



# TRANSFORM

Magazine

July 2021  
Volume 4 Issue 7

## TITLE CHASERS

Reverend Priest Apostle

Bishop Pastor Chaplain Prophet

Reverend Priest Apostle Bishop Pastor

Chaplain Prophet Reverend Priest Apostle Bishop Pastor Chaplain

Prophet Reverend Priest Apostle Bishop Pastor Chaplain Prophet

Reverend Priest Apostle Bishop Pastor Chaplain Prophet Reverend Priest

Apostle Bishop Pastor Chaplain Prophet Reverend Priest Apostle Bishop Pastor Chaplain

Prophet Reverend Priest Apostle Bishop Pastor Chaplain Prophet Reverend Priest Apostle Bishop

Pastor Chaplain Prophet Reverend Priest Apostle Bishop Pastor Chaplain Prophet Reverend Priest

*“Are we winning souls or chasing the titles?”*

But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

John 10:12-13 KJV



**14** I am the good shepherd; I know my own, and my own know me  
**15** just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father and I lay  
down my life on behalf of the sheep.

**16** Also I have other sheep which are not from this pen; I need to  
bring them, and they will hear my voice; and there will be one flock,  
one shepherd.

**17** "This is why the Father loves me: because I lay down my life in  
order to take it up again!

**18** No one takes it away from me; on the contrary, I lay it down of my  
own free will. I have the power to lay it down, and I have the power to  
take it up again. This is what my Father commanded me to do."

John 10:14-18 CJB

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Roanoke Rapids, NC  
Sunday Morning  
August 1

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Bible Study 7:00 PM (AKT)

**Rev. Aley T. Williams**  
The Well AK, Founder & Pastor  
"Come to the Well"  
Sunday Morning  
August 8

**THURSDAY**  
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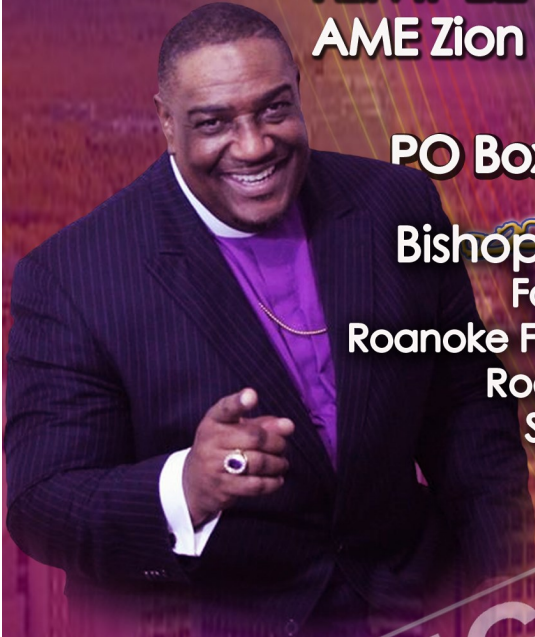
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# Are You Winning Souls Or Chasing The Titles?

By Eunice A. Christian

July 2021

**Ephesians 4:1-16** ~ <sup>1</sup>I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, <sup>2</sup>with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. <sup>7</sup>But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore He says:

***When He ascended on high,  
He led captivity captive,  
And gave gifts to men.***

<sup>9</sup>(Now this, He ascended—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; <sup>14</sup>that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, <sup>15</sup>but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

\* \* \*

You may have noticed the difference in the formatting of my article for this month's theme, ***Are You Winning Souls Or Chasing The Titles?*** Instead of providing definitions pertaining to words that make up the theme for this month (actually, this month's theme is clear and has little room for misinterpretation), in direct symmetry to the topic at hand, I was inspired to present definitions on the various *titles* that are prominent in Christianity—not all, of course—but the most common titles known that would better serve the focus of this July 2021 topic.

Some of the most notable titles and positions indicated in The Holy Scriptures that were recorded are as follows: *apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers* (Ephesians 4:11). I have also added the position, *deacon* (1 Timothy 3:8-13). Most positions refer to in the male gender, so that is how it is indicated below. However we know that all things work together for good, to those who love the Lord, who are the called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28)—both male and female. So, again, here are the titles:

## Apostle:

**Matthew 10:1** ~ <sup>1</sup>And when He [Jesus] had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.

**2 Corinthians 11:13** ~ <sup>13</sup>For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

## Prophet:

**Deuteronomy 18:18** ~ <sup>18</sup> *I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.*

**Matthew 7:15** ~ <sup>15</sup> *Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.*

## Evangelist:

**2 Timothy 4:2** ~ <sup>2</sup> *Preach the word!* Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

**2 Timothy 4:5** ~ But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

### Pastor:

**Acts 20:28** ~ <sup>28</sup> Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

**1 Peter 5:2** ~ <sup>2</sup> Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;

### Bishop:

**1 Timothy 3:1-2** ~ <sup>1</sup> This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. <sup>2</sup> A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;

**1 Timothy 3:3-7** ~ <sup>3</sup> not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; <sup>4</sup> one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence <sup>5</sup> (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); <sup>6</sup> not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. <sup>7</sup> Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

### Deacon:

**1 Timothy 3:8-13** ~ <sup>8</sup> Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, <sup>9</sup> holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. <sup>10</sup> But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. <sup>11</sup> Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. <sup>12</sup> Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. <sup>13</sup> For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

## For The Equipping Of The Saints

I do not want to present a message out of turn, but when I received the topic for this month, it brought back to remembrance negative experiences from my past—and some from a not-too-distant past.

