

BEING SHAPED BY THE VOICE OF WISDOM

The Lord always desires to do something new in His people's lives. He seeks always to move them from where they are to where they SHOULD be. In accomplishing this, He sends His word – the Word of rightness (righteousness) which shows us where He is standing so that we can adjust and align accordingly. The Word of righteousness is the voice of Wisdom who affirms in Pro. 8:6 *Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things.* The opening of His mouth bring forth THINGS. These things are substances capable of shaping us into the right frame of mind, chiselling us into God's desired form for us and this is tantamount to being transformed into the image of Christ. This is what He intended when He announced to the Divine Council *Let us **make** man in our image, after our likeness...* (Gen. 1:26). Jesus also came and reiterated this project when He said in Matt. 4:19 *...follow me, and I will **make** you fishers of men.* These THINGS, which Wisdom speaks, are described as EXCELLENT and RIGHT. Excellent things are domiciled in the realm of the excellent glory wherein proceeds *a more sure word of prophecy* without which we cannot be made.

Excellent things are the materials of the glory that excels; the glory of the New Testament which is the very glory of Christ. Without being chiselled, crafted, formed, transformed, transfigured, configured, structured, shaped, fashioned and assembled into His image by the **Words** of the excelling glory, we cannot bear His glory. The glory of God is the body of the knowledge of divinity; the knowledge of the Son of God. It is the totality of the Faith, the curriculum of eternal life which can only be accessed by light. The word is light; God Himself is light (Psa. 119:106, 1 John 1:5). So he declares in 2 Cor. 4:6 *For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.* We need to keep exposing ourselves to the ministration of glory. It is not the ministration of the perishables which most people, in their 'gentilic' nature (seekers of things beneath the sun), pant for and thirst after. It is a ministration of the FACE. When we are exposed to it and it is exposed to us, CHANGE takes place. This is why the ministration of the New Testament is the ministration of change. It is a ministration that alters our inner structure and recalibrates and reconfigures it to be the same with the structure of Christ.

Jesus says to the Jews in John 5:37 *And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.* By this statement, Jesus hinted on the Father's VOICE and SHAPE. God not only has a voice, He is the VOICE. Adam and Eve heard the VOICE of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day (Gen. 3:8). John in the Isle of Patmos turned to see the VOICE that spoke unto him and when he was turned, he saw seven golden candlesticks in the midst of which is *One like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.* I see a congruent relationship between the Father's voice and His shape. It is His voice that configures us into His shape and like earlier said, it is the voice of Wisdom that

fashions into His shape. We need not only hear the voice, we need to also behold the voice. 2 Cor. 3: 18 submits *But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.* The Holy Ghost is the Administrator of the transformation agenda. As the voice comes, the Spirit removes veils and effects the work of change. So the task before us is an enormous one but the Spirit has been given and assigned us to make it easy – as long as we are yielded to Him anyway.

This word which God always sends is also known as the **Word of His Grace** which is solely for the purpose of building us as Paul attests to in Acts 20:32: *And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.* The essence of grace is for building up. Grace is a Builder. What is being built? A house that God can inhabit in all of His essence which will not cave in under His weight of glory. You and I are the house. We are the lively stones being assembled into a living tabernacle for God to dwell in. We need to be built by grace to divine specifications so that we can be fit for the Father's use and His intent in the world to come. Wisdom is a Builder. By Wisdom, a house is built (Pro 24:3). Every WISE woman builds her house (Pro. 14:1). He is the Architect of this present world as contained in Pro. 8:22-30 and He is the Architect of the world to come which will appear as the Father's voice conveys it to us by words ordained through preaching. Paul laid the foundation as a *wise master builder*; he also did it *according to the grace of God* (1 Cor. 3:10). Grace is a Builder because the Headstone will be brought forth with the shouting (preaching/declaration) of grace and grace. The Holy Ghost is equally a Builder; it is not by power nor by might but by the Spirit of the Lord God of Host (Zech. 4:6-7). Paul puts this more in perspective in Eph. 2:20-22 *And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.* David posits in Psa. 127:1 *Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it...* Paul finally sums it up thus in Heb. 3:4 *For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.* We HAVE BEEN BUILT upon the foundation and we are BEING BUILT together for God to inhabit; we are GROWING into a holy temple not made with physical hands. We are being built by God in Christ through Wisdom, Grace, Holy Ghost and God unto Himself who is all in all.

We have been called and chosen so that we *should know his will, and see that Just One, and should hear the voice of his mouth.* Acts 22:14. Though this is what the Father expects from His people, there is a possibility that we may not KNOW his will which is made possible as we HEAR the voice of His mouth and SEE the Just One. Our heart posture may rob us of this great blessing if it is not well positioned and rightly attuned. Consequently, Paul warned us repeatedly not to harden our hearts when we hear His voice while it is called today (Heb. 3:7-8, 13, 15; 4:7). It is often said that ATTITUDE is everything. Attitude is a function of the heart. The difference between Saul and David was HEART. Saul had the

HEIGHT, but David, the HEART God desires. David besought the Lord to create in him a clean heart and to renew a RIGHT spirit within him (Psa. 51:10). God is not interested in anything about us except the state of our hearts which is the determinant of how abundantly He will release His materials and THINGS to us (Psa. 147:10). It is true that God always sends His word to us, but when our hearts are not rightly positioned, we cannot receive anything just like a satellite dish that is not well positioned to the right frequency will not receive the proper broadcast. It will certainly receive something, but not from God. God does not waste His things on hearts not prepared to receive, follow and obey them. Jesus underscores this in Matt. 7:6 *Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.*

Before God will release His THINGS, His materials of eternal nature and weight, materials of righteousness which are not just FROM Him but which are OF Him, He will do a work of scrutiny upon hearts. 2 Chron. 16:9 declares: *For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.* He may bless you with natural things; you may enjoy promotion in the natural; things may augur well with you in your business, it will be deception to take all that to mean God's endorsement of how pleasing your life is to Him. You cannot come into the realm of ALL PLEASING as pointed out in Phil. 1:10 if your heart is not right with God and does not have the quality and texture God expects from it. In describing the qualification of the kind of heart He would inhabit, He stipulates in Isa. 66:1-2 *Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.* The Word of Grace, the Word of Righteousness cannot reach a heart that does not possess this qualities. Many people have knowledge but they lack the fear of the Lord. They are not meek neither are they humble and lowly hearted like Christ. In spite of your status, title, knowledge and revelation, without a contrite, broken, meek and humble heart, you are no better than the Corinthians believers whom Paul described as *carnal, babes, immature* (1 Cor. 3:1-3). God is interested in the state of our hearts. We need to constantly bring our hearts before Him for sprinkling and treatment with *pure water* Heb. 10:22. We should not deceive ourselves neither should we been conceited. God cannot be mocked; whatsoever a man sows he will reap and the reaping has to do with our eternal status. Let us heed the voice of Wisdom.

James Boaner (PJ)
13th October, 2015