

Expose 66 K30

The Purpose of Hunger

This is Expose 247 where we turn on the light. Yes we are turning on the light because the light of the world has made us light in this world. And so we are coming today this morning to lighten up your prayer walk. So you are not going to be saying there is light at the end of the tunnel. You can have light now. There is illumination now. So there is an understanding you can have now, and there is an understanding you can have by and by.

So today we are welcoming you to light. So no more dark sayings along the areas of prayer and say we don't even know how, we don't see our signs. So you can see, we can have light in the place of prayer. We can have understanding of what is happening, or what should be happening.

And so we are coming again with the sword of the spirit, against every dark sayings that is anti-New Covenant in the places of prayer, you know we've been doing that for a while. We have several sections and episodes on Knock Out season on prayer. And yesterday we had a wonderful topic that says when **'Satan leads prayer points.'** And I am sure is very interesting for you to take your time to listen to it.

And if you followed us yesterday, then this is the right place to be this morning to continue where we stopped in the temptation of Jesus using the record from the book of Matthew Chapter 4. So you are in the right place, so we can just start up with that. Do you want to say anything about that? Anything to remind our viewers?

Now viewers all over the world, thank you again for joining us on this Knock Out Series on prayer.

Now, don't forget we are actually looking at, those false ideologies and misconception in the body of Christ when it comes to prayer. And the reason why we are doing that is, according to the scriptures in Colossians Chapter 2 verse 8, if we don't deal with this traditions of men that are posing as reality, what happen is those things can steal from us the benefit of the cross that belongs to us in Christ Jesus.

And that is why we are looking at all these things. And at the moment we've been looking at how Jesus Christ himself was able to deal with unbelief, because we've said in the past that the major issues with our prayer life, is not that we don't have enough faith but because there are lots of unbelief. There are things that unbelief are actually knocking out, the effectiveness of our faith in the place of prayer.

So what we are on at the moment is how Jesus Christ himself used the very tools of fasting and prayer as a means to drive out this kind of unbelief. And yesterday where we actually ended was in Matthew Chapter 4, where we saw Satan trying to tempt Jesus.

And please in a nutshell let's summarize this, that the temptation we are talking about is, we said yesterday, is much more deeper and broader than just talking about falling into sin.

Of course every fall into temptation is a fall into sin. But of course the reality is, it is much more in a deeper sense because here we see that the temptation of the enemy that he was actually trying to lure Christ into, is the temptation to drag him into unbelief, to drag him to a point where he wasn't going to walk in the light of the Word. So that is the focus of the enemy.

The enemy actually sees to make sure that we walk in unbelief. That is more important to Satan than anything else. Don't forget the enemy has been defeated on the cross. The Bible says Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (1John3:8). It means Satan has no power over you as it were in that regard, all he has is to try to tempt us into unbelief. And that is why we are looking at how Jesus himself dealt with this kind of unbelief. And that is where we are currently on Mathew Chapter 4.

Now follow us as we go through.

Matthew Chapter 4, we actually are on verse 3 and verse 4 yesterday. Am going to recapitulate that and we make progress by the Holy Ghost.

Mathew Chapter 4 if you look at verse 3.

Matthew 4:3

3. And when the tempter came to him, he said, if thou be the son of God, command that theses stones be made bread.

4. But answered and said, it is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Now, before we progress to verse 5, let us highlight some few things that we didn't actually have the opportunity to do yesterday.

Now the first thing you will notice, what is actually specifically wrong with that prayer point that Satan was suggesting to Jesus. We mentioned something yesterday about the fact that Satan was asking Christ to turn stones into what Christ is. Because

Bible tells us that Jesus is the bread of life. We know that and is an attack on his identity.

But let look this in a deeper sense. Now you see, if you look at what the enemy was trying to ask Jesus to do. He was talking about his identity as the son of God. Satan says I agree, I mean Satan was telling Jesus, I quite know that you are the son of God. I am not debating your sonship. So he said, if you are the son of God, he tells him, he should turn stones to bread.

Now look at this, what Satan was trying to tell Jesus is, what is your whole point of sonship? Or what is the significance of your sonship, if your sonship does not actually help you as a means of making food available for you since you are hungry?

I will repeat that again, what Satan was sarcastically saying or a kind of sarcasm from the devil to Jesus was saying if you are the son of God, what is the point of your sonship, if your sonship is not something that is a means to an end? If your sonship is not turning your stones into bread for you to eat. What is the point of your sonship?

I repeat that, now you see, it means then Satan was telling Jesus, the main thing here is about having your bread. And if your sonship is not a means to that end, what is the point?

Now, if you notice what Satan is trying to do here, he was trying to tell Jesus that your identity as a son is only a means, it's not an end in itself. It's a means to an end. The end is solving your hunger problem. And if that end is not meant what is the point of the means?

Now, this is what Satan is trying to do to so many Christians in the place of prayer, where Satan tries to give people a false identity. And Satan try to tell us that listen, the goal of life or the purpose of life is to solve the hunger problem. So let your Christianity, let your identity as a son be merely a means to an end.

Now let's say this, as a child of God you have an end in itself, and your end is not solving hunger. Your end is the identity of your sonship. You are a son and that is the end not the means.

Now, the reason we are simply saying this is because the attack that Satan has on Christians in the place of prayer, is an attack to give us a false identity. As long as you can assume a false identity, Satan is satisfy. That is the reason he was telling Jesus your sonship is barely a means.

Now, let's look at what the scripture has to say about this and let see why this is actually a temptation to drag you into unbelief.

It is very interesting as you were sharing that, I was just remembering that the devil is the same old devil. He doesn't have any new methods off his limbs. You can see that you are bringing a light.

Thank God for the light that came on that verse, letting us to know that if you want to know the purpose of identity, challenging the purpose of identity. Some people will not even have a problem about the identity problem, they really know who they are. So devil might come to challenge people, do you really know who they are. Some know who they are, but they don't even know the purpose for the identity, so they now abuse the identity.

