

The Pathway To The Anointing Is A Path Less Trekked By Many
Although, Few Still Dare To Walk Upon.
I Dare You!

HONOUR! THE ULTIMATE RULE OF ALL

Philip Cephass

HONOUR! THE ULTIMATE RULE OF ALL

It Is Impossible To Effectively Walk With God
Without The Anointing Of The Holy Spirit.
Everything Change In A Man's Life
The Day He Get Anointed.

Philip Cephas



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HONOUR! THE ULTIMATE RULE OF ALL

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this book to the Lord Jesus Himself! Jesus, I really do want to pour out my life on You! You are the lover of My soul— how I long for your courts and to enter into Your presence. I am a ruined man before you met me and first loved me! Thank you, Jesus!

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Over the years, I have had the high privilege of being impacted by some of the greatest teachers and generals of prayer. Their deposits into my life have been rich and irreplaceable. I thank The Lord for all those sacrificial servants who have helped to hold up my arms as we continue with endurance to run the race that is set before us.

Books and sermons have been my mentors—so, thanks to all those who laid the foundation that we get to build upon.

Lastly, I want to thank my dear family and friends. I am truly grateful to The Lord for such a family and friends who love The Lord, and desire to see His kingdom come on the earth.

Blessings to you all!

Philip Cephas

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title i

Connect with Philip Cephas ii

Connect with SHEKINAH iii

Copyright iv

Dedication v

Acknowledgemnet vi

Table of Contents vii

Honour! The Ultimate Rule of All 1

Spiritual Fatherhood and Mentorship9

Mentorship13

Mandate and Mantle18

About the Author 24

Correspondance 25

Other Books by the Same Author 26

River of Words Feedback 27

The background of the image features a series of thin, orange, wavy lines that flow from the top right towards the bottom left, creating a sense of movement and depth. The lines are closely spaced and curve around the central text.

HONOUR!

THE

ULTIMATE

RULE OF

ALL



HONOUR!

THE ULTIMATE RULE OF ALL

A man you don't honour will never bless you, neither will his grace be of any effect to you. There are many anointed men and women that God anointed in millions all around the world and these people impact the world globally. But for that impact and global influence to continue, there must be a people that must honour them so that they can bless them with the same blessing they received from God to do even more than they did on earth.

Many of the great men that walked this earth were not honoured by even the people they helped. Some of them were an object of cruel mockery and disdain in their society. Others are seen as a nuisance while others were considered a threat by their government and political tyrants because with the influence of the masses, they could start a revolution.

When you don't honour an anointed man, no matter how he tries to bless you, he can't! This is because your heart posture is far from his and the grace of God upon his life will only bless them that are in the same posture of heart with him. A minister said, "God told him, if he can get the people to believe in the grace of God upon his life and its ability to heal them, then they will get healed! But if they don't believe, he can't do anything to help them." When they believe in the grace upon him, they have honoured him and in honouring him, they honour God. God will in turn, honour them by healing their infirmities. People continue to suffer with infirmity because they fail to honour others who might be their solution. Maybe by just honouring another person that love God, they will be healed. Your honour is not

to the individual, but the grace of God upon him which is Christ Jesus personified. Honour is really a jewel my friends!

I was watching a tape of William Mario Branham and it amazed me seeing him spending time telling the people suffering with infirmities to first believe in him and in the ability of God in him to heal them before he prays for them. He will engage them in a little discourse to be in harmony with their spirit so that they can believe that God can do this through him. When he senses their faith and believe that he can do it, then he prayed for them and they get healed instantly. This may sound like a long discourse, but it takes merely a minute for them to believe as he engaged their spirit in a conversation. He will say to them, "The Angel of The LORD who is sent to me to help you believe in Jesus Christ is here now, do you believe me as a man sent from God to you? If He reveals to me the secrets of your heart, will you receive Him as your Lord and Saviour? You have to believe it yourself, because, I cannot force you to believe that." You will be amazed how they immediately believe in what he said. He will begin to reveal the secret things in their heart and talk to them about themselves. This seems to give them the assurance that God knows them and have them at heart which made them believe him the more. When their heart is open, he prays for them to be heal of the infirmity that troubles them and it leaves immediately! This is because by the prophetic gift of The Spirit, he engaged their spirit and revealed the secrets of their heart to them.

'A grace you don't honour and respect, have no respect and honour for you.' Also, a God you don't honour have no honour for you. Honour is a conscious thing and it comes from your spirit, heart and mind. It is when you esteem another higher than you. One of the easiest way to become anointed in the kingdom is to find someone that is anointed and honour him and his grace will naturally rub on you even without his permission because his grace is a resources from God. Honour is a law that God instituted which can work for anyone –believer or an unbeliever. That is why we have mentors, elders, tutors, spiritual fathers and leaders, in which mentees, tutees, disciples and spiritual sons are to honour and submit to.