I have been engaged with ministries who have appointed servants of God to positions (again, both male and female), such as deacons, teachers, pastors, and apostles—this was not uncommon. What was perplexing for some of these appointments; however, is when it came to positions such as *pastors* and *apostles*. (Note: according to some scholars, apostles and bishops are considered similar in duties and responsibilities.)

I witnessed individuals appointed to an apostolic and pastoral position when these individuals never had a flock, never even came close to establishing a church or separate ministry; nor has been considered an evangelist in the field, evident by circumstances that entailed their appointment by the leadership. *I have seen appointments on the apostolic level that was a declaration of those things to come (faith-based appointments), instead of upon what had transpired, but had not come to pass.*

Although The Holy Scriptures does not indicate a number of followers that would recognize someone as an apostle, bishop, or pastor, I would think that to hold any one of these titles would mean that you can easily be set apart from the rest of God's Chosen. *In other words, if a person ministers on street and has a group of individuals that he or she regularly engages with, would that person be considered a pastor?* In that case, everyone who ministers on the street or via electronic conferencing can be considered a pastor. I would believe, based upon The Holy Scriptures that there is much more to being a pastor, a bishop, or an apostle than that.

## Know Who Is Spiritually Feeding You

I stayed in a ministry for quite a long time—actually too long—before I mustered the courage to ask why Holy Communion was not presented to the congregation. I was informed that they were *Hebrews*. I was stunned. The Lord instructed His disciples to *Do this in remembrance of Me*. I was more than capable of doing so on my own or elsewhere, but that ministry was my home church—I did not want to engage in Holy Communion elsewhere—so that was *the final straw*, as the elders

would say. I left. *How do you honor leadership in the flesh more than Jesus, our Savior? I did not understand why it was necessary to take on the title Hebrew when we are all Gentiles!*

I also had the experience of meeting someone who wrote books on the Christian faith who offended me while promoting their personal endeavor. This person who had excelled beyond what I have done—I never published a book—communicated to me in a spirit of derision. The experience was so disheartening and uncomfortable—I was informed that I was doing too much. *What perplexes me is that why would anyone tell another that he or she is doing too much on behalf of our Lord and our God? What spirit is that? What is even more perplexing, this person had a title, and continues to have titles. How is such an action inspired by The Most High God?*

Recently, I experienced a rude awakening by someone who has a street ministry and holds the title *pastor* who committed an act that I could not believe. I had to work on releasing this situation from my heart. *How does anyone support calling him— or herself a deacon, evangelist, teacher, pastor, bishop, without demonstrating the spirit of love, compassion, or empathy, especially during a period of bereavement?* I had to remove a significant amount of detail about this situation after I typed it; it would not have served me to share it in detail, but the revelation about this individual was stunning in the worse way—actually shocking. This person had a street ministry for years, but turned a blind eye to someone—a dearly beloved that was considered a brother. I am working on letting this go; knowing that it cut deep at first, but my saving grace is that I know that God is the Judge of us all—and I must and will let it go. Yes; the topic of winning souls or chasing titles is a sensitive topic for me. ***For many are called, but few are chosen*** (Matthew 22:14); and it appears from time to time that those who we believe are chosen (for only God truly knows), at times do not look or act much differently than those who are cold and heartless; or who are out there in the world without the love of Christ Jesus.

### **Let My Actions Speak For Me**

I pray that I am not offending my Lord and my God for this month's message. I want to remain upright at all times. If I ever take on a title that represents my calling, I want my gifts to speak for me for that calling. I do not want a handful of individuals to bestow upon me any titles that never reflect my calling. Do not give me the title of apostle—yet, what just came to me while typing is that decades ago, I was one of the founders of a ministry that was incorporated. This ministry was formed in New York State, but the pastor relocated out-of-state where he lived. Even with that experience, in my heart, I would not consider myself or the other founding members as apostles. I had written messages, and have come forth and spoken, but I would not consider myself a preacher. Definitely do not refer to me as a pastor-in-the-making—*where is my flock? Outside in the streets?* I would not consider myself an under shepherd, although I can call and minister to individuals when led. A conference call may be a vehicle to reach out to others, but the world is doing that, too, via way of *Twitter, Instagram, Tic Tok, Facebook, Skype, and Zoom. Should administrators of such platforms who expound upon God's Word also be called an 'apostle,' 'pastor,' 'bishop' because they were able to get a group of individuals on the computer, or on the phone, on a regular basis?* It is written that The Good Shepherd will call, and the sheep will respond and come. Again, God is The Judge.

