

AUTHORITY



GEORGE AKALONU

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Foreword

All saints who have been part of the process of birthing this Kingdom Culture resource are acknowledged in both the imprint page as well as the postscript. To Elohim is all the glory for release of His Grace, in 21 years, to apprehend His Heart and download same for distribution to the Kingdom Church!

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Use of Hebraic Names of the Most High

Yahweh, Elohim, Yeshua. During our walk with the Lord, we discovered by leading of Holy Spirit how fundamentally flawed was the intrusion of Rome into the gospel from 4th Century AD. Replacement Theology led Rome to take away all Hebraic/Jewish connections as root of what is now called the Christian Faith. What He has led us to do is to call our Father by the Name He revealed Himself to Israel which is Yahweh. In the same way, rather than call our Creator by the generic title God, we find it more appropriate to call Him by the Hebraic Name He revealed to humanity through Moses which is Elohim. The Name, Elohim properly conveys His Unity in Plurality as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! We also call our King the Name His Father gave Him, Yeshua as well as the Anglicized translation, Jesus derived from the Greek translation, Ioseus.

We do this as led by Holy Spirit, not as part of the so-called sacred Names movement. Neither do we subscribe to the legalistic methods of Judaizers who are intent on dragging saints into the dead works and rituals of Judaism. We do not condemn or malign those who have not yet caught this depth of revelation. Please feel free to call the Most High by what He reveals to you and what you are comfortable with.

Preface for the Kingdom Culture Series

We have tarried before the Lord for some time to receive a rhema concerning how to introduce the books in the series you are about to read. He directed us to share a little bit of how He ordered our steps over a 21-year period between 1996-2017.

In 1996, the Lord called us out of denominationalism to serve His Body and Kingdom. As we resigned from a Pastoral calling and began to serve Him and the Body in a community in Africa (Owerri, Imo State of Nigeria), we held on to one critical vision He released beginning August 1996. At that time, we joined other saints to lament the sad state of Africa on almost all fronts of life. It was surreal to hear the Lord comfort us by saying He had appointed His Church in Africa as instrument of a quick work: Rescuing His Kingdom program in the earth realm from corruption in preparation for the return of King Yeshua, Jesus.

In August 2006, He directed us to relocate to London which as centre of the world would make our Acts 1:8 assignment more impactful on a global scale. Looking back, because we did not see it then, it is significant that it was 100 years after Azusa Street Revival that the Lord in 2006 birthed Global School of Ministry as a catalyst of Reformation, Restoration, and Revival. Again, we did not see clearly then how extensively it was to be used to rediscover Truths which were missed out by Martin Luther in the Protestant Reformation of 1517.

Interestingly, the Lord used various means to make it clear what He was about to do was not raise a man or woman, like Martin Luther was raised prominently and publicly. But rather activate a company of saints worldwide with understanding of Him and the Church. A company of saints who embrace His Kingdom pattern and take their place as His sons who would do all His will. In this regard, the Lord made it clear the election of His Church in Africa was not for the purpose of building an 'African Cultural Church'. The wider and more strategic scope was to use it to use His remnant 'out of the seed of Ham' to impact and connect His

seed out of Shem and Japheth to constitute the fourth race which is the Elect Remnant or ‘one new man’ spoken of by Apostle Paul.

In other words, the focus of the Lord was simply to use the Global School of Ministry project to activate His elect remnant to walk in unity of the Faith. And, be empowered to represent Him and the Kingdom right where they are in various corners of the world where He preserved them from the claws of Babylon. It was then Holy Spirit provided illumination of this anchor scripture:

Romans 11:5 (KJV) *5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.*

There is a simple, yet grand key to understand the fundamental difference between the Martin Luther Protestant Reformation and the Kingdom Culture project. The Reformation of Martin Luther was designed to ‘Protest’ some of the dogma and practices of the Roman Catholic Church when he received revelation of their unbiblical origins.

The Kingdom Culture project, on the other hand, is designed to take the Church back to what it was before the Roman Empire embraced the larger wing of the Church which was tired of persecution and martyrdom in the 4th Century. In other words, through the Kingdom Culture project, the Omega or End Time Church will be a logical conclusion of what had started in the Alpha or First Century Church.

Unlike other reformation projects before it, Kingdom Culture, through the Global School of Ministry and annual Master Class series of the Global Advanced Mentorship Program have two simple keys: Get the Church back into the ‘School’ Paradigm where Study of the Word is central to both congregational and general ministry. Second, to challenge all saints to receive the Four-dimensional work of Holy Spirit: He Is the Seal of redemption; He uses the Word to Transform Life of Believers from inside out, He Unites saints to live as one indivisible Body of Yeshua notwithstanding their locations or sects; He releases Power through which

saints are able to demonstrate the awesome powers of the Risen Yeshua, Jesus!

These are accomplished when leaders and saints sincerely and diligently embrace the ministry of Holy Spirit and the Word through the T>T>E>A>R process. It is one where leaders are used by Holy Spirit to:

- **Teach** saints the whole counsel of Holy Scriptures
- **Train** saints to discover and take their places as effective members of the Body of Yeshua
- **Equip** saints with what it takes to walk in victory through mentorship and support
- **Activate** the Gifts and callings of Holy Spirit which may lie dormant in them
- **Release** the saints into productive ministry. This may be by public ordination or Commissioning during ministry events.

500 years after the Protestant Reformation of 1517, the Lord Yeshua, Jesus is activating throughout the earth realm this framework. The framework through which Holy Spirit will undertake training of Reformers who will receive proper understanding of the Pauline Epistles and Master Plan of the true Kingdom Church contained therein, and build individual lives, ministries and congregations accordingly.

This Kingdom Culture project involves release of 40 books on dedicated websites where all saints worldwide who desire to discover, pursue and fulfil their callings as the Royal Priesthood after the order of Melchizedek can find the teaching resources to train in the comfort of their own homes.

On the other hand, these 40 books will put in the hands of the great company of elect ministers across the world who know the flock is not theirs but Yeshua's. These books are tools with which to systematically transform the operating systems of the ministries committed to their trust from 'Theatres' to 'Schools'. These books collectively make up the curriculum with which to launch their own Global School of Ministry project. The curriculum will ensure every two or three years, fresh sets of

fit for-purpose ministers of the gospel who will serve the Lord with all their hearts are produced.

All 40 books on the websites constitute what it takes to root out the leaven of Babylon derived from our various experiences with Christian Religion. They therefore constitute what we need to embrace and walk in true Kingdom Culture. It is through ministry of the Word that the Church will be prepared and made ready for return of her Groom:

Ephesians 5:25-27 (KJV) *25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*

Please intentionally study this and the other resources in the series prayerfully under unction of Holy Spirit with your Bible to confirm all the points made. As you train, necessity is upon you to make your vessel available for Holy Spirit to use to transmit these empowering truths to other saints who yearn for empowerment!

Psalms 68:11 (KJV) *11 The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.*

2 Timothy 2:2 (KJV) *2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*

**May Elohim, our heavenly Father make you the instrument of
His Grace He designed you to be!**

Chapter 1

Introduction

This eBook will examine the concept of authority to ascertain the mind of Elohim on this critical issue. An issue at which many saints stumble. In so doing, it is essential for the household of faith to balance two seemingly opposite principles: Liberty and Order.

Concerning true Liberty, the Word is clear that True Liberty is a self-evident sign of Presence of Holy Spirit:

2 Corinthians 3:17 (KJV) *17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.*

On the other hand, it is also a fact of life that the concept of Kingdom connotes order.

1 Corinthians 14:40 (KJV) *40 Let all things be done decently and in order.*

Standing as a pivot between these two concepts and lifestyles is the critical issue of Authority.

When Authority fails or is absent, disorder sets in. The result is chaos – both in the spirit and in the natural.

Judges 17:6 (KJV) *6 In those days there was no king in Israel, but everyman did that which was right in his own eyes.*

Judges 21:25 (KJV) *25 In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes*

1 Corinthians 11:34 (KJV) *34 And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that ye come not together unto condemnation. And the rest will I set in order when I come.*

Titus 1:5 (KJV) *5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:*

Synopsis

These questions will be answered through the various chapters:

1. What really is Authority?
2. What is the basis of Authority?
3. Who is an authority and on what basis?
4. What do we owe authorities in the society?
5. What do we owe authorities in the Church
6. What is the “sword” of authority?
7. What are the dangers of coming against authority?
8. How should authority be exercised in the Church?

We shall also consider these precious but misunderstood and misapplied concepts:

9. Mentorship, Apostolic Fatherhood, Covering and Accountability
10. The place of loyalty in the New Testament Church
11. The Ordination Manual will also be presented as part of this short course designed to bring the Kingdom Church into True Authority

What really is authority? Romans 13:1-7

Definition: From a Kingdom point of view, authority is “the degree of the Kingdom mandate divinely conferred upon a chosen vessel or vessels for the purpose of positively influencing Believers to relate with Him the way they ought to”.

In the case of civic authority, it is the Elohim ordained capacity to influence and lead people to do what is right in this present dispensation

of life until the perfect state is activated in the earth realm when the kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of Yeshua.

In effect, just as the Law was a schoolmaster to hold humanity in check until Grace came, so has Elohim ordained that humans will be ruled by spiritual governments in The Church and civic authorities in the society until when Yeshua, Jesus returns to run the only perfect government in the future phase of the Kingdom of God (Revelation 20:1-6).

The Basis of Human Authority

In the complexity and simplicity of Elohim, all authority on earth is vested in the person of Yeshua, Jesus.

Colossians 2:10 (KJV) *10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:*

When He was incarnated, it was to meet the legal grounds of being the Potentate over this planet. This planet was given by a divine legal deed to sons of men.

Psalms 115:16 (KJV) *16 The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.*

As Hebrews 2:1-18 explains, Yeshua Jesus was incarnated to empathize with human kind, so He could effectively reconcile humans to Elohim.

Hebrews 2:9-18 (KJV) *9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. 10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11 For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, 12 Saying, I will declare thy*

name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee. 13 And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me. 14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. 17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

This explains why He stated clearly after the resurrection all authority in heaven and earth had been handed over to Him.

Matthew 28:18 (KJV) *18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*

This issue is also put into proper perspective in this scripture:

Philippians 2:5-11 (KJV) *5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

This affirms the testimony of Colossians 1:15-20 about the centrality of Yeshua, Jesus in the Kingdom of Elohim.

Colossians 1:12-20 (KJV) *12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: 15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. 19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.*

In any case, all things were created by Yeshua and for His glory.

John 1:3 (KJV) *3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.*

Basis of Human Authority

From a functional point of view, the Lord delegates a measure of this awesome authority in Yeshua, Head of All Principality and Power, to human vessels of His own choice. They are to utilize that awesome authority not to exercise dominion or ruler-ship! Rather, the purpose of the awesome authority conferred on specific vessels is to empower them with Grace or Divine ability to serve the brethren, so they are empowered to grow up in Yeshua and attain to the fullness of His stature.

Matthew 20:20-28 (KJV) *20 Then came to him the mother of Zebedees children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. 21 And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She*

saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom. 22 But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able. 23 And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father. 24 And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren. 25 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. 26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; 27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: 28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (KJV) *11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*

Ultimately, spiritual authorities have the sacred responsibility of leveraging their Grace to ensure believers committed to their trust are

presented perfect before Yeshua at His coming. In this way, no one misses the manifest phase of the Kingdom in the future.

2 Corinthians 11:1-3 (KJV) *1 Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me. 2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. 3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.*

Since the fall, human government of Civic Authority has been an instrument for holding back the inbred narcissist tendencies of mortals.

Even though the generality of human beings will prefer the ease and deceitfulness of sinful life, the Lord still exercises care to lift those He wills and brings down those who are not approved as the heathen King Nebuchadnezzar recognised.

Daniel 4:34-37 (KJV) *34 And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: 35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou? 36 At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me. 37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.*

The scripture in Romans 13:1-7 therefore makes it clear all human authorities are set in place and derived their validity from Elohim. Those who resist authority therefore are deemed to resist Elohim Himself!

Romans 13:1-7 (KJV) *1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. 6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.*

While many saints struggle with this profound truth much more people even struggle at the reality that Elohim has not permitted the present phase of His Kingdom to operate as a headless monster in which people can do whatever they please. The same Holy Spirit that brings liberty is the same Holy Spirit that keeps everything on earth in order.

The instruments through which the Lord Yeshua, Jesus exercises His headship of the Church are the human authorities He sets in place and who remain connected to Him. Authority is conferred therefore on whom the Lord wills.

However, in the divine economy, those who are recipients of this gracious blessing of Elohim are supposed to show their suitability by allowing the Holy Spirit to develop in them the quality of character fit for purpose. In other words, authority is conferred by Divine election while character is

developed by the recipient as he or she lays hold of the Grace of Elohim released by Holy Spirit for sustaining its validity.

A sinning human authority in the church, for instance, negates the authority of Elohim who demands holiness of those who walk with Him.

1 Peter 1:15-16 (KJV) *15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.*

In the same way, he who rules over the affairs of men must be just, ruling in the fear of God. Otherwise, he or she becomes a tyrant who becomes unfit to lead.

2 Samuel 23:3 (KJV) *3 The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.*

Two extremes must be avoided in looking at the subject matter.

a. Religion: The first is the perspective of those engrossed with the spirit of religion. Here, authorities are presented as the be all and end all. The result is a stiffness and evident misuse of authority to enslave the saints and stifle their growth in Yeshua.

b. Libertarian: On the other extreme, is the concept of liberty espoused by some. Here, authority is despised and presented as an oppressive mechanism which constrains liberty. Back of this mindset is the very plan of Satan to unleash in the closing chapter of this age, the spirit of lawlessness and disorder.

It is a trite issue to remind us that everywhere people live in a state of lawlessness, holistic progress is stifled, and uncertainty rules the atmosphere. Countries with this feature often end up as Banana Republics irrespective of quantum of natural resources they have.

On the other hand, Authoritarian regimes where leaders are not subject to Elohim and trample on liberties of their subjects also end up as mockery of government.

Even dysfunctional families are often known by one glaring fact: Absence of law and order often defined by the absence or lack of engagement of fatherhood.

c. The third and truthful way is that which is the balanced one anchored on the Word of Elohim. The Word is the ultimate authority that governs the life of saints and describes the course of history unto the end. Interestingly, both the religious spirit and the pseudo Kingdom gospel are known by their deviations from the Word. Religion adds to the Word while the Pseudo Kingdom gospel subtracts from essential core of the Word!

The Word makes it clear the ultimate trump card of Satan in the last days will be to foist on the world an evil personality aptly called the man of sin; the man of lawlessness or the son of perdition.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 (KJV) *3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.*

All the titles for the anti-Christ point to one truth: Lack of order is of Satan. Rejection of authority amounts to rejection of Yeshua Himself who is the Head of all Principality and Power (Colossians 2:10).

Speaking of authority, Yeshua Jesus marvelled at the faith of the Centurion and proclaimed his faith as the greatest He saw in Israel. It is noteworthy the Centurion's faith was anchored on his understanding of the principle of authority!

Matthew 8:5-13 (KJV) 5 *And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,* 6 *And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.* 7 *And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him .8 The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.* 9 *For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.* 10 *When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.* 11 *And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.* 12 *But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.* 13 *And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.*

Review Questions

1. Please define Authority.
2. Kindly describe 3 specific things you learnt from this chapter.
3. What will you do with the lesson in this chapter?

Chapter 2

Residual & Delegated; Legitimate, False & Illegitimate Authority. Authority is Relational!

Let us examine various issues concerning Authority:

A. Residual and Delegated Authority

The paradox of authority lies in the fact that every saint is a residual authority, and yet the Lord sovereignly delegates His authority to some people for the sake of guiding His people!

1. Residual – The Authority granted All the Redeemed

All saints are equipped with residual authority to manifest their ambassadorial credentials to this present evil world. This residual authority is conferred at the point of conversion from sinner to saint and the transition from light to darkness.

John 1:12-13 (KJV) *12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*

Luke 10:19 (KJV) *19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.*

1 John 4:4 (KJV) *4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*

1 John 5:4-5 (KJV) *4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our*

faith. 5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

At this point, there is a switch of kingdoms and primal allegiance. From darkness, the newly born again saint becomes translated or conveyed into the Kingdom of Elohim, mediated by the propitiatory blood Yeshua, Jesus shed at the cross of Calvary.

Ephesians 2:1-6 (KJV) *1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) 6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:*

Colossians 1:12-14 (KJV) *12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:*

At this point, the first two of the 4-dimensional work of the Holy Spirit occurs, automatically: 1). The saint is Sealed unto the day of redemption 2). The Saint is united into the Body of Yeshua. The initial seal measure wires in the saint however, the root/basic gifts which define his/her essential spiritual DNA (Ephesians 4:1-8; 1 Peter 4:10,11).

Each saint is thus equipped to be a personal representative of Yeshua Jesus and anointed to represent Him on earth. As the saint grows in grace, the Transforming measure of The Holy Spirit will bring forth His Nature called fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23. Hunger to be all Elohim

ordained will drive the saint to be endued with fullness of power of the Holy Spirit to represent Yeshua fully in their spheres of influence.

Acts 1:8 (KJV) *8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

It is pertinent to state to all saints who have a revelation of His divinity (and not Peter alone as religionists claim), Yeshua, Jesus conferred the keys of the Kingdom in Matthew 16:18, 19. With their residual authority, all saints are able to resist Satan, overcome demons in spiritual warfare and ‘rule’ the natural from the spiritual realm as the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedeck.

James 4:7 (KJV) *7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

1 Peter 5:8-9 (KJV) *8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.*

Psalms 115:16 (KJV) *16 The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.*

2. Delegated – Authority conferred on those chosen by the sovereignty of Elohim

Notwithstanding this great residual authority which all saints have, there are still those Elohim specially calls and delegates to guide and serve His people. These include the Fivefold – Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers – whose core assignment is to represent Yeshua to the Church, equip the saints for the work of ministry so they can mature quickly to know who they are in Him and who He is in them.

Ephesians 4:11-12 (KJV) *11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:*

Beyond them, there are all kinds of delegated authorities of Elohim positioned in the Kingdom (both in Pulpit and Market place ministry) to guide His people to fulfil their destinies. Bishops, Deaconess. As various scriptures on the subject matter show clearly, true authority comes from Elohim and must be received and celebrated as such. Those who disregard or dishonour authority are involved in a dangerous game.

Romans 13:1-7 (KJV) *1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. 6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.*

Hebrews 13:7, 17 (KJV) *7 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.*

17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

1 Peter 5:1-4 (KJV) *1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*

B. True, False and Illegitimate Authority

It is important to understand a number of important principles which undergird Authority.

#.1. There is True Authority. True Authority is conferred by Elohim and His assigns for the purpose of bringing those assigned into the fullness of their destinies.

#.2. There is False Authority. Conferred by Satan and his evil agents, some ministers when they backslide or become apostate (fallen out of faith) tend to seek dark powers from the Occult and witch doctors with which they 'divine' people's problems and use fear to manipulate them. Ultimately, their objective is destruction of destinies and using such victims to create wealth.