Many people are too familiar with their mentors and spiritual fathers that they have no respect whatsoever for them. Such a people

wonder why they don't grow and prosper in ministry. You cannot grow because "a servant is not greater than his master." The servant may be destined to do greater things, but not above his master. Spiritual maturity is not equal to world influence, stature in God may not give you world influence, but it will give you a voice in the realm of the spirit. God can choose to make it so, although most people that have stature with God have world influence also or He can choose to make you the father and mentor over the ones with the influence.

The grace of God upon a man's life multiplies when it gets to his servant and spiritual sons that is why many fathers may not have influence and impact on the world as their sons will do. This does not mean that the son is greater than the father because the fathers laid the foundation for the sons to build upon. The sons cannot do anything without the help of the fathers; every leader today is connected to a mentor once upon a time.

There is a thin line between familiarity and intimacy and that thin line that makes the difference is called Honour! Until you honour a man from your heart, he will not bless you. He may not even know you are not honouring him because your commitment and sacrifices may look like honour to him. He may lay his hands and pronounce a blessing upon you, but God who gives the blessing knows your heart and will not cause it to function because you can't deceive both man and God. Man may not see and perceive your heart but God does.

When you become familiar with a mentor, he ceases to bless you. He becomes like your mate; for honour is a positioning of the mind and a posture of the heart. This has been a challenge to by many mentees that are close to their mentors. They may think they do honour the mentor, but the posture of their heart is already wrong. Everything you do must be in the right mind and heart posture to function well.

Honour has to be consciously shown, by positioning your mind and posturing your heart to esteem a mentor and a spiritual father above yourself knowing fully well that he has a lot to give to you than you have to give him. There has never been mutuality between a mentor and a mentee, the mentee should always be imparted. Nevertheless, the mentor may learn a few from the mentee by wisdom.

Most close spiritual sons who minister in the flesh never get to honour them, they may even be very familiar with them. When the minister is long gone, their life becomes a misery and they have nothing to write home about. The minister might have prayed for them and wished them well, but it is of God to honour, not a man. Men can honour you in the flesh in cash and kind, but God rewards with spiritual resources and investment as an honour to influence the earth.

And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better.

Hebrews 7:7

The lesser will always be blessed by the greater in life. It is impossible for water to flow from a low level to a higher level, instead it flows from the higher level to the lower level. The current in the higher cannot permit the lower level to flow toward it, rather it flows toward the low to attain equilibrium. Young ministers of nowadays have lost the act of honouring their elders and spiritual leaders. They never see the need to honour the fathers that have gone ahead of them, some consider themselves equally anointed. What a bad mindset! No wonder many never attain unto certain heights in the spirit realm. No matter how anointed you are, if you continue to dishonour and discredit your spiritual fathers and elders, you will never attain unto certain levels in God. God will put a limit to your progression in Him because that is the seed of pride which is of the devil is growing in you. Humility results in a natural honour to others especially your fathers and elders. God will always resist the proud, but give grace to the humble.

There was a story of a man, he is the spiritual father to many sons. They all gathered in a meeting to discuss an issue. In the process, the spiritual father said something that one of the son's disagreed with. The son got offended and shouted, "Are we not all anointed?" Immediately, he was struck with an infirmity that only the spiritual father was able to cure. He learnt a very big lesson that day. Anyone that dishonours his head has dishonoured God. God was the one that put the leader over you for your benefit and no matter how anointed you are today; someone was once upon a time more anointed than you. The anointing is not a new thing that you have to lord over it. Solomon said, "There is nothing new under the sun." Be humble as a minister, serve in humility

unto God and submit to others in honour so that you can do even more than what they did in their time.

No matter how wise a son thinks he is, the father always has an experience he can tell the son about. The father has the privilege of being born before him and he can tell him about the days he was not yet born. Also, spiritual fathers and elders in the spirit may not be older than you, but by the privileges of grace, they are more experienced than you in the things of God. They can teach you something even if it is their mistakes, you can learn from it.

A student is not supposed to be a student forever, but is supposed to be taught until he comes into maturity having the same or more insight than the teacher and this is the goal of teaching. It aims to bring students to the same level of understanding as the teacher and even elevate them above his/her standard. This implies that as you decrease, they will increase keeping the legacy in higher measures.

Knowledge and the anointing cannot flow among mates. If it must flow for whatever reason, one must assume the position of a student or the lesser one and the other assumes the position of the teacher or the greater so that the knowledge and the anointing can flow –Even if it is for the benefit of the moment. If everyone claims to have what to give, then no one will be receiving anything. God's resources and virtues are in different measure among us. As we share together, we partake of each other's grace.

