

VOLUME ONE



The Minister's ENCYCLOPEDIA

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;

To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He might be glorified.

And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.

But ye shall be named the Priests of the Lord: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

-Isaiah 61:1-4, 6

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

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WHY I WROTE THIS BOOK



God Disguises His Greatest Gifts In The Most Flawed Vessels So Only The Most Passionate Qualify To Receive Them.

If you are reading and studying this Handbook, you are pursuing the Wisdom of God. Then my purpose in writing this book is being accomplished. I want to mentor you so that you can excel in your ministry. Hopefully, from the Wisdom in this book you will be shielded from making some of the mistakes I have made as you gain insight into ways to develop and enlarge your ministry.

You must see yourself as a *Deliverer*. Every day that you wake up and you walk into somebody's life, their future is about to begin. God has put His Word in your mouth. (Read Isaiah 61.)

So many people are hurting. You must reach out and help them...mentor them.

As you study this Handbook, take notes on what is important to you at this particular time. I suggest the Topic and Thought method (described further in the book). What you write and study you will remember.

3 Belief Systems

Establish what you believe. There are three basic belief systems in the world.

1. God Is In Control of Everything. If the will of God was predestined, planned and scheduled why would we need to pray for the will of God to be done?

2. Satan Is In Control of Everything. Satan wanted control of the Heavens, and God kicked him out. Satan wanted control of the earth, and God gave Adam and Eve the right to dominate and take control.

3. My Decisions Have Created My Circumstances. This third belief system is quite simple and very Scriptural. (See Deuteronomy 28; Leviticus 26; Isaiah 1:17-19.) Isaiah 1:19 says, “If ye are willing and obedient.” “If you” is in the Scriptures 331 times. God gives us the choice, the decision to make a better life. At some point you have to embrace...“My decisions have created my circumstances.” This is vital. If you do not take responsibility for your personal decisions, bitterness and anger will grow. You will become vindictive and retaliatory over the circumstances of your life. But the moment that you say, “My circumstances have been created by my decisions; now I can change my circumstances by changing my decisions.” You can change.

The Gospel Has Two Sides

You must also recognize that the Gospel has two sides:

1. The Person of Jesus. The life of God. The King. The experience with God. *The Person of Jesus Prepares You For Eternity. The Presence of Jesus Creates Your Peace.*

2. The Principles of Jesus. The Law of God. The Kingdom. The expertise of God. *The Principles of Jesus Prepare You For Earth. The Principles of Jesus Create Your Prosperity.*

This is the backdrop to help you understand our teaching. Everything is based on your foundation. If

you do not understand the foundation, you will not understand the teaching.

Wisdom is the Law of God. The Bible said Jesus is made unto us the Wisdom of God. Isaiah 11:1-2 calls The Holy Spirit the Spirit of Wisdom, the Spirit of truth, the Spirit of knowledge, the Spirit of understanding and the Spirit of might and counsel. Ephesians 1:27 calls Him the Spirit of Wisdom. Crave Wisdom. That is why you are studying this Handbook... to obtain Wisdom.

7 Ways To Recognize You Are Called Into The Ministry

1. Those Who Are Called Into The Ministry Feel Deep Grief And Pain Over The Spiritual Condition of Others. You are not called if you can be around sinners and never feel their pain. You are not called if you can be around people who are anti-Christ and not feel the boldness erupt inside you. A preacher, a man of God, a deliverer is not a “take it or leave it” kind of guy. Whatever unlocks your compassion identifies if you are called or not. What causes you pain?

2. Those Who Are Called Into The Ministry Often Become Angered Over The Rebellion To God. When you are a man of God, you become very, very upset...even angered over the rebellion to God that there is in the nation. You have to speak out. *The Problem That Infuriates You The Most Is The Problem God Has Assigned You To Solve.*

3. Those Who Are Called Into The Ministry Are Willing To Do The Illogical And The Unusual.

Even when it activates an adversary. There is a calling. You do things that no human would normally do when you are called of God. Things that seem illogical...like flying all over the world rushing from service to service and telethons with very little sleep. There is a calling. That is how you know.

4. Those Who Are Called Into The Ministry Contain An Unusual Obsession To Know The Heart of God. You really want to know God. Pray to know God. Sit in His presence to know Him, because whatever you are, you will reproduce. Study the Bible to know truth...not get a sermon. You will only learn through saturation. Do not go into His presence just to get enough. Three keys on The Holy Spirit...*learn from Him, love Him, lean on Him.* There is no place for you in the ministry if God's presence does not inspire you.

5. Those Who Are Called Into The Ministry Are Willing To Invest Time In Mentorship Instead of Achievement. Those who are called into the ministry are willing to invest time to learn...time in mentorship. You want to be mentored. You want to listen and read books...constantly. You want to sit in the atmosphere where The Holy Spirit can ignite Seeds of Wisdom that are planted in your spirit.

6. Those Who Are Called Into The Ministry Have The Heart of A Servant. What is a servant? He does what is necessary. Serving is saying, "What do you need that I can produce?"

7. Those Who Are Called Into The Ministry Are Unhappy And Dissatisfied With Anything Else. When you are truly called to preach or teach the gospel, you hate being anywhere else but in the center of where God wants you.