

## Expose 54 K18

### Where Is Your Faith?

I hope you have a good night sleep. This is Expose 247 where we elevate God's word above our collective experiences. We are saying no matter what you read, what you see or what you hear. God's Word is sure.

So yesterday we really stopped at this junction of **nevertheless** and we explored further and in exploring. In our exploration, we found out the missing ingredients. That most of the time when we come to the places of prayer, we find faith missing. And that was the common question in Luke Chapter 18 and Luke Chapter 8. Where is the faith? Where is your faith?

And we are able to see that no matter the situation or how precarious it is, how desperate. Because in Luke 8 they were thinking they are going to die saying master careth not that we perish? That inspite of that, no matter of that how the situation is, we cannot forget, we cannot set aside faith. So in all situations, our faith must be in place, even in the place of prayer.

So today we are going to continue on this Knock Our Series on prayer, and we do hope that you are going to listen, you are going to pay attention and you are going to come with meekness to receive the engrafted Word which is able to save your soul, which is able to bring fruitfulness to you in the place of prayer.

Will you want to continue or you still want to say something about yesterday?

Viewers all over the world, on this Knock Out Series, we welcome you again. And we believed you've been with us on this journey. If you've been with us in the past and if you are just joining us today, we welcome you unto this series.

Again as we have always said in the past, let's reiterate that the vision behind the Knock Out Series as the name signify Knock Out, is we are knocking out all those things that are presenting themselves as truth. But in order words they are actually knocking out our faith in Christ Jesus. And making the cross of Christ of no effect. And that is it. Jesus told **the Pharisees that by your traditions you made the Word of God of no effect.** And those are the things that we are knocking out on this series.

And we actually focused on the notion of prayer. Prayer is a hotspot in the body of Christ. And like we said yesterday, nothing reveals the confusion of a Christian as much as the prayer life of such a Christian is? And we see how Jesus approaches

people in all his ministry on earth in regards to prayer. He condemned the Pharisees for how they prayed. He spoke to his disciples in regard to prayer, the disciples asked him to teach them to pray.

So we've seen that prayer is such a very critical notion. And there are lot of practices and activities in the places of prayer that tend to make God's Word of no effect in our lives. And up till yesterday, what we actually dealt with yesterday was talking about the missing ingredient. What is missing in the place of prayer?

And then if we please, let's make this known that all we've been doing so far is following the evidences where it leads. You know in forensics science, they always talk about you following the evidence.

We began to look at Luke 18 where Jesus Christ himself was talking about the woman who was crying for vengeance. Avenge me of my adversary. And Jesus made a point known towards the end of Luke 18 verse 7 parable. Jesus said shall not God answers speedily those that cry to him day and night?

So Jesus is simply saying on God's side, he's poise to answer. But the question he asked is, nevertheless, can you see that? When the son of man shall come will he find faith on the earth? So Jesus raises a very important question, and he is trying to shift our concern.

So if you been following us on this Knock Out series on prayer, you will notice that yesterday we began to have a slight shift on our focus. And is not because we want to do that, but Jesus himself shifted our focus by simply saying let's talk about what is of serious importance in the place of prayer. If it is not about the answering of God, is about people having the faith to respond to God rightly in the places of prayer.

And that is where we stopped in that regard. And then we explored further on when we look at Luke 8:22-25.

Now today on this series, we are going to carry on from Luke 8 verse 25 which is the exact verse where we stopped yesterday.

Now,

### **Luke 8:25**

**25. And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! For he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.**

That is Jesus, he spoke to the disciples when they told him Master, don't you care that we perish?

And we said yesterday this sounds very similar to most of the prayer points that we engage in the body of Christ, where we try to convince God that are you not so concern about our state? Are you not so concern that the enemy want to destroy me and my family? Are you not so concern that am being attack on either side? Are you not so concern that I don't have food to eat? Are you not so concern that there is no job for me? Are you not so concern that there are so many things happening around me and we try to convince God to show us mercy? And the disciples asked Jesus same questions, don't you care that we perish?

And Jesus answered them and he said, look at verse 25. That is where we actually going to carry on today.

### **And he said unto them, where is your faith?**

Now that is a very good questions that he raised to them. And we are going to say about this. If you ask someone where is their faith? One thing stands for sure, you believe they've got it. I mean, you don't ask someone where is something unless you believe that person has what you are asking them. For example if I say to you, where is your money? Or if I say to you where is your friend? Or if I say to you where is your family? Am only asking that question because I believe that thing am asking you about is actually with you. You have it. Am only surprise that when I saw you at that time, am not seeing that thing with you. That is why am asking you that question. So the reason Jesus asked them about where is your faith, is he believes that they have it.

And let us say this, the whole subject of faith has always been a very confusing thing. Most Christians think well they've taught about faith, I have heard about faith in the church. I have heard about people teaching about faith. And they've told me that the reason why I don't have answers to my prayer is because I don't have enough faith and I want to have faith. I am praying to have faith.

Listen to this, Jesus is simply saying that he agreed that the disciples had faith. All he was asking is in this particular situation where did your faith run to? How did your faith fly away? What happened to it? Where is it? And that is the notion we are going to deal it with today. Something doesn't just add up when it comes to the issue of faith. Something doesn't add up when we talk about faith, the reason we said this is because a Christian is a Christian because they have faith.

May we say that again, you cannot be a Christian unless you have faith. Ephesians Chapter 2 verse 8 says **for by grace are you saved through faith.** Now are you

saved? If you answer yes, the Bible says the only way you ever got saved, it must have happened through faith. If you didn't have faith you can't be saved. So it is impossible for a Christian to say, well, you know what, I think am a Christian but I don't think I have faith. That is impossible. Is a misnomer in the kingdom. It can never happen. If you don't have faith you are not saved. According to Ephesians Chapter 2 verse 8, so where is the problem? Why is it that in every situation, or in some circumstances we respond like we don't have it?

Now Jesus is asking the question, where is it? I know it was there somewhere, I know you have it. What happened to it? He asked them in Luke 8:25 where is your faith? Today we are going to bring the search light of the spirit to find where is it. Because it was there. You were saved because it was there. Where is it?