I learnt of a minister of the gospel that had a challenge, his wife was not able to conceive since they got married. They prayed and fasted but to no avail. He decided to go meet his spiritual father to pray for him with the mentality that since the spiritual father is more anointed than him, it can be done. God wanted to teach him the law of honour not to a ministry or to a particular selected fathers, but to all fathers in the body of Christ. You may not be that close to a minister of the gospel, but for the love of Christ Jesus, show them love and honour them. It will be wrong of you to only honour your father and dishonour other people's father. Honour them all! When he met their spiritual father to pray for them, as he began to pray, God told him to send them to another minister who is not even connected to their ministry to pray for them. The spiritual father told them what God said, and as they

obeyed, the wife became pregnant and gave birth to a child according to the time of life. The couple learnt a new principle of honour and how God is no respecter of person old or young.

Don't be too quick in castigating ministers even the ones you don't know they belong to the body of Christ. Learn to love and honour them with the love of Christ. It may be right to do a critical critique on them sometimes, but don't just sit and keep on criticizing them. Don't also be only limited to your local church because the body of Christ is global and cannot be limited to a denomination even in their millions and billions of memberships.

The local church is just but a microcosm of the macrocosm body of Christ, we must embrace each other in love. We may not accept each other's doctrine, rules and regulations, but let's accept each other in Christ Jesus The Saviour of all. There is no perfect local church on earth, each has its own issues and flaws. We, the body of Christ can only be perfected as a cooperate body. Each denomination may contain a part of the body which can only find perfection in the other.

Lack of honour can limit a minister. When a minister is not honoured within a location, he cannot be a blessing to the people of that location no matter how anointed he is. Not because he is not anointed, but because they failed to honour and believe in the God he came to profess. But when a man is honoured by a people, even if he is not as anointed as many will claim, he can still be able to bless and impact the lives of the people. Jesus Christ Himself was unable to do much work in His home town because they were too familiar with Him and never cared to honour Him. When you begin to share in the grace of a minister, you naturally begin to love and cherish him and even desire to become like him. Some even act and behave like their mentor, that is good, but don't remain that myopic. God has not called you to be like someone else, you have a unique identity in Christ Jesus. It will be revealed through you in time and many others will also want to be like you. Nevertheless, for the time being, continue as your mentor if you so wish, but he must realize that you have your uniqueness in God. Most true spiritual sons behave and act like their spiritual fathers, that is an influence of his grace, but they are to do more work than their fathers. The fathers are to help them fulfil purpose in God.

A Pastor seems to command more influence on his immediate members and followers and he shares part of himself as he speaks and communicates spirit and life to them releasing impartation upon them. As a minister matures and develops in the spirit, his spirit is shared upon his disciples by The Holy Spirit. There is a place and a realm you can attain in God where you begin to release the spirit upon people as you pray and lay hands on them as impartation.

That is why, when you share in the spirit of a minister by impartation, you begin to function in his graces. He can appear to you in a dream to pray with you and for you, and he can even appear to you and give you an instruction on what to do in hard times. All these were possible because he released an impartation of his spirit upon you. The spirit he imparts upon people is not fully his spirit but The Spirit of The LORD upon him. When God anoints you, He puts His Spirit within you and that Spirit is connected to The Holy Spirit. For example, Elisha and John the Baptist received the spirit upon Elijah, and Joshua and the 70 elders received the spirit upon Moses.

And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.

Numbers 11:25

This spirit that is upon a minister that is anointed is of God. When the minister dies, God can choose to transfer the mantle with the spirit to another person. But when he is alive, another is allowed by God to share and partake of the spirit that made up the minister.

Until you honour someone with the whole of your heart, you can't share in their graces and blessings. You may want to pray, fast and study following the pathway to the anointing to become anointed, but that will require a lot of discipline and dealings with The Holy Spirit over time. Honour can grant you that access in just a moment and you will be guided and watched by a father who has been through the dealings and discipline in God. Although, the lord will teach you and guide you, but so many mistakes will be avoided because your spiritual father will give you a guide and a foreknowledge of what to expect in

your journey in God. 'If you are waiting to invent your own electricity before you begin to use electric light, then you might wait and live in darkness for long. Why not use the electricity that is already invented by someone else?' The same applies to spiritual journey into God. Many do not want to be mentored and disciple by others, instead they want to do it all by themselves. It is not impossible, but that is not wisdom at all! We all need to be helped by each other in our journey into God and that is not a sign of weakness at all. People without mentors and fathers make a lot of mistakes which could have been avoided. Those mistakes can be avoided if they have an elder that speaks over their lives and ministry advising them on what to do and what not to do. Nevertheless, I have seen many lawless and dishonest spiritual sons that don't honour their spiritual fathers. Perhaps, some of the spiritual fathers are also very gullible.