**Matthew 6:19-21** ~ <sup>19</sup> Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

### **Where Your Treasure Is**

I understand that multitudes mainly focus on ministry, so there is a dependence, to a degree, upon the goodness of others, whether financially or otherwise. However, if one in Christ sees a need

and refuses to assist because he or she wants to be paid, or believes attaining a title will give him or her more prestige, than that to me is placing one's spiritual wellbeing on the line. *Are you a pastor? Then why not share a page or two to an ecumenical magazine on a monthly basis?* If you hold any of these positions: an apostle, a bishop, a pastor, evangelist, teacher, or deacon, then The Lord and our God, by the power of The Holy Spirit should provide to you a fresh Rhema Word to share. As you hold a title that represents service to The Most High God, you should have at least one message from time to time that could truly be a blessing to others. Your title(s) should be supported by the fruit you bear (Galatians 5:22).

**Acts 19:11-17** ~ <sup>11</sup> Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, <sup>12</sup> so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them. <sup>13</sup> Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, *We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.* <sup>14</sup> Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. <sup>15</sup> And the evil spirit answered and said, *Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?* <sup>16</sup> Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. <sup>17</sup> This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

### **...But Who Are You?**

There are too many people suffering. There are too many people who are losing their way. There are too many lost souls who do not have someone to encourage him or her, *so why risk taking on a title that does not align with your calling?* You not only jeopardize the individual who seeks out someone who desires to hear or receive a spiritual covering or word, but because of your desire to take on a position that you are not called, for can cause *you* to eventually become spiritually corrupted. *What is your title? What do you call yourself? Can you support your given or self-proclaimed title with the duties and responsibilities that go with it? Are you winning souls, or are you simply chasing titles? Are you certain that God approves of the positions or titles pronounced upon you? Is The Holy Spirit evident in what you are doing? Are you losing your gifts, or are more destitute (whether spiritually or otherwise) than those you claim to serve?* That could be a sign that you are out of God's Will; especially, if your prophetic messages are not coming to pass. Be encouraged; you can make the change to do what is just and right—being called a Child of God is what truly matters. The other titles will not change your calling. What is for you, is for you. If you are chasing titles, let them be. Have comfort in knowing you are a King's Kid! You are a Child of The Living God (Romans 8:14). Your purpose is your purpose. Your calling is your calling.

### **The Titles That Matters Most**

When all is said and done, I pray that my Lord and my God calls me by the name He has for me that is written in The Lamb's Book of Life. I pray that when I transition, God will call me His good and faithful servant. I pray that my soul is kept by the Lord and I am called His. *How about you? Are you winning souls or are you chasing the titles?*

**James 2:14-20** ~ <sup>14</sup> What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, *Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,* but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? <sup>17</sup> Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. <sup>18</sup> But someone will say, *You have faith, and I have works.* Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. <sup>19</sup> You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! <sup>20</sup> But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?



\* \* \*

I would like to express my deepest and sincerest condolences to those who are experiencing grief and hardship during this COVID-19 pandemic. As I pray for my family, friends, and those I encounter, I pray for you, too.

May God's grace and mercies keep you; and that the joy of the Lord and the love of God which surpasses all understanding strengthen and encourage you always.

May God continue to bless and uplift all those who seek His Face, and may the Spirit of the Living God bless the works of those across the nations who serve to make this world a better place.

*Eunice A. Christian*

*Content Writer; Missionary*

## **Stay Encouraged**

We cannot truly fathom how great our Lord and God is, but what we can identify with is our Lord and our God's mercies towards us. Knowing that there are recorded accounts of how Jesus walked this earth—and knowing how He lived and died for us—should cause us to serve Him with an abundance of gratitude and humility. We know that we could never repay Him for what He has done, and continues to do for us, by the power of the Holy Spirit—we know this—but the way we can honor Him is to love and obey Him.

We should, therefore, be willing to spread the gospel so that the Holy Word may be received by all who will believe—and for those who truly believe, may we rejoice together, and be continually encouraged in knowing that we have a glorious expected end in Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 2:14-16** <sup>14</sup>Do all things without complaining and disputing, <sup>15</sup>that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup>holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

\* \* \*

*There is no greater gift than the power of God's redemption.*

*So, if you've have not done so already, give your heart to Jesus while you still have time.*