So bringing my memory back to what happen with Esau, he was just saying what is the purpose of this birthright to me? He knows the birthright identity, that is the identity that comes with genealogy for the first born. We know the weight of that responsibility. We know what it is. He was saying what is that when it cannot provide me food now? Am famished? What is the point of the birthright? He actually put it that way.

So we see the devil doing the same thing over the year, and he is going to be doing the same thing again and again. And that is why we are bringing light this morning for you to know that we see the devil challenging that. What is the purpose of your relationship with Christ? What is the purpose of saying you are born of God, that is not solving your hunger problem, is not solving your poverty problem, is not solving your needs. So what is the purpose?

So I hope you will not respond like Esau and accept that and say what is the purpose of being united with God, with join heirs with Christ when is not solving my immediate problem? He now say what is the purpose of my birthright, my circumcision when is not solving my problem? and you will not throw it away.

I hope you will pay attention and pay us some time as we dig deep into this Word.

Now, we don't want you to misconstrue this thing that the Holy Ghost is trying to show us this morning. Please don't misunderstand us.

Of course, we are not simply saying God is not concern about solving your need. Of course the Bible tells us in so many places, for example in Philippians Chapter 4, he says my God shall supply your needs, according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. So please don't misconstrue us and don't try to misunderstand what we are saying.

Of course, the Bible tells us that God cares for us. In fact he says we see the birds of the air, they don't sow or reap but your heavenly Father cares for them. Oh please

don't get it wrong, we are not simply saying that God is not in the business of solving our hunger problem. Surely he is! Surely he is!

In fact, he is in the business of protecting us, he is in the business of delivering us from every attack of the enemy. We are not simply saying that is not what God is doing? What are we saying?

What we are simply saying is Satan has this desire to always take legitimate needs and turning them into an identity. That is what we are saying. Satan attack on you, the temptation of Satan to drive you and I, to unbelief, is to take things that are legitimate. He took the hunger of Christ, which was legitimate after forty days of prayer and fasting. But Satan wouldn't just make it just a need, he will actually ultimately the goal of Satan, is to turn that very need into an identity. That is what we are talking about. And every time Satan comes in collusion with our needs to turn it into an identity, what happens is, is able to drag us into unbelief in places of temptation.

Now, you see how God sees our need. Now you see, the reason we are saying this, we have so many as it were, places of worship. We have as it were places of prayer that people arrange and if you look at it, the goal or the focus is to use your sonship or to use your identity in Christ as a means to an end.

And the end is well, if you are child of God, if you are a son of God, the reason why you are a son of God is so that you can solve your hunger problem. Or the reason why you are born of God, the reason why you are born again is so that you can be famous. or the reason why you are born again, or the reason why you are born of God is so that you can break through. Of course, we are going to break through. Of course, it is in the benefit of redemption. Of course, Christ paid for that on the cross, but as it were Christ is an end in himself. Those things we cannot use Christ as a means.

And you see, if you notice, in the current system of the world, so many people who are not even born again, who are not Christians are using different means to get to their destination. So what Satan then tells a Christians is, since you will not kill someone, since you will not murder someone, since you will not go out there and rub the bank, well, why don't you use your identity in Christ and your power with God as a means to solve... to get to the same end?

Listen we don't have the same end as unbelievers. We don't have the same destination. For you as a Christians, fame! You are as a Christians, money! You are as a Christian, solving hunger problem is not an end for you. Your end is in Christ. The Bible tells us that receiving the end of your faith, the salvation of your soul. See,

Satan will always present that pseudo identity and the reason he does that is to knock us into unbelief.

Now listen, let's look at something quickly.

Look at Deuteronomy Chapter 8, that is why you cannot build your Christian identity upon the fact that your faith in Christ is a means to an end. Satan will always drag us unto that point.

Look at Deuteronomy Chapter 8 from verse 1.

Watch this!

Deuteronomy 8:1

1. All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers.

2. And thou shall remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments or no.

3. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

Now watch that, if you notice in a summary backdrop, if you look at Deuteronomy Chapter 8 and look at Matthew Chapter 4. If you are a student of the Bible, you will see lots of correlation in the fact that Christ was led into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

And here was the Bible simply saying in Chapter 8 of Deuteronomy, God says, I led you through the wilderness. If you notice, they were there for forty years because Christ was there for forty days. You can see that correlation, and then also Christ suffered hunger in the period, here they suffer hunger. So you can see the correlation. So we can glean some nuggets spiritually from this place to understand what was happening to Christ as well.

Now look at what he is saying,

God said I actually know that you actually were suffered to hunger,

Go on please,

and fed thee with manna which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

It sounds to me that the Holy Ghost is simply saying, that, there is a means, there is an end. But he is turning the other way round contrary to what the enemy want to happen to us.

See what he says, God said, the reason why you are hungry is that, the hunger was a means to an end. And the end was so that you can learn to live by the Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. But Satan says no! Let's do it this way. Satan says let us make the hunger the end, and let's make your identity in the Word a means. This is a twist.

God said the reason why you suffer hunger. The reason why there is a lack in your life, or the reason why there is inadequacy or the reason why you go to God in the place of prayer, that the need that you think you have should be a means to an end.

So God said to them in Chapter 8 of Deuteronomy that the hunger that you have was to be a means. The end goal of that means is so that you can learn to live by the Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. But Satan came to Jesus in Matthew 4 and says No! Jesus, the means actually is your sonship, and the end should be the hunger.