#.3. There is also Illegitimate Authority. This is one grabbed at by humans who desire to dominate and control other saints. In other words, illegitimate authority is self-propelled, serving its own interest (the Belly/Self). It glories in number of people it dominates 'my members' (Attendance) and how much is milked from them (Cash). In other words, whereas False authorities destroy destinies of those they trap, Illegitimate authorities divert destinies of such people to serve their pecuniary interests. In a sense, such illegitimate authorities become like Pharaohs who hold the people in bondage as their serfs.

Paul was used by Holy Spirit to give us this warning:

Philippians 3:17-19 (KJV) *17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. 18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)*

In a sense, both False and illegitimate authorities tend to locate and prey on vulnerabilities of those they entice to submit in order to divert their destinies away from Divine purpose, just like Nimrod the son of Cush in Genesis 10:8-10.

Saints are not to submit to EVERYONE carrying a title! No matter how young in the Faith, saints should be taught about Authority and to discern from Holy Spirit those assigned to be destiny helpers and distinguish them from those who are on assignment to despoil them – whether visiting ministers, those they run into at conferences or those they meet on Social media like Facebook. When the Fivefold do their work well, one of the outcomes is not just empowerment but also the ability to discern true and false authorities.

Ephesians 4:11-14 (KJV) *11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;*

C. Authority is relational

Not every 'leader' whether in the Fivefold or with any exotic title borrowed from Rome is given permission by Elohim to be authority over every saint! From the uniform testimony of the Holy Scriptures, Elohim assigns different types of authorities to minister to or serve His Sheep in the earth realm until they are perfected in Yeshua.

All saints need to discern, embrace and receive the various authorities Elohim sends to add value to their spiritual lives. Yet, at the same time, distinguish who is the 'under-shepherd' Yeshua assigned to give account of their souls on the Last Day. In the economy of Elohim, there is often alignment by what every joint supplies so saints are built up in a holistic manner rather than receive contradictory inputs from various authorities which causes confusion.

In this way, they will not be like 'spiritual bastards' who just float in cyberspace, blown about with every wind of doctrine by 'great names' they hear from on TV, Radio or Social Media.

Paul was used by Holy Spirit to put this issue into the right context.

1 Corinthians 4:15 (KJV) *15 For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.*

D. Some Features of Legitimate Authorities

- 1.** Authorities are set in place for good and not for evil.
- 2.** True authorities will therefore see themselves primarily as privileged to be raised up to point people to the ultimate authority which is Elohim and to lead the saints to worship Him in Spirit and Truth.
- 3.** True authority will empower, not suppress the saints. They are lid lifters rather than lids over the anointing and callings of other authorities and the sheep committed to their trust.
- 4.** True authority primarily seeks to bless and add value to saints, not take away from them.

5. True authority will not take advantage of the weak, the vulnerable or the seekers to either fleece them financially or to prey on them in immoral living.

6. True authority is gender blind. Male and female, Elohim made them in the beginning after His own image and likeness. The original dominion mandate of mankind was therefore made to the he and the wo(mb) – man.

Genesis 1:26-30 (KJV) 26 *And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. 29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. 30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.*

7. True Authority is spiritual, not natural. Therefore, the Race, Ethnicity, Age of the authority Elohim has set over saints do not count.

2 Corinthians 5:16 (KJV) 16 *Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.*

Galatians 3:26-29 (KJV) 26 *For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

Colossians 3:10-11 (KJV) *10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: 11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.*

8. True authority does not take away the will of saints and people: interestingly, the dominion mandate never gave mankind authority to dominate fellow humans but rather, all other creation of Elohim.

Domination happens when you impose your will on others and deprive them of the Elohim given opportunity to decide how much of themselves they are willing to submit to Him and how yielded they are to the Holy Spirit.

Elohim has wired human beings with the will and conscience so there will be a just basis of assessing everything done in the Body on the Last Day which some mock at as a phantom. Authority should respect the will of people and give them space to connect and run with you or to drop off or disconnect without bitterness.

Many saints relate to legitimate authorities Elohim sends to them based on their mental fixation and emotional damages inflicted by past experiences with False and Illegitimate authorities. This blocks their ability to receive. Do not allow your past to control or determine your future!

Whoever is afraid of authority has not attained maturity in Kingdom life.

Review Questions

1. Please briefly explain what a True Authority and its assignment.
2. Please explain what a False Authority is.
3. What is an illegitimate authority?
4. Outline 4 out of the 8 features of legitimate authority.

5. Why should saints be careful how they submit to ‘every authority’ they meet in conferences and social media?

Chapter 3

5 Critical Questions & Answers on Authority

At this stage of our discourse, we need to fall back on Course 114: Leadership in the Household of Faith, to review some strategic revelations the Lord brought forth which concern authorities. Through the question and answer approach, we glean vital nuggets of truth which enhance our understanding of the subject matter.

Question 1. Since the whole Body is a living organism which each part functioning for the overall benefit of the whole under Yeshua, Jesus as the Head, are human vessels, functioning as authorities and leaders, still necessary in New Testament Congregation of saints?

Answer: Yes indeed! Though the whole Body is a living organism, Yeshua Himself deemed it necessary to appoint five set of people – Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers to represent His headship office in the Body. When we receive their gifts and callings, we receive Yeshua Who appointed them. Ultimately, authorities are simply under shepherds of the Great Shepherd Himself! That some people have messed up and misused authority to build humanistic and religious empires does not in any way negate the Word of Truth which abides forever! In any case there will at any given time be brethren who need to be instructed in the Word. Those called to teach them are authorities appointed by Elohim for that purpose.

Question 2. Can we have more reasons why leadership/Authority is essential in the Household of faith?

Answer: There are a number of reasons why leadership is essential. Let us articulate these reasons:

2.1 Ultimately, every true leader is an authority appointed by Elohim. They therefore represent Him. Lives of those put in authority should reflect and represent Him (Love; Holiness; Power; Wisdom, etc.).

2.2 Leaders are set in place to ensure order is maintained. Without order, nothing can work as chaos will ensue.

2.3 Leadership is set to inspire good works amongst the saints.

2.4 Leaders are put in place to exercise discipline where necessary. They do not bear the sword of authority in vain. (to be expanded in a separate subsection)

Question 3. What do we owe Leadership? Romans 13:1-8; Hebrews 13:7, 17

Answer: We owe leadership these responsibilities:

3.1 Discern and Recognize them as leaders.

Discernment is critical because what you perceive of leaders will influence your response to them.

1 Thessalonians 5:12 (KJV) *12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;*

3.2 Accept them in good faith, putting aside our past experiences with other leaders so our past does not trap the present or future.

3.3 Understand the level of grace, authority and anointing deposited in them in order to receive.

3.4 Obey instructions and Submit to their authority (Romans 13:1-8; Hebrews 13:7; 17). Submission is of critical import because it is the acid test of true leadership.

Romans 13:1-7 (KJV) *1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are*

ordained of God. 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. 6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

Hebrews 13:7, 17 (KJV) *7 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.*

17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

John Maxwell once wrote “he who claims to be a leader with no one following is only going for a walk!” We do not have to understand all details of an instruction before obeying. On the other hand, one can obey an instruction without submitting to a leader. This is where the obedience was done grudgingly or executed rebelliously. Submission is a heart attitude which allows the leader to lead as he or she is led by Holy Spirit.

Undoubtedly, obedience and submission are not absolute. It is to the degree that what they lead us to do is not unscriptural and does not wound our conscience (Acts 4:18-20; Acts 5:29).

3.5 Be rightly aligned as we take our place beside them. Let us put it this way: in the grand project Elohim committed to the trust of a Vision holder or leader, He has also called us to be helpers of the work. If we are rightly

aligned with Elohim, the Vision and Vision holder or Delegated Authority, the synergy unleashed will lead to breakthrough and success. The principle is vividly illustrated in these passages:

1 Chronicles 12:38 (KJV) *38 All these men of war, that could keep rank, came with a perfect heart to Hebron, to make David king over all Israel: and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king.*

Joel 2:7 (KJV) *7 They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks:*

The greatest thing we can do with and for true leadership is to occupy our niche in the spirit and release the gifts and callings of Elohim in us, so the dispensation of the gospel committed to their trust is fully executed. It is spiritually deadly to connect with a leader just to tap into his/her grace without an attitude of releasing the fullness of gifts and grace in us to advance the Kingdom purpose in their hands.

3.6 Love them as unto the Lord. Leaders are human beings with souls. They will be encouraged greatly when the people they are leading shower them with genuine godly love. Leaders will be lifted to receive telephone, email, letters, cards and text messages appreciating specific aspects of their leadership grace or skills which add value to our lives. Their inner beings react instinctively to acts of love from the flock of Yeshua Jesus they serve. The occasion of their special days such as birthdays and anniversaries call for loving actions. It is wicked in the extreme to wait for a leader to be translated into the hereafter before appreciating them! Mature leaders do not expect these things because they are bond servants of Yeshua and do all things as unto Him, knowing the real rewards are with Him. As a matter of fact, the rewards which drive their continuous service, even to ungrateful and hardened hearts is the Day they will appear before Him.

Hebrews 6:10 (KJV) *10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.*

3.7 Honour them – Do not wait for a leader to die before you honour him or her with expressive funeral orations! That is Pharisaic at its worst. Honour them while they live. Appreciate them and show them how much they mean to you.

1 Thessalonians 5:13 (KJV) *13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.*

3.8 Follow their Faith and Emulate their lifestyles. Authorities are ultimately models Elohim sets within His Family and Kingdom in the earth realm, so saints can see that Kingdom Life is do-able. This takes away Satan inspired excuses that no one can live right or depend entirely on Elohim. When He raises leaders and we discern them rightly, they are in essence walking in the footsteps of Yeshua with an announcement from heaven: ‘this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased’

1 Corinthians 11:1 (KJV) *1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.*

Hebrews 6:12 (KJV) *12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.*

Hebrews 13:7 (KJV) *7 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.*

3.9 Bless them as much as lies in us. There is a Kingdom principle which cannot be broken by humanistic thoughts. It is to sow back to those who invest spiritually in us in all good things.

Galatians 6:6 (KJV) *6 Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.*

This same principle is upheld by Jesus Christ in Matthew 10:9-14 and by Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:7-14. The scriptures up the ante in 1 Timothy 5:17, 18 by charging those who sit under leadership which is truly worthy to reward them with double measure of blessings.

1 Timothy 5:17 (KJV) *17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. 18 For the scripture saith, thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.*

It is important that this generation of saints take heed to this injunction. We live in an age where saints write fat checks to popular television preachers including those who peddle error and have become agents of Satan. The same people put miserable change in their local assembly tills or ministries they are connected with which are been used of the Lord to do solid Kingdom work. Unknown to them, by so doing, they vote with their resources that they prefer to be partakers of evil!

It is interesting to observe many saints and ministers across the world are spiritually fed by Elohim through Kingdom agencies such as Global School of Ministry and the annual Master Class, receiving all things freely but never open to ask Holy Spirit in what way He can use them to support the visions.

The grand puzzle: Just as no one can validly claim love of Elohim without loving fellow humans who are visible, no saint can claim to submit to Elohim and His will who lightly esteems the just instruction of a godly leader.

Question 4. What should we do when leaders step on our toes?

Answer: There may be times when in our walk with a leader, he or she seems to step on our toes. Our response or reaction should be moderated by these factors:

4.1 Understand you cannot validly assume knowledge of why they took the course of action which resulted in your hurt. Elohim may well be using them to draw out the real you!

4.2 Give them benefit of doubt. Put the best construction on what happened; put it behind as quickly as you can! The call to bear and forbear extends to authorities in the Church.

Ephesians 4:1-3 (KJV) *1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

4.3 If you are not able to bear it spiritually, proceed to option two. Approach the leader in a spirit of meekness and humility, explaining your hurt. Avoid egotism, haughtiness and disrespect in so doing.

Matthew 18:15 (KJV) *15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.*

Galatians 6:1-2 (KJV) *1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. 2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.*

4.4 If the matter is unresolved, approach the Overseer or Covering of the authority who hurt you to seek resolution. If that does not work, feel free to take the matter to the Ministerial network to which he or she is affiliated to seek resolution. Do not assume they will not deal with the matter. If they are serious, they will invest in solving the problem.

Matthew 18:16-17 (KJV) *16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. 17 And if he shall neglect to hear them,*

tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

4.5 Avoid the spirit of hurt from latching onto your spirit and soul as well as the spirit of rejection. These satanic agents are on the prowl seeking whoever will open the door for them to devour. Resist Satan and all attempts to manipulate you to feel bad; remain sour and disconnected from fellowship.

1 Peter 5:8-9 (KJV) *8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.*

4.6 Understand Elohim uses leaders to rebuke, correct, chastise or discipline you out of His divine love for you. Look beyond the human instruments or the way or tone of their voices. Realise the purpose of Elohim is to present you faultless at the appearing of Yeshua.

2 Corinthians 7:1-4 (KJV) *1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. 2 Receive us; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man. 3 I speak not this to condemn you: for I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you. 4 Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.*

2 Corinthians 11:1-4 (KJV) *1 Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me. 2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. 3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or*

if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

Hebrews 12:5-11

4.7 Believe the word, whether the leader deliberately offended you or not, all things shall work together for your good (Romans 8:28-39). This will be so if you handle offences from leaders well.

Question 5. What do I do when leaders err or fall into sin?

Answer: Leaders are humans and therefore can make mistakes or even miss Elohim at any point in time in their lives and ministry, if they open doors to Satan and his agents. When this happens:

5.1 Take it to Elohim in prayer in earnest intercession for their souls. This is easier if we have formed the godly habit of interceding for our leaders. We should not only pray for greater anointing on them. We should also pray the Lord will deliver them from every snare of Satan and evil associations which will drain away the grace of Elohim. We should pray for leaders to overcome all temptation of worldliness; love of money, immorality of every sort and indeed all tendencies which do not glorify The Most High.

5.2 Avoid the temptation of sitting in judgement over them. Elohim says He alone is qualified to judge those He sets in leadership. Trust Elohim will do what seems right to Him and not the leader or us.

Romans 14:4, 7-13

5.3 If the Holy Spirit leads us, we can lovingly but gently confront them in a way that is not designed to shame them. Otherwise, we can refer the matter to the authority/leaders they submit to. Be wary of sitting under a leader who submits to no one or has no leadership council of seniors he or she is affiliated with! Every father needs a father-figure or spiritual council

of Elders too! That way, saints are safe under the leader and tyranny is avoided.

5.4 Never celebrate the fall of your leader or participate in any glorification of his/her fall. This is a very dangerous ground to stand on! What you sow, you may well reap!

5.5 If you are persuaded a leader has missed it in terms of lifestyle, doctrine or that your soul is in danger of contamination if you continue to be under that covering, the best way is to prayerfully receive direction on how to separate yourself from that work. Tarry until Elohim speaks expressly. Obey His Voice!

Review Questions

1. Please discuss any 3 of the 5 Question and Answers which resonate most in your heart.
2. What are the specific actions you will take regarding relationship with Authority derived from a heart understanding of this chapter?

Chapter 4

Sins against Authority; Sword of Authority; Case studies + Remedies

As we study this Course, let us never forget the overall purpose of Elohim is to cause us to mature to the point of living like His Own sons in the earth realm who carry the Residual and Delegated Authority of Yeshua, Head of All Principality and Power with all Grace.

Hebrews 2:10 (KJV) *10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*

To emulate Yeshua is the key to Kingdom living and true success. Yeshua modelled submission to the Authority of Yahweh! One of the most distinctive features of the life of Yeshua was the way He submitted to the will of His Father in all things! When we encounter Authority, let us look up to Him, not our Flesh:

Hebrews 12:2 (KJV) *2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

Submission to authority is not grievous but is rather evidence of true spirituality!

A. Specific Sins that can be committed against Authority and the dangers thereof

There are many potential sins which can be committed against Authority set in place by Elohim

1. Disobeying clear instructions given. This is called rebellion and rated as evil as witchcraft! (Hebrews 13:7; 1 Samuel 15:15-23).
2. Lack of Submission to delegated authority (Hebrews 13:17). This occurs when one obeys an instruction physically but in the heart Elohim sees struggles and disobedience.
3. Undermining Authority by countering clear instructions.
4. Instigating other saints against Authority.
5. Creating tension through evil speaking. This robs the ministry of the enabling environment of Shalom needful for success.
6. Seeking personal ambitions and gain at expense of the vision and visionary. This is the type of spirit which took over Absalom the son of David.
7. Grabbing at authority. Adonijah the son of David tried to wrest authority with strength of the arm though David had named Solomon as his successor.

1 Kings 1:5 (KJV) *5 Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, I will be king: and he prepared him chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him.*

In modern day context, this occurs when a minister tries to use the saints or even legal means to unseat a visionary and take over. Where it 'succeeds' an illegitimate or false authority is birthed.

8. Taking undue advantage of liberal heart and disposition of the authority you labour under. This comes in the form of trying to 'form' a ministry within the ministry comprising saints in the same ministry who become loyal to you primarily and disregard the higher authority. In that case, your original sin has mutated to enfold others.

9. Using opportunities to preach in the Congregation to indirectly accuse or abuse the authority of the Set man or woman in the house.

10. Using social media to wage campaign of attrition against authority because of emotional upheaval.

11. Playing the ‘Jezebel’ game. Named after Queen Jezebel, wife of King Ahab. It is the tendency for the spouse of one who is vested with Legitimate authority to seek to hijack same at expense of him or her. In other words, when spouses, male or female, use their marital covenant to try to make (bad or awful) decisions and take actions which ought to be left to legitimate authority, they are playing the Jezebel Card. When spouses are not patient but use emotional blackmail to cause their other half who are legitimate authorities to take wrong actions they are not led by Holy Spirit, the Jezebel spirit is at work (Read 1 Kings 16:31; 1 Kings 19; 1 Kings 21; 2 Kings 9).

1 Kings 21:25 (KJV) *25 But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up.*

To also use authority (legitimate, illegitimate and false) to lead saints into Sin rather than righteousness is also deemed as operating under the Jezebel spirit.

Revelation 2:20 (KJV) *20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.*

12. Despising Authority in the heart yet hanging in and pretending otherwise. This is hypocrisy in action.

13. Playing ‘God’ by judging authority wrongly or prematurely when true facts are unknown.

B. What is the ‘Sword’ of Authority?

The ‘Sword of Authority’ is the Elohim given capacity of an authority to exert discipline or pronounce chastisement on an erring brother or sister or even the unsaved.

Romans 13:2-5 (KJV) *2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake*

Every true leader carries a ‘sword’ of authority’. In practical terms, it is the Elohim given ability to:

1. Render a negative report to Elohim concerning a brother or sister who is rebellious or disruptive (Romans 13:2). Hebrews 13:17 is very clear every leader makes two types of reports to Elohim concerning those who serve under them, namely:

- The report of Joy concerning those who serve well with them and are truly submitted.
- The report of pain which goes up from their hearts/minds/tongues concerning those who make leadership a great pain. The word of Elohim is clear that report of pain from a leader is UNPROFITABLE for the brother or sister for whom its being made.

