

## **Exposé 247**

### **Bucket Ministry Series 1**

#### **Title: The Battle of Voices**

If you follow what we shared in last transmission we shared on ‘naked but not ashamed.’ You will really know why it is important to hear the voice of the Lord. It is going to be a covering for us. The voice of the Lord is a covering, and if you miss that you are going to be in shame, it doesn’t matter whether you are naked, or not. We found out that it was actually not the nakedness that was the problem, they were naked before the fall and they were naked after, but the only thing that came with the fall was the shame because the voice of God was absent. And that is why we call you to the Voice of God today.

Again, we are going to continue in the Bucket Ministry in John Chapter 4 which we started. This should be the 8<sup>th</sup> episode of Bucket Ministry. You need to really come to this and get hook to this. You know it is a good stuff. You can’t get addicted to it. It is a very good addiction if I may put it that way. Because we are doing John Chapter 4.

It looks like is not even John Chapter 4, but really you are going to get to it that is John Chapter 4. And you know we started with the Introduction, we started with the Roundabout Gospel, we have Thank God its Monday... So you need to get to our Expose page and for those who have been connecting asking questions and encouragement, we appreciate that and we are encourage by that.

So should you have any questions or any comment, please you know what to do. We want you to share it with all your contacts, people you think will be blessed with this.

So we are not going to waste much time... Are we done with Genesis Chapter 3?

Well, we are not, the reason is because we have just began.

In the last transmission we did say we began to scratch the surface of the implication of the experience of Adam in Genesis 3 for us as New Creation in Jesus Christ. So we began to just scratch the surface.

So let’s get on quickly as we make progress. We actually did stop at Chapter 3 verse 8, and that was the particular verse where we stopped.

So join us as we progress with verse 8 of Genesis Chapter 3.

Can you read please?

#### **Genesis 3**

**8. And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.**

**9. And the Lord God called unto Adam and said unto him, where are thou?**

**10. And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.**

Again, if you read verse 10 something does not seem to add up. This is the reason.

In Chapter 3 verse 7, of course he decided to engage in work so as to deal with the sense of shame that he felt because of his nakedness. That happened in Chapter 3 verse 7. And in verse 7 and verse 8 as well, we were told that Adam had to engage in work activity. The reason we call it work activity, if you actually missed this point in last transmission, in a nutshell, Adam had to arrange God's creation, the fig leaves was God's creation.

He had to arrange them into something he could put on as a cloth to cover his nakedness. Well, that is work. Arranging the creation of God into something that can be useful for humanity- engaging in work to cover the nakedness as it were.

But something does not seem to add up because in verse 10, here was Adam still saying to God and giving a commentary that when I heard your voice in the garden I hid myself because I was still naked. I had a sense of shame that I was naked.

Now, we have a problem there because we thought he dealt with the sense of nakedness by engaging in work in verse 7, 8. God showed up in verse 8 and yet in verse 10, you were still telling God that you were naked.

In verse 7, 8 he made the Aprons... for you to understand that he actually made Aprons. He made the dress. He actually got to work. He actually arranged God's creation. He designed God's creation into work. So what was the purpose of that? To cover his nakedness so that he will not be ashamed.

We would had thought Adam had actually satisfied the reason for why he went to work. This is what we would have thought, but in verse 10 Adam is still repeating the same statement and say even though I have made the Apron, even though I have gotten the cover for myself but I am still naked.

Here we have a problem. This is an unending circle.

Now, does that mean then whatever work activities did in verse 7, in taking the fig leaves in making them into Aprons, it was pointless? It was not sufficient. It didn't achieve the purpose.

So it means Adam was in what we call an unending circle. So from verse 10, he gets on to verse 10, from verse 7, he gets into verse 10 and he is being sent back to verse 7.

So the very problem he had in verse 7, he keeps going back in circle, from verse 10 back to verse 7 vice versa. Because every time he made the Apron as you can see in verse 7, he did nothing... Apron achieved nothing. It was a pointless exercise.

Now, what does that mean? It will mean that the activities of Adam didn't actually cover up for what he thought it would cover up for. What does that mean?

It means we have a pointless activity in the situation. The work didn't achieve what he thought it would achieve. He was still naked in verse 10 after making all the Aprons.

Now, hold on to that because we are going to somewhere with that particular statement. Can you continue please?

Verse 11

### **11. And he said who told thee that thou wast naked?**

Notice what the Lord said. And I want you to think about this deeply as well. This question of the Lord is quite a bit strange because it will seem like it doesn't make any sense, if you think about it. Because if somebody was naked, it should be automatic that you expect them to feel a sense of shame, but it seems that the Lord himself is saying well, I know you were naked, but for you to have felt a sense of shame you needed another voice to add on to the nakedness to bring about the shame.

He said who told you that you were naked?

Now, let's say this, every state of man, every experience of humanity, whatever you are experiencing, whatever state of your life is at the moment, the reason why you feel or you are experiencing the type of thing you are experiencing in your psychology is not necessarily because of the natural status, is because there is a voice that is taking hold of the natural state and then using that state to give you the psychology, to give you the identity you are experiencing at the moment, because the Lord did not say you are naked. It makes sense for you to be ashamed.