Now see, what we are simply saying is, God has a man, God has purpose and a plan for you and I. And God is simply saying, everything you go through in life. Every inadequacy you go through, every hunger that you experience, see what he told them in Chapter 8 of Deuteronomy, every hunger you experience, every incapacitation, every inadequacy that you face daily in your life. God said, well, the reason those things are there, I want it to catch your attention, so that when you come to me eventually, those very needs are supposed to be a means to an end. And the end is the Word that I spoke to you, our relationship, the father-son. That is Deuteronomy Chapter 8.

And that is supposed to be the goal of prayer. That is supposed to be the focus of prayer. Every time God meet your needs, every time God shows up in your situation, you should know something of God you didn't know before. You should come into a revelation of the Father you have no idea of before. So it means then your need, your hunger was barely a means to an end that was much more deeper, which is the Word that proceeds from the mouth of the Father. This is the reason why prayer exist.

This is what God has in mind when he set up the system of prayer. But what Satan would have to happen in the lives of Christians in the 21st century is to turn this upside

down. What Satan wants to do in the 21st century in the lives of Christians is what he attempted with Jesus to simply say, let's turn it the way round. The other way round which is the Satan's strategy is to say NO! What will happen is, the very prayer itself, your identity, your relationship with the Father should barely just be a means. And the end as it were should be the hunger. Solving the hunger problem.

This is what Satan is attempting to do and every time we subscribe to that mentality, what happens is we build a false identity which is an identity based on hunger. That is why you see whole ministry atimes, you see whole people gathered and the means is, the goal is to use Christ as a means to an end. And this is what Satan was attempting with Christ. It was a battle of identity as you can see there.

Yeah! yeah! I really don't know because, you know Jesus was actually had the understanding of this Deuteronomy 8, because I am very sure most of our viewers know what is in Deuteronomy 8. Some people can really quote it. That is why we are saying yesterday is not about the quoting of the verses. No! We are not belittling putting the Word of God into your heart, but it goes beyond that. You must have the understanding. You must have the light. He says the unfolding of the Word brings light, just the unfolding, the light that was on this Deuteronomy 8 verse 3, it was what Jesus understood, not actually quoting that verse, to understand that the hunger now is just a means. There is a bigger picture at the end of it.

I hope you are going to run away from every program that wants to stop you, your prayer walk stopping as a means. So we have prayer points gear up, we have program gears up into solving this problem and it ends there. The one that does not take you beyond, that makes those needs an end in themselves when they should be a means. that stop everybody receives this, and you get that and then you have leanness in your soul because when you don't get to the end of what the Word of the Lord should be to you, then you have those things, you have those desire meant, you can use all those prayer, you can use all those formula and routine and regiment to get these things and cook things up and get things and get the answers but you have those things with leanness, because you didn't get to the end of it.

The end of it is like if you go through the process the way you should go through...you will learn to live by the Word of God. So you get to the place of the word, where what the word should do in your life and then you have fatness. You know, you have the strength. You have the building up, because if you complete it, it will get you to the end, you know, follow it through. But if you stop at the way where you get it done, because actually that is the purpose, that is the end in itself. So the program is not gear up, the prayer points, gear up, come and solve this, get this thing

done, and this is 2017 now, some are having... the first quarter has gone and so let's get something done for the next quarter and so we start and that ends it.

Then we have those things then we have leanness because we don't allow it to go through. We didn't get to the part of where the Word becoming, getting to the place of the Word. That this is the Word, that we are living by the Word that is beyond the living on those things. We get to the Word.

So people get in the journey, they get to it, they acquire the thing and they did not get to the part of getting to the Word, because that was the end in itself, where they will be living on the word. And they will now end up living on those things, because that is the end in itself. Yes! living with those things, living with those desire, those fame, those success, those legitimate things but they did not get to it.

I hope your prayer walk is getting.... you know you are having illumination to get to your destination. And you cannot stop there, you cannot stop there at all. Every prayer point that is bringing you to stop at that, you say No! you are saying No! to those prayer points.

Any prayer points that doesn't get you to the destination of Deuteronomy 8. It means every prayer that solve the hunger but doesn't get to the destination. That is what we are talking about.

So you should demand more. You know, you are made for more. You are made for more than solving your hunger problem. That is why Esau get to know that with tears later, that it was more than hunger. He was meant to do more, he was meant to be more than that, because he has a destiny on his head, but because of the hunger, he stop at that. Let me solve the hunger problem now.

So we are trying to gear you up and bring you to that awareness, to know that you are meant for more, more than all this. Even the sparrows are being fed. You are meant to... build up for more than solving your hunger, more than solving your basic needs. All the necessities.

Your heavenly Father knows that you have need of them. We are not just going to be crying about it and try to minimize the effect, it is... but there is more. We are telling you there is more for you to reach out for, and getting to that place of the Word where you can live on that Word, not live on those things.

I hope you will be smart this morning to get to that point and bring yourself to that journey.

Thank you for that inspiration there.

Now, viewers again let us make it known that we are not here to ignore legitimate needs. We understand some people go through a lot of things at the moment. We understand people who need God to come through for them in the area of healing. They need to be delivered from some affliction in their body system. They are people who are being afflicted here and there. God is concerned. If God wasn't concerned he wouldn't send his son Jesus to be part of the suffering.

In fact, the Bible tells us that Christ was tempted in all points as we are yet without sin. So it means he came to bear the burden, and he went to the cross to pay the price so that you and I can be free. So that you and I can walk in the victory, in the liberty where which Christ has set us free. Galatians 5:1

Of course, we are talking about the fact that God is indeed interested and God actually, I wouldn't say just is interested, I would have said, was interested before you were born because he already sent forth Jesus to be a propitiation for your sin so that to grant you victory in Christ Jesus.

The Bible says **thanks be unto God who continually lift us in victory through Christ Jesus our Lord.** So it means then, we are not simply saying we are burying our head in the sand like there are some religions that actually did say well, you know what, this world is nothing, we don't need to think about how we are hungry, let us think just about by and by what happens in heaven. Let us bear the suffering of this world.

