CONVENANT AND MIRACLE SERVICE

21ST JANUARY, 2024

TOPIC: GOD OF SIGNS AND WONDERS

TEXT: PSALMS 136:1-4 - Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. [2] Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy endures forever. [3] Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy endures forever: [4] To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy endures forever. (NKJV)

Introduction

As you go in life, one of the truths that must continually register in your heart as a believer of the gospel is that you serve a God that loves doing wonders. Irrespective of what you are going through, let it always resound in you that you have surrendered your life to a God that specializes in doing wonders and not just *wonders* but *"great wonders"* as recorded in our main text today.

Therefore, His work of wonders in our lives will always leave us in astonishment including people around is. Even when situations, circumstances has been written off by people, God would always come with His great wonders to always change the narrative.

"Every believer must understand and acknowledge that our God is a God of wonders and partaking in His great wonders is inevitable for us."

Let's check the scriptures to see what happens in the life of a man when God begin to does His wonders

"When the Lord brought back [a]the captivity of Zion,we were like those who dream." (NKJV)

> When God begins to work His wonders it will look like a dream

Progress, help, elevation, grace, success, every good thing you can name will look like a dream. This is because impossibilities will be possible and people won't be able to resist asking you "How?". Joseph was in the prison and yet before day break one day, he was elevated to the position of second in command in the whole of Egypt. Like a dream!

Genesis 21:6

"And Sarah said, "God has made me laugh, and all who hear will laugh with me." (NKJV)

When God begins to His wonders it will also be like a dream to those around you

You will not be the only one experiencing it but also people around you, they will hear.

Luke 1:58

"When her neighbors and relatives heard how the Lord had shown great mercy to her, they rejoiced with her. "(NKJV)

If people are not aware, then it is not a wonder. The Bible says eyes have not seen, ears have not heard neither has it come to the heart of men what God will do in your life. Yes! The God of wonders will cause them to hear and see what only Him can do. Again, when God begins to do his wonders, it will not only be like a dream, people will also hear about it. "Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren."(NKJV)

> When God begins to His wonders you will become a reference point

It will not only be like a dream, people will not only rejoice with you but you will become a reference point. You know there is a kind of a miracle that will happen to you that can cause people to say, " If God can do it for you, He will do it for me", "If this can happen to you, then it can also happen to me".

God is raising people now that will give good standards and reference for others. When this dimension begins to happen in your life then you have began your experience of wonders.

Qualities that provoke wonders in the life of a man.

God premises on two main qualities in a man's life when He is working His wonders. Hence if you would provoke wonders in your life, there are two things you should possess as seen in our main text for this teaching:

1. Thanksgiving

When God is ready to release wonders in your life, the first thing He checks is your attitude towards thanksgiving. A thoughtful mind depicts thanks. You have always been thinking about what God has not done, what about the things He has done? Did you give thanks? Did you testify? Whatever you testify on, you seal it and then it becomes untouchable.

Mark 6:41-43

"And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among them all. [42]So they all ate and were filled. [43] And they took up twelve baskets full of fragments and of the fish." (NKJV) Five thousand people ate because Jesus gave thanks over five loaves of bread and two fishes. Whatever you give thanks on will always increase. Sometimes you don't need much prayers, you just need the principle of thanksgiving and things will begin to move for you. Your thanksgiving can launch you into multiplication.

When Jesus was about to raise Lazarus, the first thing He did was to give thanks. Whatever you thank God for never dies.

2. Mercy

Psalm 102:13

"You will arise and have mercy on Zion; For the time to favor her, Yes, the set time, has come."(NKJV)

When you show mercy to people, you are qualified for greater mercy and when it comes, you become permanently locked in the intensive care unit of favour. So, as you walk in signs and wonders this year, you must understand that your thanksgiving must be intact and also your showing mercy.

Romans 9:15

"For He says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion."(**NKJV**)

May you become an element of mercy in Jesus name!

After receiving this revelation from the Lord, I began to ask, if thanksgiving and mercy provokes great wonders, what then is the vehicle? The Holy Spirit responded and told me Prayer.