The Lord said, No! Who told you? There is going to be a voice that is speaking using the natural status or natural situation to give you an identity. That is what we see there.

So here we come to a point where we said in last transmission, everybody listens to a voice. Nobody is immune from this. Everybody listens to the voice that speak to them. Either you hear the voice of the Father coming in the cool of the garden or you listen to a difference voice.

Jesus said to the Pharisees, he said **I have come in my name, you did not listen to me, somebody else will come in his own name, and him you will listen to.** Jesus said that in the gospel. It will means everybody listen to a voice.

Now, you see one thing I want you to begin to think about is this, everything that humanity engages in, whatever work you are doing, whatever activity you are doing at the moment, what the scriptures show us today is unless we listen to the voice of the Father concerning who we are, it doesn't matter what you do, you will always go from verse 10 back to verse 7, back to square one. It doesn't solve the problem. It doesn't deal with the situation, even though you do it,

You see, this is quite very frustrating. I don't know what you call frustration. Frustration is when you think that something that you are going to do will actually solve the problem and yet the more you do it, your world is going back to square one as if you did nothing. This is the peak of frustration.

I will tell you something, there is one of this Greek mythology. The reason I have been making reference to that is, because they have some interesting stories in some of the Greek myths. There is this guy call Ceefox and when the gods were going to punish Ceefox. What they did for him was, they asked him to actually carry a stone and up to the top of the mountain. And Ceefox decided to that, and then anytime the stone was about to get to the top of the mountain, he drove all the way back to the ground. He had to take it again.

And every single time, he was about to reach the peak of the mountain, the summit, the zenith of the mountain, every time he was about to get there, just at the point where he says yes, that is it! At that point, the stone rolls all the way backward and he had to start all over again. And the gods thought that was a good way to punish a mortal.

Think about it! It means every time Adam felt like yes, I think I have sown the fig leaves, now the shame will be gone, now my lack of reputation will be dealt with, now my sense of unrighteousness will be dealt with, now the reason why people think am not somebody of significance in life will be dealt with or some people say we are going to change the world and the reason we are going to change the world is so that we can know that our life counts in the grand scheme of things.

Every time you are engaging in work and you want to do it and you find out that just at the point when you thought you have arrived and as soon as you think you have arrived and you wonder, you still feel that sense of shame. It doesn't scratch it. And you said well, maybe I need to try something. That is why you see some people keep changing their job and say well, maybe the reason I didn't feel fulfilled is because I didn't get the other job. Maybe I can change the job.

Adam is in an unending circle. You said you were naked in verse 7, you made Apron, you got to work and in verse 10 you still have the same complain, you were still naked. What happened? You see the unending circle of frustration! And that is what we see there.

I was about asking you what do you think about what Adam would had done because when he found out that he was still naked and afraid in verse 10, do you think maybe he changed the Apron and look for another fiber or cotton or something or do another layer... we just want to assume that he will not stop at one attempt.. Did he modified, come with another type? Did he change the Apron like let me source it from afar away?

Because am sure for him to be feeling inadequate and feel still not cover, then he would want to make an attempt.

Well, I will tell you the foolishness of Adam strategy is Adam did not understand this was a battle of voices. This is a war of voices. Because it was the voice of the Father that was looking for him in the garden. It was the voice that said to him that all things I have made, these things are good. That is why when the Father got to him and said, Adam who told you? This is a battle of voices. He was trying to use work to deal with the voice.

It is a voice problem because the Lord said who told you? The reason you feel the way you feel, is because you are listening to a different voice over your destiny.

And then what people don't know is that they are fighting voices and people want to get into activities. Some of the people want to say you know what? I think if I do something great in life, or if am somebody that provides for my family or if I am somebody that people can see that am making a change to how things are. Then people will respect and put value upon whom I am. There is nothing you can do, to deal with such things because why? It is a battle of voice. It takes a voice to deal with another voice over your destiny.

So Adam didn't know that this is a matter of voice. That is why the Lord took his attention back to the fact that who told you? Adam this is not a matter of fig leaves, this is not a matter of sowing apron. Somebody is already speaking over you. There is a voice bringing shame over your life and that is what you need to deal with, with my own voice. Not you going about to deal with the deep inner voice that is fighting your identity.

So it wouldn't have matter whether Adam was going to sow another Apron, or whether he is going to get another set of leaves or trees, it is irrelevant because to deal with the voice that was speaking to him.... In fact, the reason why another voice spoke to him is because he stop listing to the voice that spoke to him. That is why the Lord said who told you. It is a matter of voice that you were naked.

I hope our viewers will be able to help themselves from every trap and needless ground of just going about changing about job, changing covering, changing methods and

strategies without knowing that you have to come back to the voice of the Lord or changing location, changing environment or changing the type of work....