*Have a transformed mind, look to Jesus.*

Be blessed and be a blessing. ❤️

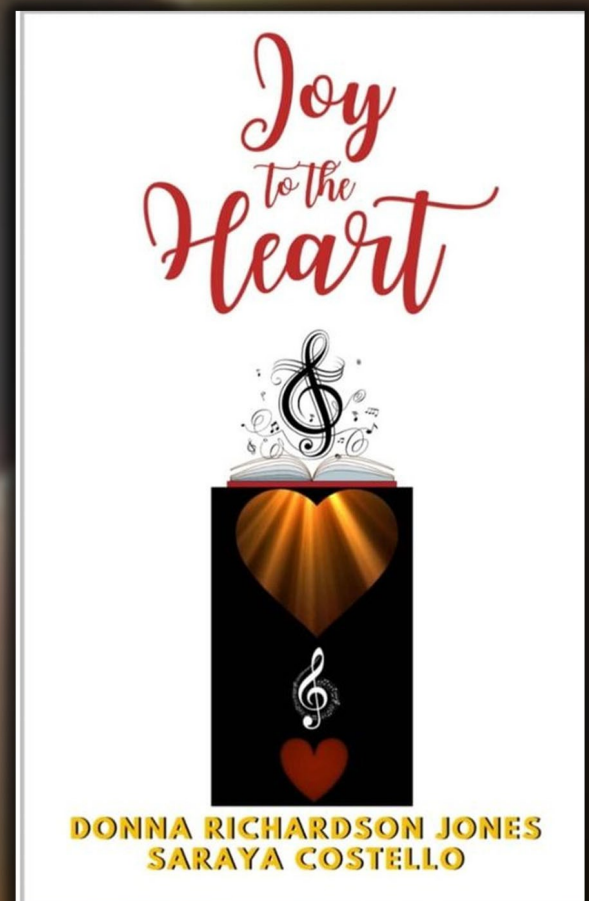
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\*\*Words in **bold** are words spoken by God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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# **Saving Souls or Chasing Titles?**

By Elder Diane Harvell

Today I see more enthusiasm for ordination services for people to step into some higher priestly position as that 'called' servant seems to exploit a sense of self-proclaimed achievement. Of the ministers today, I see less of a passion to see souls set free and delivered with a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. The ministers of God should be initiating having a new life in Christ which is a perpetual relationship because it is immeasurable, it is a spiritual **experience** rather than a spiritual **show**.

For the "priest", or Pastor, Minister, etc., the Clerical attire alone, represents that one is set apart to do God's work and will lead others to penitence for their sin. It should be worn in humility and respect to speak or preach the Good News of the bible. The Clerical attire is not to be worn as a self-righteous badge of honor.

Within our churches, I have seen "prophetic" declarations, declare empty promises of money, cars, houses and wealth, to a charlatan this may appear as a good con. We call these things prophecy or prophesying, but for a person that hear these swelling words, who knows nothing about God, this will cause them to equate this as a true approach to God and will seek false riches rather than a relationship with God because this is how Christ was presented to them from the church!

Yes, God will provide but **first** one must **seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness; then, ALL OF THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU. Matthew 6:33.**

Are we not concerned that we are trying to impress innocent souls and anyone who will listen with swelling words of vanity and with promises from the pulpit as if God does not see?! Or [are we not concerned](#) that God would become angry and pour out His wrath? Well, take a good look around you, the condition of the world, speaks to our apostasy.

I remember years ago on Sunday mornings on almost every street corner you could hear a choir singing from a church or a preacher preaching with the doors of the church remaining open for anyone who desired to come in whether they were sober or intoxicated, they knew they were in need of a Savior and they knew the church was the place to go. Today it is rare to hear preaching about heaven and hell or preaching about where your soul will spend eternity. Today we hear how to get rich by God "sermons" rather than the gospel news which proclaims Jesus' death, burial and resurrection for our sins with the persuasion to accept Him as Lord and Savior. Today we no longer hear preaching about eternal life. Yet today we are inundated with advertisements of ordinations and elections to the titles of Apostleship, or the Bishopric while the office of the 'Minister' seems to be of less significance. Today it seems, the more impressive the title, the more entitlement the "servant" seems to have.

I believe it is ok to desire to perform the work of the Lord. Nevertheless, when the

word of God says he who desires the office of a bishop desires a good work listen to what it says:

**I Timothy 3:1-7-This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.**

**v-2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach;**

**v-3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;**

**v-4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;**

**v-5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God)?**

**v-6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.**

**v-7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.**

So, the prerequisite to Minister is not to boast of the **title or to be a performer**, but one must have a good reputation as a husband, a teacher, a warm person given to hospitality, sober and sober minded, not desirous of receiving goods and money because of greed, not a fighter but patient & humble, one that can take care of his own house and have respectful children, a minister must not be filled up with pride, and he must have a good reputation.

The Lord made himself of **no reputation-Philippians 2:7-8.**

So, is it the souls that we desire, or are we chasing the titles for prestigious purposes?!

Considering all that is happening around us and everything that is taking place upon the earth speaks that we're closer to the Lords return than we have ever been and it appears to me that the church is very unbalanced because our focus has not been on the Lords return, the Lord's purpose or lost souls.

What I am seeing today causes me to be a bit frustrated concerning what is going on within the church of today despite all the end time signs that we are seeing & experiencing. Plagues are occurring in different forms all around us but because so much is going on in the earth, we have become distracted from the actual events that are occurring in the spirit realm. That's how it was in the days of Noah. The Lord instructed Noah to build an ark that would save many souls, but the people of the world ignored him, and they continued to eat drink and be merry, although Noah preached salvation, and prepared the ark but all souls were lost except eight and they were from Noah's household.

So, are we true Ministers, Bishops, Leaders and Apostles concerned with the saving of souls or are we chasing privilege and power?

Paul said all things are lawful, but all things are not expedient for me meaning with discretion yes, I can take part in all things, but will these things edify God? Will what I do edify the body of Christ? So, are we the example according to I Timothy 3:1-7? Are we blameless?

