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### By Dr. Abimbola Alabi

# FOR THE TRUE, TESTED, TRIED AND FAITHFUL MOTHER

"But the king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son! And Joab came into the house to the king, and said, Thou hast shamed this day the faces of all thy servants, which this day have saved thy life... Then the king arose and sat in the gate.

#### 2 Samuel 19: 4-8 (KJV)

Happy Mothers day to the pure, tested, tried and faithful mother who is still standing Faithfull to the core values of womanhood and motherhood.

In the recent months, the world has been forced by the media to listen and watch women who suffered from victimization from men, but the most familiar storyline has been that they got to do what they have to do to survive. They survived and now make claims and get the headlines.

However, there still exists that woman that mother who saw the bait and ultimately walked away from that compromising situation.

The world did not know that woman because she refused to offer her body to get that movie role. She went home hungry, unknown, uncelebrated because she upholds her dignity and self-respect. It appears she got NO talent because she did not play the ball. In our text today we see David mourning for the death of his dear son Absalom who had attempted to overthrow him, and he got the throne back at the expense of faithful and loyal troops who jeopardized their lives for him.

The world today is celebrating the women who are eating their cake and having it at the same time because they know how the system works or how to work the arrangements. The world just like David initially did focus on Absalom, the traitor the media forgets the woman who did not sleep with the movie producer, the university professor, the boss at the workplace, the wealthy guy... etc.

The young girl today is further confused not only with the issue of her identity and what roles are expected of her as she grows into womanhood. The same worldly media that tells her motherhood is optional and every added value God has put in the family for her, as a woman is not necessary. She is pressurized on all sides.

Single parenting is not God's ideal. Parenting according to the Bible is for Father and mother to raise their children together with the wisdom and provision he has made available.

Most of the people who "later discovered "that they are not what God has created them initially for are usually casualties of unbalanced and negligent parenting.

Living and trying out a man before marriage is not the ideal for a Christian woman. Equally, any man that insists on a woman getting pregnant first before he can marry the woman is not a real man worthy of getting married to. God did not create the woman as a mere baby factory.

However just as God told Elijah that he was not the only prophet left without compromise with Baal, so also God is saying to that Real woman, that Righteous and Faithfull Mother that keeps holding on. All your labor and sacrifices are not in vain.

God knows you are there and you have been truly tested, tried in with all kinds of temptations and you did not cave in.

Your reward will surely come, and your testimony and legacy will outlast all the noisemaking that is going on now.

Happy Mothers Day to You the Uncompromising Woman and Mother.



That woman who had to withdraw shamefully from the University /College and dabbed as an academic failure because she refused to compromise.

That woman that refused to follow the primitive culture of the husband's family and hence lost all that she and her husband labored for before his death and had to start all over again.

That woman that did not accept that lunch or dinner invitation from the boss and year after year she is not promoted.

That woman that withdrew herself from all evil association of other women who knew what to do to get what they want hence she has become a lonely outcast.

# Panoplia

# HE HAS SHOVE YOU

#### Welcome to Panoplia.

The mission of Panoplia is to help believers develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. It emphasises spiritual growth and leadership.

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> Publisher Abimbola Adewumi Alabi

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER Olutoyin Alabi

EDITOR Anthony Oluyinka Adesile

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Feel free to write to us if you have comments, contributions, observations or reactions to articles published in this journal.