Well, Of course that is not the gospel of Christ Jesus. The gospel of Christ Jesus is simply saying, God knew the suffering of mankind and God came down in the flesh and became part of that suffering and by that suffering, and the suffering of death, he gave us the power to walk in dominion over those situations. So we are not ignoring those situations,

But what we are talking about is, if Satan comes into contact with those needs, he can turn them into an identity. That is what we are talking about. When Satan colludes, or Satan comes in agreement with our needs and legitimate desire, he can end up saying you know what, this need or this desire is actually who you are.

So it means use your Christ identity to feed who you are, and that is not who you are. Your hunger is not you. Your appetite is not you. Is that ok? That is what we are saying, and if it is not you, and it is not you, it can't be the end to the means of Christ in your life.

If I may quickly add, you can just say you cannot be more interested than the Father himself. He is much more interested. You know we have scriptures that say much

more, much more than you can think, even before you are even formed, even before you can even think, you have the capacity to even think about this what you need, our heavenly Father has thought of them. Even before he says something, he already know while you are saying it. We have scriptures littered all over the pages of the Bible about all those things. So you cannot be more interest about even meeting your need like your heavenly Father who does much more, who will give much more. We have all those scriptures.

And even in our own personal life, we cannot say we are removing ourselves, because we go into this place, when we come into the place of need, we go into it and we make sure that we work to get to the final destination. We don't stop and just living on those desires. And living on those results of those requests, of those legitimate request. And that is why we are bringing it up to you so that you can understand the full package. We don't want you to cheat yourself out of it and just stop midway. There is much more and that is what Knock Out series is about.

You know we started with that Colossians that we will not be spoilt of it. We don't want you to be cheated out of the full package and the full package is beyond meeting your needs. So if you have those needs meant, they are a means. You must have this need meant and then you go beyond that to have a full package, living on the Word. And that is when you will not have leanness alongside your needs being meant.

Now you see, before we actually go to verse 5 and verse 6. Let us also say clearly that, the power of the enemy and the power of Satan over our lives as it were, because like we said, he has been defeated on the cross, the power he has is always to present to us our needs, our desires as identity.

Now, if you look at the case of Adam, there is an insight that the Holy Ghost will actually have us to glean from there. When you look at the life of Adam himself, have you notice that before Adam actually disobeyed, eat the fruit with his wife, Eve. Have you noticed that he actually naked before then? I mean, we have nothing on record. Bible says to us that the man and the woman were both naked, and not ashamed. Am quoting Genesis. You can please read that. He said they were both naked.

So we have on record, the Holy Spirit saying to us that they were naked, but they were not ashamed. So it means they were naked, it means they were not clothed physically as it were. We know God's glory covers them but they were naked as it were in the body, but they were not ashamed. It wasn't an identity as it were. Can you see that? It wasn't an identity.

But if you notice as a soon as Adam and Eve fell, and as soon as God came in to the garden and God asked a question, Adam where are you? That is the question that God asked.

Now if you watch the statement of Adam, Can you see that? Adam said I was... now mark the word, I was naked.

Now, the question I want to ask is, was that at that point that he was naked? No! The Bible says before then, they were naked and they were not ashamed. But now Adam was saying to God, I was naked. I mean, this is my identity now. I have assumed this identity now.

And you see, God asked him a question after that. God said who told you? That is the word. Who told you that you are naked? Who gave you that type of identity?

Now what we are simply saying is, Adam was naked before the fall. What was the difference in the nakedness of Adam before the fall and after the fall? That is the question we should be asking. And the answer to that question is simple, before the fall, **Adam had nakedness. After the fall, nakedness had him.**

Now this is the difference we are talking about. That is why God asked him, who told you? Somebody told you that. Somebody turn what you have, to what have you. Somebody turn it. Somebody told you that this is your new identity. And that is the point.

Before there was ever a fall, or before there was every anything, hunger will always be a legitimate need of people. The desire to be prominent, the desire to be significant in life, is a legitimate human desire.

In fact, Jesus told the disciples, if anybody will be great among you, let him be like the one that serves. So the desire to be prominent, to be great, is a legitimate human desire. What Satan does as it were is to take them and turn them into an identity and say this is your life. If you don't achieve this, you are a nobody. If you don't achieve this, you are nothing. If you don't achieve this, if you don't solve this hunger problem, your life is useless. That is what Satan try to do with those very things. And that what he did on Adam. He turned having nakedness to nakedness having Adam. And that is why Adam said am nothing now, now am naked like is just completely nothing at that point.

In other word, he is just saying living with the result of your prayer points, so instead of living with the results of God's Word. You have those things, fine! It is good for you to have them, it is necessary you must have them. Then you have them, but you

are living on it and they become your identity. And feeding on them and saying this is why life is worthy living. The reason why life is worthy living, this is it, because I have this now, that is why life is worthy living, going forth and forth about it. And you see that this how to live life anymore and this is where it ends and this is it. And this is how to go about it. But not living on the result of God's Word and that is the thing.

So letting those things, those prayer points and people have become master, and craft master on living on this things and even become specialist on how to live on this. They are already famous for this, whereas living on the Word of God.

As you can notice then, there is a big difference between how a child of God, a Christian or somebody who has a Christ centered identity, the way you view hunger cannot be the same way an unbeliever view hunger. The way you view fame and popularity and significance in life, cannot be the same an unbeliever views fame and popularity and significance in life. Or the way you view success in life cannot be the same way an unbeliever view success. The difference is, for the unbelievers, for those who don't know God, success to them is an end in itself. But for you a child of the king, for you, who are you washed and bought by the blood of Jesus, for you that Christ gave his identity to, for you success is a means to an end. And that is it.

So now, let's see Satan attack on the soul of a Christian in the place of prayer. Satan attack on the soul of anyone will simply be that we should distort the order and make the means an end and make the end a means. And that is what Satan is attacking every Christian with.