Or are we compromising who we are for a temporary title and omitting our main purpose which is preaching eternal life to a dying soul?

[I'm concerned for](#) the church today, I'm concerned for the people today, I'm concerned for whom God has called us to. Where are they? Where are we? What are we chasing, heaven or hell?

May God Bless You All!

## SOME THOUGHT PROVOKING QUESTIONS

They say a picture paints a thousand words and sends a message. When people view us or approach us we give off a certain aura about ourselves and they perceive something about our nature or personality. If we are receiving the wrong responses and being disrespected then should we reevaluate our presentation? If we say we are Christians and you look into a crowd should we blend in or stand out. When someone approaches you do you compile them or repel them?

Come experience the Spirit of the Lord with us!



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Howard Sr.*

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SUNDAY MORNING  
11:30 A.M.

BIBLE STUDIES  
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# **Watch, Listen and Learn**

Dr. C.A. Dangerfield II

How deep is the wound that stole your drive and zest for life? Let's face the fact we are all human and we each respond differently to event that impact our lives differently. It is also a fact that there are various outcomes that will develop based off this. Some will be strengthened, while others might weaken. One thing that both extremes have in common we learn something from the experience that aids in developing our character, as well as increasing or diminishing our drive. Some people will demonstrate extreme or subtle changes which will become noticeable.

When we've lost our drive most internalizes and can become very defensive and eventually withdrawn. Demonstrating irritability when that particular topic is breached and brought to the surface. Showing it as a very tender and sensitive area that one doesn't wish to deal with. Now don't get that confused with the response given to an individual who is critical about everything people do outside of themselves. A totally different issue and cause all together. Because they challenge others viewpoint to feel more relevant. Just that statement alone would insight denial and bring up defenses to justify their view. Rather than having open dialogue to understanding so many unconsidered factors that would be learned as well has revealed therefore providing a greater understanding.

The unique characteristics of any given individual has a starting point that justifies the nature of their beliefs. Our environment and atmosphere of initiation helps in creating our foundation in which we create our character. Limited exposure creates limited understanding when we venture out and mingle with others. Depending on our individual convictions on any given subject matter will be shown within our responses. Whether we choose to be open to listen and dialogue for a greater understanding or whether we have a dogmatic arrogant defensive response with a lack of understanding. Whereby conflict can and usually does ensue creating a non-healthy environment. Creating the beginning of a breakdown unless a reversal of condition can be applied.

Insert from the book "Praising my Pond" by Elder Diane Harvell

"As I stood and watched all of this play out, my heart began to race. I couldn't believe what I'd just seen and heard. Why was Joe dead? Why would Richard ask Mommy such a thing? Richard left and Mommy walked out of the kitchen. I quietly sat on the metal step chair in the kitchen and wondered WHY????"



Visit her website [www.nowatw.org](http://www.nowatw.org) and order your copy today.



# Soul Saving or Title Chasing

Dr. C.A. Dangerfield II

For many many years, I have gone to church and have been caught up in the process of attending as well as the institutional routines of various denominations where some seek to be superior over one another. Whereby we begin to fall away from the principles and purpose that God truly had intended for mankind. Which is defined in his Word but skewed to some degree because man manipulates it rather than truly studies to gain an understanding of His principles and full purpose. So, we hit and miss until such a time that the scales of blindness are pulled away from our eyes where darkness fades and light appear in its fullness. Truly humbling us to our correct posturing before an awesome almighty God. The measurement of this statement is based on the outcomes that we begin to experience due to our obedience to the guiding of the Holy Spirit. Which enhances our relationship with God because of increased firsthand knowledge leading to a greater understanding and newfound wisdom.

With everything, there is a measure of change but the fundamental foundation remains the same. We build on the basic principles that continue to sustain us. However lately the focus has begun to shift in so many areas. That which used to be the main focus is slowly slipping in the ranking of priorities and the household of faith takes on a different demeanor than before. Due to lacking standards which use to be what stood out to identify us as children of the lamb. There are more compromises in play for the sake of numbers and popularity so it becomes difficult to see the uniqueness that God had placed in His children because of the counterfeits and lowered standards in operation. There used to be a defining line that was greatly visible but now it appears as a faint shadow. Because the integrity of the church has changed with some houses of worship. Confusing those who are seeking a loving father that will guide them into purpose. The other issue for some is that the church is conforming to the lifestyle of the world. So they ask where then is the renewing of the mind? How are we proving what is that good, acceptable, and perfect will of God?