In other words, as much as you show mercy and give thanks, make sure you do most of it by reminding God on your knees. The Holy spirit then cited the story of Daniel as a case study. In Daniel Chapter 1, you will see great things that happened in Daniel's life.

Daniel 1:20

"And in all matters of wisdom and understanding about which the king examined them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers who were in all his realm." (NKJV)

Daniel didn't do what everyone was doing but rather he denied himself. In chapter 2, something happened - the king had a serious dream which he could not interpret. He called all the astrologers, the magicians, they could not give meaning to the dream. Then Daniel was called upon and he asked the king for three days so he could wait on the God of wonders who knows all things. On the third day, he came, analyzed the dream, and explained the dream. Among every other person Daniel excelled.

Daniel 2:47 - 48

"The king answered Daniel, and said, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret." 48 Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon." (NKJV)

Daniel was a man that loved the Lord and a man of prayer but the other people in position of power noticed that Daniel was constantly being promoted, expanding territories even though he was a stranger in the land. Suddenly they decided to plot against Daniel.

Daniel 6:5

"Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God."(NKJV) The only thing they could find as a fault against Daniel was Prayer! What a man.

Then they approached the king and told him to make a law of idolatry for a certain period of time (Daniel 6:7-8) because they knew that it is impossible for Daniel to stay without praying. But in verse ten of that chapter, the Bible says:

Daniel 6:10

"Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days." (NKJV)

An important thing to know about men who experience wonders is that they enjoy praying; they give themselves to prayer.

Daniel was so bold that he didn't allow anybody to silence his relationship with God. As you journey this year, you must be bold to pray wherever you find yourself. Never hide your God no matter where you are.

Everytime you want to provoke great wonders in your life, pray. Don't let human decrees stop you. Be bold to speak up. When things are not going well and you keep quiet, refusing to pray concerning it, you will inevitably suffer. Don't keep quiet.

Another thing was that Daniel opened his windows towards Jerusalem because he understood the operation of the Word. He remembered Solomon's prayer of dedication at the temple:

1 Kings 8:28-30

Yet give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy, Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. [29] May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, 'My Name shall be there,' so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. [30] **Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place.** Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive. (NIV)

When you operate by convenant, convenant will favour you. If you want to enjoy God's wonders, operate in the Word of God. Obey the scriptures and you will enjoy the results of the scripture. Daniel prayed and activated the convenant of God over His life

Daniel knelt in prayer. Understand that in prayer, there are Postures. Kneeling is not the only posture In prayer, you can stand, roll or lie; whichever way, you must understand that there is a posture in the place of prayer.

The bible also mentions Consistency - "...he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, **as was his custom since early days."** Wonders -provoking prayers are not once, they are consistent in nature. Have a Place Of Prayer. Having a personal place of prayer is equally important and vital. Daniel had a place of prayer - an upper room. Where is your place of prayer?

God wants to do wonders in your life but it depends on how you pray.

Wonders inspite of accusations

Daniel 6:11-14

"Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. [12] And they went before the king, and spoke concerning the king's decree: "Have you not signed a decree that every man who petitions any god or man within thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?" The king answered and said, "The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which [a]does not alter." [13] So they answered and said before the king, "That Daniel, who is [b]one of the captives from Judah, does not show due regard for you, O king, or for the decreed that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day." [14] And the king, when he heard these words, was greatly displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he [c]labored till the going down of the sun to deliver him." (NKJV)

Daniel wasn't aware that people were watching him. He kept doing what what was right for him even though he knew that the decision they made through the passing of the law was wrong. I decree over you, every weapon against you is scattered

Wonders in spite of decree

"Then these men [a]approached the king, and said to the king, "Know, O king, that it is the law of the Medes and Persians that no decree or statute which the king establishes may be changed." [16] So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. But the king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you." (NKJV).

Service to Godis very essential, it is a major principle for His intervention.

Prayer

- Every negative judgement over my life is cancelled
- I declare, no more shame in life.