Spiritual Fatherhood and Mentorship

Before I speak on this, I don't consider myself a final authority on this subject, although I speak as a man that have received grace and obtained mercy from God to be trustworthy. If you have an issue with believing, please pray and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you aright because only Him has the final say. As every doctrine written by man is subject to a critical critique by others, not all spiritual things are to be debated. Some cannot be comprehended by the carnal natural mind.

There are lots of people that call ministers their spiritual fathers, but do not understand what they are saying because this spiritual culture has become a cliché overtime. They call ministers their fathers for the wrong reasons. The same applies to spiritual fathers who have many sons without the understanding of what it entails. As I observed this saga and series of reasons in which ministers adopt sons and I realized that it is now a normal cliché in our today's generation.

This new culture is really absurd because they both know little or nothing about their decisions, but being ignorant of the consequences of a decision you take will not stop the consequences from befalling you. So many sons can't keep up with their spiritual responsibilities as sons, also many fathers don't keep up with the responsibilities expected of them. Many ministers that call themselves spiritual fathers over many sons are supposed to be mentors over them. They have to be very

sure that God wants them to keep such an individual as a son and they are willing to keep up with their spiritual and physical responsibilities.

For you to be a spiritual father over a son, that son must be someone you begot in the gospel. You must be the one responsible for his conversion into Christ, his salvation, his training and his mentoring into maturity in the things of God. You are to be responsible for his well-being: spirit, soul and body. His spiritual, financial and moral well-being is also a concern for you. He becomes like a child you just adopted as your own. He is begotten as a son in your court from his initial in God to his maturity as a true son.

You can beget a spiritual son or submit to a spiritual father also through revelation by God. It is a product of a revelation by God to become a partaker of the grace of the father and to remain with him sharing in his mandate and mantle. A son can receive a revelation from God to go submit to a man of grace so as to partake of his grace, mantle and mandate as given by God to the man.

When he receives the revelation, he is to let the man know, since God is not the author of confusion. He will then speak to the man to confirm the word spoken to him by God to become a son under his fatherhood. The son has the responsibility to serve, honour and respect him in total submission to the mandate and mantle. The son also has to be fully engaged in any project undertaken by the father. He is supposed to be fully involve with his life even unto dead.

A Spiritual father is supposed to own the spiritual son. The son becomes the property of the father because the father can give him any responsibility to do without controversy. Nevertheless, the father is supposed to love, care and cherish the son for he will be held responsible by God for the well-being of the son. God will hold the father accountable for each of the son he begets. He will give a report of how he trained the sons unto maturity. Sometimes, it is better not to beget a spiritual son because you will be held accountable for his development in life by God. If you know you don't have the time to keep to your responsibilities as a father, don't accept a son. That goes for the sons also, don't just go to be begotten by a father if you are not going to submit to him spirit, soul and body in service.

A spiritual father has a two edged sword that can bless you or curse you. You can go with a curse when you disobey him and you can go with a blessing when you are obedient and faithful to the end. No spiritual father will curse his son, but the son can bring the curse upon himself when he dishonours the father. When you truly honour your spiritual father, he will bless you in his own capacity, but God will give you his mandate and mantle if you can earn it.

When you receive the mantle and mandate of your father, you will do greater things than your father because it is now the fusion of graces, the one of the father that came with the mantle, and the one that you receive from God before the mantle. Make no mistake, as long as your father lives, you cannot take of his mantle, but you can partake and share in his mandate which is his assignment on earth. You can only take your father's mantle when he is gone to be with The LORD, but his mandate is his assignment given by commissioning. You can take and share of the mandate on earth at any time as an extension. With this understanding, you now realize that many sons submit to fathers for reasons not justified and many fathers beget sons they should not have begotten initially. Some fathers in a bait to increase and enlarge their empire and ministry beget sons. Most of these sons never truly submit to the fathers, they don't have a close relationship with them. They are just interested in the money and support they get from the father.

This kind of sons are just using the influence and affluence of their father to gain access into places they never would get access to. They always cause a lot of trouble in the ministry because anything God didn't give and orchestrate will not last long, but will always cause chaos. Such sons are never committed to a project in the ministry without a personal gain. They are not stable in the ministry and are willing to leave the father at any time.

Lots of sons submit to fathers for earthly reward not by a revelation. Some may want to get a branch of his ministry while others may want a cheque on a daily basis or just want to reckon with men of great renown. Such a reason is not sufficient for you to submit to a man. There is always a grace that comes with submitting to a spiritual father. If God does not orchestrate your submission, you will find it very hard

to submit to a man. When you allow God to direct you, you will receive the grace that will keep you, as you will not find your responsibilities grievous.