The focus seems to have shifted from redemptive values that realign us with the principles and the mandate of God. Helping us to discover our true purpose placing us on the pathway to fulfilling our intended life's fulfillment that will glorify God our Father. This would be our ultimate expectation; however, the atmosphere of today's world has become so self-centered and somewhat toxic, mankind is performing a balancing act on the tight wire call reprobate mindset. The reason for coming to this conclusion is based on conversations I have had with those who chose to travel on this tight wire failing to understand that just one miss-step is devastation unless the mercies of God intervene in the midst of the fall. Even so, is the misconception of those who say they were called but lack the knowledge and compassion that was demonstrated by our savior Jesus Christ. If we study the scriptures, we will see in Jesus that he didn't seek recognition for himself. He sought to serve and fulfill that which His Father had sent Him forth to do. He never sidestepped in His mission nor

was He ever found to be caught up in himself. He drew people to Him because of His spirit. "With love and kindness have I drawn thee" He has a magnetic presence therefore there was no reason to promote himself. He focused on the work he was sent to perform.

Soul saving is everyone's mission as an ambassador for Christ that should be our focus first. Genuine love and concern for our fellow man. When speaking with those who are turned off by the church there are many reasons given. Some are valid and others are based on a misunderstanding of what church is all about. We are all responsible within the household of faith for our actions of compiling or repelling people we come in contact with. Our words bring life or cause death by destroying another's growth through rude comments and lack of compassion. We should always reflect back on the challenges we incurred as we transition from our former selves and realize that for some it wasn't an instant process. But, actual battles for the redemption we desired, so with that knowledge and understanding we must demonstrate patience with others who are within their individual process to fully transition to their new lifestyle. With the gained wisdom that we who have been able to cross over to that which God has for us. We must embrace those others with encouragement even in the moments of trials and errors that they remain steadfast for their mark which is a place within the Kingdom.

Elevation for all comes through our relationship with God and as the Word states we must be careful "...not to think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think." I like the version of this passage as found in the CJB (Complete Jewish Bible) for Romans 12:3 "For I am telling every single one of you, through the grace that has been given to me, not to have exaggerated ideas about your own importance. Instead, develop a sober estimate of yourself based on the standard which God has given to each of you, namely, trust." In understanding this passage of scripture, we must not allow ourselves to be caught up in chasing titles, especially without genuine knowledge that in turn discourages those seeking a closer walk with God and not being caught up in bondage with man. Seeking elevation for the purpose of prestige and advantage. This is not the pathway of salvation and we must keep ourselves and our minds in a place of humility so we can be an effective witness for the Lord.

My first *Did You Know?* segment was inspired by my brother

## ***Ralph P. Edwards***

who recently transitioned on July 17, 2021. Big Brother Ralph was a veteran; he served two branches of the military: the Air Force and the Navy. His final resting place is in a national cemetery.

During the preparations for Big Brother Ralph's final resting place, I learned of the significance of his DD-214.



### *Do You Know?*

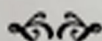
... about the importance of a veteran having ready and available proof of their honorable discharge (ex: a DD-214) in order to be buried in a national cemetery?

### *Did You Know?*

... that approximately 74% of male veterans in state prison and 77% of veterans in federal prison received an honorable discharge or a general discharge under honorable conditions?\*

### *Did You Know?*

... if an honorably discharged U.S. veteran dies while serving time for a year or more, that a veteran's military benefits could be, in whole or in part, denied?



\*Bureau of Justice Statistics. (<https://bjs.ojp.gov/library/publications/veterans-prison-survey-prison-inmates-2016>)

# C.V.M.G.F.A.

*Invites you to join us at our*



## *Table Talk*

*Apostle, Dr. Stephanie Roberts,  
Bshp D L Aiken,  
Pastor Ella J. Alexander*

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## Make a Stand

Dr. C. A. Dangerfield II

Stop allowing other people to typecast your role in life. We were created by God with gifts, talents, and abilities. When we are connected in a relationship with Him these are revealed and His expectations for us are fulfilled. Just because someone assumes things about another doesn't always make it so. God has the final say. You may start out as a Shepard boy tending the sheep but God is the one who ultimately makes you a King. Just like David because my appearance might appear as a ruddy boy guiding sheep where I developed the skills of a protector to take out bears, lions, and wolves. Growing from this level of confidence and trust in God who provided this ability. My mindset and faith were built up so that when those who were more senior in maturity and stature coward and gave up. I stood up came forth in the Word of God and was confident in Faith. Spoke directly to the Giant with the detail of his demise using a slingshot and carrying three stones (The Father, The Son, and Holy Spirit) and carried out his fate. So when the dust cleared he was down on his face. The moral of the story is it doesn't matter what others think. When you believe "I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me!" Then your giants too will fall. Gather your three stones, of prayer, fasting, and praise, Sling your weapon of faith and watch your giant fall, and silence those who like to typecast because they have no idea who you are. "For I know the thoughts I think towards you sayeth the Lord, thoughts of peace and not evil to give you an expected end. Jeremiah 29:11. Stand on His Word!