Hebrews 13:17 (KJV) *17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give*

account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

2. Pronounce the degree of discipline necessary to deal with negative behaviour.
3. Hand over a recalcitrant sinner to Satan to deal with the flesh so the spirit is saved.

1 Corinthians 5:1-5 (KJV) *1 It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. 2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. 3 For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed, 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.*

Because the Sword of Authority cuts both ways, it can also have positive connotations!

4. Render a good report concerning someone to Elohim which releases special blessings. Hebrews 13:17
5. Release a word of blessing for those who serve well under them to prosper Romans 13:3, 4

C. Case Studies on Leadership and the Sword of Authority.

Noah. This man was, in practice, Patriarch of the entire human race. He had a profound testimony of being one who pleased Elohim for which he and his family alone were saved when the deluge occurred (Genesis 6:8).

After the flood, Noah missed it one day and went drunk with much wine. His son Ham saw and celebrated his nakedness while Shem and Japheth covered him up in awe and respect. When Noah woke up, he exercised the sword of authority and placed a curse on Ham that was to define the course of human history. He also blessed Shem and Japheth whose descendants have long enjoyed those proclamations (Genesis 9:20-27).

Moses. Here was a man whose ways pleased Elohim beyond measure and The Great I AM Himself testified that Moses enjoyed the privilege of face to face conversation. Elohim also testified He was the meekest of persons. What happened with people who rose against him offers us an insight into the power of authority in leadership.

- Miriam, his own senior sister once dissembled when Moses ‘made the mistake of marrying an African’ (Marriage outside Jewry was deemed unthinkable!). When Miriam rallied a family rebellion with Aaron against Moses, Elohim judged her with Leprosy, the most outstanding punishment other than instantaneous physical death (Numbers 12:1-15).

- Korah, Dathan and Abirim rebelled against the Authority of Moses and the result was they and their families were on record as the first people to transit from this side of eternity to hell! (Numbers 16:1- 40).

- The greatest sin of Israel was the sin of rebellion and murmuring against their human leaders and Elohim. A journey of 40 days became an ordeal of 40 years. All those who rebelled in the wilderness perished and only Joshua and Caleb survived because of their obedience to Elohim and submission to His human assign, Moses. Only those two out of all the adults who left Egypt got any inheritance. What a great lesson!

Samuel and Saul. As the National Prophet of Israel, he heard from Elohim and gave instructions to Saul to destroy Amalek completely. Saul obeyed partly and veered off into what he thought was best. The result was a stinging reproof and permanent loss of the crown (1 Samuel 15:1-32).

David. David offers us great insight into how Elohim wants us to treat authority, even when they miss it. This young man had been anointed to be King as a teenager. Unfortunately, the previous King, Saul, was still physically on the throne. Twice, David had the opportunity to kill Saul but refused to touch one who had been anointed (though backslidden and out of favour with Elohim). The moving accounts of both incidents are recorded in 1 Samuel 24:1-24 and 1 Samuel 26:1-25. No wonder Elohim never allowed any man to kill David, even when he sinned. Rather he enjoyed mercy.

Yeshua, Jesus. Jesus respected both secular and spiritual authority. In Luke 20:20-25, He let the people know that submitting to human governance was the right thing to do when people inquired whether they should pay tax to Caesar. When the High Priest questioned Him, Yeshua was very respectful. Even when an officer struck Him unjustly, He did not react angrily (John 18:19-24).

Yeshua decreed great judgement for cities and peoples who reject the gospel and persecute missionaries (Matthew 10:5-38). It is important we understand these fundamental truths!

Peter. When Ananias and his wife Sapphira lied to Peter and the Apostles concerning how much they sold their property, Peter gave us an insight into what happens when believers misrepresent facts to leaders: it is the unseen but ever present Holy Spirit that is lied to. Peter pronounced what seemed a harsh judgement on the couple. In truth, the idea was to purge the nascent Church of the old leaven of hypocrisy and lying (Acts 5:1-11). When the sorcerer of Samaria tried to bribe his way to receive the Holy Spirit and use Him for impure motives, Peter exercised the sword of authority in a sharp rebuke (Acts 8:9-24).

Paul. He exercised the sword of authority a number of times. In 1 Acts 13:6-12, Paul pronounced instant blindness on Bar Jesus who tried to hinder the Pro Consul Sergius Paulus from receiving the gospel. To the Thessalonians, he enjoined in 1 Thessalonians 5:14 and 2 Thessalonians

3:6-12 to warn those who are disorderly and lazy to change or be thrown out of fellowship. Paul also exercised the sword of authority in 1 Corinthians 5:1-13 to decree that brethren who live in immorality should be dis-fellowshipped and handed over to Satan to torment their physical bodies so they can repent and embrace the Lord again. In 2 Timothy 4:14-16, Paul pronounced judgement on Alexander the Coppersmith who did him much harm. In Acts 23:1-5, we see Paul apologize to the High Priest for calling him a white washed wall. Paul then went on to cite the law which forbids people from speaking evil of their rulers.

John. Widely called the Apostle of Love, John wielded the sword of authority when he issued a decree concerning Diotrephes who loved pre-eminence and resisted his instructions (3 John 9-10).

D. Truly spiritual authorities are very careful about use of the ‘Sword’

Let all legitimate authorities be aware notwithstanding the psychological or emotional pain brethren and humans may try to inflict, guarding the heart, mind and tongue is essential as proof of maturity. The Sword of Authority is best used when all other avenues for resolution of behaviour which has potentials of destroying the Body have been explored!

For mature authorities, the tongue should never be used for cursing brethren for minor infractions! Just as husbands are charged not to be bitter with their wives, Authorities must guard their hearts from being corrupted by bitterness, anger and unforgiving spirit! It is evidence of deep spirituality to understand negative actions of people and yet continue to be a blessing to them.

2 Corinthians 10:8 (KJV) *8 For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed.*

It is much more in the character of Yeshua to bless those who wrong a leader.

Matthew 5:38-48 (KJV) 38 *Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: 39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. 40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also. 41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. 42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away. 43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? 47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? 48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.*

Romans 12:14, 17-21 (KJV) 14 *Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.*

17 *Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. 18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.*

E. The Reason why Authorities should not fight for themselves

The reason why legitimate authorities are admonished not to fight for themselves or be vengeful to the point of cursing those who torment them is that Elohim has already undertaken to fight the battles!

Romans 12:19 (KJV) *19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.*

Those who pretend authority is powerless are living in delusion! Nothing could be further from the truth. The ground norm is this: Genesis 8:22 and Galatians 6:7,8 establish a powerful law which rules in all of creation: What a man sows, he shall reap.

Genesis 8:22 (KJV) *22 While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.*

Galatians 6:7-8 (KJV) *7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.*

If you have laboured in craftiness with authority or have not truly submitted to authority, one has sowed an evil seed which will germinate and yield a harvest, except repentance takes place and grace of Elohim is accessed! By the law in Genesis 5:1-3, everything reproduces after its kind. So, rebellion will beget rebellion. Craftiness will beget craftiness and such like.

F. Spiritual Remedies for falling foul of authority

There are many ministers and saints today who are suffering from exercise of the sword of authority against them. It could be expressly pronounced curses or wounds emitting from the heart or minds of authorities they served under. The speaking of such pronouncements or just recompence

of past evil behaviour may have become like a covering cast preventing breakthrough or receipt of blessings.

Praise Elohim there are remedies! The remedies are encapsulated in these words:

1. Repentance: If Holy Spirit has convicted you that you fell afoul of authority at one time or the other, confess your sin, repent of it and renounce that behaviour. The mercy of Elohim is always released for those who are able to humble themselves and acknowledge they got it wrong. Psalm 51:16,17; Isaiah 66:1,2; 2 Corinthians 7:8 – 13; 1 John 2:1,2

2. Restitution: Where necessary, approach the leader you wronged, whether you are still serving with him/her or not and whether he/she knew of your offence or not. Do so with genuine repentance and humility of heart either by a face to face meeting, phone call, text or email and ask for forgiveness. The leader has no reason to demand a pound of flesh. When you do your own part, the onus is on the leader to be gracious like Elohim is to him/her and therefore forgive you and release you. If the leader gets mean and wants a pound of flesh, he/she brings on the ire of Elohim (Ephesians 4:30-32). He will therefore turn the tables against that leader.

3. Application of the principle of breaking of curses by higher authority. If that leader does not willingly reverse any negative word or curse pronounced, feel free to approach any leader vested with a higher authority. Confess the misdeed with that ex-leader honestly and your efforts to seek peace.

James 5:16 (KJV) *16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*

Ask the higher authority to pray and break those curses and reverse the negative pronouncements. Once you are in line with the Holy Scriptures, you can claim the validity of Numbers 23:23, not when you are in error!

Numbers 23:23 (KJV) *23 Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel: according to this time it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel, What hath God wrought!*

The higher authority may be led and empowered by Elohim to make peace between you and the former leader.

When we apply these principles, the Kingdom of Elohim is made manifest, the power of the Church is unleashed, and Satan is put to shame. This is why Paul told Timothy we ought to know how to behave ourselves in the Church of the living God which is the ground and Pillar of faith.

1 Timothy 3:15 (KJV) *15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.*

Review Questions

1. In bullet point form, please list any 8 of the 13 sins against authority which were 'eye opening' to you.
2. What is the Sword of Authority and 3 negative manifestations of it.
3. Please discuss the 3 remedies which a saint can use to receive deliverance from effects of exercise of Sword of Authority or evil words/curses pronounced by a previous authority?

Chapter 5

Some Critical Issues concerning Authority

Let us continue to dig into deeper realms of authority.

A. How best to relate with Authority

1. Be in heart and mind alignment with Elohim, the Vision and Visionary or Set man/woman where He, not flesh, planted you. It is puerile to purport to accept a vision and reject the person of the visionary!
2. Proactively incline your heart to believe you do not know more about the vision than the visionary. That way, you will give him/her space to lead as Elohim reveals and leads.
3. Purpose not to run ahead of the visionary. You are to walk in alignment beside and behind not in front of the visionary/authority.
4. Let your relationship with Authority be real, sincere and free of agenda.
5. Let quality of your service be in love as unto the Lord, free of any agenda to supplant authority.

Colossians 3:17, 23-24 (KJV) *17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.*

23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

6. Understand it is Elohim alone who can adequately reward you! Therefore, do not try to leverage your services to personal advantage as a way of getting ‘rewards’ for yourself.

Hebrews 6:10 (KJV) *10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.*

B. The Limits of Authority

1. Human delegated Authority is circumscribed by the higher authority of Elohim. Any human authority which refuses to recognise this truth has lost the moral basis to operate or demand submission from saints. Peter recognized this principle and defended it stoutly

Acts 4:18-20 (KJV) *18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. 20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.*

Acts 5:27-29 (KJV) *27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them, 28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. 29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.*

C. Abuse of Authority.

This happens when leaders forget they are exercising a privilege from Yeshua.

C.1 They then begin to behave as if they own the saints and try to run their lives or make decisions for them in all things. This leads to control and manipulation, not leadership service.

1 Peter 5:1-4 (KJV) *1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*

C.2 Where leaders abuse trust by falling into sin with saints of opposite gender who come for counselling, prayers or seek emotional relief.

C.3 Where leaders use arm of the flesh including physical blows to get things done.

C.4 Where leaders deliberately use verbal abuse on the flock to arm-twist them to submission.

C.5 Using 'Prophecy' to control the mind and emotion of the saints.

C.6 This includes constant attempts to use fear to manipulate saints to do their bidding.

D. When to Say No to Authority

1. When Authority wants to lead you to clear sin – immorality or make you an accomplice in defrauding the ministry.

2. When authority tries to force you to undertake an assignment which conflicts with clear scripture, negates your personal consecration or wounds your conscience. The case of Jeremiah, the pre-eminent National Prophet of Israel and the Rechabites, sons of Jonadab illustrates the need to say 'No' when leaders require us to do anything which conflicts with our convictions or affects our personal consecrations.

Jeremiah 35:1-19 (KJV) *1 The word which came unto Jeremiah from the Lord in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying, 2 Go unto the house of the Rechabites, and speak unto them, and bring them into the house of the Lord, into one of the chambers, and give them wine to drink. 3 Then I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habaziniah, and his brethren, and all his sons, and the whole house of the Rechabites; 4 And I brought them into the house of the Lord, into the chamber of the sons of Hanan, the son of Igdaliah, a man of God, which was by the chamber of the princes, which was above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, the keeper of the door: 5 And I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites pots full of wine, and cups, and I said unto them, Drink ye wine. 6 But they said, We will drink no wine: for Jonadab the son of Rechab our father commanded us, saying, Ye shall drink no wine, neither ye, nor your sons for ever: 7 Neither shall ye build house, nor sow seed, nor plant vineyard, nor have any: but all your days ye shall dwell in tents; that ye may live many days in the land where ye be strangers. 8 Thus have we obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab our father in all that he hath charged us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, nor our daughters; 9 Nor to build houses for us to dwell in: neither have we vineyard, nor field, nor seed: 10 But we have dwelt in tents, and have obeyed, and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us. 11 But it came to pass, when Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came up into the land, that we said, Come, and let us go to Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans, and for fear of the army of the Syrians: so we dwell at Jerusalem. 12 Then came the word of the Lord unto Jeremiah, saying, 13 Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Go and tell the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, Will ye not receive instruction to hearken to my words? saith the Lord. 14 The words of Jonadab the son of Rechab, that he commanded his sons not to drink wine, are performed; for unto this day they drink none, but obey their father's commandment: notwithstanding I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye hearkened not unto me. 15 I have sent also unto you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, Return ye now every man from his evil way, and*

amend your doings, and go not after other gods to serve them, and ye shall dwell in the land which I have given to you and to your fathers: but ye have not inclined your ear, nor hearkened unto me. 16 Because the sons of Jonadab the son of Rechab have performed the commandment of their father, which he commanded them; but this people hath not hearkened unto me: 17 Therefore thus saith the Lord God of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them: because I have spoken unto them, but they have not heard; and I have called unto them, but they have not answered. 18 And Jeremiah said unto the house of the Rechabites, Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Because ye have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts, and done according unto all that he hath commanded you: 19 Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not want a man to stand before me for ever.

3. When spiritual authority is compromised by Sin and the person concerned is unwilling to go through the process of repentance, discipline and restoration. At such times, the ‘Crown’ is lost and such leaders are on their own, lacking both the Presence of Holy Spirit and moral stature to lead the saints – even though they may physically occupy office because they are Pastors or founders of ministries. A leader’s sin is a leading one.

E. Why the Lord sets High Benchmarks for human authorities

1. Human authorities, functioning as Leaders derive their core validity from the degree to which they allow the Lord to work out His Holy nature in and through them. The directives to those who desire to be overseers in the House hold of Faith in 1 Timothy 3: 1 – 7 reflects this reality.

1 Timothy 3:1-7 (KJV) *1 This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; 3 Not given to wine, no striker, not*

greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) 6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. 7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

Those who lead stand on solid ground when they pant and hunger after Elohim and refuse any other substitute for Him, including the work in their hands.

1 Timothy 4: 12-16 (KJV) *12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. 14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. 15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. 16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.*

2. All through scripture, the Lord places great premium on character of those He calls to lead His people. Character gives leaders strength to face fire and overcome all the crafty plans of the enemy. The devil is not often afraid of a leader's ability to manifest signs and wonders because he too can instigate 'miracles'. Satan will however cringe at the sight of a truly holy leader in whom like in Yeshua, he can find nothing to sustain an accusation.

John 14:30 (KJV) *30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.*

When the High Priest Joshua forgot this maxim, it took the grace of Elohim to save him.

Zechariah 3:1-7 (KJV) *1 And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. 2 And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire? 3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. 4 And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment. 5 And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the Lord stood by. 6 And the angel of the Lord protested unto Joshua, saying, 7 Thus saith the Lord of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.*

Anointing without character will lead to nuisance!

3. By actively manifesting Yeshua, leaders are able to be His witnesses. The first calling of the leader therefore is to be a witness to the reality that in Yeshua Jesus, there is sufficient grace to transform lives. Those who will lead by proclamations or physical herding of the sheep are missing a vital ingredient (1 Peter 5:1-4). The best leadership is one clothed with the evident presence of Elohim. This releases a holy aura which compels the saints to give him or her right of way to lead them into the deeper waters of the Spirit.

Acts 1:8 (KJV) *8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

2 Timothy 3:10-12 (KJV) *10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, 11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium,*

at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. 12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

F. Civic authority

The Lord sets a high bar for His saints when it comes to their relationship with Civic Authorities. The principles apply to both Political Authorities as well as leaders in the work place. If saints embrace the full truth about this subject matter, their lives will speak volumes to natural human beings within their spheres of Kingdom influence. He has not permitted us to fight partisan political battles – throwing His Holy Name into the mud, so to say.

Romans 13:1-7 (KJV) *1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. 6 For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.*

1 Peter 2:13-18 (KJV) *13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. 15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance*

of foolish men: 16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. 17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king. 18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. 19 For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.

G. What we owe Civic Authorities

1. Obedience. Saints are to obey civic authorities in execution of lawful instructions except where they are in clear contradiction to the Scriptures. Respectfully object to any policy which wounds your conscience.

2. We are to pay taxes, rates and contribute to the Local, State and National treasury so Governments can take care of the weak and poor

Matthew 22:16-21 (KJV) *16 And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. 17 Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? 18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? 19 Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. 20 And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? 21 They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.*

3. We are to undertake our fair share of what it takes to maintain Law and Order. In these days of Terror related activities, this includes reporting suspicious activities and relaying any information we know that is vital to maintenance of national security.

4. We are to honour them

5. We are to have godly fear of their mandate

6. We are to pray earnestly for them

1 Timothy 2:1-3 (KJV) *1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;*

7. We are to avoid undue, unfair, bitter and divisive criticisms of their policies and actions

8. We are to use proper channels to communicate our displeasure with specific policies and actions including official websites, participation in opinion polls and feedback through Councillors, Assembly men; Congress men and women and Senators as well as other public officials we have access to.

9. We are to trust Elohim that He can use them, in spite of themselves, to bring to pass His Own determinate counsel.

Proverbs 21:1 (KJV) *1 The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will*

In other words, Elohim raises specific personalities or allows particular people to come into office so scriptures are fulfilled. It is not about them and their lifestyles or policies but about bringing forth of His determinate counsel.

Romans 9:15-18 (KJV) *15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. 17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be*

declared throughout all the earth. 18 Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.

When we understand this truth, our hearts will be at peace and trust Elohim even when leaders seem to be ‘terrible’. A better attitude would be for us to recourse to Prophetic scriptures and tarry before Elohim to receive revelation of what is the specific prophetic assignment that would be fulfilled through the lifestyle, actions and policies of specific leaders. This is the pathway which enables saints to be like the sons of Isaachar: Gain deep understanding rather than engage in agitation-propaganda (1 Chronicles 12:32).

The way we live the Kingdom life should be so dramatically different from the world around us!

The Supremacy of Authority

Let us learn a vital lesson from the military, its command structure and subjugation of the military to the civilian authority of the Presidency.