Now you see, let's see what the Bible has to say about this faith thing. Don't forget like we said today, we are looking forward to what doesn't add up. This doesn't add up because they actually had faith. So what happen to it? Where is it?

So we are going to join the spirit of grace this morning to look for it. It is somewhere in there in your life.

Let's look at 2Peter 1:1 before we carry on

You want to say something about that.

Yes, it is very comforting and liberating to know that everybody started with a measure of faith as long as you are saved. You know some people even think maybe they don't even have anything in the first place. So they just thought they are so empty, there is no place of faith in them. That there was never any time that they have a measure of faith.

Now is very liberating to know is it here? To start getting us back to shape when we already know we have that thing, you know. That is why I feel there is liberation today. Which is a relief to know that there is measure of faith. There is difference thing for us to go and look for it, where is it? He said where is it? Where did you put it? Where is it hidden?

Is good to start with the knowledge that we already have it. So we can really go ahead. So am looking forward this morning with our audience to go and actually look out for it. To beam the search light of the spirit and say, Jesus is saying I know you have faith where is it? Where do you put it? That is the question.

So I hope our viewers will join us in this journey as we use the Word of God as the flood light to look unto all our crevices of our life where it might be hidden or

something or what will make the Lord to question where is it? I know that you have it, I gave it to you, what happened?

And again, there is something about that verse where it says where is your faith? That shows that the Lord could not find it again. At that point in time, it was not evident. You know in Medicine, we talk about evidence based medicine. So we use all our procedures and everything based on evidence. So at that point in time, you know some people might still be arguing that they have the faith presently with them. So it was clear I cannot see it where is it? Some people might be in delusion thinking they have their evidence based faith. That there is evidence for their faith. But yet Jesus could not find with those disciples and saying where is it?

So we are just going to encourage you to follow us on this journey to even look for what could have happened? Where is this faith that was once received? That was once delivered to the saint.

Now please if you are watching this, don't forget we are dealing with **nevertheless**. Jesus said when we talk about prayer, we should stop being concern about how God responds. And I think this is actually bringing a radical redefinition to how we look at the concept of prayer. We said it before that most of the prayer points that are offered today by Christians are prayers trying to convince God to ask God to show mercy on you.

And I think if you ever pray like that, or if that is the focus of your prayer life. You are getting it all wrong. We've come to knock out that wrong mentality. Your prayer life should not be engineered towards convincing God to bless you. Your prayer should rather be focused much more on your response to what God already sorted out. That is why Jesus said shall God not answer speedily those that cry to him day and night? But nevertheless if he comes, will he find faith? Will he find you responding right? Will he find you in right position and right disposition in the place of prayer? And again, we've seen this place, in Luke 8:25 Jesus said to them where is your faith?

Now you see, like you said there are two things that stand out in that verse, **where** means is looking for it. And you don't look for something with someone unless you know they have it. And then you are just surprise that is nowhere to be found. But you know they have it. Or they have it before, but where is it at that moment. That is one thing. And the second thing he said is, he said **your faith**. Jesus didn't say my faith, he didn't say our faith. He should have said where is faith in this whole thing?

Generally he said No! You have this thing, it was your property. It was one of your attribute. It was one of the things that belong to you. So where is it at the moment?

And today like we said, we are going to look for it. And before we do that, let's quickly look at 2Peter1:1 and see what the spirit of grace has to say about this.

So in Christianity, in the kingdom of God, don't let anybody try to convince you that oh No! You need to come up with faith. No! The Bible says that **for by grace are you saved through faith**. Without faith you were not even saved in the first place. So if you were saved you have faith.

See what 2Peter1:1 has to say to the saints in the kingdom about this issue of faith.

**1. Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our savior Jesus Christ**

Oh! Now that is really serious. That is really serious! And some of us have read the book of 2Peter. And we've read it and we believe is written not just for the Christians at that time. Is written for Christians now all over the world at the moment.

So Peter said if you are reading this today, if you are reading 2Peter 1:1 with your eyes and with the eyes of your heart. He says see, am talking to those **who has obtained**. Not in the process of obtaining. Not that if they prayed long enough. Or if they actually fast long enough they will obtain. Or if they attain 20 years of ministry. People these days try to pride themselves about years of being in ministry, well you see I am 25 years in ministry, I have developed faith for such a long time or whatever.

Peter said in this place, am talking to those who have **obtained**. This is not in the process. **Obtained** past tense! He said **like precious faith with us**. That is a mind boggling part of it. With us? Same way? Is Peter saying that the kind of faith that you have is in the same category as the kind of faith that he had? The same Peter whose shadow was healing the sick. No Peter common off it. The same Peter, healing the sick, whose shadow was healing the sick? The same Peter who was at the mount of transfiguration with Jesus? Who actually saw Jesus, was at the mount of transfiguration? The same Peter who did so many miracles. The same Peter who cause so much revolution in that generation at that time is saying to you and I that the faith you have is the same like... **like means similar**. He said is not below, is not even very close to, he said **like precious faith with us**.

So Peter is saying am putting you that you are reading 2Peter into the same category as myself, as Apostle Peter. He says your faith is like our faith. Is like precious faith.

Now that is serious! Mind boggling! That is serious. He said **like precious faith with us**. Now it means **we are having the same type of faith**.

Now that tells you and I that the problem of Christians then cannot be that we didn't have faith. Now that is why again Jesus said in Luke 8:25 where is it? Where is your faith? He didn't say, oh! You people don't actually have this faith. He said No! It is your faith. I know you have it, but where is it in this circumstance when the wind and the storm was able to capsize the boat.

We want to thank the Lord for the revelation from Apostle Peter in this 2Peter Chapter 1 verse 1. Thank you for qualifying that faith for us. He said with us. He was even qualifying precious faith. Maybe the reason why we don't even take, because we don't even consider it precious. So we could not even keep it and be able to ... and that is why it becomes something we are looking for.

So if you know that this faith that we shared with the Apostles is the same faith that is a very precious one. We might be able to guide it so in the understanding of knowing qualifying our faith that is not just any of those things. It was not just any addition or any embellishment that came to us at Redemption. It was something precious.