I hope our viewers could know that we are coming against every principle that is against success, because some people believe we should not be talking about success or fame. We even saw in the ministry, even in ministry, success is legitimate desire. We see those Apostles that came to Jesus, the mother of James and John (Zebedee), that came to Jesus, I want my son, even in the ministry I want them to be prominent and... Jesus did not rebuke this woman, oh what desire you have is bad. He wasn't just telling them the process. So Jesus did not cut them off. You know even when they are among the disciples, even in ministry, in every aspect of life.

So we are coming against the principles that says you should not desire success. You should not desire prominence, you should not desire to be in wealth, and all those things to have your need meant. It is anti-biblical, it is anti-new Covenant. You should have those desire. And the desire is not bad in itself. Even the process about going about it. And that is why Jesus said about the process of going about it.

And then we cannot bring ourselves to the same position of the unbelievers, because they too have those legitimate need, and they look for any source to meet those need. And so you just now using prayer to meet those needs, what difference it is? It is just like the same thing, using a different means or a different channel to get the same thing.

Some people put it to their self, they plough themselves into it. They are self-made. They use philosophy, motivation and everything and all those things and anybody can just use any methods that are suitable for. Some are not even criminal, they just pour into themselves more and they can deny anything and just in the name of getting it.

So if you are going to prayer and fasting and just using the method of prayer and fasting with the same goal and just meeting success and just having success, what is the point? You are just using a different method, it doesn't make any sense. Just the same thing, different methods to the same end.

You see what you just said just spark up a scripture in my spirit, when it talks about the fact that the pagan seek after this things. Can you see? For the pagans, those things are the end in themselves. He said your heavenly Father knows the things that you need before you ask him. I mean we quote that verse a lot, **seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness**, but now the light of the Word of God is coming to that, that this seek ye first the kingdom that we quote a lot in reality, is simply saying don't make those things an end in themselves. He said the pagans, ungodly people, those things are the end in themselves. They seek after these things. What to eat, what to drink and what to put on. He said for the unbelievers, those things are an end in themselves. But for you it shouldn't be your end. They should just be a means to a greater end.

In that same verse, we see that they are cater for, is not that we are going to shy away from those need. Its already cater for, but there is a bigger picture at the end.

So we can see that the temptation that we do have is just a means of rearranging the means at the end. That is all about it. You can summarize the temptation that way. You see, before we go on, I believe the Holy Ghost is still pointing something out here.

You see, we have a time some many weeks ago, we actually go through the prodigal Father series. In summary, there was something that actually came up during those series. Please it will be great for you to watch those series, I think there are 36 of them. Prodigal Father Series! We actually look at Luke 15:11-32.

You see, there is something about those events in Luke 15 that actually points back to this particular temptation in Matthew Chapter 4 from verse 3 to 4.

Now, you see the younger son and the elder son, I mean if you notice, the younger son, I know is very clear to many people that the younger son was actually more concern about the stuff about... you know, he wasn't really concern about the father. That is why he told the father and he said to the father, can you divide the inheritance between me and my brother?

You know you are not supposed to divide the inheritance unless you are dead. So he was just saying to the father, who cares if you are alive or dead, just give me my portion. I even wish you dead anyway. That is why he was asking for his inheritance.

But I think that is very clear cut for the younger brother. It means he was more concern about the things than he was about the relationship with the father. But that is not even the one am actually focusing on.

The one am focusing on, is the religious one, the one that was religious, the one that was spiritual, the elder son who was actually spiritual, who was actually religious in a way, because why? He told the father, he said I have kept every of your instruction. That is a great testimony of his own particular character and behavior. He said, I have kept every of your word. He said, I have never flouted any of your instructions.

Now the question is, what is this elder trying to achieve? Now we know, you know why? As soon as the father killed a calf, a young calf for his younger brother when the younger brother came back home, as soon as they killed the younger calf, the elder brother went angry and look at his complaint. Please watch his complaint. He said you have not given me a young goat. He told the father, that is the elder son, he said you have not given a young goat.

Now watch that! does that mean then, that the reason why he is being doing all he's being doing, the reason why he is being keeping all the instruction of the father, the reason why he make sure he was hundred percent obedient, now we know it was meant to be a means to an end. The end in itself was the young goat.

That is why he was offended when he noticed that after all I have done, I still don't have a young goat. It means all my obedience, all my sacrifice, all my going to the farm to make sure I obey of your instruction as a father son relationship was because I wanted something. I wanted a young goat and when he didn't have it, he went angry. He became really frustrated, because of course to him in his own understanding, all his obedience was a means to an end. And as long as the end wasn't coming in sight, he became angry.

Now you see, now we understand, this was the frustration of the elder son in Luke 15, to him, obeying the Father was merely a means, to him there was a deeper end. And this is why the story points to a lot of us today, to understand the fact that, you see, your walk with God cannot be a means to an end. It's an end in itself. And you see for some of us who are listening to this, you might be wondering, does this really apply to you because you think Oh I believe God, I walk with God, Christ is my life.

Now let me tell you how you are going to know, because atimes it's hard to understand addiction unless you understand addition in a different way. For example, if you have two people who are addicted to drinks or to Alcohol. It's hard to tell who are drinking alcohol. If they drink ten bottles or six bottles or fifteen bottles. It might be hard for you to figure out, who is actually addicted.

The easiest way to know addiction to something, is to prevent access to that thing. When you prevent access to something, look at the person that go crazy, look at the person who become uncontrollable, look at the person that is actually feeling like they could die because they don't have access to that thing. That is the person who is actually addicted.

How do we know the elder son is trying to use all his obedience to the Father as a means to an end? How do we know that? until he had no goat. It was when he was not given access to the goat that he became crazy. So we knew then, we now know on purpose and on points that actually all his obedience was a means to an end. And this is what Satan was trying to tempt Christ, that was the elder son in Luke 15 fell for and that is what we see there.