IN TODAY'S  
CLIMATE

IT'S TIME TO REPENT &  
come to the place of Humility

Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good, lead me into the  
land of uprightness. Psalms 143:10

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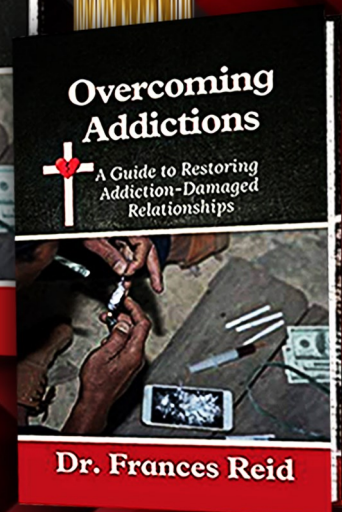
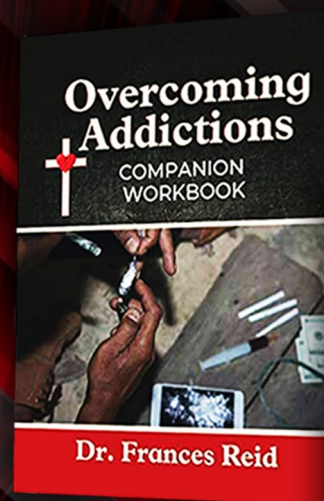
# Overcoming Addictions

Available at

**amazon**



Overcoming Addictions: Companion Workbook Paperback \$14.99



A Guide to Restoring Addiction-Damaged Relationships Paperback \$14.99

Overcoming Addictions is a powerful new resource to shine light on how addiction destroys relationships, as well as tools to support those who are on the road to recovery. Each day God continues to tap the resources of heaven's loom to weave divine healing to the tattered souls of His people. The resources that are identified in this book have been used with spiritual guidance to bring about renewal and transformation to countless individuals. The purpose of Overcoming Addictions is to combine the study of Scripture with other methods of ministry including the Twelve Step program, to guide addicts through an experience of restoring broken relations via transformation. Through meditation and journaling, participants will be exposed to biblical truths that will transform them, aligning them with the character and ways of God. Through this encounter, they will overcome the poverty, addiction, and destruction associated with their addictive behavior and emotional dependencies. When coupled with the Overcoming Addictions Companion Workbook, this powerful tool becomes a blueprint for substance abuse recovery programs facilitated by faith-based organizations.

# Delusion, Deflections and Deception

Dr. C. A. Dangerfield II

There is a critical error that mankind has continued to perpetuate for generations. We are so oblivious to it that we never rarely realize it until we take the time to stop seat back and observe. In doing this God will speak to you and points it out to your understanding and reveals this critical error. For me, I actually opened my mouth and said Wow!

I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: Marvellous are thy works; And that my soul knoweth right well. Psalm 139:14 KJV. This particular verse points out that we were marvelous work which lends to the understanding that we are unique. The entire Psalms 139 is enlightenment to how vast God is into our existence as well as how our respective relationships should be.

Mankind errors due to the fact that we are always classifying and characterizing any and everything through generalizations that should not be. We can not deeply classify anyone based on gender, cultural or racial basis. We will miss the mark every time and run the risk of offending another. Through our methods of classification based on what we think we see or assume to hear, it is literally deeper than that. Uttering the wrong primus from our own conclusion. We can't make broad statements without actual facts. One identifier doesn't always apply to another. Depending on the depth of the scar we render the reconciliation we can establish. Once across the lips activates the outcome.

Delusion, Deflection, and Deception are all tactics used to be contrary to the will and principles of God. Man continues to chase after darkness allowing himself to participate in confusion that brings forth strife and division as though it's of the proper things to do. When the Word of God speaks clearly of the benefits of unity as the desired course for mankind.

When we take a moment to be quiet and not contribute to the chatter. But simply watch and pray which is an instruction given within the Word of God. Our observation brings forth knowledge that allows us to properly pray for guidance to gain wisdom from God. Not operating within our own selfishness, entitlement, and disobedience. Having the ability to effectively see and understand the Will of God for any given situation so in turn, He may get the Glory behind our obedience. Neglecting to do so we sacrifice the serenity that could be gained by our obedience and cause others to suffer in our disobedient and contrary nature.

When this becomes the fuel for our natural man begins to destroy all of the gains to which he has made by the grace and mercies of God. Our mindset transcends into that of a reprobate mind traveling through a pathway of darkness oblivious to any sort of light that will allow us to exit the pathway towards destruction. If we pay attention to history and study the Word of God it is totally reflective of showing the direction we are heading in to give us the opportunity not to repeat outcomes that have already been displayed. Remember that the Word of God teaches us that there is nothing new

under the sun. So we can truly learn from history if we apply ourselves to studying for a greater understanding and the right perspective on seeing things as they should be.

I would venture to say that we are smart enough to comprehend right from wrong or should you prefer good from evil. It comes down to wills that of obedience or disobedience. He refers to us in His Word sometimes as children. Man does at various times display a mischievous childlike nature pushing barriers design to keep us safe. Because of the defiant spirit that tries to reign, we face the consequences of our actions and therefore experience correction or severe wrath due to our transgressions. If we are a manic delinquent it takes many trials to get the message over to a comprehension and understanding reality. We once again demonstrate God's love and compassion for us through His grace and mercy.

We fail in the fact that we do not acknowledge our shortcomings and push forward in delusional misguided thinking. Deflecting blame as we journey forward on life's path using Deception as a motive to gain validation for our actions. This is a foolish way of living and thinking. We must constantly push to humble ourselves or we will be turned over to a reprobate.

