rest of the idols that the Christians and the churches now a day are worshipping and as the following: **** The idol of the education to go and study what they like*** **** The idol of marrying of what they like*** **** The idol of living in whatever place they like*** **** The idol of living in whatever style they like.***

God wants us to be like Elijah who stood firm and faced Ahab, and the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of the groves.

God does not want us to run away like Elijah when we are threatened and attacked by wicked and evil doers like Jezebel. Elijah run away from Jezebel and wished he would die but the Lord in His faithfulness came to Him and restored him back to the ministry and gave him assignments of what He needed him to do. Let us read ***1 Kings 19*** and how God interacted with Elijah so we will be aware of our coming assignments:

This message here is for those who are faithful to the Lord and are willing to stand against all the schemes of the devil using evil doers like Jezebel and her followers.

“1 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time.” (1 Kings 19:1-2 KJV) Here the wicked Ahab gave intelligence to his wife Jezebel of what Elijah did and she went forth to attack Elijah to kill him. She sent him messengers to threaten him. When we do the work of God faithfully, the enemy will attack us and will try its best to harm us in order to revenge and in order to stop our progress. He will threaten us with messengers in order to make us run away from the ministry. The action of Jezebel was counteracting to what Elijah achieved to the Lord, in making the people realizing that the Lord is God and in executing the 450 prophets of Baal. ***“3 And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.” (1 Kings 19:3 KJV)*** Elijah in response to what Jezebel did ran away, because he was afraid, from the place that God wanted him to stay. **** We should not run away from the place that God assigned us to stay and serve Him.*** We need to understand that every time we have a victory the enemy will do its best to attack us. We should have strength in the Lord. The devil will try to tell you all the lies in order for you to be afraid to run away. ***“4 But he himself went a day's***

journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.” (1 Kings 19:4 KJV) Here Elijah ran away from the scene and from the place that God had placed him, and he wished to die. Not only he wished to die but he prayed to God and asked Him to take away his life. The devil will try to put you in despair and in sadness and makes you hate life so that he will stop you for serving the Lord and from doing His will. The devil will also try to confuse you to push you to run away and to take wrong decisions. * Trials, oppositions of the devil, conspiracies of evil doers will daunt us, but we need to hold on the Lord and on His Word. That is why we need to continue to read the Bible and meditate on His word. * We need to pray and be attentive to His voice so we can have the strength to be sustained during the devil attack. “5 And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat. 6 And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again. 7 And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee.” (1 Kings 19:5-7 KJV) * We need to take care of our physical bodies. We have journeys, we have missions, we are under stress and the enemy is attacking us, therefore we need to eat, to drink and to have rest so we can face the task and the threat so we can finish our assignments well to God. The Lord is concerned about our physical wellbeing and He needs us to eat and drink so we can face the stress. So here the Lord prepared food and drink and send it to Elijah so he can eat, and He sent His angel to him to touch him and to remind him and to push him to eat and drink. He woke him up to eat. God will always remind us to care for our food and drink and send us food and send us people to remind us to eat and care for our bodies so we can face the stress of the ministry and in facing those wicked in the body of Christ who are working for devil to do its schemes. “8 And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.” (1 Kings 19:8 KJV) So here the Lord prepared the food that had helped Elijah for his journey. He travelled forty days with the strength of that meal that he received from God. He was in fasting. There is a time that the Lord, the Holy Spirit, lead us to fast and we need to have strong bodies for that; that is why certain times we need to eat well so we will be ready to fast when we are called for that. “9 And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?” (1 Kings 19:9 KJV) Here Elijah went to a quite place that he can meet with God and he can hear the voice of God. * In times of troubles and when we are in threats, we need to keep time to be alone with God so He will speak to us and He will direct us of what we need to do. That is why we need to read our Bible daily and to have quality time with God so we can hear His voice. We need today as a church the voice of the Holy Spirit to direct us of what we need to do. Here the Lord came to Elijah and asked him “What doest thou here, Elijah?” * We need to sit down with God and open up to him what is going on in our lives. He will ask us, and He will allow us to speak and to tell of what is going on in our lives. When we pour out what is inside us before God, we will get a relief and we will get also advices and answers and direction from God. God was asking him what he was doing there, and the following was the answer of Elijah: “10 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.” (1 Kings 19:10 KJV) Elijah told to God of what was going on in his life, his frustrations, and what he was able to see of things around him. We need to sit with God and tell him what we are able to see, so He