I know a man that will never accept and beget a spiritual son until he asks God, and even if he receives a revelation from God, he will wait until he receives a conviction from God about it. If he receives no conviction from God, he will accept you as a mentee and not a spiritual son. He will become your mentor as you become his mentee, you will learn a lot from him directly and indirectly, but he will not be responsible for you as you will not be that committed to him also.

A true spiritual father must have time for his sons, he can't be too busy for them. He must create a time to counsel them aright in life and ministry. There was a story of a son, who one day called his father for counselling but the father was unavailable. He tried for a while until he got frustrated and sent a text that read, 'what kind of a father are you that have no time for a son, if that is how you will father me; then today I dis-father you.' That may look like he went too far, but as a spiritual father you must create time for your sons. Always make them feel at home and comfortable with you. Such a spiritual son that can dis-father his spiritual father lacks the revelation of spiritual fatherhood and sonship. He might have submitted to the father without a revelation and surely the father was not responsible for his conversion in Christ as well as spiritual development. If he was, then a child he trained should do better than that except he is a bastard! The father might have been in a meeting which may have demanded he put his phone on silent or even switch it off or many other possible reasons.

When you submit to a father by revelation, patience shouldn't be an issue to you. You will have to wait to hear your father's reasons for his actions toward you, even if you are not satisfied with them. You as a spiritual son is supposed to serve, honour and respect your father at all times, except when it is wrong. You may bring a curse upon yourself if you just leave him because of an ephemeral and erratic reason without his fatherly blessing.

Mentorship

*A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master:
if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be
a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts
unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say,
wherein have we despised thy name?*

Malachi 1:6

‘All spiritual fathers are spiritual mentors, but not all spiritual mentors are spiritual fathers.’

Mentorship: is the relationship that exists between a mentor and a mentee for the equipping of the mentee to succeed in life and fulfil purpose. To mentor someone simply means to give them help and advice over a period of time, especially help and advice related to their job – whether ministerial or otherwise. A mentee is a person that submits to the mentor to be mentored.

Mentorship is for a period of time and involves less commitment to the mentor. You don’t necessarily need a revelation before you choose a mentor. In fact, the mentor may not even know you are his mentee, in our today society of internet and electronic resources.

A mentor is regarded as a wise and trusted counsellor and a teacher. We all need teachers and mentors in our lives at different stages in our life developments. The Holy Spirit is our ultimate mentor, but we still need other mentors on earth. Our lives are full of many mentors since from when we were born; there were people that taught and counselled us aright as we grow and matured in life. Those people are mentors because they helped and trained us for a period of time. All Our teachers from nursery school to university and even beyond that are referred to as our mentors. You may give them a general designation of a teacher or a lecturer, but they are surely mentors in your lives for a period of time.

A mentor can have lots of mentee, most of them don’t even know the mentees personally, but his impact upon their lives is tremendous. He sits in the office of a counsellor and a teacher for a period of

time in their lives. A mentor is not supposed to choose his student, but to welcome all. He doesn't need to sustain a personal and close relationship with the mentee rather, they are supposed to maintain a close relationship with his resources and materials. A mentor even if localized is always open to welcoming all that are willing and open hearted to learn of his knowledge. The mentor may not ask for any commitment, honour and respect from his mentee because they can choose to walk away at any time.

Since the law of honour applies to all, even a mentor, it will be wise to honour and respect him if not, you will be surprised that, although he didn't curse you, but you will not get blessed by his ministration. When you dishonour a mentor, it may not result to a curse as when you dishonour a spiritual father, but surely he will not bless you. All your time spent listening to him may not add anything to you, because, you didn't set your heart toward it. Basically speaking, anything you reject will reject you and whatever you cast away will be far from you. Why not make it a lifestyle to honour anyone that is contributing something to you, physically or spiritually.

It is possible to have as many spiritual mentors as you want, but you can only have one spiritual father at a time. You need people that will mentor and guide you in different areas of life, and since there is no man that is a custodian of all knowledge, then you need to be mentor by many in those various areas of life per season. You can choose a mentor in the area of: marriage, relationship, ministry, business, health, sport and even politics.

A mentor is someone you submit to for a season to learn certain basic truths and the foundation for a specific area of life that you are deficient. Such a person must be graced by God in that area to be able to counsel you aright. Since you cannot be a custodian of all knowledge, you will need others to teach you in other aspect of life that you lack understanding. When you see someone you admire and is graced enough by God in a specific area you need, you can choose to submit to him and learn his knowledge for a season.

A mentor might not even know all the people that benefit from his wisdom because he has little or no close relationship with them all. As long as they continue to honour him, they get blessed by his knowledge

and produce similar results as he has from his principles. The revolution of the internet age made things easier because you can be schooled online and earn degrees and attend conferences and services online without even seeing the mentor physically. Lots of mentors have materials and resources in different formats that they use to mentor a mentee if he can just be faithful to utilize those resources well.