Do you envy others?

Why, what's your gift?

## Something to think about!

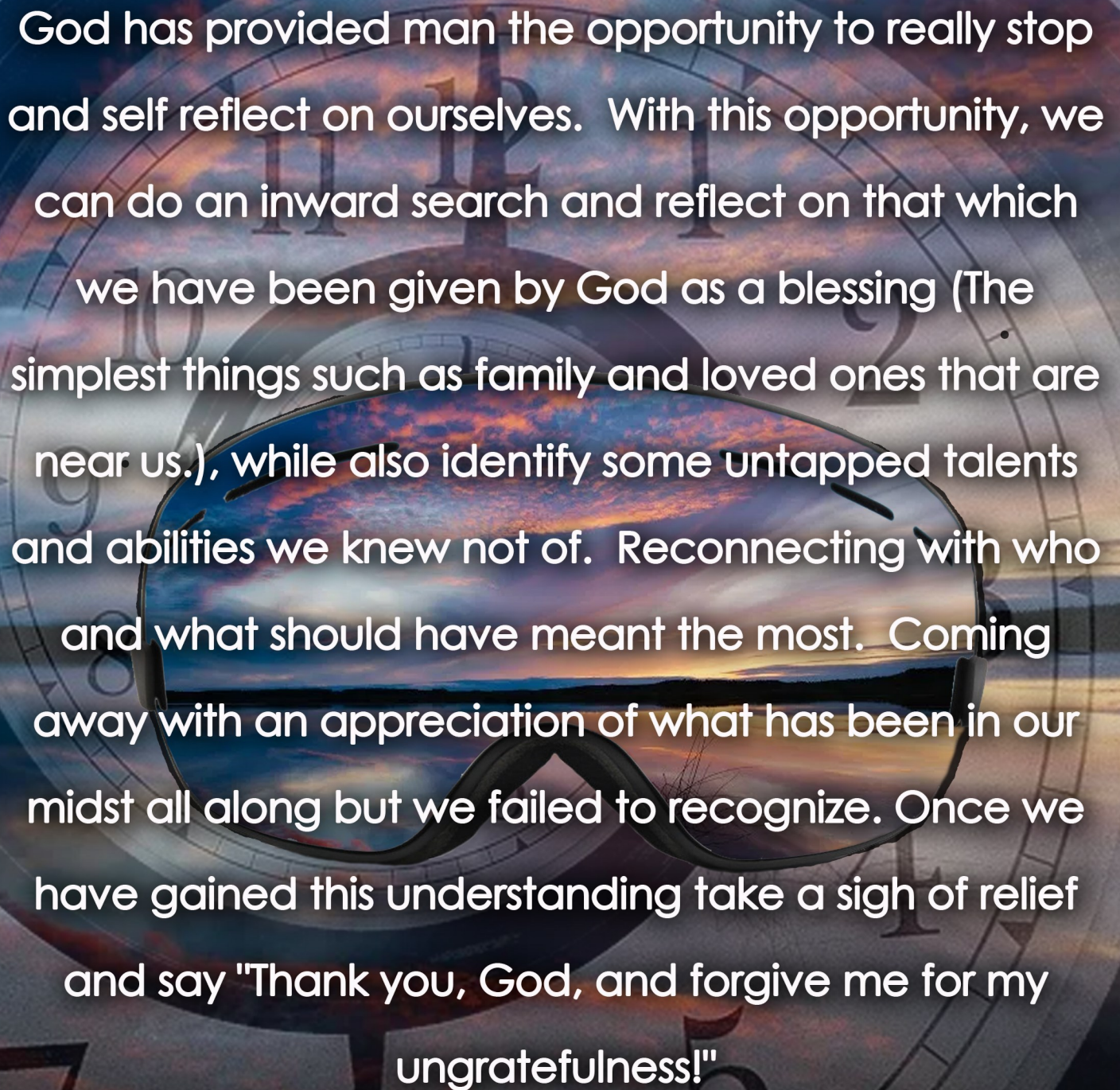
Do you find yourself being envious of others who are operating within their gifting? Then it's obvious that you have too much time on your hands and are unaware of your own gifts. God created us all with a purpose, gifts, and talents. Search within so they can bless others without. Your gift will make room for you!

Do you envy others?

TransformU 

Why, what's your gift?





God has provided man the opportunity to really stop and self reflect on ourselves. With this opportunity, we can do an inward search and reflect on that which we have been given by God as a blessing (The simplest things such as family and loved ones that are near us.), while also identify some untapped talents and abilities we knew not of. Reconnecting with who and what should have meant the most. Coming away with an appreciation of what has been in our midst all along but we failed to recognize. Once we have gained this understanding take a sigh of relief and say "Thank you, God, and forgive me for my ungratefulness!"

**TIME**  
*for Reflection!*

# We Need A

Taking  
Responsibility  
Applying the  
Necessary  
Steps  
Focused  
On Overcoming  
Resistance  
Moving in  
Authority  
Towards  
Intended  
Outcome  
Newness



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