In fact, some people even think maybe the reason why I feel the way I feel at the moment or the reason why I don't feel I have succeeded, I need to get a different degrees or a higher degree and go back to University. There is nothing wrong with doing back. There is nothing wrong with you improving your academics qualification. But if it is a means to make you feel much more better about who you are, you will be going from verse 10 back to verse 7 of Genesis Chapter 3. You will go round in circle. It never cuts in. That is what we are talking about. It never translate to a voice.

See! your degrees, your academic qualification doesn't translate to a voice. Your bank account doesn't translate into the voice of the Father. Your connection, your friends, your relationship does not translate into the voice of the Father. What you listen to, why you feel the way you are is because it is a different voice that is taking the place of the voice of the Father. It is a battle of voices. That is what we to recognize there.

We should be aware that there is a battle of words and if we don't address it in time, we are just going to be suck into needless struggle.

You see there was something we read the other time, and I think this is a very good point to make reference to that. (Hebrews 4:10)

What makes labour painful? What makes labour frustrating is not labour itself.

Look at Hebrews 4: 10, you read a particular translation the other time and I did promise our viewers we are going to go back to that.

What does it says there?

#### **Hebrews 4**

**10. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.**

Can you read the Amplified translation Please?

What makes labor tiring?

**(Amp Version)**

**For the one who has once entered his rest**

What happened?

**has also rested from the weariness and pain of his human labour.**

Now please, let's read between the lines of the scriptures.

What he said you are supposed to rest from if you have entered into God's rest is the weariness and the pains of human labour.

Now, please listen to that. Listen to the undertone. He didn't say rest from the labour of human effort. He says there is a weariness, there is a pain behind the labour.

And if you ask me what is the pain and the weariness behind the labour that is exactly what you see in Genesis 3 verse 7, verse 10.

The weariness is Adam felt he was empty. Adam felt he was naked and Adam felt well, I think I know what to do. I need to get to work to cover this up. I need to get to work to deal with the sense.

And as soon as he got into that work in verse 10, when God showed up, how are you doing with your cover?

And Adam said am still naked. That is the peak of frustration. The pain, the weariness...

Bible says labour of fools wearies them... Look at that, he didn't say the labour wearies, He says the labour of fools wearies.

So don't interpret labor for weariness. Labour doesn't have to lead to pains and weariness. The weariness and the pain that comes with labour is the labour you keep doing it, and is not achieving what you thought it will achieve, so you go back to square one and do it again. And again, you think it will do it like Ceefox. You go back again and repeat the circle. It doesn't scratch it. You go back again and repeat the circle.

The Bible says when you enter into God's rest, it saves you from the weariness, the tiresomeness that comes with labour.

We saw Adam engaging in work activity in Genesis Chapter 3 verse 7, and we saw in verse 10 nothing change in his sense that he had even though he engage in labour. That is the weariness that the gospel of the Lord Jesus has come to deliver anyone that believes in Christ. That is what we see there.

Yeas, it couldn't sound this much more louder than this because some people might have been using this particular verse in Hebrew Chapter 4 as an avoidance strategy and said oh, I don't need to do anything. I just need to fold my hands. But we found that even Adam was called into a sweet labour; the labour of dressing and keeping. So there is a difference between that kind of labor and the labour that brings about weariness and pain.

That is why Jesus said when he was talking in Matthew come...

I was about to go there... you might read it.

Just to show in a way that there are different kinds of labour. So you are not going to shy away from... don't be work shy but you have to shy from the labour that bring weariness, that brings pain, that bring unending frustration and struggles, the more you are in, the more you feel uncover. That is why people get more degrees and titles and award and still feel a sense of shame, the emptiness, more jobs and more promotions.

We are not against getting promotions, getting to a better location or any of those self-improvement or career but if it is a means and it's becoming an unending circle in which as you are growing further into it, your frustration and weariness is growing...

Now, how will you know you are getting frustrated? To know that is for you to still say like Adam said in Genesis 3:10, am still naked.

I did the work in verse 7. I made the Apron, I got to work. I became useful for humanity. I went to office, or let's put it this way, I was into ministry... you know we've been saying and people think maybe they are talking about people that are going to work, even ministry included. I did all this because the reason some people go to ministry... is a very good thing to be called of God.

Hebrews 5 says **nobody can take this honour unto himself except him that was called as Aaron was called.** It is a thing of honour to serve the Lord. It is a thing of honour to get into the ministry but some people, in fact I wouldn't say some people...I will say many people do get into ministry so that they can feel used of God, so they can feel valuable in the program of God. So they don't feel ashamed. They can feel honourable. They can feel that yes, you see my life counts for something in this world.

Some people get into ministry because of things like that. May we surprise you that you are in Genesis 3:7 if that is your psychology, it doesn't matter what you do. You know what? When you start Genesis 3:7, by the time destiny takes you to verse 10 of Genesis 3, you will still say you know what? am still naked. This circle is not ending, even though I got into it, but after some few months, few weeks, few years, it doesn't still cut it. Maybe I need to do something more. I need to get more crowd. I need to get something. I need to get into this.

The scriptures says there is a pain and a weariness that come with labour. There is a weariness, it is tiresome. They need to perform so that you can feel wanted. So you can feel valuable. They need to perform so that you can feel significant in life. There is a weariness that come. You know why is weariness? Because every time you think yes, I think now my life counts, after some point in time, you feel I think I need to do more because it doesn't just scratch it anymore.