So if you know you have something precious, you know how you guide and keep what is precious. Is not something somebody will now be looking out for and say where is it? Because if something is precious to you, you will really guide it and take it with you so everybody know, you really want to keep it, your eye knows where it is at every point in time.

So maybe if we had, or even understand the revelation that Apostle Peter have in this verse that was saying that precious faith. Maybe there won't be any point for looking out for it in the first place, because that would have made us to do everything to guide it. That will make us to make sure it is always in view, in sight and all times.

May we have this understanding. Because if we have this same kind of understanding, we can do like them. Maybe the reason why we are not doing like them in which we should even do much more than them is because we don't even consider it precious. And so because we don't even consider it precious, we could not keep it. So we just drop it and it is something we are looking out for. Where is it? Where is it? May the Lord help us today. Amen

Don't forget that we are following the evidence where it leads. It was Jesus that drag us into this. We are actually on the subject of prayer. We are even talking about faith. But you see Jesus led us and we are following the evidence where it leads.

In Luke 18 Jesus said well instead of being concern about how God answers prayer. Jesus said in Luke 18:7 let's be concern, **nevertheless when the son of man shall**

**come shall he find faith on the earth?** So we are only following the evidence of prayer where it leads. That is what we are doing at the moment.

So again, thank you for that.

And the reason why Peter says precious. Now that means does that mean then in Luke 8:25 the reason why Jesus said where is your faith? Is they must have dropped it. And they must have dropped it because they think well, in the moment of this wind and this storm, this is not that important now, is a matter of just crying out to God out of emotions.

And you see, I think most Christians don't understand that the Bible says in Hebrew 11:6, says that without... he didn't says without emotions is impossible to please God. He didn't say without you actually trying to convince God to bless you, it is impossible to please God. He said **without faith is impossible to please God.**

So it means he said, all you need is your response. You cannot convince God by prayer. And I think we need to get that straight. Jesus said in Luke 18 verse 7, God will answer speedily. It is in God's nature. And the Bible says why? Because you are his elect. He said shall God not avenge his own elect, Luke 18:7. Because you are his elect, because you belong to him. Because he purchased you with the price of his blood. You are his responsibility. The Bible says nobody goes to war at his own expense. You are God's responsibility. And he responds to you based on the fact that you are his. You are his elect. But he said that is not the problem. The problem is shall he find you responding you with faith? And that is why Jesus is directing our focus in the pace of prayer.

And again we see in 2Peter 1:1, it simply says one thing for sure the faith that you have as a child of God, Peter said it is in the same category as the faith that he has as an Apostle. He said **withus**. That is serious! That is serious! **Withus**.

Now it means then the reason why Christians pray like they have no faith. Or the reason why Christians say things in the place of prayer that shows that their life is devoid of faith is not because they have not obtained like precious faith.

Follow us, follow us where the evidence leads. We are going to get there very soon. And we are going to knock out those things that are knocking out our faith.

Now just hold on, we are going to follow the evidence where it leads. Where is the problem? Where did their faith go in Luke 8:25? Where did it run to? He said where is your faith? We are going to find out where that faith has ran to.



Now follow us quickly again to Romans Chapter 12 verse 3 and let's see what the spirit of grace has to say again about this faith. And we understand why Jesus told them where is your faith? Where is it?

### **Romans 12:3**

Now look at that again what does it say

**3. For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.**

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself...

Think of it. He said this is written to...he didn't say 90% of the men, he didn't say 99% of the men. He said **everyman, everyman!**

Paul said everybody listening to what am writing. Everybody listening to what am saying. This apply to everyone listening. And we can simply say this refer to the Roman church. Can you see that?

**3. For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.**

Again, it reiterated again. Paul said for everyone that is listening to this epistle that am writing. Everyone! Now how can Paul be that confident? You can probably call that the confidence of the Apostle. Paul said everyman that is listening to this, God had dealt to all of you a measure of faith. Not some of you, not 99.9%. Again making it impossible for somebody to be a Christian without faith.

Again here goes the scripture. It's practically impossible. It means then we have established one fact, to be a child of God, to be a Christian, you must have had faith. It is a definite fact. So where is the problem? Where did their faith go in Luke 8:25? That is the question.

Yes, you cannot say, nobody can exclude him or herself. That is it. Maybe not me, am not, or not, he says every man. You cannot say this is not about you today. Because you have received with every man that measure of faith. So you cannot say you are excluded. So you cannot exclude yourself from what we are discussing. Every man! Everyman!!

And you see the reason why you can boldly know that you have that faith....

Now don't forget we are going to look for it where it is hidden. Why you are not even showing it forth in the midst of circumstances? That is a different question. But to start with, He said every man has it.

And you see one thing that you have to be sure about is Ephesians 2:8 tells you **it is the gift of God less any man should boast**. It was given to every one so nobody can boast about it.

So we've established one thing for sure. That the reason why Jesus retained the right in Luke 8:25 to ask them where is your faith? Is simply because he had actually taken it for granted that they had it. He actually stated it categorically that they had the faith. Is just that in the midst of the wind, in the midst of the storm that faith took race. He ran out or something, he was hiding somewhere and it wasn't actually showing forth itself even though it was there in their life.

And that's what we've established. And you see to actually clarify then where is that faith? Let's look for it. Why is it that their prayer point to Jesus was completely devoid of faith even though they have it? That is the question we seek to answer by the spirit of grace in few moments to come.

Now quickly before we go on, let's just make the last point which is Galatians 2:20 you don't need to open it, I will just talk about it. Paul said **"I have been crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I but Christ that lives in him."** Now watch what he said. He said **"the life I now live in the flesh I live this life by the faith of the son of God."**

Paul is saying I didn't come up with this faith. Am not a super Apostle of faith, because I created the faith, or because I spend about 5 or 10 years trying to develop in faith. Paul said it is the faith of the son of God. Is the faith of Christ. Is the faith of Jesus. It was only given to me as a gift.