The case of former US President Obama and General Stanley McChrystal

The ‘run away General’ Stanley McChrystal evidently drank much more liquor than he should and allowed a running mouth to ruin a well decorated military career when he granted an interview to a tabloid and was portrayed thereby as disrespectful of then President Obama. Here was a powerful general of one of the greatest fighting forces in America, the leading nation of this generation. He was older and more experienced than the young Barack Obama but the later sat in the Oval Office and the buck of the entire Armed Forces of America stopped at his desk.

In the wisdom Elohim granted founding fathers of America, the powerful military which played a critical role in both the war of independence and the civil war was put on leash and made subject to the Presidency. General McChrystal had the world at his feet but forgot this elementary principle

that every army recruit learns. Furthermore, the brave general did not have the legendary bit on his lips, to quote James chapter 3:1-12.

By the time Barack Obama addressed America from the Rose Garden for a few minutes, General McChrystal had lost his commission and perhaps the military career he so cherished. The General had spoken, and the President had acted. When the dust cleared, one inescapable fact was evident: Authority prevailed and will always prevail!

Review Questions

1. Mention 3 ways we should relate with Authority
2. Why did the Lord set high benchmarks for Authority (bullet point only)?
3. When should we say 'No' to Authority
4. Mention 5 things we owe Civic Authorities

Chapter 6

Mentorship

Mentorship; Apostolic Authority; Covering for Accountability; Loyalty: Precious but misunderstood and misapplied Kingdom concepts - Part 1

Let us conclude this short course by giving Holy Spirit right of way to break down some concepts which have been badly misunderstood and therefore misapplied in the Body of Yeshua, Jesus in this generation. They are MENTORSHIP; APOSTOLIC FATHERHOOD; COVERING AND PLACE OF LOYALTY IN THE CHURCH.

These concepts have been largely bastardized and twisted to take saints into fresh bondage the Lord never intended. Very often, the reason is leaders who function in the priesthood patterned after Nimrod and the Levitical Order tend to see those within their ministry spheres as property they earned through hard work and therefore own. No leader or saint should accept and walk in such religious yokes. Very often, what motivates this 'ownership' paradigm is the money they expect to make off the saints as a matter of entitlement.

Galatians 5:1 (KJV) *I Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.*

Unfortunately, in keeping such tendencies and mind-sets at arm's length, the Body of Yeshua is often in the bad habit of going to the other extreme of rejection of authority which leads to a walk of disorder. It is a case of throwing away the baby with the bath water! The result is there is a large pool of saints and leaders who function without the benefit of destiny helpers Elohim may have provided to support their walk until they break through. Some are in this state of rejection because they cling to past experiences with leaders and nurse ever fresh wounds of hurts and pain.

That some people abuse these concepts should not lead us to throw away the concepts. What we need to do is to humble ourselves under unction of Holy Spirit to know and understand what they mean and be governed accordingly. In this regard, we need to remember a foundational ground norm: Authority is given by Elohim to provide the much needed balance between Liberty and Order. Let us never forget all saints (not some) are ordained to function as spiritual authorities, - whether Residual or Delegated. In the economy of the Kingdom, Elohim uses specific delegated authorities to support, assist and empower specific residual authorities to come into their place of destiny fulfilment.

Romans 13:1-5 (KJV) *1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.*

Many times, the spirit of religion gives saints a tunnel vision. This comes about when they deliberately clutch at such a narrow interpretation of the Scriptures to the degree they miss some of the most profound things Elohim ordained for their empowerment and fulfilment. This is why, in some circles, saints are brought up under the spiritual oversight and influence of just one or two or at most three of the fivefold – Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers. Very rarely do we see congregations actually embrace the whole of the fivefold, receiving all the graces and gifts contained in each fold. The result is many saints are not able to come into the fullness of divine purpose: empowered to take their full place as functional parts of the living, loving organism which the Body is.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (KJV) *11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*

Knowing this to be true, Elohim made provision for a remedy by providing saints who are missing on input from specific offices, the privilege of receiving their impartation, in a none-Pastoral context. In addition, Elohim knows at any given time, there may be some critical revelations or impartations a saint may not have received in the journey of spiritual life. He therefore makes arrangement, according to His determinate counsel, for such to be made available to the saints at a specific point in their lives. Those who are ordained to experience such inputs may know it when their vessels are dry, empty or half full and need a fresh infusion. Some may not realise it until the vessel sent to help them shows up without human efforts.

Mentorship

Mentorship is one of such provisions. Mentors are what the world would call coaches, but in the spiritual sense they are Destiny helpers. As a delegated authority, a mentor is the one assigned by Elohim to guide a specific saint into breakthrough and destiny fulfilment. As a delegated authority, the mentor and the saint/minister are in a partnership whose

critical objective is to equip the mentee into the place of discovering and pursuing their callings in a wider dimension and getting into the mode of fulfilment of the Divine purpose. True mentors very often are allowed by the Lord to see what their mentees or protégés cannot see about themselves and be made to know that such are possible to attain. This will allow the one mentored (mentee) to see better, know better and do better than contemporaries who do not have such support.

Mentorship is not ownership! They do not own the protégés assigned to them. They are not there to take over your life, family, ministry or business! That would be control and not of Elohim. They are not there to make decisions for you. They can share what they see or hear, by Holy Spirit or give an opinion but the ultimate decision lies with the one who is mentored to decide and act as persuaded by Holy Spirit. In this way, mentors assist their mentees to attain the next level in their walk towards destiny fulfilment. Mentors are for a “season”- which may be for a short, medium or long span of time, depending on what Elohim chooses to release through their vessels.

Your perception of who they are will determine what you can get out of them as destiny helpers. Familiarity deception is a trick of Satan which can make saints unable to discern who the Lord provides for their empowerment. Discernment or spiritual knowledge of who they are in the spirit is critical.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (KJV) *12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; 13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.*

Barnabas and Saul

Barnabas was the vessel who Elohim used to be destiny helper of the then Saul. He stood up for Saul when no one in the Church at Jerusalem wanted to receive him. He laid his reputation as a son of consolation on the line to attest that Saul had indeed encountered Yeshua.

Acts 9:26-29 (KJV) 26 *And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. 28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem. 29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him.*

When it was time for Saul to minister to the Gentiles as originally called by Yeshua, Jesus, it was Barnabas who the Lord used to open the doors of ministry thereto.

Acts 11:22-25 (KJV) 22 *Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. 23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. 24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord. 25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: 26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.*

That mentorship was for a season. By the time Paul matured into the fullness of his redemptive purpose, he was strong enough to walk in a different direction from Barnabas. The Lord even allowed them to be physically separated to face different theatres of the mission for souls.

Yeshua, Jesus mentored the disciples

Yeshua called, taught, trained, and equipped His disciples for 3 1/2 years before He released them to go forth with power of Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. When He first called them, they were ignorant fishermen with little or no education. Consistent investment of Truth into their lives through Teaching and Training turned the tide. As He also mentored them, their individual assignments were manifested as various levels of activations turned them around. From being servants, He transitioned them into Friends (John 15:12-15) and from there to be sons of Elohim (John 20:17; Hebrews 2:10). By the time He was ready to ascend to heaven, their final transition was to receive the same Holy Spirit Who indwelt Him without measure at the Baptism of John!

Acts 1:4-8 (KJV) *4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

Because they fulfilled the span of time allotted for mentorship by Yeshua, Jesus, the Church was laid on the solid foundation which has been sustained till this day. Many saints compromise destiny by impatience which leads them not to receive all Yeshua, Jesus intended to release/impart through specific destiny helpers.

When people separate before receiving all that was ordained, they end up running round circles, unable to break through! Real mentors will go the extra mile in allowing Holy Spirit to use them to stretch and empower the mentees assigned. The goal is to help you see Elohim is evidently in charge over your life in a comprehensive way. If you can't see this reality, you cannot be well processed. You need to humble yourself to be able to see

where the Father is leading you and who He assigns to catalyse the process or help to navigate it.

There are different levels of mentorship. As we walk alongside the mentors assigned to empower us, they will give us assignments without necessarily explaining why. The reality is assignments they give – some of which may stretch the mentee are often inspired by the need to take the individual concerned from one point to the other according to a critical path Holy Spirit may minister to the mentor. In other words, every assignment given by a true mentor is ultimately for your development and towards manifestation of your full part in the Great Commission. Proper mentorship brings forth the gifts and callings which Holy Spirit imparted within the spirit-man and to enable the mentee to stay on his or her lane. What this means is as we are being mentored, the Lord can use us to mentor others! All we need to do is to understand the reality of our spiritual positioning in terms of authority and exercise same accordingly.

2 Timothy 2:1-2 (KJV) *1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*

According to the Kingdom principle laid down by King Yeshua, Jesus Himself, a true mentor serves the mentee through an empowerment process which is ordained by the Lord. In the Kingdom, serving is leading. That is why assigned mentors invest their grace and gifts in the activation of the mentee to higher heights. The impartation received from a mentor may cause a mentee, over time, to walk in greater and wider scope of Divine Purpose than the mentor and there should be limitation to this happening. In fact, it is a healthy thing to occur.

Mentorship empowers you to attain the level where you should be at any particular time find and soar into heights of Divine purpose. The Father will put mentors in your life to enable you to walk in and fulfil destiny. With the help of Holy Spirit and the Word, you are enabled to see the worthlessness of flesh and therefore die to self. You are therefore made

ready to have Holy Spirit challenge you to be transformed from inside out for the assignment. This is something saints cannot accomplish on their own, hence the need for destiny helpers.

Review Questions

1. What is Mentorship?
2. Please briefly summarise this chapter.
3. What will you do with the lesson in the chapter?

Chapter 7

Apostolic Fatherhood; Covering; Place of Loyalty

Let us examine each of these spiritual relationships designed to perfect saints and those who are called into ministry.

Apostolic fatherhood

Apostolic fatherhood is a dimension of mentorship which requires greater accountability to the vessel so connected. There may be a number of mentors and teachers in our lives as saints who are growing. But in the Kingdom economy, each saint should have a father-figure with the spiritual stature to challenge to excellence; correct and rebuke where need be and if there is a moral failure, support the leader to undertake a proper restoration programme.

1 Corinthians 4:15 (KJV) *15 For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.*

It is therefore a divinely provided means of getting a person to mature faster from Babe to a son of Elohim within the set time. Apostolic Fathers usually tend to have experienced the fire of process which takes away much of their flesh and brings them to a place of security in Yeshua, Jesus; acceptance of their unique identities and a heart filled with pure love without corruption and wisdom which derives from the depth of their walk with Elohim and communion in the Spirit realm.

They must have specifically declared consent to speak into your life so they can graciously and firmly release discipline, correction and rebuke. Apostolic Fatherhood is for your personal walk with the Lord, so you won't run as a loose cannon and loner who is not subject to authority and yet desiring to walk in authority over other saints. There is nothing on the outside to define who someone is on the inside. For this reason, it is

needful to give Holy Spirit right of way to choose vessels who are to use the authority given them in Yeshua to bring to birth the great destinies that are in your spiritual bowels. When you know the specific vessel assigned for this purpose as Holy Spirit reveals, the onus is on the mentee to make the connection with such a person in humility. In any case, do not compare the individual with other ministers. You alone know, by Holy Spirit what the apostolic Father is to you so do not allow yourself to be swayed by the opinion of others.

2 Corinthians 10:8-15 (KJV) *8 For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed: 9 That I may not seem as if I would terrify you by letters. 10 For his letters, say they, are weighty and powerful; but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible. 11 Let such an one think this, that, such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such will we be also in deed when we are present. 12 For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise. 13 But we will not boast of things without our measure, but according to the measure of the rule which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you. 14 For we stretch not ourselves beyond our measure, as though we reached not unto you: for we are come as far as to you also in preaching the gospel of Christ: 15 Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men's labours; but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly,*

The Apostolic father must not be chosen by the flesh. One needs to be aware that if you make the wrong personal choice of apostolic fatherhood and are not led by Holy Spirit, this can be used to also take you away from the original intent of the Father. But the saint who is under authority does not need to lose his or her spiritual identity or suppress gifts and callings in order to pander to the insecurities of the one that is submitted to.

Caution

Apostolic Fatherhood is not a call to lose your spiritual identity or bury same into the identity of another human. It is not about losing your spiritual liberty and hanging on to the coattails of a ‘senior minister’. It is not about bowing before a human. It is also not about calling someone ‘Daddy’ or ‘Father’ in order to draw an emotional fix. As a matter of truth, Yeshua commanded us to call no one Father on earth!

Matthew 23:9 (KJV) *9 And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.*

Paul and Timothy

Apostolic Fatherhood is designed to provide a model of Yahweh our Father whose life mirrors that of Yeshua, Jesus! This is seen in a loving, caring heart, holiness, denial of self, intense focus on the Kingdom and an unshakeable desire to see saints walk in fullness of divine purpose.

1 Corinthians 11:1 (KJV) *1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.*

Paul began to mentor Timothy who was endearingly referred to as ‘my son’.

2 Timothy 2:1 (KJV) *1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.*

But Paul did not keep him there as a ‘son’ throughout his life. They became friends and later companions in the gospel (colleagues), striving together for the truth of the gospel. By the time the empowerment process was completed, Paul added Timothy as co-author of some of the Epistles he wrote.

Philippians 1:1 (KJV) *1 Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:*

Colossians 1:1 (KJV) *1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus our brother,*

1 Thessalonians 1:1 (KJV) *1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

2 Thessalonians 1:1 (KJV) *1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:*

In other words, Paul was used by Holy Spirit to provide Timothy affirmation and support he needed to mature and fulfil destiny!

Peter and Mark

In the same way, John Mark was a ‘spiritual son’ of Peter. Yet, it was not for purpose of suppressing the young man or having him in servitude. It was to bring forth the great grace in he who eventually wrote the gospel according to Mark.

1 Peter 5:13 (KJV) *13 The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son.*

Covering

Elohim through Yeshua, Jesus as Head of the Church is our ultimate covering. But it has pleased Yeshua, Jesus to designate some vessels as under-shepherds through who He Himself covers all saints in His Church. In this regard, the concept of covering is that of providing spiritual support

from the storms of life, family and ministry as a delegated authority on a spiritual plane which can lovingly support brethren assigned by Elohim.

1 Peter 5: 1 (KJV) *1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*

The one assigned to function as a covering is there to enable you to walk in the perfect will of Elohim. Just like an umbrella, the covering provides a shield from rain of evil, as long as we are rightly aligned and in place, under its protective shield! At home, the husband is covering to his wife. If a woman is in ministry but her husband has not yielded to the divine process to provide the level of spiritual covering needed for pursuit and fulfilment of the full dimension of destiny, the Lord will not let her suffer and be sub-optimized. He would rather provide such support as is necessary to grow and attain the full measure of destiny. The evidence that such a covering is of the Lord is that the vessel so chosen – whether male or female son of Elohim – will be the reality that the relationship will be holy and in the fear of the Omniscient and Omnipresent Elohim and for His glory. Furthermore, he or she will always counsel balance and need for the marriage to be sustained and ministry to be fulfilled.

For many saints, the covering provided is the Overseer or Pastor of the ministry. Always be careful therefore not to put your mouth on him or her, lest you suffer from staying under a torn umbrella when the rain of life starts. To receive, love, honor, bless and respect the covering the Lord provides is to walk in wisdom.

There is a wrong concept of 'Covering' which is popular in America which implies 'ownership' and 'control' This leads to bondage, fear and loss of liberty and should not be encouraged. The authority who acts as covering

does not 'own' you or the ministry committed to your trust and cannot on his or her own accord run it. The dynamics change where a minister falls into sin and may need to be disciplined for a season for the purpose of recovery and restoration.

Caution

It is wrong to turn mentorship, apostolic fatherhood and covering into a cash cow business where saints pay to gain access! The issue of blessing and honouring a leader should be based on persuasion, as led by Holy Spirit and the Word. Once it turns into an obligation of bondage to sign documents and exchange specific amounts of cash or percentage of earnings, there should be an amber light that the relationship may be mercantile and contrary to Kingdom principles and patterns. Mentors, Apostolic Fathers and Coverings are essentially serving the saints assigned to them. Elohim Who did the assigning knows how best to provide – if the saints do not support them.

Place of Loyalty

The Father wants us to be spiritually balanced. He therefore calls for all saints to be loyal to Yeshua, Jesus as Head of the church. Saints are not to stop there but also be loyal to the Church universal of which we are an intrinsic part; loyal to the vision of the church/local assembly or ministry we are connected with, and loyal to the visionary.

This is not to be because of any academic accomplishments, age, or wealth but for the sake of the mantle they bear. If you are not satisfied with the vision of the Church/ministry or the visionary and cannot be rightly aligned, it is much better and safer to just leave rather than be a gossip, back biter and instrument of causing division and dissent in the Church.

Romans 16:17 (KJV) *17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.*

There is great need for saints to align with leadership and each other, walk in alignment/formation and advance together to fulfil the vision for which Yeshua, Jesus births the Church or ministry. When this is so, the enemy cannot stop the Church.

1 Corinthians 1:10 (KJV) *10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*

Loyalty should never be used as the basis to foster denominationalism or party spirit! It is wrong to ask saints to be fiercely loyal to a leader and ministry but not require them to discern the Body and embrace unity of the Faith with saints who happen to be in other ministries and congregations.

John 17:20-23 (KJV) *20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.*

Ephesians 4:1-6 (KJV) *1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

Mentorship, Apostolic Fatherhood and Covering for accountability are instruments used to further our development. Mentorship is not supposed to be static.

The ultimate goal is to point people to Elohim. It's all about Him. We are to be co-laborers with the Elohim where he will take us from glory to glory and grace to grace. Saints need support to walk in the reality of their Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedeck! Where there is no empowerment and advancement, something is wrong!

Some basic realities: These relationships can have expiry dates!

There is a set time assigned from heaven for each of these spiritual relationships: Short, Medium or long term. When both parties walk in real spirituality, they will know when the divine purpose is full accomplished. There should be no offence or bad blood to be spilled when such relationships expire. There should be gracious releases without offence.

When people stay in such relationships past the time allotted from heaven, thorns and thistles may begin to grow. Both begin to see negative attributes because the Love which ought to undergird the relationship has frayed at the edges.

Review Questions

1. Please explain what is Apostolic Fatherhood. In what way does it differ from mentorship?
2. What does 'Covering mean in the Kingdom concept?
3. Describe briefly what loyalty is.
4. Please share 3 things you learnt from this chapter.
5. Are there any adjustments the Lord is calling you to?

Chapter 8

The Nature, Content and Context of True Authority

In Acts 1:1, we see a very critical truth: the gospel is about all that Yeshua, Jesus began to DO and to TEACH. As it was with Him, so should it be with us in this day and age. If we must understand and exercise true authority, we must look at the Yeshua Jesus paradigm because He is the Head of all principality and power and is the one on whose blood all authority in heaven on earth and underneath the earth hinge

Matthew 28:18 (KJV) *18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*

Philippians 2:5-11 (KJV) *5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Colossians 2:10 (KJV) *10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:*

For all sons of the Kingdom (neither male nor female, but rather mature saints who know their rights in Yeshua), the starting point of true authority is coming to an experiential knowledge of the vastness of the authority of Yeshua. All things were created for Him and for His pleasure

Colossians 1:16-17 (KJV) *16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they*

be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

The appropriate question therefore is this: How did He for whom all things were made and by whom all things were made live? How did He exercise the enormous authority at His disposal when He walked the earth as the incarnated Son? What example did He leave for us to follow? Did He come with a swagger riding like the Knight in shining armour, sitting on a gilt edged throne expecting other people to come and bow every moment to Him? Of course, the answer is a big NO!