All correspondence should be directed to:

The Editor Panoplia, P.O. Box 53277, Falomo, Ikoyi, Lagos.Nigeria. "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, and to love kindness and mercy, and to humble yourself and walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8 (AMPC)

God has given You the template for victorious daily living. Do Justly. Love Kindness and Mercy. Walk humbly with God. How do you fare in your daily life assignments with these guidelines from God? As you read this message align yourself with the word of God. "But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, Be compassionate and loyal in your love, And don't take yourself too seriously— take God seriously." Micah 6:8 (MSG)

"Examine and test and evaluate your own selves to see whether you are holding to your faith and showing the proper fruits of it. Test and prove yourselves [[a] not Christ]. Do you not yourselves realize and know [thoroughly by an ever-increasing experience] that Jesus Christ is in you—unless you are [counterfeits] disapproved on trial and rejected?" 2 Corinthians 13:5 (AMPC) "Because of this, brethren, be all the more solicitous and eager to make sure (to ratify, to strengthen, to make steadfast) your calling and election; for if you do this, you will never stumble or fall." 2 Peter 1:10-11 (AMPC)

Are You Doing What HE has Shown You?

### **IN THIS EDITION:**

For THE True, Tested, Tried and Faithful Mother He has shown you Searching for the Perfect Father Do not take my son back God's Will Is Our Hiding Place

When wisdom enters your heart

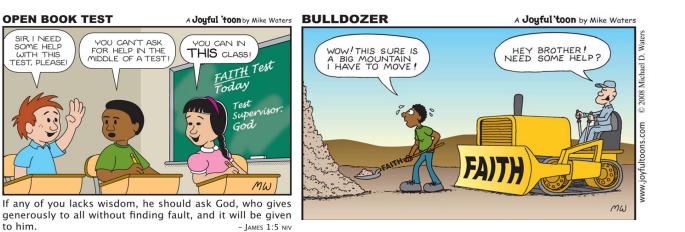
The Editor Panoplia, P. O. Box 110808 Cambria Heights, New York, NY 11411.

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When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, I am the Almighty God; walk and live habitually before Me and be perfect (blameless, wholehearted, complete).

Genesis 17:1 (AMPC)

## **SEARCHING FOR THE PERFECT FATHER**

I was attending a management training several years ago when the trainer asked an Icebreaking question that how many wives did Abraham have?

Then as a young Christian, I thought Abraham had only one wife, Sarah.

He then went on to read from Genesis how after the death of Sarah Abraham remarried and had another wife Keturah, who bore him six more sons.

With all the chorus of "Abrahams blessings are mine" and "Father Abraham has many sons" my knowledge of the scriptures then was limited.

However, in my trying to be "righteous" I thought Abraham and Sarah were the perfect couple. For God to use him as a Blessing to the nations of the earth, there would be no comma in his life. Before he continued his actual lecture that trainer threw in another jab about his having a son call Ishmael through an arrangement, which did not have God's blessing.

Abraham even lied to Pharaoh about his wife to protect himself. Genesis 12.

After the lecture I asked myself could God really use a man that is not perfect as a father?

" When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, I am the Almighty God; walk and live habitually before Me and be perfect (blameless, wholehearted, complete)." Genesis 17:1 (AMPC)

What type of father figure do you have around you?

Praise God if you see yielded men like the second Adam who had no sin and they are doing everything very very well.

However, don't lose hope if you have a work in progress man like Abraham that later God changed his name from Abram to Abraham.

"What's more, I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram. Instead, you will be called Abraham, for you will be the father of many nations." Genesis 17:5

As a wife, you may be seeing some faults in your husband.

Continue to pray and speak the truth to him with respect and love. He is a work in progress that is changing.

Remarkably God has raised men like Billy Graham and many others without any scandal and gave the whole world favorable results to see.

As a man keep up the excellent work of attaining perfection.

As work in progress doesn't give up.

God is at work ensuring that You achieve your God-given purpose in life.

God was working on Abraham, and HE did not give up on him till he was refined to be that channel of Blessings that God could use to bless the nations of the earth till today.

Thank God for men who are perfect fathers who had no blemish. Bless God for such men who are 100% flawless in all areas of their lives.

However, if you are like me initially that was searching for the perfect Abraham you can see through the life of the second Adam the Lord Jesus Christ that perfection in a man is attainable. The first Adam as you will recall was not perfect. He blew it.