can correct us and tell us what is really going on. Elijah told to God about his zeal toward His work and his zeal for God’s people. * We really need to have zeal for the work of God and for His people and His church. Elijah told to God how much He was disgusted that the people of God had forsaken their covenant with God, they worshipped idols, and they break the Word of God and His commands and how they harmed the true prophets who were telling them the truth and tried to kill them and finish their ministry. It is really a pain, suffering and torment to see the people of God breaking their covenant with God and worshipping idols, feasts of the world they put in the church and allowed all kinds of immoralities. Elijah expressed to God his loneliness and that there is no one beside him to stand with him in the same stand for the Lord. Elijah was honest in expressing to God all these things. But he was overwhelmed with his fear and the threats that coming against him. But Elijah did not answer the question of God “What doest thou here, Elijah?” Which means, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” Elijah did not confess to God that he is running away and left the place that God asked him to stay, but he confessed to God that they are seeking to take his life. Elijah also was not able to see others who stood the same stand of him and that added to him more sorrow and more grief. * We should be assured by faith that there are still remnant; there are others who stand firm like us. Apostle Paul confirmed that to us when he said, “1 I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. 2 God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel saying, 3 Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. 4 But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. 5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.” (Romans 11:1-5 KJV) Loneliness and isolation is one of the schemes of devil to try to destroy us, so we need to be alert with all that. The Lord answered Elijah with the following: “11 And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake: 12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.” (1 Kings 19:11-12 KJV) Here the Lord instructed Elijah to go and stand on the mountain and wait upon God to pass by. * In the same way we need to wait upon the Lord and stay where we are and continue to do the work that He asked us to do. Sure the Lord passed by Elijah, and manifested by strong wind that breaks the rocks of the mountain, but the Lord was not in that. Followed that earthquake, but the Lord was not there. Followed that fire, but the Lord was not there. After the fire came the still small voice of God. * When we are in God’s presence we may see great events that God is doing around us and in the world for example natural calamities, like floods, typhoons, earthquakes, volcanoes or wars or sending plaques like COVID-19, these all and other things we may observe, but our concerns is that to hear the voice of God, the voice of the Holy Spirit so we can grasp what He want to tell us and what he want us to do for Him. As if he is telling Elijah let Jezebel speak and threaten and create winds and let Ahab do the fire that he want, but you my servant wait to hear my voice and my instructions before you move, trouble yourself and do anything. “13 And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?” (1 Kings 19:13 KJV) * We need to move when we hear the voice of God. Here Elijah was able to hear the voice of God who asked him again the same

question, of what he is doing there, as if He is telling him you should not be here, this is not your place, I did not assign you here, or why you run away from the place that I had put you? ***“14 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.” (1 Kings 19:14 KJV)*** Elijah answered God the same answer without understanding what he was asking him. He was overwhelmed and he was not able to see others who were suffering with the same cause. There are many in the body of Christ who are hidden from our eyes but they are suffering even more than us for Christ’s sake. ***“15 And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria.” (1 Kings 19:15 KJV)*** The first word that God told after Elijah poured himself before God is to go and return, to report back to the ministry and to the service of God in the place that he was assigned, in Samaria. The Lord wanted him to understand that He is in full control and the scenario will be orchestrated by God neither by devil nor by wicked people like Jezebel or Ahab. **** That what we need to understand, that as we work with God, that He is in full control, and we should abide with Him and follow His instructions, because He is still on the throne and He is in full control of the situation, and events need to continue to happen as He ordained.*** He asked Elijah to anoint Hazael as king over Syria. **** We need to continue to do the work of God in spite of all the evil circumstances that is surrounding us. In addition, the instruction of what we need to do, we should receive from the voice of the Holy Spirit and we should do diligently.*** ***“16 And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.” (1 Kings 19:16 KJV)*** God told him also that he needed to anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi to be a king over Israel, and that is another terrible king who will be used to kill and destroy Ahab and his family and all the worship of Baal from Israel. As well as the Lord asked Elijah to anoint Elisha the son of Shaphat to be a prophet in his office. So here the Lord was telling him, that he need to continue to do his ministry as before and do the assignments that He is asked to do. In such a way God told Elijah what will be taken place in the future. **** We need to understand the same today, that God want us to continue to go and make disciples and teach them, baptizing them and training them so they will continue to do the work of God after us. * We need to lay hands on them to receive the Holy Spirit Baptism and the anointing of God, and as we hear the voice of the Holy Spirit and do His work and make disciples the Lord shall anoint some of them to orchestrate the coming future tasks.*** ***“17 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.” (1 Kings 19:17 KJV)*** Here the Lord explained to Elijah each of those whom he will anoint what will do. Everyone of them has a task for God that they will achieve, and every one of them will complete the work of others who did not finish. **** So here all the events of the world around us are done by the Lord, and controlled by God, and we need to have peace and continue to trust Him and we express that trust as we continue to serve Him and obey Him.*** Elisha was set by God to continue the ministry that God started with Elijah. In our discouragement and despair, God will come and explain to us what we are passing through and what we need to do, He give us again our assignments and explain to us the events further in life. ***“18 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.” (1 Kings 19:18 KJV)*** Further God corrected Elijah and encouraged him that he is not the only one left but there were 7000 thousands in Israel that are having the same stand of him against Baal and against the work of devil through Jezebel and Ahab. Elijah went