Adam missed the point at the point where he saw the fig tree, instead of dressing and keeping it, he felt oh! I can use this as cover. Some of the things that people are using



now (the materials), instead of dressing and keeping, they just assemble it and use it for an Apron. So what you are doing, are you using it as an Apron or are you dressing and keeping it.

Thank you for that.

I was still going to actually dwell more on that as we carry on.

So we see that in Hebrews Chapter 4 verse 10, it tells us is the weariness that comes with the labour that is the problem.

Look at Matthew 11 verse 28.

### **Matthew 11**

#### **28. Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden,**

Can you see that?

Now, he mention two things there. He said all ye that labour and actually there is a weariness that comes with that labour. There is a burden that comes with that labour. He said come unto me all ye that labour and having weariness, a tiresomeness to their labour, a frustration to their labour, the pain that comes with the labour.

#### **and I will give you rest.**

See! That is why we came into all these because we were talking about the hard work of rest. We are tidying everything up now, everything is coming to a focus now that every time people don't start with rest.

You know when we say rest, it means you've had the voice of the Father. You've received the voice of the Lord into your life. And the voice of the Lord says this is very good. The Lord says that you are God's righteousness in Christ Jesus. The Word of the Lord says that your sins are forgiven. You are accepted in the beloved. The Word of the Lord had declared that you are made blameless in the sight of the Lord. You are holy. You are perfect. You are good, not because of yourself because whatever Jesus deserved was transferred to you at New Creation.

You know one thing? You are starting life from the point of rest. He says come unto me and I will give you rest.

Rest means don't look to work what work cannot give you. Work will lie to you. You see activities of life cannot cover that nakedness. Adam found out in the hard way. It will never happened. He says what? the voice of the Father? I will give you rest. I will give you a name. I will call you who you are and it doesn't matter in your natural state

whether is nakedness you will know who you are, and you will know you are valued, you are accepted in the beloved.

He said come unto me and I will give you rest. He said if I don't give you rest, you will go to labour to look for that sense of rest. You will look for labour to do it. You will try to sow fig leaves to Apron to do it, but you know one thing? It will become a burden.

It will be frustrating you know why? because you will go back in circle. That is what we see there in Mathew 11:28

**Amplified version says**

**Come to me all you that are weary and heavily burden by religious rituals that provide no peace.**

You know the reason why... you might notice, am not sure if some of our viewers have notice that we seem on this Expose to actually box every activities into the same situation.

For example, you might be trying to act righteous, you have been trying to say am going to make sure that I do things right. That is very a good thing. Isn't it? To act right, to do the right thing, to be found blameless in your engagement with people, with relationship that you have around you, that is a very good thing.

But the question I want to ask is, could it be that it is a fig leaves that you are trying to make into Aprons? Could it be that it is just something to cover up the fact that you don't feel righteous? You don't feel perfect. In fact, you feel like an impostor and because you felt like that, you said, you know what? I feel this way, am going to make up for that by doing everything right so that I can feel great. The scriptures says that is the labour that come with pains. It is weariness...

You know why is weariness? It will take you back to square one every time. It wouldn't do what it promise you. That is the point.

And that is what he is saying there in that Matthew 11:28 (Come unto me all ye that are weary...)

That is why he says religious in this case, it doesn't matter.

In fact, the word justification that we always use for religious stuff is a word that apply to every facet of life. People talk about a sense of justification, justifying your existence, justifying the reason why you are here, justifying why your life is important. Justification is not just something you can put within the four walls of the church building. Its something that applies to every aspect of life, people try to make a justification for who they are, for every action. That is what we see there.

You see, if you don't continue to listen to the voice of the Father, what happens is, no matter what you engage in Genesis 3:7 of your life, you will always go back to verse 10, back to square one. And that is what we see there in the scriptures.

I pray you will know the refreshing rest that the Lord gives from every unnecessary labour. The rest of the Lord must always start with it is good. The Lord did not enter into rest until he said it is good. That is the voice you need to hear from the Father. And that is what it means for you to come into Christ and to be a New Creation.

Now, there is something again I want us to look at.

Look at Proverbs Chapter 12, read that please...

We want us to look into some other verses. Proverbs Chapter 10 verse 22.

What does it says?

### **Proverb 10**

#### **22. The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.**

You know people have different kind of interpretation for such a verse like this in the Bible. But let's say this, the scriptures says no scriptures is of private interpretation. You cannot superimpose your ideology upon what the Word of the Lord says.

Proverbs 10:22 says the blessing of the Lord makes rich. You know this is the common interpretation that people have for this kind of scriptures, that says every time the Lord blesses you, the way we know is there is so much money, you are rich and if you are rich, for us to know it was God that bless you, there will be no sorrow in your life. So if you are rich and there is sorrow in your life, it means that is not the blessing of the Lord.

Now, that doesn't make any spiritual or scriptural sense. The reason for that, before I even come to people's experience because we don't interpret God's Word by human experience, we interpret the Word of the Lord by the Word of the Lord.