Thanks for that insight and that story is very very pivotal. You need to go and watch all the 36 episodes to have a full understanding of it. And see the whole human race is classify into two.

And then we can see the import of this story in what we are discussing this morning because we see some people, we have the two classes of people, some people use this prayer to get a means, they get their satisfaction, they get their desire, results, they get the fame and success like that and they stop at there. And you see some people, you see them they are righteous they are not even cutting corners even in the place of prayer and they don't get these things done, they get so angry and frustrated. It is the same.

Yes it's the same thing, you see them being frustrated, you thought that they are law abiding, you thought they are understanding. You thought that everything about them is spiritual. They feel like they are even better than the others, because you see the

way they even conduct themselves in the place of prayer, you feel like they have understanding, the people even label themselves New Covenant, able ministers and everything understand that they are not doing like the old testament way of praying and everything. You feel like everything is ok and right.

But when they don't see the answer forth coming, when those things like withdrawals, are not forth coming, they are not getting that desire result, you now see their true nature. You see them becoming, you see their rants about it and feel God owes them, just like that elder son, that he owes him the young goat. So what is the point of the obedience? It was a means.

So some of them says I have put in my labor of prayer, I have put in my labor of fasting and consecration, of sanctification of all those kind of things. Am not like the others that even frivolously. You know, some people they just say they come into the present of God frivolously making confessions and they are getting it. They feel like we are sober, we are more mature, we have paid the price. And then we have our works, our testimonies to talk for us about this. But you see when those things are not forth coming and everything, though they will actually be claiming is not for that thing. They are for the Father ...but now we know!

Yes they feel they are doing more for the Father than the others, because they are doing more than the others. They just feel the other come to use the Father fast. They felt they are doing more, they have the years to prove it, they have the testimonies to prove that, they are doing more for the Father and they have all those evidences. But we now see when those things are not forth coming, they start begin to comparing themselves with those others. So we there rants about the Father against the father, we don't have this, even of what purpose is my service to you? Of what purpose is my consecration? I don't have it like the others. Just merely a means to an end so that God can owe me, that was the whole point.

So when they don't see those things forth coming, then you now begin to see them being bitter. They stay outside. They don't even rejoice with the other brethren, the other folks. They stay outside, you see the anger and the thing.

So this is for all classes of men, because you can fall into the left or into the right of it. You can be the one that uses prayer as a means to an end, quickly get it, you can know how to conjure covetous and everything, get things out. You don't know how to even pay the price, you don't even know about staying further and doing some many commitment like the others.

And some can be using those commitment again, all about to still getting the... procuring the means, just to get the solution solve. And then you will not even know until you don't have the answers delay in coming. Then we now know your emotional reactions.

Thank you for that.

Now please, again at the risk of being misunderstood because we want to make sure that you don't actually misunderstand us. For example if you pray and you don't get answers to prayer. Of course you should find out why you didn't get the answer to prayer. Of course the disciples went to ask Jesus in Mark Chapter 9, in Matthew 17. They went to ask him, it mean they were trying to cast out the devil out of the boy. And we actually look into this and that actually led us into this particular Mathew 4 about unbelief

Don't forget if your prayers are not being answer, it is legitimate for you to find out why? Because they asked Jesus why could we not cast out the devil? Jesus did not say why are you asking me, why you couldn't cast out the devil? He didn't scold them for asking. You should find out why? That is not what we are talking about.

We are simply saying when your prayer is not answered, or when your walking with the Father, it doesn't yield some result. If your emotionla outburst, or your mentality, if you end up saying you feel like God owes you, you feel like what is the whole point of my walking with God then? or what is the whole point? When you say such things you are actually living in Mathew 4 verse 3&4. You are being drag in Matthew 4:3&4

It means you are simply saying, you know what, my identity as a child of God was merely a means. And as long as the end is not being meant what is the point? That is the mentality we are talking about.

And you see you might not be seeing that there is a Satan with two horns talking with you, Bible says see you are in a drag with the devil at the moment. If that's your mentality. That was what Satan was trying out with Jesus. That is the point of this turning stone to bread. It was a matter of saying your identity was a means to an end, and Christ says No! my identity is not a means to an end. In fact, the end is not hunger, the hunger is the means. The end is my identity as a son of God. And how do we know Christ was talking about this? Because Jesus took Satan back to Deuteronomy Chapter 8. That is where he quoted.

Yes, if I can throw my light on this, the rants of this religious ones are always the same just like the elder son, there he was saying that it is you, father it is you. You did not. You! you! you! he is not even looking at himself.

You see there is a quite difference, a contrast from the disciples when they couldn't get answer to their prayer, when they could not deliver that boy. They came to why can we not? but then you know all the religious thought, it is the Father. It is the Father that is not being faithful to his Word, we have done our part, just like that elder son.

We have done my own part, you know, I can't look back and say I have put in this years, I have plough in this years, so it is the Father that is delaying his coming. Everything is just about the Father and that is the same. You know is just about them because they have qualified themselves, he owes them this.

And so we see the same rants. We see all those traces in their rants, in the outburst, that is everything, every of those responsibilities is on the Father. They are not even looking at themselves, what it is? Why is it that am not having this? I should have it. Because they are so full of themselves. They feel like they have done everything they need to do.

And to them all they have done is merely a means. Though it does not look like that. It doesn't look like that, but is a means. Because if we are looking at the elder son before the last verse, everybody would have feel... nobody would have know that what he was doing was for the goat. It took some years, it took some days for him to know.

That is why people will not know when you see people doing, the religious folk like that. Religious folks without spirituality, when they go into all those things, those commitment, all those testimonies, they are actually for a young goat, there is a goal. Yes a young goat, it's not apparent because nobody knows.