The uniform testimony of scripture reveals a different kind of leader whose lowly ways, meek spirit and humble mien defied the norm of the religious establishment of His day. He wore no special robe, rode no special chariot and built no personal empire. As a matter of fact, Yeshua Jesus pointedly instructed His disciples to avoid the ostentatious lifestyles of religious leaders.

Matthew 23:5 (KJV) *5 But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, 6 And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, 7 And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.*

He instructed them to see exercise of the authority conferred on them as a call to serve others rather than an opportunity to exploit others and be served. Yeshua lived with His disciples, ate with them and mentored them from close proximity.

- They saw Him pray (Luke 11:1-13)
- They saw Him hungry (Mark 11:12-14, 19, 20)
- They saw Him chase away the merchants who defiled the temple (Mark 11:15-17)

- He took the three to the Mount of Transfiguration Matthew 17:1-13 and at His time of prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-45)
- It is no wonder that on the day of His arrest in the garden of Gethsemane, the religious leaders needed Judas Iscariot, an insider, to identify Him from the group of just 12 people! (Matthew 26:46-50).

It shows how simple and ordinary Yeshua, Jesus lived. He did not put up barriers but gave the disciples and ordinary people access to Himself. The woman with the issue of blood was able to press through the crowd and touch the hem of His garments. Blind Bartimaeus was able to access Him, the great Son of David. Even the widely despised and avoided Lepers had access!

Oh! That Elohim may open our eyes to see the beauty of simplicity and the glory of the plain, ordinary life devoid of the entrapments of human plastic glory! Simplicity with authority is an exceptional combination. It is the way of the Kingdom!

In two critical instances, Yeshua Jesus brought the message home to His followers in bold relief. One was when the two ambitious sons of Zebedee recruited their mother, to lobby Him for the chief places of honour in the Kingdom.

Matthew 20:20-28 (KJV) *20 Then came to him the mother of Zebedees children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. 21 And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom. 22 But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able. 23 And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is*

prepared of my Father. 24 And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren. 25 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. 26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; 27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: 28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Yeshua, Jesus went on to tell the two disciples and others who saw through their raw ambition that their paradigm of authority and leadership needed to shift from a carnal/worldly to a spiritual/true perspective. Yeshua, Jesus then explained that exercising authority is not ruler ship of the saints. It is not living and acting like a tyrant and expecting service from others.

On the other hand, He explained that exercising authority is truly about sacrificing our esteem and laying down the crowns the Lord has decorated us with in the service of brethren (see verse 28). In other words, He was saying those who receive authority from Him are supposed to deploy same for the purpose of empowering the saints put in their care.

In this paradigm, we see the strange truth: the more Elohim lifts up a vessel, the onus lies with that person to lay it down as a foot mat for the Lord to use to facilitate feeding and the maturation of saints. When Yeshua had the last unforgettable encounter with Peter after the resurrection, He never asked anything of his disciple than to “feed” His sheep/Lambs.

John 21:15-17 (KJV) *15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. 16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. 17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou*

me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

Feeding sheep or shepherding is a sensitive role. It requires loving the sheep, being sensitive to know their state, looking for the best food and nurturing them to maturity. The outcome of this investment is grown, healthy sheep which produce three assets:

- they bear other sheep through reproduction;
- they produce wool for the shearer and
- they produce milk!

How wonderful will the Kingdom be if those Elohim has placed in authority cease to fleece the sheep and rather proceed to patiently invest in their holistic maturation? Well nurtured saints – when they mature spiritually - will always grow to be Kingdom Ambassadors. They will live healthy prosperous lives and will lay the blessings Elohim decorates them down for His glory. They will not struggle to invest into the Kingdom nor will they flinch from supporting the ministers that Elohim uses to shepherd them.

Yeshua, Jesus Himself reflected this service paradigm of authority in John 13:1-17. We see again the impetuosity of Peter who declined to be washed. Yeshua Jesus hail his display of “humility”? No, Yeshua remonstrated with Peter and went on to specifically direct His disciples to follow His example of serving those they lead John 13:12-17. In so doing, He demonstrated that authority is not to be used to whip people into line but to show them how to live! To serve is to lead! To serve is to live! How essential it is that the Lord opens the eyes of all His saints He has granted great authority that they are all called to model Yeshua and serve those assigned to them?

It was also in this context Paul the Apostle scored excellent grades. In 1 Corinthians 11:1 he issued the battle cry “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ”! Those who are vested with authority derive their

validity only to the extent that they stay in line with the whole revealed counsel of Elohim. To walk outside the authority of Elohim as revealed in His Word and expect saints to submit to that deviation poses an exceptional challenge to those who know the truth.

Yeshua derived His enormous authority from the consecration He made concerning life in the body. Of this consecration, Hebrews 1:9 says He “*loved righteousness and hated iniquity*” for which the Father anointed Him with the oil of gladness above His fellows. All His motivation was to do the will of the Father!

John 4:34 (KJV) *34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.*

John 5:30 (KJV) *30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.*

John 6:38 (KJV) *38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.*

Matthew 26:37-39, 42 (KJV) *37 And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. 38 Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. 39 And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.*

42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.

We live in the postmodern age of the West. In this scenario, humans have attained fairly high ethical standards in business, public service and private life. Those who desire to be Governors, Presidents and even CEO's of

corporations start early to live lives which take account of the huge and intense media scrutiny which accompany their decisions when made public. In speaking of the present realm of His Kingdom therefore, Yeshua announced that the saints would have to walk by higher standards than that of the Scribes and Pharisees

Matthew 5:20 (KJV) *20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.*

The enormous authority of the Kingdom granted to leaders is for the purpose of ordering and re-ordering things to submit to the higher authority of Elohim in ministries, congregations, the market place, governance and civil society. Their lips are to be used to preach and teach truth, issue godly instructions and release blessings. Lives of authorities should so mirror Yeshua that even those who do not know Him yearn to see Him after encountering His Kingdom Ambassadors.

That is why those in authority need to be intimate with the Lord. Dwelling in the Word, spending time in prayer and cultivating a deep level of sensitivity to Holy Spirit and His voice are critical imperatives for all those in authority. Paul the apostle knew this reality and pressed into the fullness of Christ as revealed in Philippians 3:1-14. The mindset of Paul was that deep communion with Elohim would cause the saints to be changed from glory to glory.

Those who would merchandize their gifts and callings; those who would hawk the prophetic for money miss the whole point. They are putting the cart before the horse. Authorities are called to be unconditional blessing to those Elohim will bring their way. They are to do so as unto the Lord and allow the Lord Who we serve to determine the vessel(s) He has chosen to use bless us and be divine instruments of providing for our material and financial need!

Those who are inclined to Popish Rome and its stifling hierarchy and delusions of grandeur marked by ceremonial robes, rings, trained

magisterial voices and opulent lifestyles should ask themselves who they represent. Is Yeshua projected by such life styles or is He misrepresented? Now that a Jesuit sits as Pope of the Roman Catholic Church serving his religion with great simplicity, let us hope Elohim will use him to challenge Pentecostal and Charismatic Popes to change their ostentatious Babylonian ways!

The hour has come when we must examine everything we do. From having pages carry our bibles to insisting on donations (speaking fees) before we accept invitations to minister, the hour has come to ask the critical question – whose Kingdom is projected? Is it that of Yeshua or Satan? As ministers import the ways of Hollywood and its sleazy fashion into the Church, we must pause to reflect on what will happen when the Chief Shepherd appears?

Raising vessels who will exercise Spiritual Authority on behalf of Yeshua.

By expressing (releasing) what they are impressed with (gifted by Holy Spirit) all saints exercise Kingdom Authority which is hinged on the principle of service rather than position or title as Jesus disclosed in Matthew 20:20-28. This is the basis of the priesthood of all saints in 1 Peter 2:9.

There will still be need for leaders to emerge from disciples who are trained, equipped, activated in gifts of the Holy Spirit and released into formal ministry. These are those who will have responsibility for watching over souls of others, exercising authority by the inspiration and power of Holy Spirit.

Elohim requires that those who will act on behalf of Yeshua, Jesus need to learn of him, emulate Him and reflect Him in their actions and ministerial lifestyle

Matthew 11:28-30 (KJV) *28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you,*

and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

This is the only insurance against error and mercenary tendencies.

Imperatives for Delegated Authorities in the New Testament Church

Let us take note that the New Testament makes provisions for All saints to function as Residual Authorities. In this way, they are able to impact people and their environments with the glorious light of Yeshua in them as the scriptures quoted here reveal.

Matthew 5:13-16 (KJV) *13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. 14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

Philippians 2:12-16 (KJV) *12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. 14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings: 15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; 16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.*

1 Peter 2:9 (KJV) *9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light; 10 Which in time past were not a people, but are*

now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. 11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; 12 Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Any delegated authority which refuses to recognise that saints were redeemed by Yeshua to live like sons for the glory of the Father in the earth realm has already missed the mark! Such ‘authorities’ will invariably gravitate towards the Nimrodic and Levitical paradigms which see saints as ‘members’ of their leaders or ministries. In that case abuse will ensure. Such leaders will seek to suppress the gifts and callings of the saints out of fear that they will ‘outshine’ them.

That is why saints are advised to be careful who they submit to and ministries or congregations they sign up for. There are clear markers whether ministries or congregations will function as spiritual ‘hatcheries of destinies of saints or Morgues for entombing their gifts and callings. These scriptures reveal the kind of spiritual authorities (the Fivefold and Deacons) that need to be part of all true congregations where saints will be optimized to discover and fulfil their residual authorities and grow into their specific delegated authorities working together with others to deliver the Body of Yeshua in unity and love because in the Kingdom Church, we are always ‘Better, Together’!

Ephesians 4:11-16 (KJV) *11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head,*

even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Acts 6:1-7 (KJV) *1 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. 5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch: 6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. 7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.*

The Dual Target

The point is this: True Authority will always point saints to He Who is their Ultimate Head, Yeshua Jesus! True Authorities will invest in empowering the saints to know Him and derive their identity from Him. They will not encourage the state of co-dependency. They will see themselves as under-shepherds of Yeshua on assignment to His saints. In other words, whether for instance Pastoring, Mentoring, providing apostolic fatherhood or covering, the focus is on Yeshua. Secondly the work of authority is to enable saints and ministers assigned to discover, enter into, walk in and fulfil His Kingdom purpose for which they were created and redeemed.

Once this twin focus is maintained, the saints will be truly empowered. Otherwise, it will lead to stunted growth and co-dependency of a dangerous order.

Review Questions

1. Please summarise this chapter
2. Please share 5 new insights you gained.

Chapter 9

The Foundational Role of Apostles to restore Biblical Authority in the Church

Among authorities set in the Church, Yeshua placed a special mantle on those He calls as Apostles and Prophets. One of the most ignored scripture is one which makes it clear that both in terms of understanding their identities and growing up into the fullness of Yeshua, they need to receive the strategic ministry of Apostles and Prophets.

Ephesians 2:19-22 (KJV) *19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.*

To these two offices – Apostles and Prophets - Elohim committed the special responsibility of receiving and understanding the strategic framework of the gospel of the Kingdom. We will close out this course by considering the vital responsibility of Apostles to restoration of the understanding and exercise of Kingdom Authority so Liberty and Order will be rightly balanced.

Mature Apostles will embrace the Church as one

Those called to be apostles may start out with their sights set on the immediate work committed to their trust such as Congregations or Ministries they lead or are part of leadership. Their focus will be to produce qualitative and quantitative growth.

There comes a time when they mature. At this time, such Apostles do not just concern themselves with the ministries and congregations committed

to their trust. The Lord transitions them to embrace His Church as His one single indivisible Body. At this level, they become wired with grace to see the Big picture of the Church far beyond their narrow racial, ethnic, gender, partisan and socio-economic mindsets and perspectives.

John 17:20-23 (KJV) *20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.*

Ephesians 4:1-5 (KJV) *1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

Revelations 7:9-10 (KJV) *9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; 10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.*

This extract from **Course 112: *The Ascension Office Gifts*** sets out how mature apostles exercise responsibilities committed to their trust.

The four-pronged strategy for united action with other fivefold offices

As they mature, apostles understand with clarity that they are chosen specifically by Yeshua and set in the Church to represent Him by faithfully proclaiming the gospel of the Kingdom. They however realise they cannot accomplish the job alone. They yearn to become instruments in the hands of Elohim to empower other saints who are called into the fivefold to awake, arise and enter their callings, working in alignment to become complete Kingdom governance teams.

Ephesians 4:11-16 (KJV) *11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*

A four-pronged strategy enables apostles to fulfil their calling

1. With Prophets, they are to keep the Church in the mood of the wise virgins, in perpetual readiness for the soon return of Yeshua and warn those who prefer to be ‘asleep’ of the consequences.

Matthew 25:1-13 (KJV) *1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. 2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: 4 But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. 6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to*

meet him. 7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. 9 But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. 10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. 11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. 12 But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. 13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

2. With Teachers, they are to emphasize that while we wait for His soon appearance, there is serious work to be done by saints during their pilgrimage in this present life through discovering, pursuing and fulfilling individual mandates, as part of an organic whole (Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16). In so doing, their compass which is Yeshua Himself drives them to yield their vessels to be used of Him to build a Church that is radiant, mature, powerful and able to manifest the glory of Yeshua to unbelievers as well as principalities and powers in heavenly places (Ephesians 5:25-27).

3. Apostles work closely with Evangelists to ensure unbelievers hear the gospel and come into the Kingdom as true converts who repented of their sins and not merely ‘members of congregations’.

4. The true Apostle will challenge Pastors to truly shepherd the flock of Yeshua in an empowering way and not as if they belong to him or her (Ephesians 5:26, 27; Ephesians 3:10).

1 Peter 5:1-4 (KJV) *1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*

This will entail the following 8 action points:

#.1. As Master Builders, they receive and use the architectural plan of the Church Yeshua handed down to us in The Word to ensure the Bride is made ready for the Groom.

Ephesians 5:26-27 (KJV) *26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (KJV) *10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.*

#.2. Accordingly, true Apostles cannot stand the spirit of religion, denominationalism, the pseudo gospel movement and the so-called prosperity gospel as well as abuse of the prophetic and other errors Satan activates from time to time. They will not sit back idly, unconcerned and 'mind their own businesses' when such negative trends show up.

They will rather lay hold of the Word to contend for the Faith.

Jude 1:3-4 (KJV) *3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which*

was once delivered unto the saints. 4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 John 2:18-27 (KJV) *18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.20 But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.23 Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.24 Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.25 And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.26 These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you.27 But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.*

And the very words of Yeshua Himself in places like Matthew 24 to contend for the true faith and warn as many who have ears to hear to escape the snares of the enemy. Apostles are therefore often vested with the spirit of holy boldness to stand for the truth of the gospel.

#.3. Apostles will lead the fivefold in the area or sphere of influence granted them to challenge the Church there to make the transitions required from being an organization warehoused within buildings to be the vibrant living, loving organism – the Body of Yeshua – where all saints

take their places to be vessels through which the Holy Spirit manifests the divine presence and power so by that which every joint supplies, the Body makes increase of itself in love. In this scenario, the saints become mature enough to know wolves and false shepherds by their fruits and avoid their wicked schemes to fleece them (Ephesians 4:7-12, 13-16; Matthew 7:13-27).

#.4. Because Apostles train and empower the saints, they will make teaching of spiritual gifts and priesthood of all believers a cardinal part of their teaching ministry. One core beneficiary is Ministers in the Market places who are challenged to see their work places and businesses as their prime platform for Kingdom expression and expansion. They will be encouraged to take the Church from the building to the Community and manifest the light of Yeshua right where He planted them without feeling guilty of ‘not doing enough in church’. The outcome will be saints flowing effortlessly as residual authorities of King Yeshua wherever He planted them. Exercising the scope of residual authority in them, they impact their spheres of influence.

#.5. Apostles are vested with the grace for spiritual warfare and will lead congregations they oversee to rise in the dimension of the spirit to dislodge all satanic ruling influences and spirits. Taking over the spiritual atmosphere of their territories, they are able to, by Holy Spirit leading and empowerment, establish the purpose of Elohim (Matthew 16:18, 19; Ephesians 3:10).

#.6. True Apostles stretch the saints and literally smoke them out of their comfort zones. They are wired to reprove, correct and discipline the saints and expect such to be received spiritually and gracefully. They are empowered to recommend for dis-fellowship those who fall into gross sins, apostatize or seek to lead the Church astray (1 Corinthians chapters 5 and 6; 2 Corinthians 2:1-11). Even if a fellow apostle goes into error, he/she needs to be corrected as the occasion and gravity requires (Galatians 2:11-21).

#.7. True Apostles will always yearn for emergence of true Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers who will work in synergy to produce the outcomes of Ephesians 4:11-16. The apostle knows he or she cannot bring the saints to perfection alone. Whenever God opens a door, he/she goes all out to pray in others to make up the team. Apostles will encourage congregations under his/her oversight to be open to receive the ministry of the entire fivefold.

Philippians 2:1-4 (KJV) *1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, 2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. 3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.*

The grace to look out for other ministers is wired in the Apostolic office as Paul displayed.

2 Corinthians 2:12-14 (KJV) *12 Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord, 13 I had no rest in my spirit, because I found not Titus my brother: but taking my leave of them, I went from thence into Macedonia. 14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.*

#.8. True Apostles will understand the cornerstone nature of the Word and will use it as plumb line to determine what is acceptable. Intense communion with Holy Spirit is necessary for correct understanding of the Word and the quantum of anointing needful to execute the divine agenda.

If the preaching of the true gospel of the Kingdom must be done, the starting point is the restoration of the fivefold offices Yeshua ordained for His Church. It is all by grace however and those who are called to be apostles must come to a point where His grace is sufficient for them.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (KJV) *7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. 8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. 9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.*

The fullness of grace is the sure guarantee from buckling under the weight of the challenges and fires along the way.

This sensitive assignment requires proper preparation according to bible based principles of the Kingdom. Here, ethical standards need to be sustained so saints are not put at risk.

It is also imperative we understand how those who will lead in formal capacities in the Body of Christ are required to meet some biblical standards.

As the return of King Yeshua draws near, the true Kingdom Church will emerge in the fullness of His radiance! Saints will know their identity and walk in their residual and delegated authority. They will not be victims but rather walk as victors in the earth realm. They live like disciples of Yeshua who follow in His steps and walk as sons of Elohim, just like He is the Ultimate Son. They discover, pursue and fulfil their roles as the Royal Priesthood in the Order of Melchizedeck. In this way, they bring the Father great pleasure! That is the ultimate purpose of authority: to qualify brethren to rule in the earth realm and occupy it – not for their bellies but as assigns of King Yeshua, on assignment for Him until He returns!

