

REMOVING THE SPEED BREAKERS

Text: Heb. 12:1-2

At one point to the other in the life of a Christian or Minister of God we experience speed breakers. And as the name goes speed breakers or bumps are usually created to slow us down, reduce our speed and perhaps alter the course of our movement. I can see God removing the speed breakers on your path of your destiny in Jesus name. These speed breakers can be in the form of diminishing finances, job loss, sudden depression. Most times these experiences are very instantaneous. We don't see them coming. Speed breakers in Christian life especially ministers could fall into the following areas of life.

- i. It could be a moral breakdown including mishandling of finance or character fault showing up or exposed.
- ii. It can be a tough time that one is going through within the family it could be non-supportive or abusive parents, unfaithful spouse, rebellious children etc.
- iii. It could be a mighty opposition from the people around you including believers or giving into peer pressure and influence of the world around us etc.
- iv. It could also be divinely orchestrated hurdle on your way like the speaking donkey for Balam or a natural disaster or physical illness like what job experienced.

Most times it is we that use our own hands to create speed breakers. Remember that Satan cannot move a hair on your head without prior permission from the Supreme Court in heaven like in the case of Job. But whatever be the speed breakers in your life the Bible says God can turn it around for your good and build it up. Some of them are mere experiences that is given to teach you while many others are meant to discipline you.

It is important for us as Christians to understand the purpose for speed breakers so that we will know how to handle them

1. To slow you down. Sometimes we tend to become time-oriented and aim at getting things done and accomplishing projects in stipulated time that sometimes we try to run ahead of God or his will for our lives. The danger in moving too fast is not just that you will miss the beauty and enjoyment of traveling with God but also in travelling fast, you endanger ignoring, overlooking or clashing against so many lives.

2. To refocus your vision. Often times when we travel fast, we get so caught up with the excitement than the momentum of the ministry or personal lives that we lose sight of our vision and what God has actually called us for. It is when we are traveling the fastest that we are prone to

take most turns and end up in the wrong destination.

3. To play by the rules. Speed breakers in our lives and ministry allow us enough time to think and get deeper into the word of God. It gives us enough room to let God's word confront us with the consistent mistakes in our life of ministry and educate us about the divine biblical principle to be applied to life and ministry. As long as our foundations are in online with the word of God will be able to stand strong even in the toughest of storm raging against our life and ministry.

4. To humble you. Paul mentions about the thorn in his flesh. He said God allow it in his life to keep him humble. God could allow things of the enemy in our lives if that is what it takes to keep us humble. Remember the sin that God hates most is pride especially spiritual pride. God resist the proud and give grace to the humble. Let us not be the ones whom the creator of the world will want to resist but the ones He will want to pour his grace on.

5. To expose our vulnerabilities. Some of these experiences are testing times in our lives trying to tell us what our strength and weakness are; it helps us to avoid a lot of similar experiences in the days ahead.

Wherefore seeing we are also compassed with so great a cloud of witnesses let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily besets us and let us run the race with patience the race that is set before us

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross despising the shame and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. This is a perfect guideline to overcome hurdles and obstacles coming our ways. There are some speed breakers that cannot be categorized as sin that will slow us down. Slowing down is essential and important however that does not mean that we lose the momentum and continue to move slow we have to overcome everything that slows us down

whether sinful or not else we will become stagnant. How do we do it? by keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, on his lifestyle, on his ministry style, on the way he handles relationships, the way he handled storms in his life, the way he handled opposition in his ministry. He is the author and finisher of our faith. Let us understand the speed breakers in our lives, disregarding the shame in it but never failing to press on the upward and heavenly call we have in Christ Jesus.