Even before people have actually billybinding the younger son and feel what an example? The elder brother is a worthy example, that he is doing all, he does not...even the father could not fault it him, when he laid out all his credentials, the Father could not say no! no! you miss that or anything. He was really without any record, no blemish.

So people have lives without blemish and we have testimonies like that. But nobody knows until the end, that we know that all these, not that he loves the father, just like the other son wish the dead. So the elder son wish his father, I don't care about anything. Am doing all these because I wanted something. There is an end in itself.

So the father is not an end. So both sons are deprave. The elder son is saying my father is not an end in himself, am just using him. He is a means. So they are both as guilty. They are both as corrupt.

In fact, I think the elder son is probably worse, because he is sneakily corrupt is not even obvious because that one (younger son) can easily come to his mind. You know the younger son was able to come to his mind, because he knows the stand of the corruption was so much for him. It's easier for him to come into his mind and feel like No! Let me go back home, let me go back to the father. But for him he cannot, but in a place, he was disorientated and remove from it to know that he is actually corrupt to come...

Now, what we are simply saying this morning is this. Every child of God, every son of God, every one born of God, needs to always take the devil all the way back to Deuteronomy Chapter 8. We need to take Satan back there every time. And tell him, listen Satan, am hungry, agreed! I need to live a significant life, I cannot be a nonentity, I agree. My life is valuable and my life must counts for this present world, I agree, thank you. Satan I agree, but listen all those things you've mentioned they are the means and my end is to live by every Word that God calls me, everything that God calls me.

So as Christ took Satan back to Deuteronomy Chapter 8, can you see? Jesus quoted Deuteronomy Chapter 8 and say man shall not live by... he quoted it and so we also must always at every time, every instances of life, even when it comes to the place of prayer. You must declare that Word. Always declare Deuteronomy Chapter 8 and tell the devil and tell him, my needs are legitimate. They are actually needs and my life must count. My life is valuable. Of course, I must satisfy my hunger, Of course I cannot be a nonentity in life. But listen Satan, that is not an end in itself for me. That is not my identity. Christ is my life, Christ is my identity. And those things are merely a means to an end. And the end is Christ.

Like we previously shared that is not just about quoting the verse, because I know some people don't have problem with quoting the verse, don't even understand what the verse is about. And that is why we are doing in Expose, on verses like this so that we can have the understanding like that.

And then, we are talking about this and then bringing it to home in practical examples, to show the difference, even if you have the results of those prayer, you cannot live on those results of the prayer. You have to know that there is a bigger picture here. There is a complete package here which you must partake of because it is dangerous for you to just live off on that. Because we see people living up and they even fame themselves we are prosperity preachers, we know how to get the answers. We are faith preacher that can faith, that can only procure things. You know, they stay on that and they stay on that alone.

And that shows that it has become their identity. They glory in that, that we can use this and this and get this. So they are already tag themselves the healing preacher, this, this, because they have results to back those things up. And so they have allow that thing to becloud their judgment. And they have allow that thing to take a form or identity on them

And then they even label themselves and be proud of that alone. They don't even know there is a bigger picture living on the Word, that those ones are just means to an end. They are just on the pathway, they are on the pathway of the journey and the journey is longer than that. There is an end you should consider. You should consider your end. And that is the end of just living on Christ. Not just living off Christ alone. Living on Christ, not leaving off Christ.

So we are not just going to just use Christ, that is why it makes our profession of Christianity like, it doesn't make any sense, especially in our western world where people are living off some other things. So Christ is one of the ways of getting to the same end as unbelievers. So it doesn't make any sense. That means what is the point of coming to Christ when I can achieve it by another means. Anybody can go through it any way. So what is the point? So you have to think about these things.

You know, we are calling you to reasoning. You know, you must be able to give...like the scriptures encourage to give, we must be able to give us reason for the hope that is in us. What is the goal? What is the destination? What is the point? Where are we going? Why are you saying you are born of God? Where are we going? So there must be a reason, why are you saying you are born of God? Their own reason is saying that I am born of God so that I can have this success, I can pass exam, I can be famous, I can have money, I can meet my needs, I can do this. Is that your answers? To satisfy hunger. Is that your final answers? That is what Satan was telling Christ to do.

So that is why you are going to judge this morning, so you can meet this your immediate needs. So you can escape eviction and all those things, is that why? Is that why? Is that why? People are doing this without Christ, so what is the point? So you really need to pray though all these things we are doing, think through all those rituals, just pause for a moment, and think about all these and see the bigger picture and I hope you are seeing that this morning.

It means then if you have joined us this morning, you will notice that we have established that the drag that Satan was trying to drag Christ Jesus into, was a drag of means and ends. That is all. It was a distortion of means and ends. And that is what that temptation is all about.

And if you are going to be successful in the place of prayer, in the place of walking in victory in Christ Jesus, well this is something we need to understand and walk in the reality of.

And then if you just join us this morning today and you saw us going to Luke 15 and you quickly do a recap so fast and it was faster for you. We told you that we've broken that prodigal father series and the two lost sons. We've broken that into 36 episodes. So you really need for you to understand what we are saying today, if it is just about you, then understand that we have it in our archives of prodigal Father series before the Knock Out series so you can really understand this because all of them are link.

All of these scriptures, all these passages are link. We can see that Matthew 4 link into Deuteronomy 8, and then we are telling some people too, you have to even know the Word of God in them, because if you don't even know what is in Deuteronomy 8, some don't even know at all what it is, even for you to understand. You just have to know first for you to understand.

So you really even know that there is a purpose for this. There is a purpose for your hunger. You know that Chapter 8 was telling that.... the purpose of the hunger. Yes! It's a means. Yes he said, I suffer you that you may know. That is the purpose!