Psalms 115:16 (KJV) *16 The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.*

Luke 19:11-13 (KJV) *11 And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear. 12 He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. 13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.*

Review Questions

1. Please share how mature Apostles work with the other members of the Fivefold to achieve the grand purpose of Yeshua.
2. Out of the 8-point plan of action by Apostles for Reformation, please briefly discuss any 5 that ministered deeply to you.
3. What new insight did you gain from the lesson in this chapter?

Chapter 10

The Ordination Manual - Part A

The Ordination Manual (A New Testament Perspective: a Teaching & Training Manual)

This Ordination Manual has been prepared for the Kingdom Church world-wide. It is used by International Ministers Fellowship, Arise Metropolitan Communion of Kingdom Ministries and Global School of Ministry. The content offers an excellent guide which can be used by congregations and ministries world-wide.

1. Introduction:

All believers are called to the priesthood of saints with residual authority to represent Yeshua where He planted them. But saints are not redeemed to function alone as individuals. They are rather active, organic parts of the same indivisible Church, His Body.

The Church of Yeshua is not a happy go lucky institution where people do what they like, when they like and how they like. Paul the Apostle describes the Church as “the ground and Pillar of truth for which he enjoined his protégé and Bishop of Ephesus, Timothy, to tell them to “know how thou oughtest to behave thyself” (1 Timothy 3:15). One of the issues which marred the glory of the Charismatic and Pentecostal movement and its predecessors were the tendency to sweep away every ordinance under the assumption, borne out of ignorance, that order is antithetical to Spirit led worship.

On the contrary, the total evidence of scripture affirms Holy Spirit is essentially a Spirit of order and harmony. This is evident in Old Testament which exudes divine order and harmony from beginning to end. The gospels also testify to the necessity of due order and harmony as even our Lord Himself modelled with His baptism under John, to fulfil all righteousness, right to His atonement at Calvary.

The early Church observed order and due process even as it was hallmarked with the evident presence and power of Elohim. When the Corinthian Church went out of control and order in exercising spiritual gifts, Paul the Apostle was used of Holy Spirit to explain the gifts in detail (Chapter 12), the thread of Love/Charity that holds every gift together (Chapter 13) and the right order and pattern for ministering spiritual gifts in order to glorify Elohim and reap maximum benefits in the Church (Chapter 14).

In verse 26 of 1 Corinthians Chapter 14, the great apostle enjoins us: “let all things be done unto edifying”. In verse 33, he added “For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints”. In verse 40, that critical but oft neglected chapter of the bible enjoins: us “Let all things be done decently and in order”.

The 4-fold Transition to Ordained Ministry

If the present-day Church of Yeshua must fulfil her Great Commission mandate, it is imperative we begin to put in place a definite programme of action and training which will ensure the prayer of Yeshua to The Father for more labourers to be available for the final harvest is manifested in the earth realm.

In this regard, there is a Master Plan, hidden to those with a religious mindset but made plain for the remnant. It is one in which all saints, congregations and ministries invest in a transition process which sees the following shifts:

- i.** Through consistent Evangelism in which Yeshua and His finished work is declared, people hear, repent, embrace the truth and therefore transit from SINNERS to SAINTS/BELIEVERS.

- ii.** Through consistent Teaching of the Word, the mind of BELIEVERS is renewed, and their hearts transformed to the degree they become DISCIPLES of Yeshua

iii. Those DISCIPLES are systematically trained, equipped, activated and ORDAINED to become MINISTERS who will do the work of the ministry in all areas of Kingdom work, within and outside the four walls of the sanctuary.

iv. Those ordained discover the specific roles assigned to them – whether in the Fivefold, Diaconate, other Supportive Ministries or in the Market Place and Civic Society. Walking in alignment with other ministers and saints gifted differently, they collectively manifest a fuller expression of the Presence and Power of Yeshua as Head of the Church and King of the Kingdom.

With this four-fold transition, saints are able to live as sons of Elohim, just like Yeshua, the Ultimate Son when their ambitions and desires are crucified with Him. The life they live going forward is anchored on seeking, knowing and doing the will of Elohim as they are led by Holy Spirit.

We must restore the holistic concept of ministry which is anchored on ministering spiritual gifts. As people are fully equipped, we should proceed to release them into ministry so they will have the necessary confidence to function. Since the priesthood of all believers is one core hallmark of the Church as 1 Peter 2:9 states, it is important that ordination programmes ought to be regular features of annual church life!

Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedeck

It is important to state clearly that in the economy of God concerning the New Covenant, all barriers to access the Throne of God and serve as labourers in the vine yard was broken at the Cross when the veil in the Temple was rent in two as the first fruit of the death of Jesus!

Hebrews 9:19-22 (KJV) *19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let*

us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

For this reason, ministry in the Kingdom shifted from the exclusive male and family dominated Aaronic priesthood to the Order of Melchizedeck.

Hebrews 7:17-20 (KJV) *17 For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. 18 For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. 19 For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God. 20 And inasmuch as not without an oath he was made priest: 21 (For those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec:) 22 By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. 23 And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: 24 But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. 25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.*

In this way, Yeshua, Jesus Himself became both our Head, King and our Supreme model. As we all know, Yeshua, Jesus was of the Tribe of Judah which produced Kings, not Priests. His first disciples who later became Apostles were also all unqualified for priesthood. In the Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedeck, those who serve are no longer known by gender, age, family pedigree, education or social class.

Galatians 3:26-29 (KJV) *26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

The Lord chooses who He wills, fills them with the Holy Spirit and calls them into ministry. For this reason, the callings of Elohim and gifts of Holy Spirit are received and warehoused in the realm of the spirit man from where they are expressed to impart and impact others (1 Corinthians 12:1-12; Romans 12:1-8).

In the realm of The spirit-man, saints are neither male nor female, black, white or Asian. Level of intellectual development and such other considerations have no place! That is why no one can exclude any one from any level of ministry on the basis of their gender, age or socio-economic status. Any one limiting women or excluding them from ministry or certain levels of ministry is still held by the Aaronic concept of ministry! A study of Course 122: Women in Ministry and Course 112: The Ascension Office Gifts (Fivefold Leadership Gifts) is recommended for their exhaustive exposition of the whole counsel of God including hitherto difficult passages in the Bible dealing with women in ministry.

Elohim does not consult your past to determine your future! Elohim also does not call the qualified; He rather qualifies those He calls! Every saint is qualified to serve the Lord and saints

B. Ordination – What is it?

Ordination can rightly be defined as the act of confirming the eligibility of a saint for service in the Church of Yeshua to both Elohim, fellow saints and sinners through the laying on of hands by senior ministers functioning as authorities He assigns. When people are ordained, they are declared fit to move from personal/private ministry to step up and serve anywhere and everywhere they go.

These parties need to be present for a valid ordination to take place:

i. An ordination candidate whose eligibility is anchored on having the requisite character, grace and manifestation of divine presence and power spelt out in scriptures relevant to the office into which the ordination is

taking place. Such a candidate usually undergoes training/preparation for the exercise. It should be noted mere completion of a bible school or seminary programme is insufficient to justify an ordination. This is because most bible schools concentrate on ministering to the brain, rather than the heart or spirit man. A bible school graduate should be humble enough to submit to mentoring and spiritual formation in order to fulfil ministry.

ii. A confirming authority: This is either the vision holder of a local expression of the Body of Yeshua (Ministry or local congregation) or a duly recognized senior minister in the Body who is accepted as such by the Church in the City/nation. Alternatively, it could be the leadership of a Ministerial Fellowship to which the ordination candidate is connected with.

iii. Witnesses to the ordination (Saints, family and friends) add value to the exercise.

C. New Testament Examples of Ordination

1. In a sense, the baptism of our Lord Yeshua by John was also an ordination, if the entire event is contextualized with relevant scriptures.

Isaiah 61:1-2 (KJV) *1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;*

This prophecy by Isaiah explains the events at John's baptism recorded in

Matthew 3:13-17 (KJV) *13 Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. 14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? 15 And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it*

becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. 16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: 17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

As one Who would serve Israel as King, Yeshua needed to, in a sense, be ‘Ordained’ by the John, the accepted Prophet of Israel who was from the Tribe of Levi.

2. Yeshua Jesus ordained the 12 disciples who he chose after earnest, all night prayers (Luke 6:12-16).

Mark 3:13-19 (KJV) *13 And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. 14 And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, 15 And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils: 16 And Simon he surnamed Peter; 17 And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder: 18 And Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Canaanite, 19 And Judas Iscariot, which also betrayed him: and they went into an house.*

3. The early church practiced ordination.

Right from the season when they waited on the Lord for outpouring of Holy Spirit, the Alpha Church engaged in the act of setting people apart for public ministry (Acts 1:15-26).

3.1 The very first Deacons were ordained for service.

Acts 6:1-7 (KJV) *1 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily*

ministration. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. 5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch: 6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. 7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

3.2 Subsequently, we see ordination exercises in various forms, some close while others were open. For instance, the great Apostle Paul was basically ordained into ministry by an obscure but faithful servant of the Lord, Ananias (Acts 9:10-18).

3.3 Paul and Barnabas were publicly set apart and consecrated as Apostles, released by Prophets and teachers in Antioch

Acts 13:1-3 (KJV) *1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. 3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.*

3.4 In exercise of his role as Master Builder of the Church (1 Corinthians 3:10), Paul gave specific instructions to some of the leaders such as Timothy and Titus concerning qualifications for ministry (1 Timothy 3:1-16; Titus 1:1-9).

Titus 1:5 (KJV) *5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:*

4. Biblical qualifications for ordination of ministers:

The Lord has provided clear qualifications required of ministers He will use in public ministry. We shall examine a number of scriptures where qualifications for Ministry were expressly declared.

A. Holy Spirit used Jethro, Moses father in law to outline a number of qualities for leadership or ordination:

Exodus 18:21-22 (KJV) *21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens: 22 And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee.*

Breaking down this passage, we see these qualifications:

i. “Provide out of the people”. From within, that is must have sat under the teaching ministry and or leadership of the instrument God will use to ordain or recommend for ordination (the Overseer/Senior Pastor). If it is a network, the candidate for ordination or licensing must have fully subscribed to the objects and purposes of the body. This principle is further amplified in Acts 1:21, 22 when a replacement was sought for Judas Iscariot as well as Acts 6: 3 when there was need to ordain people into the diaconate.

ii. “Able men”. These are people who do not give room for failure or fear and have no excuses for not doing their work. They get things done out of a humble service heart.

iii. “Such as fear God” A minister must fear Elohim. The fear of God is one of the greatest motivations to live right and serve sincerely. God sees the secrets of the heart!

Jeremiah 17:9-10 (KJV) *9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? 10 I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.*

Psalms 119:11 (KJV) *11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*

To fear Elohim, saints and leaders need to know Him in His Omnipresence and Omniscience

iv. “Men of Truth.” A minister should be a person of his or her words, no matter how inconvenient things may be. The Lord enjoins us to let our eye be real and once we have made commitments, we should stand by them. This is what integrity is all about. This affects commitments we make to our spouses, children, employers/employees, in the Church of Yeshua, Jesus, the home and the society.

Psalms 15:1-5 (KJV) *1 Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? 2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. 3 He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. 4 In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. 5 He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.*

Psalms 24:1-6 (KJV) *1 The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. 2 For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. 3 Who shall ascend into*

the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? 4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. 5 He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. 6 This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah.

Matthew 5:33-37 (KJV) *33 Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: 34 But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: 35 Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. 36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. 37 But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.*

v. “Hating Covetousness” We live in an age where covetousness is disguised as faith. The bible is clear that those who serve Elohim should not be slaves to mammon and must be liberated from his deadly grip.

1 Timothy 6:6-12 (KJV) *6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. 11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.*

Those who ignore this scripture will discover that truly, the LOVE of money is the root of all evil. The panacea is for ministers to focus on heavenly goals. The uniform testimony of scripture is Elohim provides for

and prospers His own servants as an act of His graciousness. Wealth, when it is a gift from Elohim and procured by laying hold of the fullness of His counsel, is a sweet sight to behold as it is decorated with humility and character! There is no room in the Kingdom for those with the spirit of Judas Iscariot, the treasurer of Yeshua who stole regularly from the bag

John 12:4-6 (KJV) *4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, 5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? 6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.*

vi. “Place such over them to be rulers of thousands...hundreds...or fifties or tens”. This speaks of spiritual capacity. It must be noted ordination is generally into ministry. Thereafter, the leaders should utilize revelation and information they have on those ordained to assign them responsibilities appropriate to their known capacities. People should not be posted to responsibilities based on parochial considerations such as proximity to the leader, ethnic or racial considerations or size of gifts they bring but on capacity to discharge responsibilities assigned.

Ministry should be in proportion of faith.

Romans 12:3 (KJV) *3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.*

B. Acts 6:1-7 offers a range of qualities expected of deacons or those who will serve:

Acts 6:3 (KJV) *3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.*

i. “Look ye out among you” – This is the same principle enunciated through the lips of Jethro in Exodus 18:21. Candidates should be groomed for a period of time by one who can account for their character and suitability.

ii. “Of honest Report” This bears out the need for people of integrity who hate covetousness and will not see the ministry as an avenue to get rich quick.

iii. “Full of the Holy Ghost” – The work of the Lord is intensely spiritual and can only be successfully executed with spiritual resources. The fullness of the Holy Spirit with accompanying power represented by specific, identifiable gifts, rather than the hollow speaking in tongues that pervade the church world today is a need that cannot be overstated.

Oh! That children of Elohim will seek after and obtain on the altar of intense prayer, consecration and by faith the real power from on high and we will see an empowered church that will shake the world around us to believe in Yeshua!

iv. “Full of wisdom” – Divine rather than humanistic wisdom is required to co-labour with Elohim in His vineyard. Human wisdom tends to craftiness and strife. Wisdom from above is pure and gentle. James 3:13-18 contrasts the two kinds of wisdom.

C. 1 Tim 3:1-7 lists qualities for those who aspire to the Bishopric while verses 8-13 are qualifications for the diaconate.

1 Timothy 3:1-7 (KJV) *1 This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; 3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) 6 Not a novice, lest being*

*lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. 7
Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest
he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.*

They include:

- i.** “Blameless” – this is a function of a high level of integrity which gives no room for doubt as to the character of the minister to be even amongst unbelievers.
- ii.** “The husband of one wife” – this speaks of faithfulness to one’s spouse and high moral standing. In these days when immorality is at an all-time high, it is essential that those to be put in leadership must have their sexuality under the absolute control of the Holy Spirit!
- iii.** “Vigilant” – the grace to be watchful, over self and the flock Prov.27:13
- iv.** “Sober” – In the face of all things and events, the grace to keep head above water.
- v.** “Of good behaviour” – A minister cannot but be well behaved.
- vi.** “Given to hospitality” – Interestingly, the Lord cares for welfare of the flock in the city as well as brethren in transit. Ministers of God should have the caring heart of God!
- vii.** “Apt to teach” – feeding the sheep with the sincere milk of the Word is the primary focus of the bishopric. Ability and willingness to teach is therefore imperative.
- viii.** “Not given to wine” – the Lord expects those who will represent Him to abstain from all potentially intoxicating substances so Holy Spirit alone will have sway of their lives (See also Ephesians 5:18).
- ix.** “No striker” ministers must be above the fray and not given to pugilism.

x. “Not greedy of filthy lucre” – like in Exodus 18, the Word decries covetousness.

xi. “Patient” – the ability to wait out storms and tempests attests to faith and maturity.

xii. “Not a brawler” – this speaks of abhorrence of strife, quarrel and riotous life.

xiii. “One that ruleth well his own house...having children in subjection with all gravity” – this speaks of a diligent quest to put his or domestic front in order and not allowing the family to suffer as a result of ministry. Ultimately, every individual soul must stand to give account before Elohim for how life was lived. However ministerial parents must do all in their power to exercise discipline, in love, so children grow up with godly fear and respect for authority.

xiv. “Not a novice” – a minister needs to be seasoned and weaned off babyhood. Novices tend to attribute to themselves, the workings of the Holy Spirit, hence proud.

xv. “Must have a good report of them that are without.” – This quality adds flavor to a minister’s witness amongst those of his mission field.

Review Questions

1. What is Ordination?
2. Provide 3 instances in the New Testament when people were ordained by laying on of hands and released for public ministry.
3. Itemise 7 qualifications for ministry that ministered most to you.
4. What happens when people who are clearly manifesting these qualities go into public ministry?

Chapter 11

The Ordination Manual - Part B

This Ordination Manual has been prepared for the Kingdom Church world-wide. It is used by International Ministers Fellowship, Arise Metropolitan Communion of Kingdom Ministries and Global School of Ministry. The content offers an excellent guide which can be used by congregations and ministries world-wide.

Let us remember that in chapter 10, the Lord used Paul to make this declaration concerning the Church of Yeshua:

1 Timothy 3:15 (KJV) *15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.*

It is necessary for the Church in this generation to get back into the Word and establish due process whereby those who seek to be ordained submit to the process of dealings of Holy Spirit through the Word so they can be properly prepared. It is true Elohim does not CALL the QUALIFIED. Rather, what He does well is to QUALIFY those He CALLED!

1. Qualifications for Deacons (include all supportive ministers and those called to the Market Place).

1 Timothy 3:8-13 (KJV) *8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; 9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. 10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. 11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. 12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. 13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

Broken down, these are their qualifications for ministry:

i. “Be grave” – ministry requires gravity of spirit to receive bountifully from heaven.

ii. “Not double tongued” – the Lord requires His servants to be truthful and dependable.

iii. “Not given to much wine” – this has been explained before. Wine and the Anointing of Holy Spirit do not mix but are rather rank opposites. Ultimately, saints need to choose between being filled with and led by Alcohol or with Holy Spirit!

iv. “Not greedy of filthy lucre” – not covetous of money or material things. They recognise the reality that Covetousness or Lust for wealth is simply Idolatry, since such strong desire will displace Elohim from their first love!

Colossians 3:5 (KJV) *5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:*

v. “Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience” – here the essential issue is to challenge those getting into the ministry to understand, internalize and be able to defend the basic doctrines of the Christian faith. It is wrong to assume Deacons and those called to Supportive Ministry can function in ignorance of the Faith. After all, saints are to first become Disciples of Yeshua before they should proceed into Ministry.

vi. “Let these also be first proved” – those to be ordained into ministry need to be first proved in the things they do and the spirit with which they do them while living and serving as brothers and sisters in fellowship. They need to attain to the status of faithful disciples before they move into the ministry.

vii. “Being found blameless” – ministers of the sanctuary must be above reproach. Unbelievers and the Media will often hold ministers to high standards and will examine micro details of lifestyle to find occasion to reproach both the Lord and His Church.

viii. “Even so must their wives be...let the deacons be the husband of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well” – scripture makes it clear ministry starts with the home. Ability to get it right at home will prepare one for ministry in the church. 1 Timothy 3:13 sums up the need to go into ministry well equipped and prepared.