Again, we see that coming up, to say well, this is not about super Apostle or super spiritual. Is the faith of the son of God. I am only using... I mean is easy to use somebody's credit. Isn't it? You can use somebody's line of credit. Paul said am only using the faith of the son of God. I didn't come up with it. I didn't develop with this kind of faith. I am only using the faith of the son of God.

So this again clarify, this is not what we come up with. It was impacted to us. That is why every Christian can only be saved by faith. So we've established one thing for sure. Don't let anybody deceive you that as a Christian, you need to come up with more faith so that you can receive from God. You have it. But the problem is, is hidden. It ran away. That is why he said where is it? Where is your faith? Luke 8:25.

Do you have any point to say before we go on?

Yes I think you've said it all.

Oh good.

Now so then let us look at it, where is that faith? Where is it hiding? And we are going to look at some scriptures today. We are going to take it slowly so that we can get the clarity of what the spirit of the Lord is saying this morning.

Am just really excited about that word that you brought talking about faith as the existing line of credit. You know, I think for business person, it will really excite them to know that how easy is it to go through life, to transact...go through life motions, knowing that there is an existing line of credit to use. You know, having that knowledge. And that is what makes God to be effective. You just make use of what is available. He said I live my life by the faith of son of God.

So it was just a smart man, because he was able to just make use of that existing line of credit. And how pitiful for some people living not even knowing that there is a line of credit that they can make use of. And they can just avail of that opportunity. And use the faith of the son of God. You know, why would you want to live on your faith? On your own invention? Why will you want to live on your own report? Or on your own account? When there is an existing inexhaustible line of credit.

And be the smart person like Paul, use that faith. Use it all. You can't even exhaust it. Use that line of credit that is open for you. Use the faith of the son of God. Don't try to come up with something yourself and say let me try, let me use what I have learnt in school. Or what I have picked up from all these things that people said it works or not. Why not use the faith?

We've seen where that faith led Paul too. So we really know the end of it. So why do you want to experiment with your life? So why can't you be smart today and just use this existing line of grace which is the faith of the son of God like Paul said, I live by the faith? I use it. It was not mine, it was not my invention.

Because today people have been deceived to feel like... some is so peculiar, even some Ministers make it so different and makes it difficult for people. They just have to... is just peculiar to me. Is just by intervention of the Lord only on me. And sometimes they even tell you and scare people maybe it comes only once in a season. It comes once in a generation. You can't have this. And so people have really be blackmail into thinking that is only for them. That is why people have attached... Or this come from years of faithfulness in ministry. That is where this faith was... I came

up with this kind of faith due to years of being faithful and serving God faithfully for 25 years. And they rubbish the years in people's face.

And Paul said by the faith, live this life by the faith, I am only using the faith of the son of God. There is a place in the Bible, I think it was in 1 Corinthians where it says, why are you talking like you have not received. He said, if you have received it, why are you doing or behaving like you didn't receive it. He said there is nothing you received that it didn't come from the Lord.

Let nobody intimidate you. We can see that, Thank God that Apostle Paul was able to say that. Because... to burst the bubble for some people thinking that maybe why Paul was so effective and different was maybe he has some other things apart from the faith of the son of God. No! He is using the faith of the son of God. Not an experiences and every other thing, on the faith of the son of God.

And that is very instructive for us, so that we will not be threatened. We will not be blackmailed. And we will not be shut down. Some people will not use their experiences and what they have to shut up our mouth down and say well, I have this because of this. "It is the faith of the son of God."

And if Paul could say that, then it is comforting for you to know and just hang yourself and hang your life, and transact business... go through life, go through life motions. Through that faith. Use the same thing too. Be smart!

He says the life I now live in the flesh. The life am living currently. Is not the life of by and by. Is the life I live currently. Is not by invention. No! I live it by the faith of the son of God. So that is it.

And that is what we actually established now. It means every child of God, every Christian. 2 Peter Chapter 1 verse 1, Galatians 2:20 and also Romans 12:3. All these verses are all saying one thing. And Ephesian 2:8 all those four verses are all saying one thing for sure. That if you are a child of God. You have the like precious faith with the Apostles. Not something close. **The likepreciousfaith.**

So it would mean then, the reason why there are times that we pray prayers, or there are times that we say things that are devoid of the faith of God is simply because that faith is hidden. And that is why Luke 8:25, Jesus did not say, oh, you people didn't have faith or you people didn't actually have faith or I need to impact faith to you. All Jesus asked them is where was that thing I gave to you? He said where is your faith? Luke 8:25, where is it?

And the questions that you should ask yourself as well this morning is, where is your faith? I mean why is it that we responds to life and we respond to circumstances? And is even bad enough that we do that. We then go to Father in the place of prayer and then talk to God in the place of prayer. Prayers that are completely devoid of faith.

And if you are wondering can prayer be devoid of faith. Well, please we enjoin you to read Luke 8:22-25 that they prayed to Jesus and they said **don't you care that we perish?** And Jesus responded in verse 25 that prayer you prayed to me, Jesus said it has no faith in it. Because all you are trying to do is to convince me. You are even trying to propel me emotionally to respond to your needs. He said that is devoid of faith. You didn't even respond to the fact of my nature. You didn't even respond to the fact of what I already said to you, let's go over to the other side. So prayers can be devoid of faith. That is a reality as we can see in Luke 8:22-25

So please follow us in our journey as we begin to explore why is it that we that we have faith then pray and asked things from the Father that is devoid of faith? Where did our faith go? That is the question we are asking today,

Now please quickly let's go to Mark Chapter 9 and see what the spirit of grace has to say. We are beaming the searchlight on where this faith is hidden? Or why we pray faithless prayer? Or why there is a nevertheless upon our life's in Luke 18?

We are looking at that in Mark Chapter 9. And we'll start quickly from verse 14 and see what the Lord has to say.

Now I read that one by one and we'll go through the story, this is not even a parable. This is not even an illustration this is an actual event in the ministry of Jesus Christ as we can see.

Mark Chapter 9 from verse 14,

**14. And when he came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with them**

Is the scribes trying to disgrace Jesus? They were questioning the disciples.

Now look at verse 15.