back and truly anointed Elisha who in return anointed Hazael King over Syria, and Elisha sent other prophet to anoint Jehu to be king over Israel.

My dear and beloved: Let us now come to God applying the principles of what we learn from God, not to run away, but to resist the devil, and going back to our assignments and ministries and committing ourselves once again to God to finish the tasks that He want us to achieve for Him.

Let us come to Him in repentance renouncing our sins. Let us do our best to continue to live in holiness, and to continue to focus on the tasks entrusted to us and to do the works that He wants us to do. Let us trust God that he is in full control and He will orchestrate things according to his plan and will. Let us continue to give the message to whomever God is sending us to. Let us continue to stand firm against the devil and against sin and against those who are used by the devil like Ahab and Jezebel. Let us stand firm against all these challenges and to continue to do the various good works and His services in holiness and in purity Let us continue to go and make disciples baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Let us continue to lay our hands and anoint new people to do the service and the ministry of God as he is showing us.

My prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord, thank you for your Word that encouraged me to continue to serve you knowing that other people standing the same in your church and having the same suffering of what I am passing through.

Confess your sins now to God. Lord forgives me the following sins _____. Repent of running away, repent of discouragement and repent of being not fully trusting God that he is in full control on the situation.

Lord I commit myself to abide with this Word of yours that I receive in this message. Lord I surrender my life and my will fully to you. Lord I commit myself to stand firm against corruption, greed, false teachings, immoralities, and all the schemes of the devil. Lord I pray that you will give me boldness and strength to continue to serve you. Lord I commit myself to evangelize reaching new people for Christ and to make new disciples.

Lord, I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who accepted your Word and are willing to live their lives and serve you and suffer for your Word. Lord protect them and provide all their needs. Lord deliver them from all persecution and the attacks of the devil.

Lord bless us and sustain us as a church. Lord help us, protect us, and provide for us to go on in serving you and do your work and your will. Lord, we pray that you will enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church and fulfill the vision of the church, ‘Multiplication in Peace with Implementing the Whole Will of God’. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus’ name, Amen.

Lessons from the sermon of Jesus on the mountain Part 52. The Letter of Jesus to the church in Thyatira Part 4. Revelation 2:24,19. 1 Kings 19:1-18. Romans 11:1-5.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf
The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
www.churchofgoduae.com
Email: thebread1@gmail.com
Mobile Tel #: 00971551902647

Note: The Bread of Life is a weekly publication from the Church of God, United Arab Emirates. For further issues and more spiritual enrichment you can visit our web site at: www.churchofgoduae.com.

Share the message with your friends.

Please share with us your view about the message and if you have any question.

If you have a prayer request, please send it to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

Please send your tithes, your first fruit, and your various offerings to the church to this account

BANK NAME:
First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB)
ACCOUNT NAME:
RAMIZ BAHNAM ABBO KHALAF
ACCOUNT NO.:
1576003753162014
IBAN:
AE380351576003753162014
SWIFT CODE:
NBADAEACPU

Or contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

If you need counseling in area of your life, whether about family, children or finances, please be free to contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.