I want to ask you was Apostle Paul blessed?

In fact, Apostle Paul said something, he said **my own hands had labored for me, and I have been able to provide for those that are with me for as it is written it is more blessed to give than to receive.** That is where he mentioned that place in the epistle.

So by that statement, he was saying I am blessed that is why am able to give. Am not waiting to receive.

And for people that were with them, it takes a level of some acquisition...

So Apostle Paul said is more blessed to give than to receive and he was giving to those who were with him. So he was making a claim in the Holy Ghost I'm a blessed man.

Well, if you blessed Apostle Paul was blessed, let me tell you something? Do you know what he face? In fact, he said, he was ship wreck many times, in fact, he was beaten... if you notice Jesus was beaten 39 stripes once. He was about about 4 times. He said often in fasting, in perils of false brethren, in peril of the seas.

If that is not sorrow, I don't know what you call sorrow. He was in prison, he was lied against, full of troubles all his life, and yet he claimed he was blessed.

So it will mean that people are misinterpreting Proverbs 10:22. If you think somebody is blessed there will be no sorrow. In fact, the scriptures say with so much tribulation, we shall enter the kingdom.

Jesus said in the gospel to the disciples, **in the world you will have tribulations, be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.** You are going to face things as long as you are in this world, things will face you. You will face things that you don't like, they are not palatable...

Even Jesus himself faced that... If that is what you called sorrow, if you then want to interpret Proverbs 10:22 to say well, anytime God give you money there should be no challenge, there should be no sorrow, nothing that makes you sad in your life, it means that is a wrong interpretation.

Now, what is the right interpretation? Am glad you ask. That is based on what we have been discussing today.

This Proverb 10: 22 expatiate on this experience of Adam. He says what the blessing of the Lord does is, it makes you rich. Now, he puts... whatever you call rich, he said it will not add the weariness that comes with it.

Every time people engage in anything outside the voice of the Father, I don't care what you do. I don't care whether you are the best thing that happened on the internet. I don't care whether you are the best thing that happen in the business world, in Wall Street, it doesn't matter if you are the best thing that happen in the university in terms of qualification. It doesn't matter whatever activity you are engage in, what happens is, You will found out, it doesn't still make up for that sense of nakedness.

There is a weariness, there is a frustration that comes with life when you notice that despite all what you've done, it still not covering that sense of shame. The scriptures says when the Lord blesses you, when you enter into God's rest. When the voice says this is good. When your value, when your richness comes from the voice of the Father. He said

you will be saved from the tiresome and the weariness, efforts to actually keep making up for that sense of nakedness. It is a sorrow that the voice of the Lord saves you from.

So the sorrow in this case, is that endless circle of trying to engage in activity that promises to fulfill a void in your life it cannot fill. It's an endless circle like Cecefox in that Greek mythology. That is the sorrow that the richness of the Lord save you from because you enter into rest and it saves you from that weariness of trying to get your identity from performance. That is what we see in the Word of the Lord.

Yes, we are calling the attention of every one who has become the Ubah and Testler of everything or in the process of it, that there is a blessing that is greater than richness in which richness comes out it, saying the blessing of the Lord makes rich. That is what we are sharing this morning. The blessing that does not bring the sorrow that comes with it. Tireless need to perform to feel value, that is sorrow.

You wonder why some people have so many things in their possession and you see that they commit suicide you can't justify. When you look at their material positions and feel like that they are mostly in the enviable position, they might have granted interview and mentoring people and everybody is looking up to them.. And you suddenly find out, with all of these...

May I say this, let's go beyond those who commit suicide, let's talk about those who are actually making it, let talk about those who are actually at the continental of life as we are talking...

No, people get surprise when those things happened because they actually felt your life is enviable, they wanted to be like you, you have become a demi god in this industry. It was then that it open up that oh! Something did not add up.

Well, thank you for that. Do you know one thing that most people do? There is what we call inner murmur. There is a voice murmuring in people's head, in people mind. You might not see the voice. That is why God told Adam, who told you? There is always a voice making people go insane. There is why you see somebody today is make an achievement today and he feels great about himself today, tomorrow he goes from verse 7 to verse 10 of Genesis 3.

Instantly, it doesn't have to be tomorrow...

When I say tomorrow am talking in a poetical sense. It's an allegorical. Tomorrow he feels, you know what? I think I need to make the next move, because I think this thing is actually wearing off or being threatened by somebody else or people's focus is on somebody else now who is the in-thing, there is a new person who is on the stage.

Now, this person feel, oh my God, I need to do something else, I need to break more into this thing, so that I can come back to limelight. You can see the weariness... It can even be in building of cathedral...

You see people today even in the ministry, somebody today have a membership of 200 people, he feels great and then he's gone out there and see somebody who has a thousands and feel you know what? I need to beat that so that they can know am also happening in this town or in this city. The weariness!!!

The blessings of the Lord, he makes rich and saves you from that weariness. It doesn't add sorrow. That is the interpretation of Proverbs 10:22. It delivers you from that weariness. It's wearisome. It's tiresome. It is hard. It is a pain.