**15. And straightway all the people, when they beheld him, were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted him.**

Now may we see that the backdrop of this was, Jesus was coming from the mount of transfiguration. That was the backdrop of him. So it makes sense that when they saw Jesus they were amaze there was glory around him.

**16. And he asked the scribes, what question ye with them?**

Jesus was querying the scribes.

And verse 17,

**17. And one of the multitude answered and said, master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;**

And then look at verse 18.

**18. And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.**

He's talking about the spirit.

**...he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.**

He said they couldn't do it. So they couldn't do it. They couldn't do it.

**19. He answereth him, and he saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I suffer you? Bring him unto me.**

And he answered the man and said O faithless generation. Now watch that? A generation without faith. ...**how long shall I be with you? How long shall I suffer you? Bring him unto me.**

Now before we go on with this. I want you to take note of the expose of Jesus himself about what this man told him.

The Good news Bible, do you want me to read that

Verse 19 was saying,

You can read from verse 17

**17. A man in the crowd answered, I brought my son to you because he has an evil spirit in him and he cannot talk. Whenever the spirit attacked him, it throws him to the ground and he foams at the mouth, grit his teeth and it comes spill all over.**

**18. And I asked your disciples to drive the spirit out but they could not.**

**19. And Jesus said to them how unbelieving you people are, how long must I stay with you.**

How long do I have to put up with you?

If you notice in Luke Chapter 18. That is a stark contrast. In Luke 18 the woman was the one putting up with the unjust judge. She was the one busy trying to the unjust judge. And if you look at Luke 18 from verse 1 to verse 6. From verse 7 Jesus changed it and said, well shall not God avenge his own elect who cry to him day and night even though he bears long with them?

Jesus said am the one putting up with you now. He's simply saying, Jesus said how long how long will I put up with you? Telling the disciples.

Now the questions is what did Jesus talking about putting up with them? Based on what? Don't forget the Bible said the man said when he brought his son to them, they could not cast out the devil.

Now let's see, or if the question you want to ask is, maybe this particular devil is a special brand which is the popular notion. And today we are going to knock out that false ideology that people have in the body of Christ.

Now quickly I want you to hold on to that verse, don't forget we are going to go in this for a long haul. Mark 9 we are still there. But let see what actually is in Luke Chapter 9 verse 1.

Now let's see what it says about this demon casting exercise. Luke 9 verse 1.

See what the Lord himself says

**1. Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils and to cure diseases.**

**Then he called his twelve disciples together,**

Now watch this.

**And gave them power and authority over all devils and to cure diseases.**

Now are you sure is all devils, maybe 99% of devils. All! It can't be all devils. I mean he must have gave them power over 99.9%. People tell us today that there are some demons and some devils that are every special. I mean some devils and demons have a PhD in demonology. And for them if you want to cast them out, you need to get some anointed man of God. You can't just cast every devils like that. Devils have levels

Now see what it says

**And gave them power and authority over all devils and to cure diseases.**

Luke Chapter 9 verse 1 says,

Jesus already gave them power over all. ALL! Devils.

Now don't forget, Mark 9 said they could not cast that one out.

Good News (Bible) says, **to drive out all demons.**

To drive out all...

Now please I want that word ALL to be accentuated. I want that word ALL to become prominent in your understanding as we are talking. That Jesus left nothing that wasn't covered in terms of the demons they could cast out. There were no exception as you might have people saying that Jesus is saying here because as we see in Mark 9 there are lot of things, so meaty.

But Jesus is saying here Luke 9:1 Jesus gave them power to cast out all devils. Now stand that Luke 9 in contrast to Mark 9 that says they could not cast out that devil in that child. It means then the reason they couldn't cast out that devil in that child wasn't because they didn't have the power to cast out all devils.

Now this is not that complicated to understand if you think about it. Let's put it this way. The reason they couldn't cast out the devil in Mark 9 verse 14-29 is not because they didn't have power over devils because Luke 9 verse 1 says they were given power over all devils.

So it means is not because God didn't do his part. It was because there was something about their response. There was something about their response. It wasn't because they didn't have what it takes, is because of their response.

You want to say something?

Yes, I just hope our viewers is going to take a long pause at this point to consider this. You know, and then let the reality of Luke Chapter 9 verse 1 dawn and be stamped permanently on our memory that these thing is over all the devils. All! That is the word.

You know defeat start in the place of prayer not knowing that you have been given the authority over all. So there is no situation, no sickness that is excluded from this. If somebody tells you something that you need a level of spirituality before you can deal with some situations. What he have done is, they've taken the benefit of the redemption of Christ, they've taken it from under your feet. They've actually make your faith of no effect by the tradition of what they are saying, if anybody ever say that to you.



Now the fact is the Bible says when Christ gave them power. Now you are wondering this is the gospel, well we are going to take this to the New Covenant very soon. He said when Christ gave them power, he left no devil as an exception. There is nothing like somebody saying you know what it takes the General Overseer or the great anointed man of God to deal with some certain situations. Bible said he gave them power over all devils.

Now don't forget even though he gave them powers over all devils but when a particular devil show up in Mark 9 they couldn't cast it out. Can you see that? But the reason cannot be that because he didn't give them power over all devils.

If you remember my opening statement today, this morning, I was saying that Expose 247 is about elevating the Word of God above our experiences. Now we just have to stay true to the word of God. We don't want to be intimidated by how long a problem has been. Because some are actually intimidated that this problem has been like seven generations, the time... or so the about the time. Or how serious was the symptom of something or something we've not known of this or we've not discover this or something like that. So we just have intimidating statistics and fact and figures about. And so make us to feel they are actually excluded and are exempted from this.

We see that the authority that came on us, what came on us was over all. Over all devils. So if we can get our head wrap round this truth in Luke Chapter 9. If we can get our head wrap around this, so we'll become victorious in the place of prayer. And knowing fully well and being settled with the fact that all, that everything is covered. Every situation is covered. And that every circumstance, no matter the length, no matter the fact around it. The reality of the scriptures in Luke Chapter 9 says all have been covered. So none is exempted. To drive out all devils and cure diseases.

Well if you say nothing is left as an exception. Then it becomes a bit more worrying that why was it then in Mark 9 that when a particular demon show up, the man told Jesus that the disciples couldn't? Can you see that?

