**Raising Sons of Consolation in the Church**

 **Text: Ac 4:36-37**

And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus. 37 Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

1. **OPENING MESSAGE:**
* Until you are raised, you can’t raise others!
* This is the reason why God determines to raise you.
* **In Isa 60:1** the bible says *Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.*
* Some people always asked; how would they arise? Because they are very low/small
* Same question is asked in the bible: in **Amos 7:5***”… by whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small”*
* Then, we see the answer in **Isaiah 60:22** *A little one shall become a thousand…*
* When God is ready to raise you, it doesn’t matter the position you may be even if you are at a dunghill, God can bring out of it and make you to sit among the princes.
* In case you had risen before, but you fall and you do not know how to rise again there is a good news for you:
* In **Micah 7:8** *Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise.*
* Therefore, those of you that your tree of glory has been cut down, I command in the name of Jesus, it shall arise again! Amen.
1. **WHY DOES GOD DECIDE TO RAISE YOU?**
* In **Acts 3: 6** *Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk***.**
* If you are told to arise, it means currently:
* Your glory has been brought down.
* Your destiny is asleep.
* Your fortune has been crippled.
* Your progress is on the sick bed.
* Your financial life has been brought low.
* Your financial advancement has been stagnated.
* Peter and John asked the man born lame at the beautiful gate to rise up and walk.
* Immediately, the man arose and started leaping – meaning that he jumped up so high. By interpretation the man rose from crawling to flying.
* He did not follow the protocol of human growth anymore. He rose from crawling to flying.
* **Now, this is the time to command your DESTINY to arise and fly!**
* Therefore, when I say; “our destiny” – you will answer; **ARISE AND FLY!**
* Our glory – ARISE AND FLY
* Our fortunes – ARISE AND FLY
* Our business – ARISE AND FLY
* Our progress – ARISE AND FLY
* Our breakthrough – ARISE AND FLY
* Our elevation – ARISE AND FLY
* Our finances – ARISE AND FLY
* Our fulfilment – ARISE AND FLY
* Our success – ARISE AND FLY
* Our churches – ARISE AND FLY
* Our children – ARISE AND FLY
* Our lives – ARISE AND FLY
* The man was asked to rise and walk, but he didn’t just walk alone, neither run but he started flying.
* Those of you who are seriously troubled thinking that you mates or contemporaries have gone very far from away you. I want to tell you, those people, they may either be walking or running, but because God is raising sons of consolation today, you will not walk neither will you run but you shall fly.
* **Tell seven people: my destiny shall fly higher!**
1. **NOW WHO ARE ACTUALLY THE SONS OF CONSOLATION?**
* Before I tell you; do you know that if a person is not sorrowful or weeping, he does not need consolation?
* But I want tell you, God is weeping, He is sorrowful, over the situation of the church on earth that is why He is looking for those who will bring consolation to Him.
* **SO WHO ARE THE SONS OF CONSOLATION?**
1. **Those who are ready to take the gospel to sinners at this end time.**
* They are those who will say; I can feel the heartbeat of God over the perishing souls, therefore use me to preach the gospel to the lost world.
* God is weeping because souls are perishing every day and He needs consolers – the youths, the younger ones who will be interested in evangelism and not in celebrity.
1. **Those who do NOT just give their substance to God, but firstly give their heart to God.**
* If you can check the heartbeat of God, you will see how it rises high every day over those who give their time, energy and substance to God but fail to give their heart to God. The bible says, **Pr 23:26** *My son, give me thine heart…*
* So God will be consoled if He is able to see those who will decide to surrender their heart to God before their substance.
1. **The preachers who will never compromise to preach another gospel – the gospel of deceit.**
* I know if anyone can see Jesus now, you will find him in grief. This is because the pastors that are called and commissioned to liberate people are the ones putting people in bondages.
* They imitate deceiving preachers and they too become deceivers.
* They are not mindful of the salvation of people; they are only mindful of their money.
* They fail to ***preach what people need***; but they only preach what people want.
* Their watch word is it doesn’t matter. All this makes God sad, but he will be consoled if true preachers are raised in the church hence they shall be called sons of consolation in the church.
1. **Those who will be ready to use their lifestyle to bring back the ancient lost glory of the church.**
* **What is the ancient glory of the church?** This is the practical life of holiness, godliness, faithfulness and righteousness.
* Those who will not tolerate nonsensical things in the church.
* Those who will determine to live exemplary life in order to protect the image of the church.
* Those who will stand in the truth even in the face of death.
1. **Those who will determine to live a total life of holiness in order to transform the corrupt world.**
* Jesus is lamenting because holiness has flown away from the church like a bird.
* A lot of women wear trousers including pastor’s wives and children.
* Sexual impurity fills the nooks and crannies of the church but Jesus will be comforted if he sees someone who will say “no matter what the world has become I will be different – ***I will be holy”!***
* Those who will make up their mind to live a sanctified life.
* Those who will say I will no long use make up, attachment, dressing in an indecent way.
* Those who will not call lies as God’s wisdom.
* Those who will not call financial temptation as financial opportunity.
* They are those who will be raised as sons of consolation in the church!
1. **NOW THE ALMIGHTY GOD IS SET TO RAISE SONS OF CONSOLATION – HOW I WISH YOU ARE AMONG THEM.** Therefore:
* Is there anyone here who will say; “Lord I am ready to use my lifestyles, characters and behaviours to preach the gospel to the lost world”?
* Is there anyone here who will say: pastor, pray for me, I want to start living a holy life in order to tell the world that genuine Christians are still in the world?
* Is there anyone who will say; pastor pray for I want to decide to start living a life of faithfulness and righteousness?
* Is there anyone who will say; I have been making God sad because of my sinful life, but now, I want to surrender my life to God so that He can be consoled.
* Is there anyone who will say; now I have understood the meaning of sons of consolation but I need to REDEDICATE my life to God so as to be a child of consolation to God indeed?
* Oh! In all my ways; I want to console and comfort God.
* Now, the floor is open as Jesus is standing to receive you.
* **Altar call…**
* **Who are the sons of Consolation?**
* They are sons of encouragement – their destiny is to encourage humanity and strengthen the church.
* They are the godly men in the church that always stand against unrighteousness.
* They are zealous and passionate for the growth and development of the church.
* They are the genuine financiers in the church.
* They are those who are not financially strong, but use their physical ability to do things the money can do.
1. **SOME DISCOURAGING INCIDENTS THAT ALWAYS HAPPEN THEM**
* Discouragement
* They are always discouraged by those who would have encouraged them.
* Breach of confidentiality.
* They are always get disappointed by those they take as confidants.
* Pr
* Insecurity.
* They are not well protected – majority of them are exposed to the lions and wolves in the church.
* Terrible attacks
* Majority of sons of consolation are going through serious pains because of unexpected attacks that come upon them.
* Because of their inadequate security measures, their financial resources are attacked.
* Some have closed up their company or factory. Some run into terrible troubles financially.
* Some are attacked with misfortunes and reversal of fortunes.
* Some lose their job.
* Some even died.
1. HOW SONS OF CONSOLATION BE RAISED IN THE CHURCH?