1 Timothy 3:13 (KJV) *13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

D. Qualifications from Titus 1:4-9

This is the last of the portions of scripture specifically outlining requirements for leadership in the Church.

Titus 1:4-9 (KJV) *4 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. 5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: 6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; 8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; 9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.*

Here is a breakdown of qualifications in the passage:

i. “Blameless”

ii. “Husband of one wife”

iii. “Having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly”

iv. “Not self-willed” – Those seeking ordination are signing up for the Yoke of Yeshua! They are repudiating their right to self-will so Holy Spirit will lead them to know and do the will of Elohim in ALL THINGS! Romans 8:12-16.

v. “Not soon angry” – Quick, hot anger destroys relationships and the outcome may be difficult to patch up. For that reason, the Lord requires those who seek to serve Him and the Church to be true disciples who are not in haste to respond or easy to be destabilised emotionally. Whenever he has a chance, Satan uses temper to scatter what Yeshua is building on earth.

vi. “Not given to wine”

vii. “No striker”

viii. “Not given to filthy lucre”

ix. “Lover of hospitality”

x. “Lover of good men”

xi. “Sober”

xii. “Just” – this speaks of a life that evidently displays faith in Yeshua. Being a just person is the outworking of the Spirit of Grace released through vessels of the righteous of whom Satan has no part.

xiii. “Holy” – Leaders are called to live holy lives without reproach so they can have the moral standing to preach and demand same from the flock.

1 Peter 1:15-17 (KJV) *15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. 17 And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:*

Romans 2:21-23 (KJV) *21 Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? 22 Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege? 23 Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?*

xiv. “Temperate” Leaders must live in moderation knowing the Lord will soon return. Consequently, they should shun love of the world and its allurements. It does not mean leaders cannot live well. It simply means the heart of ministers should be so tuned to heaven that they are not carried away by distractions.

Phil 4:5-6 (KJV) *5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God*

1 John 2:15-17 (KJV) *15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*

xv. “Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught”

Paul ends this list of qualities required of elders by explaining why those who are ministers need to be prepared by the Lord in terms of their character and lifestyle:

Titus 1:10-11(KJV) *10 for there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, especially they of the circumcision. 11 Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not for filthy lucre sake*

5. Spiritual Transactions during Ordination

In a proper ordination exercise, the following spiritual transactions take place:

- i.** Confirmation of the calling of Elohim upon the ordained, publicly
- ii.** Activation of spiritual gifts that are dormant or in minimal manifestation

Romans 1:11 (KJV) *11 For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established;*

1 Timothy 4:14 (KJV) *14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.*

- iii.** Public Affirmation of suitability of the Ordinand to minister in a formal sense
- iv.** Impartation of grace to function in the fullness of the calling
- v.** Release into formal ministry
- vi.** Public demonstration of private/personal acceptance of the yoke of Christ (Matthew 11:28-30; Matthew 16:24-26; Romans 12:10).
- vii.** Sealing of a Covenant Relationship with Elohim in which the one being ordained commits to active pursuit of the Kings priorities and expansion of His Kingdom as the new focus in life and ministry trusting Elohim to wholly supply all needs (Psalm 37:17; Proverbs 3:5-12).

Psalms 50:5 (KJV) *5 Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.*

Matthew 6:25-34 (KJV) *25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.*

6. Concerning the Conditions/Qualifications for Ordination

Just like other core ordinances of the Church such as Baptism and Marriage, Ordination is a serious matter which should not be entered into hurriedly, without preparation, or out of strife to be one of the Joneses in Church. It is supposed to be a life transforming experience:

- i.** if the ordination candidate is one truly called by Elohim,
- ii.** who accepts the call,
- iii.** is under authority and

iv. submits to the preparation process which includes a discipleship component in the local assembly as well as a specific preparation exercise like the Global School of Ministry and Master Class training programme.

The conditions for ordination are not barriers meant to prevent people from attaining the impossible. They are rather Elohim's appointed way of processing His saints into co-labourers with Him in His own vineyard! In effect, the saying is true that "Elohim does not call the qualified but qualifies the called". This was true of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, the Judges, David and Elijah as well as the 12 Apostles, Paul, Timothy, Titus and indeed all the hosts of servants who ran the race before us. Elohim's benchmark are props meant to challenge us to put childish things and carnal mindsets away and lay hold of the fullness of His grace to be transformed unto the fullness of His stature.

1 Corinthians 13:9-11 (KJV) *9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. 11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.*

After all, spiritual growth and maturity in Yeshua, to which we are called in ordination, cannot be achieved by human effort or annual resolutions. As Philippians 1:13 affirms, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure" to which agrees Philippians 1:6 "that he which hath began a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ".

7. The keys to spiritual growth for leadership are:

i. Genuine Conversion Experience. In Acts 3:19, Peter demanded those who desire the Kingdom should repent and be converted. The need for genuine conversion can never be over stated. A converted being is one who has understood the end of sin and the absolute need of mortal man for our Lord and Saviour Yeshua. He or she does not just repent of any particular sin that comes to mind but goes further to lay hold of the glorious

future to reject the past way of life. Transformation of perspectives of life is thus called for. The convert is thus baby like and able to receive the sincere milk of the Word that makes spiritual growth possible.

Oh! That we may have more converts than mere members in the Church of Yeshua! The uniform testimony of scripture is Elohim wants us to Walk with Him before and while Working with Him. He has no need of spiritual touts who will make the right external religious motions but whose hearts are far from Him. In calling His first disciples therefore, Mark 3:13-19 says Jesus called them to “be with him, and that He might send them forth to preach”. May we pursue intimacy with the Lord as a precedent to working with Him! Paul clearly stated this principle:

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (KJV) *24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: 27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.*

ii. Right Motives. It is necessary that ordination candidates have the right motives for seeking the experience. It is not for acquisition of another religious title. It is not to graduate from the service corner to the bosses’ seats. It is not to be seen of people as a leader. It is not a reward for been a long-standing member of the church or for been a generous giver, rather it is to formally equip and empower you to SERVE the Lord and His people!

Luke 22:24-27 (KJV) *24 And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest. 25 And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. 26 But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. 27 For whether is*

greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

iii. The Clear Conditions of Scripture. These have been exhaustively outlined in section 4 above. Whoever sets his or her heart on them, yields wholly to the Holy Spirit and receive the Word of Elohim sincerely will find the grace imparted upon the spirit man supernaturally. The conditions are not met by carnal struggles or observance of religious processes. John 15:1-7 gives us the hidden key to true spirituality in verses: just ABIDE in Him so from Him will proceed the divine life flowing through us to touch lost humanity! So, do not despair and look at ordination as an impossible mountain to climb. Elohim has set the bar high so we can look up to Him for enablement to be what and who He wants us to be.

8. When You Feel Inadequate...

What happens when you feel highly inadequate, in the light of the requirements stated above? The answer is to humbly go to Elohim, in deep prayers of extreme brokenness, seeking His face for mercy and to release grace for you to be who He wants you to be. As you submit yourself to the authority Elohim planted over you, the Lord will use the Word and His Spirit to effect a transformation you never thought possible. Elohim's gifts and calling, says Romans 11: 29, are without repentance.

The whole purpose of showing you your inadequacy is to humble you to acknowledge same so He can raise you up and in so doing, you will by no means ever boast of your righteousness nor your service (James 4:10). You will thus be able to acknowledge, like Paul that all you are is by grace.

1 Timothy 1:12-16 (KJV) *12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; 13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. 14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. 15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save*

sinner; of whom I am chief. 16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting

James 4:10 (KJV) *10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.*

9. Caveat Emptor!

Please for God's sake, never proceed with an ordination programme if, by the due time,

9.1 You are still living in presumptuous sins or certain besetting sins like immorality, lying, deceit, cheating, instability of character/inconsistency, insincerity, lingering anger, malice, evil speaking, deep envy, jealousy is having the mastery over you or are not yet truly converted but a mere 'church goer' (Ephesians 4:17-31, Colossians 3:1-10).

Hebrews 12:1-4 (KJV) *1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. 4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.*

9.2 You are not subject and submitted to the spiritual authority Elohim set over you. Romans 13:1-7 enjoins you to be subject to the higher powers and that resisting them is resisting God who set them in place. Hebrews 13:7 & 17 enjoin us to Remember positively, our leaders; Follow their lifestyles; Obey and Submit ourselves because they watch over our souls and must give account.

9.3 You are not fully persuaded that you are willing to pay the price required. Ultimately only you and Elohim know the real state of your heart. If your heart is not in it, do not proceed with an ordination. Romans 14:23 says whatever is not of faith is sin.

Never go into an ordination without faith in the Elohim you are going to serve nor just to be reckoned as a leader. A price must be paid to qualify. If you are not ready to pay the price of yielding to Holy Spirit to transform your mind and heart, defer the proposed ordination to a future date.

The same anointing that empowers and blesses is also a double-edged sword that can kill. After all, the law says the anointing oil must not touch flesh even at the pain of death would it touch a stranger! (Exodus 30:25-33).

Conclusion

Much as Elohim wants to open up the space in the Church for more people to be called into ministry and be empowered to fulfil their callings, He is not about to change or lower His standards. He is the unchanging Elohim whose children are not consumed when they prove their love of Him by obedience.

Other Papers in this training programme are: GSoM Course 119; Discover and Fulfil your Ministry; GSoM Course 113: Spiritual Gifts; GSoM Course 112: The Ascension Office Gifts (Five - fold); GSoM Course 114: Leadership in the Household of Faith; GSoM Course 115: Spiritual Authority GSoM Course 122: Women in Ministry; GSoM Course 121: Market Place Ministry and GSoM Course 123: Rewards of The Faithful.

Please share this lesson freely, in whole or broken down into bite sizes. Use it and the 8 previous chapters to teach, train, equip, activate and release saints into fullness of the divine purpose! Do not keep the revelation to yourself. Pass it on so as many as possible can be blessed! Please download free eBooks at www.kingdombooksclub.org

Chapter 12

Epilogue

Yeshua as the Spring and Source of ALL Authority

Colossians 1:1-29 (KJV) *1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus our brother, 2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, 4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints, 5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; 6 Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth: 7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; 8 Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit. 9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; 12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: 15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is*

before all things, and by him all things consist. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. 19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. 21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled 22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouable in his sight: 23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister; 24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: 25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; 26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: 28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: 29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

Assignment: Go and be the Delegated or Residual Authority you were redeemed to be; Go forth and live a Life under Authority - in Liberty of Holy Spirit and by Order of Holy Spirit!

Chapter 13

Feedback from Participants

Valerie Caraotta, Conyers, Ga USA: This course 115 clarified many misunderstandings regarding biblical authority. Just because someone functions in a position does not mean they have the stamp of approval of Elohim on it. This course pointed out a needed principal, that has cost many in ministry premature removal. As Yeshua is the ultimate head, He delegates authority to human vessels but they in turn must be mindful to not dominate in a carnal way. It presented the Biblical approach to authority and how those that lead by Divine election must be governed by Holy Spirit and anchored in the word of Elohim.

I like where illegitimate authority was defined with examples because it allowed me to see how self-serving it is and how destructive it is in diverting destinies. The section on legitimate authority were great markers by which I can use to guide me as I sit under others in ministry. What we owe leaders was very informative because Biblical honor appears to have been on the decline over the years. When the markers of a leader are manifested, we best show our honor to Elohim by honoring those He places as our covering.

I was able to understand the danger of sinning against authority and examples of behaviors and attitudes that can have destructive consequences in my life. I learned to not ever take rebellion lightly which I know will be a benefit toward me continuing to develop Godly attributes.

What I intend to do with the revelation of this course is to put to practice Godly submission to authority. Through prayer I will sensitize myself to the leading of Holy Spirit as it relates to my present place of worship and/or if there is a change of seasons in the future. Should any opportunity come my way in terms of ministry leadership I will use these guidelines to ensure I am submitted to Yeshua first and in-line with leading the Biblical way. In the market place this course will be used when working with teams of individuals in collaboration. May my life be an example of Yeshua

living in me, with such a distinction that lost souls will desire to know what is the hope of my calling.

Kedra Shepherd, Kilgore, TX: This course has definitely changed my view of what authority is and what it looks like. Throughout my life, being a daughter of a pastor who was under some misused authority, I never really saw authority through mentorship, apostolic fatherhood, or covering used in the right way. I always saw where it was used to control, manipulate, and get money out of the saints. Leaders who placed themselves between the saints and the Father.

But after going through this lesson I not only see how it was supposed to be but that I can't judge leaders now by others wrong doing. I've learned to constantly pray and intercede for all leaders because they really do need it and are held accountable for leading the sheep astray. I've learned even though leaders have authority, we have it also.

This course has cleared up what the Father has given us the authority to do and has explained those things that were unclear to me with clarity. I no longer look at authority and those who have it in a negative sense because I now know and have seen it used correctly. I'm thankful for this course because it's given me a new perspective of what type of authority I should be submitting to. How to pray for them and know them by the Spirit.

I will use the revelations from this course to help enlighten those who have the same perspective I had on authority and help them see and lead them to the truth.

Jaron Shepherd Kilgore, TX: This course has been very impactful in helping me understand a more in depth role of Authority and how Yeshua Jesus walked in it and demonstrated it with such power. In modern day churches and religion, we see so many pastors and leaders wanting the fame and vain glory that comes with being a leader of a mega church.

They preach a false message and abuse the power and authority that they get. But what we have learned from course 115 is that Jesus displayed

authority and never boasted or bragged about the authority he had. He walked in great humility and taught those who followed him the same.

The revelation from this course will allow me also to operate in love for others and to always do everything unto the father!

Jessica Shepherd, GPRC Kilgore, Texas: Wow!! Glory be to Elohim for a revelatory, convicting and loving course. We have spent time breaking down many aspects of the word in, so many courses and we are still not finished, however, this course has lovingly convicted my heart for the better.

The course of authority has made me take an inward examination on myself as I am a leader to people around me. It has made me ask the question: Is my heart in a place of selfless serving unto Elohim so that true authority can be demonstrated in the earth?

As I read each course I seen exactly what Yeshua requires from us and that is to lay down our lives for the eternal wellbeing of our brothers and sisters in Christ and also for non-believers. Every inch of our will, mind, and walk must mimic that of Yeshua. I also learned through this course about Apostolic Fatherhood, covering, loyalty, and mentorship. How we are supposed to operate in them as Elohim gives us the grace to do so and if we are under these types of leadership how we are supposed to treat them. Like walking alongside, them, praying and interceding on their behalf, providing monetary support when necessary and giving them gratitude and encouragement when they may feel weary.

I thank Elohim for this course and the grace that he has given me to understand his heart through his word and what I will do with these revelations is definitely use them for the people who I may come in contact with and also allow him to change me according to his word as he sees fit for me.

Dan Tlhabane, South Africa: Awesome!!! The information provided herein, the scriptures provided and dissected, the living examples provided

and the general presentation all made a great impact on me. Many misinterpretations were uprooted, false teachings I previously had were removed and a good seed planted in their stead.

It gives me great pleasure and assurance that we are truly on a good course, designed by Elohim for saints to come into the full knowledge of our Lord Yeshua. As I step up to any podium to speak on the topic of Authority, I speak with full Authority and many minds are transformed and translated towards Yeshua.

What a great example Yeshua gave us and displayed on this topic. Although meek, humble and simple, He is Authority personified. He teaches how to behave towards earthly authorities, reminding us that all authorities have been divinely instituted for a particular purpose. It could be to lead captives out of Egypt. It could be authorities to lead us to Babylon to carry out punishment for disobedience or anything. We do not have to approve of the authority, but once authority is in place, we are to honour, respect, pray for and acknowledge them.

Saints need to remember that Elohim's appointed authorities are placed for a season and when the season expires, Elohim will cause separation. Of importance is the fact that all true authorities, wield the Sword. This Sword is at their disposal and can be used for blessings saints or for bringing down judgement upon the dissenting and disobedient saints. We therefore need to be careful that if ever we are displeased with authority, we must pray for them or move away from their covering, doing it with prayer avoiding gossiping, back-bite them or even lead splinter groups to start our own ministries which are not Elohim-ordained. This course, though short, has covered a lot of ground answering many critical questions and clearing the minefields in our minds.

What I intend to do with this course: I will study it deeply, meditate upon it, never allow its contents to be eroded from my mind and heart, but also teach it to others that they too come into the knowledge of the fullness of our Lord and Saviour Yeshua, Jesus Christ. Already Elohim is opening many doors for me to preach at various ministries and a greater impact is

made by Elohim using me as His vessel. I indeed intend to run at a good speed bearing in mind that heavens are eagerly waiting for the manifestation of the true sons of Elohim.

Benedicte Musanga Mulyangote KANYE, BOTSWANA: I've learned that it's important for churches to balance Liberty and Order because Authority stands as a pivot between them and for the authority of Elohim to not be contradicted, believers must completely submit to human authority in the church that are just and are ruling in the fear of God. But Saints should be careful of how they submit to 'every authority' they meet in conferences and social media because not EVERYONE who carries a title is assigned to be destiny helpers!

I also learned that covering cast preventing breakthrough or receipt of blessings that authorities we served under put on us, can be removed through REPENTANCE, RESTITUTION and APPLICATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF BREAKING OF CURSES BY HIGHER AUTHORITY only if we humble ourselves and acknowledge that we're wrong! Furthermore, there is a set time assigned from heaven for each of these spiritual relationships and when both parties walk in real spirituality, they will know when the divine purpose is full accomplished.

Personally, this course is very useful to me because it nicely and clearly explains what my responsibilities towards leaders are, what I ought to do when they step on my toes or when they err or fall into sin! And it has opened my heart to complete submission of both spiritual governments in The Church and civic authorities.

What I will do with the revelations from the Course is; Not only intercede for greater anointing on Church Leaders BUT also pray that the Lord will deliver them from every snare of Satan and evil associations which will drain away the grace of Elohim and overcome all temptation of worldliness since they are also human and therefore can make mistakes or even miss Elohim at any point in time in their lives and ministry, if they open doors to Satan and his agents. I will continue to say NO to any authority that tries to force me to undertake an assignment which negates

my personal consecration or wounds my conscience. I will also earnestly pray for the Civic Authorities for this is good and acceptable in the sight of Elohim our Savior;

Apostle Max Morgan ACCRA, GHANA: This course had really made a lot of impact in my life because, a careful study of course 115 clearly gives me an understanding to a dimension on how to relate and not to abuse authority with every opportunity given to us to serve.

It also brought to my attention to the clarity that authority is not to make one prideful over others but learn to be more submissive, humble and demonstrating the emulated character of Yeshua to the world. It has also enhanced my understanding of challenges we could possibly face out there when we set off to do mission assignments and how to endure to overcome.

As minister privileged by Elohim through Yeshua to serve in His mission, have to use the TTEAR to enlighten others as well what i have learn from this master class.

Elijah Jawon Louis Banks, Kilgore, TX: This course has been eye opening! It has helped me understand what true Authority is, and how so many people misinterpret it.

True Authority comes from Elohim, and it is the degree of the Kingdom mandate divinely conferred upon a chosen vessel or vessels for the purpose of positively influencing Believers to relate with Him the way they ought to. This course has shown me, how Elohim issues out Authority for order and empowerment of saints.