Hebrews 4:10 says if you enter into rest, you will be saved from the pain and the weariness of human labour.

So the problem is not human labour, the problem is the weariness, the sorrow, the tiresomeness that comes with human labour. That is what the gospel has come to deal with.

That is why every time people preach the gospel and I think the reason why some people are not saved today or the reason why the gospel of the Lord Jesus has not gone down into the deep soul of people today, every time we preached the gospel we are very theoretical in some cases. Atimes, we are very vague and ambiguous when we are teaching the gospel. Because the gospel of the Lord Jesus should go right there and deal with human efforts.

And that is what we are presenting today that there is a sorrow that come with human richness. When I say richness, please spare us the fact that we are not talking about just money.

When I am talking about richness, it means there is something that you claim to have that is of value to people, some it might not be money, it might be connection. You know some people or some of you, it is the kind of Job that you do. In fact, some is the race they came from, your ethnic background, you are so proud about your racial identity. Whatever it is... something of value that you have in your life, and that thing kind of promise you that when once you look into this, you can never be a nobody. That is what it tells you.

It is a lie. It lied to Adam in Genesis 3:7. He said sow the leaves into Apron, don't worry you will be fine and you see, that never happened. That is what we see there.

Now, we've seen that by the Word of the Lord what that Proverb 10:22 says.

Let's go back to Genesis Chapter 3 to continue from where we are.

### Genesis 3

**11. And he said, who told thee that thou wast naked? hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?**

**12. And the man said, the woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.**

**13. And the Lord God said unto the woman what is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, the serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.**

Let's get on straight to verse 17 because of time.

Verse 17

**17. And unto Adam he said, because thou has hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree of which I commanded thee, saying, thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;**

Now watch that!

Please have you noticed we began to put a Biblical interpretation to that sorrow?

Here it comes again, because when he told Adam cursed is the ground for your sake. When he says in sorrow you shall eat of it... please interpret that sorrow using Hebrews 4:10, using Matthew 11:28 and using Proverbs 10:22. In that context you must understand the sorrow.

**You will keep doing it, thinking it will fill that void. But it will not and you will keep going back to square one.**

So he says in sorrow you shall eat of it all the days of your life.

Now look at that

**18. Thorns also and thistle shall it bring forth to thee, and thou shall eat the herb of the field.**

**19. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.**

Now, if this sorrow and this sweat that he was talking about in this case was not something that is going to be purely a natural thing, it will mean that maybe we are not yet redeemed from the curse, because today when you are working really hard, you've got to sweat, you've got to labour. Isn't it?

Then Jesus did say to the disciples you will experience sorrow and tribulation whatever... So you've got to understand that we might not have been interpreting this correctly like you said before.

So what we see there, God told them that **in sorrow you shall eat all the days of your life.**

Now, am going to really zero on verse 18. Please look at it.

Genesis 3:18 said thorns and thistle shall it bring for thee.

Any time the scriptures make reference to thorns and thistle, there is something I want you to take note of thorns scripturally speaking.

The strange thing about thorns is, when they begin to grow and they begin to come forth, it is very hard for you to make a distinction between weeds and plants just ripe at the point of sprouting. How did I know that? Even from the scripture without even using Agriculture let's go back to the scripture.

You know the case of the servant that told the Master that weeds and thorns were growing together, what did the master say? Master says leave them alone, at the point of harvest. He said the angels, the reapers will be able to make a distinction at that stage. So the problem with thorns and thistle is, when they sprout at the same time, right at the inception you can't tell the difference, they make you think these are plants, you think these are something that is growing on your field, until you found out that oh! That is a thorn, that should be taken out.

You want to say something?

Apart from that point, from that episode of Jesus when he was sharing with this disciples, if there is going to use that point, he was even saying though at that point, they could see the weed and the plant growing, but Jesus had to say the reason why we will not do that now, by the time we want to take the weed out, we might take out the plant.

We can differentiate this because he was able to see it and say Jesus can you see? This was not planted with the seed, tares growing with the seed. But he says we don't need to do that. If we do that, taking tares out it will affect the ...

Now, what is the significance of this particular declaration the Lord made to Adam in Genesis Chapter 3 verse 18? Am glad you ask.

Let's get on to the Word of the Lord and interpret this in the light of the New Covenant.

Now, Mark Chapter 4 verse 18

**Mark 4**



## **18. And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the Word**

Now, the backdrop because we don't have much time to read all of Chapter 4 or to start from the Parable of the Sower.

You know this is parable of the sower. The reason why I will like this parable, you know why? because Jesus said about this parable. He told the disciples, he said if you don't understand this parable you will understand no other parable. That is there in Mark 4, you can go and read it. That is why he call this parable, parable of parables. He said if you don't understand this parable, you will understand no other parable. This is a very important parable, in fact it is the chief of the parable.

The summary is this, is about the sower who was sowing the seed on four different type of ground. The particular one we are looking at in verse 18 is the ground in which the scriptures says there were thorns on the ground, and the sower sowing the seed, sow the seed among the thorns and the thorns choke the plant and make it unfruitful.