When you get to know what your mentor did to become successful and what he is doing to maintain that success and apply the same principle and knowledge on yourself, you will produce the same results and even better. One of my strengths is that, I have lots of mentors, both dead and living, I always take out time to study great men that have walked with God in times past. How they did it and the challenges they encountered, their failures and successes.

When you study biographies like I do of great men and women that have walked with God, you will realize an unending passion and zeal that they had for the cause and how determined they were to achieving their goals in God, even unto death. Their commitment and sacrifices were terrible. They were totally sold out to God for His purpose and will to be fulfilled on earth. It was not long before I too decided to make a vow to follow God till the end. I began following after their footsteps desiring more of God's love. As I continued to apply the laws and principles I learn from the lives of these great men, I too began to function in the anointing of The Spirit overtime. I found God to be faithful fulfilling His calling and purpose in me and through me.

Every great man living has a mentor living or dead. He has someone that he references and respects apart from The Holy Spirit the ultimate of all. No matter how anointed you are, no matter how many spiritual mentee and sons you have, no matter how many bestselling spiritual books you have written, you still need to be mentored by someone. Your knowledge and perspective alone is not enough. You still need to read other people's books to be mentored in another perspective, light and revelation.

A spiritual man without a spiritual father or a mentor is walking on a dangerous path that may lead to costly consequences. Such a man is like a moving train without a driver. You don't have to tell people you have a mentor, but just be mentored by someone. There are a lot

of people that have mentors that no one knows about, it is not a crime. Even your mentor might not even know he mentors you! It is normal for you not to account for the number of people that admire you and desire to be like you, so also people that you admire as mentors might not even fathom that you admire them. We all have someone we admire and desires to do similar things as we do in life and even exceed it. That can be achieved if you can only allow them to mentor you.

I once told a friend, “You don’t have to be fathered by a leader, if he refuses to accept you as a spiritual son, why not just accept him as a spiritual mentor.” One good thing about mentorship is that, the leader can’t choose the people he wants to mentor, except the mentor decides to be restrictive. If he doesn’t put a restriction on himself and his resources, then utilize his materials, honour, serve and respect him. Attend his conferences and seminars, read his books and listen to his tapes since the same law and principle applies to both spiritual sons and mentee. The same grace and blessing can be received between someone that is fathered as a son, and someone that is mentored, but honour must be given to both the father and the mentor. Become more faithful than even some of his sons and the God that see your heart will honour your service of honour to his servant overtime.

‘Every good leader is a good reader.’ If you must sustain and grow in the anointing of the spirit upon your life then, you must undertake to study the scriptures and read spiritual books written by trusted authors. That will help keep you in the right perspective of mind and spirit and sharpen your discernment in the spirit. Words are spirit and life, whether spoken verbally or read from a paper. The potency of the word spoken is dependent upon the heart that receives it.

When a leader refuses to read, he naturally begins to deteriorate in knowledge and the tendency of him making many mistakes and error will increase. If there is one thing I do more, is to read! Study! And write! I consider it a delight because I learnt very early in life that, an investment in knowledge counts a lot. I can’t calculate the number of books I have read so far, I read as many as I have laid my hands on. I still read books, biographies and publications, it has become a habit that can’t go easily. I love reading biographies more because they challenge and inspire me because they show how God raises a

man from nothing to something which is why He is YHWH!!! As I read about great men and women who impacted the world, I see the possibility of anyone created by God having the same potential to do even more.

I realized that among the great men and women in the world, living or dead, there is someone among them that mirrors your situation of discouragement and disappointment, and how they got out of it. How they fought and refused to give up their life until they had victory. Your current situation is just but a mirage that will fade away, you don't have to make it look like a final bus stop for your life. There is always a bigger picture to life that you see not and hear not but is always hidden in God. Let your faith be in the faithfulness of God for He will not fail you. There shall soon be a performance in your life.

Weakness, handicap and deficiency in life is not the end of an individual and this will not stop you from being successful unless you decide to let it stop you when you give up in life. When you read and study the lives of great men and women dead and alive, you will realize that there is always someone with the same challenges and circumstances that you have, but has succeeded despite its effect on him. All you need to do is to choose one among them that you admire and make him a mentor, then study about him: what principles he applied and the things he did, and how he did it to succeed.

You cannot blame anyone for your spiritual, financial and marital state in life, so also you don't have to blame it on a situation and a circumstances because someone like you with the same situation and circumstances have chosen to do otherwise and succeed. If you can take the responsibility to find a solution, it will be of great benefit to others that are walking on the same path with you. Solutions don't just come automatically; someone needs to proffer them for the benefit of others. Why not be the one to proffer the solution for the benefit of others?