### ABIMBOLA ADEWUMI ALABI



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# **Panoplia**

### DO NOT TAKE MY SON BACK There.

"Abraham said to him, See to it that you do not take my son back there." Genesis 24:6 (AMPC)

Abraham was quite clear that there was no turning back on

what God has commanded either for himself personally or his son Isaac. Therefore he instructed that under no circumstances should his son go back to where God had taken him from. Remember God told Abraham to leave Chaldea and by Faith and Hope in HIM alone look for that promised land. How are you doing today?

Are you going back to the things God clearly told you not to do? Have you forsaken all the things God told you never to touch? God commanded you to come out of them and be separated unto Him.

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." 2 Corinthians 6:17 (KJV)

Do not go back to the things you have renounced as a child of God.

Abraham kept trusting and believing God for what HE has promised him.

What are those challenges that you are facing and has made you go back and be doing those things whether secretly or openly? God is able to do what HE has promised You.

All that HE told Abraham were fulfilled

Hold on to His Promise.

HE Will not fail you.

Remember that song "I have decided to follow Jesus; No turning back, no turning back. Tho' none go with me, I still will follow,..." Do not make a U-Turn on God.

Do not go back there.

DEAR GOD, I DON'T ASK THAT YOU DELIVER ME FROM THE STORMS OF LIFE, BUT PLEASE HELP ME TO FIND DELIVERANCE IN THEM. HIDE ME IN THE HOLLOW OF YOUR HAND, AND IN THE SHELTER OF YOUR TABERNACLE, AND SET ME HIGH UPON A ROCK. GRATEFULLY IN JESUS' NAME.



### **GOD'S WILL IS OUR HIDING PLACE**

"For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock." (psalm 27:5)

In her bestseller book, The Hiding Place, Corrie Ten Boom tells of the tense times in Holland during the German invasion. One night when there was bombing and shelling happening all around the house where she and her sister lived, Corrie couldn't sleep. Hearing her sister in the kitchen, she decided to go down and join her.

Long into the night after all the bombing ceased and all was silent, Corrie returned to her bed only to find that her pillow right where her head lay—had been pierced with a sizable piece of sharp metal shrapnel from an exploding bomb! Going downstairs to the kitchen saved her life!

She rushed to tell her sister saying, "Betsie, if I hadn't heard you in the kitchen...". To this her saintly sister interrupted, "Don't say it, Corrie. There are no "ifs" in God's world. The center of his will is our safety."

Later through terrible trying times in a Nazi prison, Miss Ten

Boom was to learn over and over this marvelous truth: "God's will is our hiding place."

Suggested prayer: "Dear God, I don't ask that you deliver me from the storms of life, but please help me to find deliverance in them. Hide me in the hollow of your hand, and in the shelter of your tabernacle, and set me high upon a rock. Gratefully in Jesus' name. Amen.

"For in the day of trouble, he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock." (Psalm 27:5)

The Daily Encourager <thedailyencourager@harrisburgonline.org>

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# WHEN WISDOM ENTERS YOUR HEART

"When wisdom enters your heart, And knowledge is pleasant to your soul, Discretion will preserve you; Understanding will keep you, To deliver you from the way of evil, From the man who speaks perverse things, From those who leave the paths of uprightness To walk in the ways of darkness; Who rejoice in doing evil, And delight in the perversity of the wicked;" Proverbs 2:10-14 (NKJV)

One of the fundamental ways to be successful in your God-given life assignments is to allow the Wisdom of God to enter your heart.

Take actions only with applied wisdom, which is available to you through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Head Knowledge without the application of the wisdom that comes from God is not useful, I most times when you do that you are just making noise.

To achieve your purpose in life and keep away from speaking and doing evil as enumerated in the above verses infuse your "So now you can pick out what's true and fair, find all the good trails! Lady Wisdom will be your close friend, and Brother Knowledge your pleasant companion. Good Sense will scout ahead for danger; Insight will keep an eye out for you.