So we need to really explore this Mark Chapter 9

It stands for exploration.

Again that goes back to Luke 8:25 where he was asking the question, where is your faith? Where was the thing I gave you? Jesus is saying you have this thing in you. What happened? Where is it? And that is the question that we are asking today and we are trying to beam the searchlight of the spirit to find out where it is. Where was the power he gave them in Luke 9 that was over all devils? Where is that power? Where

did it run to? And what happened in Mark 9, how come they couldn't cast out a particular devil?

And again before we actually go back to Mark 9, let's look at Matthew 10:1 again. Because we need to establish this fact. Don't forget we are looking for that thing. Where is it? That is what we are looking for this morning.

Matthew 10:1 what does it say then,

**1. And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.**

Now how many 'all' do you need to speak before you sink that into the spirit of Christians? How can the Bible repeat 'all' twice? How can you put **all, all** in the same verse Matthew 10:1?

Well I think he has to repeat it twice. You see the Jews has a tendency of using double statement just to drive home a point. That is why Jesus will say **verilyverily** I say unto you. Is not tautology. In their culture, it means they are saying what am saying is the reality. And they say it twice.

And you see again in Mathew 10:1, all of these, all of that, in the same verse. He is saying well, nothing is left without being covered.

Now let's say this, why was it then that when you are praying things are not happening? How come when you are casting out the devil or you are trying to stand against a disease things are not moving?

Well, please let's exonerate God. Let's take God out of the equation. Because on his part, he says all were given. He says all power over the devil. He left no devils that was not covered. And again Matthew 10:1 is saying he left no diseases that wasn't covered. Even the one that was not discover.

He said don't let anybody tell you that as a Christian you then need to go and do 21days dry prayer and fasting so that you can attain the level of authority to deal with a particular kind of disease. Jesus said I gave you power over all diseases.

Don't forget, please stick with us. Be patient with us. We will then figure out the reason. How come things are not happening? How come in Mark 9 they couldn't cast out the devil? How come in Luke 8:25 Jesus said where is your faith? We are going to look for it this morning. But the reason could not be because God didn't give it all. That is what we are saying. The reason cannot be that he didn't give power over all

devils. Now that is Luke 9:1, now Matthew 10:1 brings his own dimension and say over all diseases and over all manner of sickness. All manner! All manners means all category. All varieties.

You see in Medicine, and those that deal with disease, “pathology.” They classify disease, virus, bacteria, they put them into classification. We even have classes, Unknown etiology, we don’t know the party, we don’t even find the reasons for them Jesus said, all manner, all different classifications. Is irrelevant.

So this is really for somebody, if you have a lot of spiritual sense, this should make it a bit uneasy. It will mean then, why are things have not been moving then if that is the case? Why is it?

Now he’s saying the reason they are not moving cannot be because you didn’t have power over all. You see, the reason why we have to knock out this wrong mentality this morning...some people think the reason why I couldn’t deal with that particular disease or the reason why I couldn’t cast out that particular demon, I understand God has not given me yet that level of authority. I need about 25years in ministry. Or I need to go to a man who has been anointed of God to release power for such type of situation.

Now well, if you think that. That is a wrong mentality that is killing your prayer life. In reality Jesus said, he gave you power over all diseases, all sickness, that is all manner in Mark 10:1 and in Luke 9:1 he says over all demons and devils. And that is what he said.

Now out of the mouth of two or three witnesses we have to establish every matter. Don’t forget we are going back to Mark 9, but we are only investigating that what this father said about the disciples, the father who brought his son, what he simply said the disciples could not cast him out. That was a red flag. That was a big red flag and we are pointing out that red flag in that Mark 9 by looking at all these other verses.

And again the last one is Luke10. Let’s this be the last testimony to what we are talking about. We’ve look at Luke 9:1, we’ve look at Matthew Chapter 10 verse 1. Let’s Luke10:17-19 be the third witness to the point we are trying to establish.

### **Luke10:17-19**

**17. And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.**

Ok, the devils are subject to us on our passport and our credibility? No! He said all we use was, use your name.

And if you have been with us on some of the past episodes. And I think one of these days we have to do a full Knock Out series on praying in the name of Jesus. They said it wasn't because we were perfect, it wasn't because we've been long on this ministry. Is not because we actually gain credibility with God. They said we only use your name, your line of credit. We just used your authority, like Paul said using the faith of the son of God. We only used your name. When we spoke to the demons, we presented ourselves like it was you talking to them. We only used your name. We used your authority.

You see there is something in legal parlance. They call it the power of attorney. If you have the power of attorney on the behalf of someone, you can address things and do business in their name as if they were the one doing it. So they are saying here we used the faith of the son of God. We just did it in your name.

Now what is the next thing there?

**18. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.**

Yes, go on please. Oh Jesus said I saw Satan fall down. Their grandfather fell down from heaven. The grandfather of the devils.

Verse 19 says

**19. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.**

Now again, we come across the word All again. Now this is the third witness of this **All** thing. He said I didn't give you power over 99% of them. I give you power over **all** of them. Over all the power of the enemy... and nothing shall by any means hurt you

So do you then want to say to me that you need some greater level of anointing and unction from someone to overcome some certain special type of situations in your life? Now if you do that, you are making the Word of God of no effect by your tradition in the place of prayer.

In summary, these three witnesses have actually shown us then that there is a big red flag in Mark 9 if they couldn't cast out that devil. It wasn't because they were not given all they needed for life and godliness.

Yes if I may add this, we can see from all the three witnesses that we have all situations of life covered. We have all possibilities and probabilities covered in all these witnesses. Because in part we are seeing **over all the devils Luke 9:1**, in Mathew there, it was talking about **over all manners of sickness**, some over all the devils. So if the one that any problem, or situation that is coming by demonic activity, we have that one covered. Then we have the one for all manner of sickness or disease, for some that is where their own problem is.