When you study the biography of great men, you will realize that some of them were once one of the most terrible people on earth. Most, if not all did some terrible things but that never stop them from being used by God to do the most awesome things on the earth. Later in their lives, they considered it a stepping stone onto higher grounds. Others

came from backgrounds that were never associated with greatness and success, some of them had poverty as a pet name and designation because they came out of intense poverty and lack and were the first to rise out of that den. With great determination to make a change, they strived and broke through to greatness.

You should get the thought of quitting and giving up on life out of your mind as other people in worst case scenario were able to breakthrough, why not find such a people as mentors and learn from them and their experiences. I really love to listen and read what self-made millionaires have to say about how they succeeded in life. Their story of victory and success from hard work, discipline and commitment would encourage you greatly. A man born into wealth and affluence may not have a story to tell of victory that can encourage and inspire others, even if he is a millionaire because he has no story to inspire.

When you find such people that have passed through pain in life to limelight and honour respect them. Those people might not even be “spiritual” but might have a grace from God that enabled them to prosper. When you honour them, you partake of it also. A wise man once said “celebrate success when you see one, else you will never become one.” It is wisdom to study how people do things and attain unto success. Choose to honour and study great men and learn how they do what they do and the way they do it.

Mandate and Mantle

People always wonder the difference between mandate and mantle, there is a great difference between the two. A spiritual mandate is an authorization from heaven and a command decree upon a man by heaven to execute an assignment. Mandate is referred to as the commissioning, while a mantle is like the covering garment of the anointing. It is like a carrier and vehicle of the anointing. A mantle of something is a layer of it covering a surface. If you take on the mantle of something that someone is doing, you take on the responsibilities and duties which must be fulfilled to achieve that person's goal.

In the Old Testament, a mantle can be a piece of clothing or anything that God can use as a carrier of power and the anointing for

signs and wonders. In the New Testament, the mantle upon a man is like a covering surface that may be invisible to our naked eyes. It is usually the covering around us like a heavy weight presence of God. That covering garment of mantle is like a spirit form that can be transferred to someone else. Moses' rod was a symbolism of a mantle, it was used for signs and wonders in his time. Elijah cloak was also seen as a mantle in his days and it was always with him, but when he was transported to heaven, it fell on his protégé Elisha. He picked it up and carried on the responsibilities of Elijah to continue as a prophet doing more signs and wonders in the land.

A mantle contains the anointing for the commission and mandate. When God gives a man a mantle, He gives him a mandate that he will use the mantle to execute it. Also, when you are given a mandate by God, a mantle will be given to you to execute it on earth. A man's mantle can be received by his protégé after he is long gone. Most long term spiritual reward for diligent service, respect and honour is the taking of the mantle of the spiritual father. You may not necessarily take of his mandate when you take of his mantle, but your mandate will be in line with the mantle because it was designed as such.

A prophet with a prophetic mantle will have a prophetic mandate and even if he is gone, you may not continue his assignment on earth as a mandate, but your mandate will also be in line with the prophetic for it to work effectively. God sometimes decides to give a man the mantle of his father, but another mandate to accomplish, different from that of his father but still in the same sector and area. Mantles don't leave earth to heaven, they only come from heaven to the earth and remain on earth even after the possessor is dead. The mantle of great men and women that were not picked up by a protégé or someone that honours them still linger on the earth. Mantles continue to linger until they are taken by someone who cares to honour the leader on earth.

There are so many mantles on earth to be picked up of great men and women of God that live and die without a true successor, just like Elisha and Gehazi. Gehazi was unable to take the mantle of his father, as he took the leprosy of Naaman as a curse for life. There are a lot of great men that walked the earth with a mantle and a mandate from God before they died and went to heaven. God anoints the new

generation with a different mandate, but with the same mantle of their fore fathers.

God can decide to give a new mantle to a faithful servant, if he chooses to pioneer a move on earth. The mantles of great men long gone are picked up by passionate and zealous believers that pay great price of honour and servitude unto God.

And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.

Matthew 13:57

How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only?

John 5:44

If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

John 12:26

The mantle upon a man can be limited if he is not honoured. A mantle can be powerful, but if found in the hand of a man that lacks the knowledge of how to yield to it in honour, it will become powerless. Until you honour the mantle given to you by God, it will never function in its full capacity. Jesus Christ though anointed with a mantle from heaven couldn't do much miracles in His town because they did not honour Him. This is applicable today as people have no respect for the anointing in a man's life. The mantle is to be honoured and used to fulfil the mandate of heaven given by God.