Now, let go to verse 18, the disciples went to Jesus and say what is the meaning, what is the significance of the seed felling among the thorns?

Jesus now was going to respond and give them the interpretation or the significance of that parable and that is what verse 18 will tell us.

I am just giving the backdrop of everything.

So let's read Mark Chapter 4 verse 18...

Don't forget we came here from Genesis 3:18, hold on to that...

What does Mark 4:18 says please?

## **18. And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the Word**

They are the people that listen to the Word of life, to the Word of God.

Go on please.

## **19. And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word and it becometh unfruitful**

**and the lusts of other things**

or the desires for other things

**entering in, choke the word and it becometh unfruitful**

Now, think about this, there was a Word of the Lord that came to some people...

**Amplified Version**

**18. And the ones sown among the thorns are others who hear the Word;**

**19. Then the cares and anxieties of the world and distractions of the age, and the pleasure and delight and false glamour and deceitfulness of riches, and the craving and passionate desire for other things creep in and choke and suffocate the Word, and it becomes fruitless.**

So let's meditate on this together, and have a deep discussion on this. The first thing we look at is, the seed falling among the thorns represent people.

Now, the people's heart there will be the ground. Now what are the thorns and the thistle in this case?

Jesus said the thorns and thistle are (1) the cares of this world. So your heart, my heart or people's heart will be the ground. So the thorns and thistles in this case will be the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches.

Mark the word!

When God told Adam that in Genesis 3, that when you begin to plant, thorns and thistle will show up, and what are they? Jesus then clarified the thorns and thistle in human heart. He said they are just the categories of them. The cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches.

Now, mark the word, the deceitfulness of riches or you can put it in a much more modern English the deception of riches.

Now, what is deception? To deceive somebody means that you tell them something, you promise them something or you paint a picture of something but the reality that you brought is contrary to the kind of picture you painted. Deception is an intentional move. You intentionally made a false impression. You want the person to think that you will deliver what you promise, but actually you know you can't deliver what you promise. That is deception.

Jesus says the thorns that grows, maybe at the beginning might look promising, at the beginning might look like a plant, at the beginning might look like something that will deliver. But he says you will found out that, it will not deliver. It over promises and under delivers.

He said all these things about the cares...

Now, he didn't just put riches there, he says even the cares... every day cares of this world - activities engagement, work or whatever, work after the fall, whatever activity you engage in, it will promise what they don't deliver. It will promise you something. It will promise you to offer you what the Word only promises to offer. It will promise you,

deliver to you only what the only Word of life promise to deliver, and he say if you listen to the deception you'll get deceived. What will happen is, the Word of the Lord is choke and it becomes unfruitful.

So, we then see in case of Adam that unknown to Adam it was the issue of the Word of the Lord. It was a matter of the voice of the Lord, the Father. The blessing that make rich was the Word, the rest that the word of God brings to your life.

And you see here was Adam trying to engage in activities, to say what happen is it doesn't matter what you try to do with your life. It doesn't matter if you try to replace anything else with the Word, it will be a deception. He said the deceitfulness of riches. It will not deliver what it promises. It will never deliver.

Again you can see Adam was promised... you know the fig trees, the Aprons they promised Adam that once you sow the fig leaves into Aprons, don't worry you are covered. It was a deception. They never delivered what they promise Adam because in verse 10 of Genesis 3, Adam still said I am still naked. That is what we see there by the Word of the Lord.

You want to say one or two things?

I understand that from the fall, sorrow came in. That is the first time we heard about the sorrow and we see the concomitant agreement with other scriptures, work with sorrow, without the fall it would have been 'Work without sorrow.'

Sorrow came in, so we understand where sorrow came in. So if people want to know am I actually working after the fall, they should trace is there any sorrow accompanying it? Is there any weariness with your work? Is the any need to always prove yourself in your place of work?

Now, this applies... we said this before but I think we need to reemphasize. It doesn't matter whether you are doing a secular or you think you are doing a spiritual work. Work is work! As long as you are dressing and making up for God's creation, we see the sorrow is what the gospel of the Lord Jesus has come to save us from.

So it means even if you claim to be a Christian, you say you are born again. You say you believed Jesus died for your sins, you believe he was resurrected from the dead for your sake. If you believe that, if that gospel does not save you from sorrow. It means you've not entered into rest.

That means you have not yielded the call because what he said come unto me all ye that has this labour with sorrow... and if you feel you have come to him and your labour is fill with sorrow, you have not yielded the right call. So who called you? Did you get the voice of the Father?

He says come unto me if you have this labor with sorrow and I will give you rest. And he was talking about his yoke, his own labour. He is not calling you that there is no labour, that you are going to fold your hand. There will be no sorrow if you take up the labour of the Lord.

I have my labour, I have my yoke it does not have the sorrow.

I am calling you, you are going to be yoke with me. Your fellow prisoner with the Lord but there is no sorrow with it.

Thank you for making that insight.