And then we see Luke 10 was talking about **over all the powers of the enemy**. The ones that is beyond the sickness, the one that is beyond the devil. Whatever form that enemy might come in affliction, whatever the enemy might come and present, whatever they are even thinking up that has not even come into existence. Whatever they can manufacture, over the power of the enemy whichever way. The power that they are going to use, any power of the enemy. So it covers all. I don't see any situation in life that is not cover by this.

Is it power of the devil? Is it about manner of sickness? Is it power of the enemy whichever way that is even beyond sickness? So we have all of these covered. So nobody has an excuse really from these three witnesses unless this Word is not true. But if we regard this Word as true, then we will know that there is none that is not covered. There is none that is not covered. Really, it is very interesting.

And I just hope that our people will leave today understanding these **ALL** things. It must ring through to us every time. **All** things must be stamped in our spirit. Stamped in our memory and know that everything is covered. You must rise up today with the confidence that **all, all! All!** And we have this power of attorney, we have been given this. He said in your name. If we go with this established truth that **all**, that **All** is covered. We will see the difference, the results in the place of prayer.

But all along, people have been living over years and century in which some will take some years to attain some, and some they feel like O until when I was able to do this and do this and do this, that is when I was able to attain this level. To cast out some level of devils. So I will need another maybe you think you need another 40years to be able to get to some certain kind of results and able to cast out some other level.

And some will even intimidate by saying they are specialist in some kind of things. So you feel you are not being equipped for this kind of challenge or so.

No! You have been given everything. You have been equipped with everything to face **all** kinds of... even what they've not even thought of, and nobody has come to...you have been equipped as we see in Luke 9, Luke 10, and Matthew 10. You just

really need to put your head and just cover your head on this verses and you stay until it sinks in. Until it sinks in and you have it drummed into your consciousness that all have been covered. All probability, all situation, wherever you can find yourself in has been covered by these witnesses. We thank God for this that all have been covered.

Imagine how it will be if some are just only covered. Or you have to do some level of exercise to attain some level of spirituality to deal with some situations. What a big relief. And all has been covered. Thank you Lord for covering all. And he is not leaving us to the mercy of the mercenaries. You know because if all has not been covered, we really are in trouble. In some we need to get mercenaries. We have to get professionals. And we are at their mercy and that is when they can make you do anything, and do anything to you.

But we just thank the Lord because he has not left us with those specialist. And so if today after all that the Lord has done, all he has done, and all he has left you and then you are still going and being puppet in the hands and be at the mercy of them. Then that is a disgrace. That is why he asked where is your faith? Where is it? What happened to what I gave you? That is why he was asking the question. What happened to it? If I gave it to you, what happened?

That is why Luke 8:25 was a big question mark, what happened to what I gave you? You had it. What happened to you? Why are you living life? Why are you praying and talking like you don't even have it.

And before we carry on today, you see there is something that is actually of important notion in this regard, in all what Jesus was saying. Have you noticed we've not fully dwell on the epistles, when it comes to the issue of prayer? We are not there yet. Because even the whole burden of prayer, the whole deep revelations of prayer are what we will find in the epistles. We are not there yet.

So does it not mean then if in the gospels when Jesus had not even shed his blood. In the gospels when he had not even gone to the cross. In the gospel where he had not actually given us the full benefit of what he actually brought from the Father. If this could be what they could enjoin, how much more for those of us who are looking backward to the price that Christ paid for. He has not even shed his blood at this point.

They were actually living on delegated authority. Christ was not even in them that is why Jesus Christ told them that unless I go to the Father. He says the comforter will not come. And he told them they will have a better deal if the comforter comes. And he said is for your good that I go. Can you see? He had not even gone at this time. And this could be what they could enjoin at that time, how much more we that we are

benefiting from the fact that he had gone to the Father and given us a better lot, a better lot, a better covenant, a better premises.

Now again we say if this is what they could enjoy under this system of the gospels. It was a transition period to the New Covenant. How much more we that we are actually under the New Covenant. If we live below this, is a shame on Redemption that Christ paid for, for us. It's a shame. We are putting a shame on what Christ actually died for.

And that is the reality.

If delegated authority could be these... They were not even enjoy the benefit of Redemption yet. They were just in the transition period. That is it!

If delegated authority could even have all these covered. Even before Christ resurrection and they were even walking in it. Because they back to him, they were rejoicing that all devils were subject to them even the devil, even then. They came back. They were able to put that thing into practice. They said we just went through your name. And we found out that they were subject to us.

For now, they were not leaving us in any doubt about something how they use it. So they were not saying because we fasted and some other things and we do some extra other things. They said in your name. They were not saying because we were able to do this, because we stay with you so long and so we have... because some people take pride in that they were with some fathers of faith, because of their years and they have been with one watering and everything. So the mantle came on them specially.

So they were not trying to tell Jesus that because we have this mantle on us because we stayed... because we have been with Jesus. He said through your name. And you know there were some particular place where they said they saw some other people that they were doing the same thing like them. They were even so jealous that they want to stop them. I was almost going to talk about that. It was good that you made references.

So to tell you that is not like they were saying... you cannot monopolize.... Sorry you cannot monopolize God's grace. You can't monopolize it and say well you are wondering and you are becoming bitter that people are doing something somewhere that you thought you have the monopoly over.

Because that is why they said that Jesus, some people are actually casting out devils. Jesus said leave them alone, if they are with me they can't be against me. If anybody is with me they can't be against me. And you see that is the point. Because is about using the name of Jesus.

So they make it just like common place, so easy... you know just using this name. So that is why we are demystifying all that feel we need to do something else apart from the name.

We cast out the devil in your name. If the devil will listen to Jesus, if Jesus was the one speaking to it, then they have to listen to you if you come in the name, under the power of attorney of Jesus.

So those that the other Apostles they saw that they were casting out the devils through the name of Jesus. We saw it so common. It is not about the disciples. That is what is established. Not because they were staying with Jesus all the time. Even they themselves they were not able to say is because we are staying with you all the time. We are not saying because of the respect that people are seeing us with you. The demons were able to say O these ones are special. They stayed more with Jesus than the 12 disciples. Some people will tell you that in some certain ministry or settings, you can come until you are the part of their Apostles, the settings... so they are really barring people from it.