So people have hunger and their hunger is not achieving that purpose. Their hunger that is not bringing them to knowledge. Their needs that is not bringing them to knowledge. So your needs, that your basic need, that your pressing need, he has a purpose for it. So have you find out what the purpose of that need is? Some have not even found out what the purpose is, they just feel like just to fill my tummy, and meet that need. It's beyond that.

The verse was saying,

Am quoting Deuteronomy Chapter 8,

Deuteronomy 8:3

3. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

Has it make you know now? That present need you have this morning. The pressing need that has been with you. Have you learn what you need to know? And what are you learning. Are you learning what you should learn? Are you knowing what you

should know? Because some people are knowing something different. You have to find the purpose here.

Deuteronomy 8 verse 3 says that you might know that man doth not live by bread because some people have a different knowledge from their needs. Some people are picking out points and picking out reasons for their needs and they can explain their needs off and is against the scripture.

So that you might know that man should not live by bread. That is the purpose. That is the ultimate purpose for it. The purpose of hunger. So you know that every need is actually, that you have that need that you might know.

So if the problem being solved does not lead you to that knowledge of knowing that, you have just wasted that opportunity. So the hunger and the needs in your life are opportunities for knowledge. Opportunities! And then what is the end? It is then that you know that man does not live by this, but by every Word.

Man does not live by the result. People are living by the solutions now. Living by the answers or solutions! People are living by the answers now, living by the solutions, living by the deliverance, living by the healing, living by the prosperity, living by the money, living by the fame, living by the answers that come from the place of worship, living off the anointing, you know it is the Lord's anointing. Living off on all those things. You will not live by this.

Deuteronomy 8 tells us that the purpose of that is for you to know, to live on God's Word. So it is an opportunity for you for knowledge. It's a learning course. They are learning moment, and I hope you will be able to see your hunger, your needs the way it should be seen that they are learning moment, they are opportunity for you to know that. And it must lead you to the end, and what is the end? The end is to know that you should live on the Word of the Lord not on those things. So you get it, and get to the end of it, not living on this. At the end taking an identity that the Father gives by his Word.

So we are calling you back to the scriptures. Calling you back to the Bible to know, to know this things, to understand it. To understand that this process and to go through this process they are legitimate. They are things that happen and your Father as well thought out. It is a well thought out plan, it doesn't come out as a surprise. It's not an emergency. So whatever you are going through is not an emergency, your Father has known even before the creation of the world. Even before you even think about it, before you can even reason about it and he is able to do much more that you can even

think, than you can even comprehend, but they are learning moment. They are opportunities for you to have the right knowledge.

And I hope that as you approach these things and as you begin to see these things in the light of the scriptures, you see your moment of needs and see that they are leaning moment and for you to glean out, and find out yourself that it must lead you to know that you should not live by the world or the things.

So don't let anybody stop you in the track of the journey and tell you that Ok, let's now living on this. And so you live daily by the results of it, live daily by healings, by face confession and everything, that does not lead to living on the Word of the Lord. You just need to say No! to those. Say No! to those prayer points today because there is a purpose for your hunger. Surely there is!

Thank you for joining us. I think we just want to draw the curtain on this. Thank you for joining us, and I think is a convenient place to pause so that we can think and reflect on this.

There is a purpose for your hunger. You must need to say No! to prayer points that does not lead you to live on the Word of the Lord. Prayer points that leads you, that stop at let's get this thing done, get it done and that is the end. You say No! you run away from those prayer points, because that is the temptation. That is Satanic....

That is why I says is not about Satan having two horns with one dark stuff. That was the temptation he was going to use against Christ Jesus. That was the temptation of Jesus. So all those prayer points that ends on your needs, that ends in provision of your needs alone. That is, you are in a place of temptation. And that is the tempter.

So those prayer points are the tempter that want to stop at that and say this is it. And the purpose of your hunger is just to be fed. The purpose of your life is just to be clothed, the purpose of your life is just to have fame. That is why he tempts. That is your identity. That is what matters to you.

In the same place in Deuteronomy 8 he was telling he gives you power so that you might... you know, he was telling the purpose, you know some prayer points and everything are just getting this acquisition is just for yourself. You know, how to understand this. I think we have to go back to the scriptures....

In fact, in that Chapter 8 he said I fed you, but my feeding you was still a means. He said I fed you, he said I fed you. He didn't say I let you hungry, he said I suffer you to hunger and fed you with manna. He said I fed you! I fed you! I didn't leave you

hungry. I fed you with manna, but when I did, it was because it was a means to an end.

Let me quickly read verse 16 that says

Deuteronomy 8:16

16. Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end

So we can see the Father that he will not ignore, he is the one feeding, he provided the manna. So you cannot say you can be ignore. You can never be ignore. You cannot be left on your own.

So we can see the Father did not even leave them on their own. Even when he provided the opportunity, he gave them the manna. So that is the thing. You are not going to be left alone. You must make demand on the Word of God. You must walk in faith, you must receive from God what you are asking God for, but ultimately you still know it's still a means.

So all through this goal, we just see he fed you, he fed you, he conveniently said he fed you.

And verse 18 was saying that,

18. But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

So you must understand. That thing must take you to the purpose. So your wealth must take you to that purpose of knowing that he establish it for his covenant. That is it. So you must understand the purpose of your hunger.

And I hope you are going to take your time to listen to this.

If this blesses you, please share it with others and then find a time to go back to it again. If you have missed it, maybe you are in a place of worship, you can go back and you will find it on our page, Expose 247 page to learn still.

So till we see you next Saturday 7pm UK time.

We just say go and find out the purpose of your hunger, it's beyond that. It is beyond just meeting the needs. It's for you to live, living on the Word not living on the results of your prayer points

So do not live on the result of the prayer point. Do not live on the anointing. Don't live off on God. Live on the Word. Live on God. Don't let Satan twist the means and the end like he was trying to do for Christ.

So till we see you on Saturday 7pm UK time we say stay strong, stay blessed.

Bye!