Will that explain the reason why Philippians Chapter 4 when the Apostle Paul began to write to the saints, **I say rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice.**

Why will you write such a thing when he was in prison? When seemingly, he was not even doing what he was meant to be doing? When I say doing because you know Apostle Paul was an evangelist, he was going from city to city, from town to town. He was an Apostle, but also a travelling Apostle, evangelist. He was always preaching the Word.

Even when Paul was incarcerated and he couldn't do the things he used to do, in fact there was a place where he did say, they should bring his parchment, his scroll to him... he couldn't do the things that he used to do.

But you know one thing? His joy was top notch. Why is it that some of us feel useless or we feel invaluable every time they tell you to stop doing what you are doing?

Even though the things is good, just taking a break...

There are some people when they take a break from the work they are doing, they feel something has been subtracted from their life. They feel useless... They feel valueless. In fact, there are some people in ministry, some pastors, or some readers, the reason they can't retire is because they feel they will be invaluable if they tired. The reason that is happening, they claim they are rich, but is with sorrow. The weariness and the tiresomeness that come with the circle in which you have to perform to feel valuable.

Jesus said am giving you an invitation to rest. Am giving you an invitation to the Word (Mark 4). He said if you allow the Word to take root in your life, the thorns and thistles or the deceitfulness or deception of the cares of this world will not take you out of the equation. That is what we see there.

That is why Paul even though he was incarcerated was still rejoicing. That is a life of rest. That is why I could say to you with all boldness in the Holy Ghost that the type of sorrow in Proverb 10:22 is not the type that Apostle Paul experienced.

And may I draw the attention of our viewers to know the earlier point we talked about that, there are different kinds of sorrow, that people they have look the invincible and natural eye, they have looked at the situation of Paul, nobody want to be like Paul in that kind.

People like to be like Paul in writings, but when he was in prison, I don't see people actually want to be like him. So people have judge him like, no, this must be a sorrowful position to be in. Maybe people will want to advise him out of it and say how you can conduct ministry that will not lead you to prison to sorrow...

So people will have seminar around as we have today, how you can always be jumping from one presidential palace to another. The one that will never take you round the prison. It will never be like this. It is unfortunate that kind of way.

But we found out that the inconvenience of the prison does not equate to sorrow for Paul. Because we need to understand the definition of what sorrow is. Because people now are walking away at some things, they don't really understand which one is sorrow, which one is not sorrow. So they have term this one to be sorrow.

And we see that in even in that situation, he was the one writing and encouraging those even outside the wall of prison to rejoice and again rejoice even more. Rejoicing without stop. So rejoicing irrespective of the situation whether in the palace or prison, you are rejoicing unstop, unending rejoicing. That is the blessing of the Lord without sorrow attach to it.

Because of time, we will not be able to go further, we know that even for Eve too the sorrow was attached for the child bearing, we know sorrow came in with the fall.

So today we want to just encourage you and invite you to the fellowship of the unashamed where you will not need anything to cover yourself except the voice of the Lord. The Word of the Lord be the only covering and the sufficient covering for you.

You don't need to go under any prophetic or say one man of God this or one of man God that or go to any job or anything to cover yourself, or even ministry to cover yourself or any charitable work to cover yourself where the voice of the Lord is enough and it will cover any iota of shame here. The voice of the Lord insure you against every iota of shame.

You won't need to make an Apron and still naked and feel ashamed afterward. You will never be in a sorrowful state. And that is why we call you today to be a member of this joyful blessing. People have had joyful blessing of the Lord that makes rich without adding sorrow. That word is true up till now.

And some people, you might want to run away from every of the blessing at all, they don't even understand there is a blessing that make rich. They don't even want any blessing or richness. They want to run away, so that is the way out of it. They don't want richness.

Please pardon me to make reference to Galatians 3:13 and 14 talking about **Christ has redeemed us from the cruse of the law, by becoming a curse for us for it is written curse is everyone that is hung on a tree that the blessing of Abraham might come to us gentiles and we might receive the promise of the spirit by faith.**

It means may I say, if you don't have the blessing of the Lord upon your life, you are not saved.

Oh! That will be very controversial...

Because it really can't be twisted and there is no time to even explore further on this.

As we close I think today, we've done something. I think next session we have to delve...

We are going to start the next session from that statement, because we need to clarify this because that is a very big statement and am sure we want to hear that and why you said that and what you think why it is.

I want you to join us the next transmission why we have to talk about this sorrow and what the blessing of the Lord is. Whether it is even safe to run away from completely or not. So we are going to hear that as we continue.

So we are calling you to know that there is a battle of voices. You have to be aware of that. You have the consciousness that, there is a battle of voices in which Adam wasn't conscious of, he was going about with the fig tree and say let me model another Apron, let me wear this and this. And when God wanted to actually address him, he was saying who told you? You are responding wrongly to this, that this is voice. This is not about fig leaves or what. It is about the voice, who said it? And he already said it again and even up to that, that he heard a voice from Eve, so is about the battle of voices.

So we want you to be conscious of that with this transmission.

So till we see you next time as we continue this... I don't think we are still through with Genesis Chapter 3...

No we are not!

I want to say as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him.

God bless you...

Bye!!!