But we found out that the Apostles said through his name. And they see people, this miracle things was a common place. They see other people that were not even part of them. That put them on edge and they were so jealousy and that was so surprising for them, so people can use this just like that. They can use that name and get results.

You see as you were talking I believe the Lord actually minister something to me. Somebody might be looking at this and I think the person has a question in their mind. And the person is thinking, what about the seven sons of Sceva? I mean what about..? And I think that is a question in somebody's mind and that is why God minister to me to answer that question.

Now listen the fact is when the demon actually spoke out of that man. And they said Jesus we know, Paul we know, who are you? And then people then run off with that kind of revelation and said that means the seven sons of Sceva have not actually attain a level of spirituality where they can speak to those demons.

Well that cannot be as far from the truth as can be. In the reality of that particular verse is when they asked them who are you? He says sorry we are in Christ. If you said you know Jesus then you should know us because we've come in his name.

I mean, I have never seen a situation where somebody gives the power of attorney, even in politics or in every history of the world. If a particular dignitary in the government is meant to speak at an occasion and the person cannot speak at that occasion and they decide to give the power of attorney or delegate to somebody. Even



if the person is a lowest member of staff, if that person shows up at that occasion. If there is any authority or respect that has to be accorded the person who is the dignitary person. They have to accord the same level of respect and acceptance to this person. Because this person has come in the name of the person that send him or her. That is why they will never say well, we know the governor but who are you? They cannot say that because you have come in the name of the governor. You have come in the name of the president. You have come in the name of the person who is a dignitary.

So the reason obviously why the demons told the sons of Sceva we don't know you is because they have come in their own name. That is the problem. They have come in their name. If the demons says we know Jesus, well, if you know Jesus you should know us because we have come in his name. And that is the whole point.

So we can conveniently conclude on the seven sons of Sceva that they don't even know they are in Christ. So if you don't know that you are in Christ, you cannot say that you come in his name. So they don't have confidence. That is what we are saying that for people that are in Christ, as long as you are in Christ and you have the confidence to know that you have come in his name, you understand how this delegated authority works, the power of attorney works that you have the same right. Because some people might even come who have the rights and the power of attorney does not even know how it works. So they cannot exert it.

In fact in some cases they give people staff of authority, like kings. In most cases when you go and speak on behalf of a king, they tend to give the staff of the king. You take it along to where you are going to. So it means they are saying that is the king who has come, even though is not the king in person. But see, that is the authority of the king. Whoever carries that thing must be respected and given the same level of acceptance they will give the king.

So we really need to wrap it up for those who think these seven sons of Sceva. If some people were going... even it might be somebody was being sent with the staff, he's hidden the staff. Definitely he would not be able to command the respect and the authority with it. Who does not understand, who was also confuse about it. And some they were not even sent. Imagine somebody going to represent, when he was not sent. He does not even have that invested authority on him.

As long as you are sent. And you know that you are sent when you have this at Redemption. Ephesians 2:8 says if you were saved you have the faith already. That is Ephesians 2:8. So you know if that word is true for you that you are already saved and that you have the faith, this other verses must be true for you also. (Christ in you the

hope of glory). If that is true, then these other verses in Matthew 10, Luke 9 they are just true with you. That you have all that power.

So you really need to settle why you have to say I am not sons of Sceva. Because I am sent, I have been redeemed and you have the right to use his name. That is it. You have the right to use the name, and again if you have the right to use his name then you must understand how it works, that you have this right and everything you must command that respect. The demons must respond because not for you, but because of that name, in that invested authority. You are coming with that staff of office.

So if you really understand how it works, then your case will not be like the sons of Sceva. I just hope we've been able to answer that part. That convincing part. Unless you are sons of Sceva too. Then if you are not sons of Sceva then it is not your problem.

May we say this, see demons, it doesn't matter, it could be demons, it could be life situations, it could be life circumstances. Everything is going to ask you questions. And then you see if you notice when Jesus went to the fig tree, when he spoke to the fig tree. Bible says Jesus answered and said to the fig tree. And you only answer something if that thing is asking you a question. So it is not about demons asking sons of Sceva. Situations of life will ask you questions and say well Jesus we know, but who are you? But you've got to answer them back.

And again if you think about it, Jesus gave a parable and said if you have somebody that accuses you and is taking you to the judge he says settle your case with them as quick as possible before you get to the judge. Jesus Christ said that. It means then, when anybody is trying to query you and asking you a question what right do I have to leave? Tell demons, if you respect Jesus then you should respect me because I have come in the name of Jesus.

So I just want to say if you are not sons of Sceva and you know that you are sons of God and that you have that Redemption right and you have the authority. Then this should be not your problem.

We will not be able to continue on this Mark Chapter 9. Really is a bad thing that we are not going to continue in Mark Chapter 9. But the good thing is next weekend Saturday 7pm UK time and Sunday 9am UK time which is 10am Nigeria time, but I don't know which other time zones you are in, we are going to continue this. And am very sure you will be eager to know what will happen.

But before we round off, let me just round off with this. As we round off let me just say this critically, if you noticed that when Goliath was about to destroy the Israelites in the battle with the people of Israel, there is one thing he said, even though David

said the army was the army of the hosts of the Lord. Goliath kept on saying you are all servants to Saul. And the whole point is he was trying to make them think like sons of Sceva, say well he was trying to put their identity under Saul who was a fallen king. But David said No! This is the army of the Lord of hosts. So this was a battle about identity. So if you are not a son of Sceva, don't be talking like that. You are the son of God. That is one thing for sure.

Now please this is going to be what we are going to kick off from next episode, the question you are asking is **how come they could not cast out that devil then in Mark 9?** And the question is **where is their faith?** That is the questions we will be seeking to answer from next episode.

And I can conveniently say our audience will find that answers in next episode. So stay with us next episode.

We want to see you joining us 7pm UK time on Saturday and 9am UK time on Sunday as we continue on this. And I feel you really want to find out.

So keep living the truth, and sharing this. Share it among your contacts. Be the social media evangelist. Till we see you again here, where is your faith?

Where is it? Where was the power I gave you? That's what Christ is asking.

Bye!

Have a wonderful day.