Those in Authority shouldn't abuse it and try to Lord over the Father's people, but instead put others before themselves and serve them. This phrase really helped and blessed me during this course, " To serve is to lead!" To serve is to live!" Our King Yeshua, Jesus demonstrated this, and we must follow suit.! At the end of the day like all things, Authority leads people to the Father.

That is why people must have the proper perspective and discernment when yielding to Authority. It is not to harm you, but to help you; it is not to make you less than, but to empower you; it is not meant to keep you beneath a man, but lift you up to the Father!

Austin Ilodubah Awka, Anambra, Nigeria: This course has been greatly impacting. The three ways we should relate with Authority is of note here:

#1. Proactively incline your heart to believe that you do not know more about the vision than the visionary. That way, you will give him/her space to lead as Elohim reveals and leads.

#2. Purpose not to run ahead of the visionary. You are to walk in alignment beside and behind not in front of the visionary/authority.

#3. Let your relationship with Authority be real, sincere and free of agenda.

Adherence to these three points will certainly foster a proper relationship with Authority. The lesson on Mentorship is another classic in this course. Mentorship was defined and presented the way it should be. A better understanding is gained from the way it was explained here. It is obvious that some may not realize their full potential until they are connected with the vessel sent to help them. For this purpose, Elohim made provision for a remedy by providing saints who are missing on input from specific offices, the privilege of receiving their impartation, in a non-pastoral context.

Mentorship is one of such provisions. Mentors are what the world would call coaches, but in the spiritual sense they are Destiny helpers. As a delegated authority, mentors are assigned by Elohim to guide a specific saint into breakthrough and destiny fulfilment. Mentorship is not ownership! They do not own the proteges assigned to them. This understanding has personally helped change my negative view on the subject. The entire course is indeed an eye opener.

I will be guided by the revelations drawn from this lesson, and share same with those within the sphere of my influence.

Kyazze Paul Jinja, Uganda, East Africa: Course 115 about Authority has fired up my understanding of the subject matter whereby i have been enlightened deeply about what actually authority is, why should there be authority, who has authority and from who does authority come from. The course has further enabled me to learn how authority should be responded to in church and how it is dangerous to come against authority.

I have been very much impacted on how it is exercised in church and received understanding about mentorship, Apostolic fatherhood, covering and accountability, Loyalty and what it is and how it is exercised and to who and finally learnt what ordination is, why it is necessary, who is to be ordained and who to ordain.

The revelation received from this course, i will use it to give me a firm stand as a minister of Yeshua, Jesus and also share with others about how it is impacting and mind opening.

Olufunke Aliu Olufunke Aliu, London, UK: This course has given me a great insight into the true meaning of Authority, the relationship that should exist between me and the Authority that God has placed in my life and the different kinds of Authority there are.

First Yeshua is the ultimate Authority who delegated it to some specific vessels like Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers. We must not resist these authorities that God has put in our lives. When we do, we resist Yeshua Himself!!

I now know that as a saint, I have a residual authority and I am to exercise it accordingly and the delegated authorities in my life must be discerned, accepted and appreciated in order for me to fulfil my destiny in the time frame that God has ordained. I must differentiate and distance myself from False and illegitimate authorities which can only destroy or divert destinies

because not all leaders with a fancy title has the authority to lay hands on me or speak into my life.

I have learnt the difference between a Mentor, a Covering and an Apostolic Father and the roles for these vessels in my life. I will therefore prayerfully seek these and cooperate with them fully for my own good.

I have learnt how to treat authority - love them, pray for them, obey them, be loyal to them and their vision, look after them and be honest in my dealings with them. This is the only way I can benefit immensely from their input in my life. I should also realise that the relationships with these delegated authorities in my life is for a season and I should know when it's time to move on according to God's plan. I must walk behind or beside them and never run ahead of them.

I also learnt about the sword of authority. - they can correct, chastise or discipline me whenever I fall short of the standard of God.

I really thank the Father for this course because I have gained a deep knowledge of what Authority is and the main source of Authority and how to relate to Authority.

I have begun to examine myself and prayerfully see even in my heart if I am in line with God's word in my relationship with Authority. I pray to live by this course and correct anything the Holy spirit convicts me of. I cannot afford to fall under the sword of authority. I will also share these teachings at every opportunity I have. Thank you, Lord!!

Cynthia Sibongile Mupotsa, Harare, Zimbabwe: This course has given me a great insight of how authority functions and how we should respond.

Authority has been ordained and set in place by Elohim for good and not for evil. There is the spiritual authority which has been divinely conferred to vessels chosen by Elohim for the purpose of positively influencing believers to relate with Elohim the way they should. We owe these authorities honor obedience, love and loyalty. With spiritual authorities we

must be aligned with their vision, and cannot disrespect them by gossiping about them or judging them. We cannot distrust them by bringing with us our past bad experiences with our former authorities. We must show them appreciation by remembering their birthdays or wedding anniversaries. With civic leaders we owe them obedience by paying taxes and rates.

The only time we should say no to these authorities is when they lead us in doing things which are contrary to the Word of Elohim. In that case we must respectfully decline. Above everything else we must create a culture of praying for those in authority.

If you have a conflict with authority, ask to forgiveness or he is the one who has wronged you confront him and make peace and if you feel you need higher authority to intervene approach one.

We need these authorities to mentor us so that they will help us to become all that Elohim has ordained for us. They are destiny helpers, but they must not dictate to us the decisions are to be made by us. They can always give advice as they are led by Holy Spirit.

Saints must be careful about submitting to every authority ad there is false and illegitimate authorities which are ordained by data and his agents. These will mislead you and take you to what you have not been called to do. Saints should be careful when submitting to authorities from the social media and those they see at conferences as there is a danger of being misled. A lot of discernment is required on this aspect.

Another dimension of Authority is the Apostolic Fatherhood. This covering is needed by every saint. Every saint needs a father to act as an umbrella providing spiritual support from the storms of life. They enable saints to walk in the perfect will of Elohim. Saints must always be careful when choosing the apostolic fatherhood because if one is not led by Holy Spirit it can be used by Satan to lead you away fro the perfect will of God.

Authority must always exercise their duty with humility and simplicity just as Yeshua who is our compass did it. We too must always submit to

authority as despising authority is despising Elohim who ordained them and when we are the authority do it with the fear of the Lord, with full knowledge that the sheep do not belong to us but to Yeshua who redeemed them.

Course Impact Assessment/Examination

Please take this opportunity to respond from your heart. Allow yourself 60 minutes to take this exam, and do so with integrity and sincerity of heart.

Review of the Grading Terms:

() **Excellent** means you have received the full measure of understanding of what was taught.

() **Very Good** means you understood the Course quite well, but short of 'excellent grade.'

() **Good** means you had a more than average understanding of the Course.

() **Average** is the lowest grade in the 'Pass' category. It simply means what you gained was not much; the bare minimum.

() **Poor** is the first of the 'Fail' grades. You did not really understand the lessons in the Course. The best thing to do is to study the Course all over again. Thereafter, you can do the Course Impact Assessment again.

() **Very Poor** is the second level of the 'Fail' grades. You did not really understand the lessons in the Course. The best thing to do is to study the Course all over again. Thereafter, you can do the Course Impact Assessment again.

() **Need Help** is the category where you may have been stuck regarding specific lessons or concepts. Your assigned Mentor will walk you through areas you did not really understand; after which you can do the Course Impact Assessment again.

Let's get started...

1. To what extent has “Course 115: Authority” has expanded your knowledge and increased your willingness to balance Liberty and Order?
2 Corinthians 3:17; 1 Corinthians 14:40; Romans 13:1-7

Answers: Excellent; Very Good; Good/Average; Poor; Very Poor; Need Help

2. According to your Course lessons, please and “X” only next to those responses that IS NOT correct regarding Residual Authority and Delegated Authority.

2.1 Delegated Authority is conferred on those chosen by the wisdom of man.

2.2 1 Peter 5:4, “And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, you shall wear your crown of glory that is set for your authority.”

2.3 There is True authority, and there is False authority.

2.4 All authority is legitimate.

2.5 Residual authority is granted to all people.

3. From your studies of Course 115: Authority, what is your level of understanding of true leadership and what you (we) owe leadership?
(Hebrews 13:7, 17 Romans 13:1-8)

Answers: Excellent; Very Good; Good/Average; Poor; Very Poor; Need Help

4. Submission to Authority is not grievous, but is real evidence of true spirituality? Please place an “X” next to each response that is correct.

4.1 Submission is of critical importance because it is the acid test of true leadership.

4.2 () Romans 13:1, “Let some souls be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.”

4.3 () Hebrews 13:7, “Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: who faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.”

4.4 () Submission is the heart attitude which allows leaders to lead as he or she is led of Holy Spirit.

4.5 () Undoubtedly, obedience and submission are absolute.

5. Out of these 5 statements, please place an “X” only next to those that are correct concerning how best to relate with authority.

5.1 () Be in heart and mind alignment with Elohim, the Vision and Visionary or Set man/woman where He, not flesh, planted you. It is puerile to purport to accept a vision and reject the person of the visionary!

5.2 () Proactively incline your heart to believe that you do not know more about the vision than the visionary. That way, you will give him/her space to lead as Elohim reveals and leads

5.3 () Purpose to go ahead as your emotions lead you. It is ok if you get ahead of the progress given to the visionary.

5.4 () Let your relationship with Authority be real, but it is okay to look after some of your own agendas.

5.5 () Let quality of your service be in love as unto the Lord, free of any agenda to supplant authority.

6. To what extent did “Course 115: Authority” help you to understand the six (6) abuses of authority? Please list 3 of them.

Answers: () Excellent; () Very Good; () Good/Average; () Poor; () Very Poor; () Need Help

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

7. To what extent did “Course 115: Authority” help you to understand the nine (9) ways we are to interact with Civil Authorities? List four (4) of them.

Answers: () Excellent; () Very Good; () Good/Average; () Poor; () Very Poor; () Need Help

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

8. To what extent did “Course 115: Authority” help you to understand Mentorship? Please give one (1) example of how mentorship was used in scripture and is currently applicable in your own life.

Answers: () Excellent; () Very Good; () Good/Average; () Poor; () Very Poor; () Need Help

- 8.1. _____

9. To what extent did “Course 115: Authority” help you to gain a clearer understanding of the meaning and importance of Apostolic Fatherhood?

Answers: () Excellent; () Very Good; () Good/Average; () Poor; () Very Poor; () Need Help

9.2 Give definition of Apostolic Fatherhood:

10. Briefly explain how your walk in Authority has been altered or affirmed through your understanding of Yeshua's walk in His authority. Give your response on NO MORE than the five lines provided.

11. On a scale of 1-10, please rate how Course 115 has prepared you for some salient issues regarding Authority? (1 = Very well prepared to 10 = Not prepared; feeling ill-equipped) Mark 16:15-20; 1 Corinthians 1:18; 1 Corinthians 1:21

11.1 () Ability to recognize where true authority comes from and how to walk therein.

11.2 () Ability to exercise and teach with authority, in true liberty.

11.3 () Ability to recognize the difference between legitimate and illegitimate authority, whether in self or another and to seek instructions for correction when needed.

11.4 () Ability to discern, recognize and submit to the authority of those who are in leadership over you.

11.5 () Ability to avoid the pitfalls of abusing the given authority by being fully led by Holy Spirit.

12. To what extent do you understand that the authority we have been given is to be used for Kingdom purpose and should be used to serve in humility and not to lord over others in pride?

Answers: Excellent; Very Good; Good/Average; Poor; Very Poor; Need Help

13. Which of these statements reflect your opinion regarding true authority? (Please place an "X" next to the ones that are correct.)

13.1 Yeshua/Jesus explained that exercising authority is truly about sacrificing our esteem and laying down the crowns Elohim has decorated us with.

13.2 Yeshua/Jesus demonstrated that authority is not to be used to whip people into line, but to show them how to live.

13.3 Yeshua/Jesus explained that exercising authority is not rulership of the saints, nor is it living and acting like a tyrant and expecting service from others.

13.4 The authority of the Kingdom granted to leaders is for the purpose of ordering and reordering things to submit to the higher authority of Elohim.

13.5 Those in authority need to be intimate with the Lord: dwelling in the Word and spending time in prayer, etc.

14. In ONE WORD, describe the impact “Course 115: Authority” has impressed upon your life and/or your personal ministry assignment.

15. As we have seen and experienced, Elohim has positioned Apostle George and Pastor Grace Akalonu to lead a segment of His Remnant to pursue holistic fulfillment of Matthew 24:14; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

(Go Ye; Discipleship; Ministerial Training and Compassion/Mercy outreaches).

As you are lead of Holy Spirit, please indicate here in what capacity you are led by the Lord to come alongside the Vision Holders to ensure that dispensation of the Great Commission committed to their trust for the remnant is fulfilled. (Please mark an “X” next to all those that apply to you.)

15.1 Undertake “Go Ye” Missions as Holy Spirit leads you

15.2 Praying for them and their assistants

15.3 Giving for their Global Missions work

15.4 Mentoring others who need support, such as 2018 Master Class participants

15.5 Editing/Proof Reading Material

15.6 Promoting / Distributing Free Kingdom Culture resources/Teaching Notes on Social Networks and in other loops of influence

15.7 Set up and Run Local Chapters of International Ministers Fellowship or Global School of Ministry Centres

15.8 Others..... (Please indicate) _____

Personal Information

Name: _____ Date: _____

Your Function in the Congregation: _____

Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Nation: _____

Yeshua is the Spring and Source of ALL authority. Go and be the Delegated or Residual Authority you were redeemed to be; Go forth and live a life under Authority — in Liberty of Holy Spirit and by Order of Holy Spirit! Colossians 1:1-29

2 Timothy 2:1, “Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

Those who walk under authority are in position to walk in authority!

Postscript

This download from the Throne Room is made available, free of charge as the King instructed us for training those He will use to reform His Church and make her ready for His soon return. There is no Babylonian copyright restriction to limit your ability to use the material to study, pray it in and apply it in your life and ministry. This will enable you to build according to the Master Plan of the King, so you may be bold at His appearing! 1 Corinthians 3:10-15.

Please share this and all materials of the Global School of Ministry freely with friends, family and other saints. Please do not use them to print books! The right to do so has been granted to Kingdom agency.

How to be involved

If you would like to be part of the elect who Elohim will use to impact and transform the Church worldwide with this revelation, there are various ways you can be involved, depending on your skills:

- i.** Promote these revelations to the wider Body through Electronic or Print means or via Facebook and other Social Media
- ii.** Be part of those who will use revelations in this course to train other leaders and saints within your loop of Kingdom influence;
- iii.** You have the skills/capacity to edit or proofread these materials, Please send a note to: visionarymail7@gmail.com;
- iv.** You can support in any other way: financially at paypal.me/kingdombooksclub

Masterclass Curriculum

The curriculum includes 41 courses and is divided into five modules consisting of basic and advanced courses. The basic courses are foundational Christian doctrines and beliefs, based entirely and completely on the bible as well as practical principles and practices concerning Ministry and how to fulfil same.

Module 1: Christian/Kingdom Foundation – 8 Courses

Course 100: Constitution of the Kingdom – The Holy Scriptures as sure foundation of our Faith

Course 101: Understanding Elohim

Course 102: Understanding Yeshua Ha Mashiach, Jesus the Messiah

Course 103: Holy Spirit: Who He Is and What He does

Course 104: The 16 Fundamental Glorious Truths

Course 105: The 6 Fundamental C's (responses of the Truly Redeemed)

Course 106: The Ultimate Three: Faith, Hope and Charity

Course 107: Grace

Module 2: The Kingdom and the Church – 10 Courses

Course 108: The Church

Course 109: Kingdom Oriented Church Growth

Course 110: The Church of His Vision

Course 111: The Kingdom of Elohim

Course 112: The Ascension Office – Gifts (Fivefold Leadership Gifts)

Course 113: Spiritual Gifts: What, Why, How

Course 114: Leadership in the Household of Faith

Course 115: Authority

Course 116: The Great Commission

Course 117: Ministerial Ethics

Module 3: Kingdom Citizen and Ambassador – 9 Courses

Course 118: The Call, Cost, and Rewards of Discipleship

Course 119: Ministry: Discover, Pursue and Fulfilling

Course 120: Personal Spiritual Growth and Maturity

Course 121: Market Place Ministry

Course 122: Women in Ministry
Course 123: Rewards of the Faithful
Course 124: Christian Marriage & Family Life
Course 125: Finances and Stewardship in Elohim's House
Course 126: Introduction to Christian Counselling

Module 4: Dominion Mandate of the Redeemed – 4 Courses

Course 127: Signs, Wonders, and the Miraculous
Course 128: Understanding the Human Nature
Course 129: Critical Adversaries
Course 130: Prayer & Spiritual Warfare
Course 131: Dispensations, Seasons and Times

Module 5: Digging Deep – 9 Courses

Course 132: Doctrines of the Bible
Course 133: All that Yeshua, Jesus Said and Did
Course 134: Apostasies, Heresies, Errors and the Pseudo-Gospel
Course 135: Priesthood and the Kingdom Church
Course 136: Divine Perspective of Purpose
Course 137: 7 Letters from Heaven
Course 138: Legacies of Yeshua
Course 139: Completing the Unfinished Reformation
Course 140: Strategic Kingdom Leadership

The curriculum is released free of charge to saints worldwide who are willing to utilise the courses to empower other saints by training them to function as the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedek. In some parts of the world, Bible Schools have requested and received the curriculum which they use for training. A great company of saints have been trained and ordained through the process worldwide and serve as mentors to saints participating in the Master Class.

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Understanding Elohim
The Church of His Vision
The Kingdom of Elohim
Market Place Ministry
Rewards of the Faithful
Signs, Wonders and Miracles
Understanding Human Nature
The Fivefold: Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers
Understanding Yeshua Ha Mashiach, Jesus the Messiah
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Kingdom Oriented Church Growth
Constitution of the Kingdom: The Holy Scripture as Sure Foundation of our Faith

The Church
Authority
Ministerial Ethics
Women in Ministry
Critical Adversaries
Legacies of Yeshua
Doctrines of the Bible

About the Book

Authority within the body of Yeshua, Jesus requires balance between Liberty and Order. Yeshua Jesus uses human authorities to sustain the balance. True Authority is conferred by Elohim for the purpose of bringing member of the body into the fullness of their destinies.

False and illegitimate authorities are opposing forces which influence balance. False authority is conferred by Satan to destroy the destinies of those they trap. Illegitimate authority is clutched at by humans desiring to dominate and control others.

As the return of King Yeshua draws near, the true Kingdom Church will emerge in the fullness of His radiance! Saints will know their identity and walk in their residual and delegated authority. They will not be victims but victors in the earth realm.

About the Author

Apostle George & Pastor Grace are visionaries of The Global Advanced Mentorship Program and Global School of Ministry www.globalschoolofministry.info as well as Vision holders of other ministries that service the Kingdom Church. Including Arise Metropolitan Assembly in Elm Park, Hornchurch, London, England where the fivefold are emerging to work together in activating a gift based congregation.



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