**CHRISTCOMPANIONBIBLECHURCH**

**WeeklyBibleStudy**

***Branch: Headquarters Date:03/01/2023***

***"YOU SHALL BE WITNESSES UNTO ME".* (Part1). Study1**.

**TEXT: Acts 1: 4-8**

**MEMORYVERSE: *And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16:15-16.*** When Jesus was crucified and buried, there was joy and jubilation in the kingdom of darkness. Hell assumed to have triumphed over the Lord. The Pharisees as well as the Sanhedrin, gloated and boasted thinking it was the end of the gospel that Christ came to propagate! Soldiers were positioned to ascertain no foul play by His disciples. Yet on the third day, there was the twist of event. The Lord resurrected with power and glory! The charge came to the disciple afterwards: Acts 1:8 KJV **"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"**.

**WITNESSING, THE CHRISTIAN'S PURPOSE OF EXISTENCE. Acts1:6-8; Isaiah 43:7-12.**

Jesus departure from the scene, brought great awareness to the disciples of the need to stand up for Jesus! Except they were ready to declare the triumphant power of resurrection, Satan deception and evil of religion without life and power as professed by the Pharisees would prevail. What a world of darkness and peril! The need to propagate the good news should be our major preoccupation today as individual, as well as a Church of Christ.

1. Jesus knew that the course of history is hinged on the gospel. It is either its propagation brings salvation of the world or lack of it brings peril of mankind! Thus, his emphasis was on holistic and practical witnessing of the gospel.

This implies that the entire lifetime, purpose and privileges of believers must anchor on living for Christ, demonstrating His saving and triumphing power to the world of sinners according to the manifesto released by Christ! (See Luke 4:18-19.). The early Church was faithful to their calling and witnessing, thus, turning their world upside down for Christ.

2.We have a robust and valid example of Christ’s witness in Pastor Olusegun Tubi. He was a true witness of Christ with apostolic order, who showcased the delivering power of Christ from sin and oppression of Satan to mankind.

***AttributeS Of True Witnesses.***

As a new year begins on a promising note, we can learn from our founding father's life to position ourselves for effective witnessing:

1. ***Salvation from Sins and its Assurance***: He received Jesus as his Saviour and Lord with valid transformation from sinful life to an undeniable life of righteousness in Christ! 2Corinthian 5:17.This also must be true with respect to your life in the new year . Men must see beyond doubt that Jesus lives in you. ***"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven"***.

2. ***Growth in Grace and Holiness***: As a true witness of Christ, he surrendered to rigorous discipleship via Scripture Union, and mentorship under Reverend Mike Oye, Papa Elton, Billy Graham and other faith frontliners.

Note: "To go far, you must see far ahead". This will happen when you stand on the shoulders of the giants.

i. Choose Christlike role models either in the scripture or contemporary life to pattern your life after, in holiness, to learn from and emulate for a productive, fruitful Christian living, soulwinning and service to the body of Christ.

ii. Like the Disciples of Christ, give room for tarrying in prayer. When the hen takes time to brood over its eggs, it hatches lively chickens. So must prayer and God presence birth vision, maturity and strength in you.

3. ***Being Led by the Holy Spirit***: Our father in the Lord located precisely what to do and where to shine for Christ! (Ekiti land). Acts1:8. Where you are today is (either your own Jerusalem, Judea... or outermost part of the earth). It is not by accident at all! So make your mark by shining the light of the gospel wherever you may go. ***"Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation: But as it is written, To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand"*** Romans 15:20-21.

4. ***Sacrificing your Life upon the Altar of God*** : Daddy Tubi consecrated and devoted everything to Christ, holding nothing back from the Lord. Romans 12:1-2. Just like Peter gave up the promising fishing career and Matthew left the lucrative custom profession to propagate the gospel of Christ. Pastor Olusegun Tubi left all to follow Christ totally. Today, God expects you to give all to Christ. Remember, nothing is too big to give or leave on the altar.

5. ***Living and Having one Accord with other Brethren in Prayer and in Ministry***: Love is the basis of unity among Christ disciples. The early Church brethren prayed and worked together in love. This was evident in the life of our patriarch of faith.

i. It was such unity and love that propelled Pastor Tubi to join the Christian Fellowship Group at, Oke Eyinmi, in Ado back in 1970s. Same was the basis of his involvement in Ilupeju Crusades that translated to what we call CCBC today!

ii. Choose cooperation and not divisive competitions in the Church. Two are better than one. When your gifts, wisdom, and abilities are synergised with others, such will birth great revival, exploits and progress in God's kingdom.

6. ***Endurance and Forbearance in Love***: Satan, temptations and trials will not keep silent! In the early Church, persecution ranged. Act 8:1-5. At Ilupeju gospel training centre, oppositions arose, men agitations and persecutions came. Yet, the Church moved on without giving up in the grace of God! Today, as witnesses of Christ, God wants you to be steadfast and unmovable, abounding in the services of Christ, resting on God’s everlasting arms and refuse to be terrified or shaken by the adversary.

7. ***More than Conquerors:*** Romans 8:35-39. Afflictions, tribulations, poverty and hardships notwithstanding, the early Church triumphed gloriously!

Pastor Olusegun Tubi went through all! At the end, he left behind: great legacy, good name, exemplary life in all ramifications! The Lord is counting on you today! Let his glory shine forth in your life whatever betides! Stand valiantly for the faith. If Daddy Tubi is privileged like his Master to resurrect and speak to the Church today, his message will be his favorite scripture:

***"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord"***. 1 Corinthians 15:58 (KJV) Amen.

**HYMN: RESCUE THE PERISHING**

1. Rescue the perishing, care for the dying,

Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave;

Weep o’er the erring one, Lift up the fallen,

Tell them of Jesus, the Mighty to save

*Rescue the perishing,*

*Care for the dying;*

*Jesus is merciful,*

*Jesus will save.*

1. Though they are slighting Him,

Still He is waiting,

Waiting the penitent child to receive.

Plead with them earnestly, plead with them gently,

He will forgive if they only believe.

1. Down in the human heart, Crushed by the tempter,

Feelings lie buried that grace can restore;

Touched by a loving hand,

Wakened by kindness,

Chords that were broken will vibrate once more.

1. Rescue the perishing, Duty demands it;

Strength for thy labour the Lord will provide;

Back to the narrow way patiently win them;

Tell the poor wanderer a Savior has died.