They'll keep you from making wrong turns, or following the bad directions Of those who are lost themselves and can't tell a trail from a tumbleweed. These losers who make a game of evil and throw parties to celebrate perversity, Traveling paths that go nowhere, wandering in a maze of detours and dead ends." Proverbs 2:10-15 (MSG)

Before you act today allow the wisdom of God to saturate that process of decision making in your heart.

When wisdom enters your heart the light of God will be turned on that issue.

Let Him Guide You with His insight.

#### heart with wisdom from God.







# YOUR WEAPONS ARE NOT CARNAL

### FOR THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE ARE NOT CARNAL

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 2 Corinthians 10:4 Kings (KJV)

You are first and foremost a spiritual person. Therefore, your weapons of warfare are in the spirit realm.

Whatsoever is confronting you locate it spiritually and depend entirely on the Holy Spirit to guide you in your response.

"Afflicted city, storm-battered, unpitied:... If anyone attacks you, don't for a moment suppose that I sent them And if any should attack, nothing will come of it. I create the blacksmith who fires up his forge and makes a weapon designed to kill. I also create the destroyer— But no weapon that can hurt you has ever been forged. Any accuser who takes you to court will be dismissed as a liar. This is what God's servants can expect. I'll see to it that everything works out for the best." God's Decree." Father, forgive them,for they do not know what they do. Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise. Woman,this is your son. This is your mother. My God, Wy God, why have

#### Isaiah 54:11-17 (MSG)

Let your eyes of understanding be opened to the facts of who you are in Christ Jesus.

Do not just treat this issue as an ordinary person and seeking the solution from social media or google.

"For although we live in the natural realm, we don't wage a military campaign employing human weapons, using manipulation to achieve our aims. Instead, our spiritual weapons are energized with divine power to effectively dismantle the defenses behind which people hide." **2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (TPT)** 



# **Panoplia**

# "I ALONE" IS NOT THE BIBLICAL CONCEPT FIGHT FOR YOUR FAMILIES

After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, 'Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.'" (Nehemiah 4:14) NIRV

God has always been, and He is still in the business of keeping families together. His strategy of occupying and having dominion is mirrored through His creation of Adam and Eve and the subsequent mandate he gave them.

In our scriptures for today, Nehemiah reminded the surviving Israelites that the challenge to repossess and rebuild Jerusalem was not just about the individual but also for the survival of the family together.

When Moses initially approached Pharaoh to let the Israelites go and worship God, he told him to go with the men and leave the women and the children behind. However, Moses said NO. It has to be everybody together.

The world tends to celebrate and isolate as successful the single man or woman and sometimes totally "forgetting" that the ideal successful man has a successful woman behind him and vice versa the successful woman has a man beside her.

In the kingdom business Apostle, Paul told the jailer "you and your household will be saved." (Acts 16:31)

How are you doing today in your life's assignments?

Remember it's not solely about you alone.

Don't be like King Hezekiah that heard the judgment of God that will happen after his death.

"So Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of the LORD which you have spoken is good!" For he said, "Will there not be peace and truth at least in my days?" **2 Kings 20: 19 (NKJV)** 

Because it was not going to happen in his time, it was okay for him for the bad judgment to occur during his time. He did not intercede for the next generation.

What legacy are you bequeathing the next generation?

It's about your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.

"I alone" is not the Biblical concept.

Fight for your families.





#### EMPOWERING YOU TO FULFILL YOUR GOD GIVEN DESTINY



'How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.' ACTS 10v 38

Olutoyin and Abimbola Alabi, City Of Refuge Ministries Inc, P. O. Box 110808 Cambria Heights, New York, NY 11411. "EMPOWERING YOU TO FULFILL YOUR DESTINY" Phone:1-646-496-5046 Please visit: <u>www.destiny-empowerment.org</u> <u>counseling window–Understanding The Throne</u> <u>Email: cityofrefugechurch8@gmail.com</u> City of Refuge Ministries Inc