Elijah was honoured by Elisha because he served him diligently. Elisha was not the only 'Sons of the Prophet,' but he understood truly the place of honour and its reward. He was resilient until he was blessed by God with the mantle of his father. To partake of a mantle, you have to honour the possessor of the mantle. Elisha honoured Elijah

and had respect for the mantle he carried. When the mantle rested on Elisha, he became a man like Elijah with more might and strength.

A man you don't honour his mantle will not bless you. We saw in the case of Moses and Joshua how Joshua served Moses diligently and when it was time for Moses to go, Joshua was honoured with the mantle and the mandate to lead Israel. There is no other way to receive the mantle of a man than to honour the possessor of the mantle, except if God chooses to give you another new mantle.

Mind you, honour is not human worship, but a spiritual principle put in place by God Himself. Jesus submitted Himself to God The Father Almighty. Although He is God, His submission gave Him the honour of being exalted above all the creation of God. When you honour a man with a mantle, you can easily begin to function in the anointing. You will share in his grace and calling. If you are faithful till the end, you may take his mantle and mandate if God so wish.

There are many ministries that have folded up immediately after the pioneer died, he might have been a man of power and anointed by God with a mantle and mandate to liberate the world, but because there was no one worthy among his sons to pick up his mantle, the ministry could not be sustained and preserved at the level and height he attained.

When a man's mandate is taken by God and given to another, the man ceases to become relevant in God again. When God gives you a mandate and a mantle, it is supposed to be preserved through the next generation by your sons and protégés. If they fail to do that, God can give another individual the mandate, so that His kingdom can continue to influence the earth.

God is the one in control of the mantle and mandate and Him alone gives it to whosoever He pleases. A minister cannot decide who he wants to hand over the mantle and mandate to, except by the permission of God. It is God who decides who He will give the mantle to on earth. The mandate of God can fully be expressed on earth only if the mantle is also available. The man that is given the mandate needs the mantle to function aright in God.

Finally, I urge you as true spiritual sons and mentees to be diligent

in services giving honour to leaders that have gone before you. Always learn to apply the principle of honour on the ones living now so that you can be fit to take their mantles when they are gone. God can even give you another mantle and mandate for your faithfulness and commitment to service.

I see no reason why we can't come into the inheritance of our fathers, since they have paid the price for the mantle and mandate, we can come into their inheritance to function in God. Paying another price for the mantle and mandate may not be that easy, although, it is not impossible. There are a lot of mantles of men and women that walked with God in times past still lingering on the earth. We need to have a perfect heart and mind posture of honour to be able to pick up those mantles. I pray that you will be fit to partake of the mantles of them that have gone before us. I urge you to be steadfast in the Lord walking in love always. Amen.

Shalom!!!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



PHILIP CEPHAS

Philip Cephas is a seasoned apostolic and prophetic teacher of the gospel. He is a man of love, wisdom, revelation and prayer. He is cantered on effective balancing of Kingdom principles, doctrine and revelations to equip the Body of Christ apostolically and prophetically into its full manifestation of Christ. His love for the Body of Christ is endless. This drive has led him to evangelize and conduct outreach programs in different cities and villages so as to reach the lost souls and administer the gospel of Christ within those environments. He is interested in raising and mentoring youths and adults in the area of prayer, leadership, influence, relationship, investment and the anointing. He is also a prolific writer. He has authored many books such as *The Prophetic and Vision*, *The Vision of a Great People*, *Roadmap for a Weary Sojourner* and many others. He has been an instrument in the revival movement within Nigeria. He is resident in Lafia, Nasarawa State, Nigeria.

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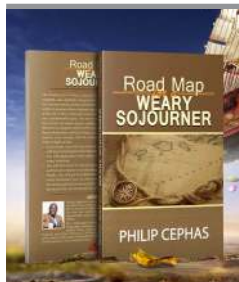
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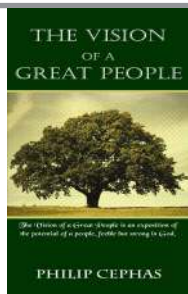
This manuscript is likened to a compass employed by a spiritual sojourner to journey to the desire destination without being weary and tired, lacking the strength, passion, zeal, courage, and the understanding to press further into the realm of light and life.

THE PROPHETIC AND VISION



The prophetic and vision is a revelation from The Holy Spirit, and a clarion called into the experiences of the prophetic. You don't have to be a prophet called into the office of the prophetic to function in the prophetic. The speaking and dealings of God is prophetic in nature.

VISION OF A GREAT PEOPLE



The vision of a great people is a life story and a fiction of a family who has been helped by God and still being helped by Him. Among many systems of God expansion upon the face of the earth, a man is pivotal.

For More Information & Feedback

Contact;



My heart bursts its banks, spilling beauty and goodness. I pour it out in a poem to the king, shaping the river into words:

Ps 45:1 MSG

The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.

Ps 68:11 KJV

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We will be glad to hear from!

