



oday we want to talk about: "THE POWER OF SANCTIFICATION". As children of God we can dig deep - Because we are Pilgrims on our way to Heaven. And we want to learn those things that will help us make it to Heaven. When I was Younger, as soon as I became Born Again, I made my desire known to God. "I don't want to be an Ordinary Christian." Is there anybody here tonight who will say the same thing to God and say "Father; I don't want to be Ordinary?" Yes, He will grant your Request in Jesus' Name - Amen. When I said that, what I wanted was Power - The Power of the Holy Spirit. I want to lay hands on the sick and see them healed. I want to see blind eyes opened, deaf ears unstopped, dumb speak, Lame walk, dead rise. I want to be able to just wave my hand and Miracles will happen. That's what I wanted. That is why, like I've told you before; I studied Elijah, Elisha, Peter, Paul and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself very closely -I wanted Power. But it wasn't long before I discovered that God is more interested in the Fruit of the Holy Spirit than in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. I soon discovered as it is written in Matthew 7:15-21, that He said, by their fruit you shall know them .... Not by their Gifts but by their Fruit. I soon discovered as it is written in Matthew 7:22-23, that you could have all the Gifts - You can Perform Miracles, Signs and Wonders. And then on the Last Day God will say, "Depart from me, you workers of iniquity." It is Possible for you to be a World Evangelist - Raising the Dead, Opening Blind Eyes, doing Mighty things and then on the Last Day, you will tell the Almighty God, "but I did all these things for you." And He says, "I don't even know you." When I was Younger, they taught us about what they call "The Three (3) Steps of Faith" - And they based it on Ezekiel 36:24-27. They called it: Salvation, Sanctification and Holy Spirit Baptism. Actually when I Studied the Scriptures closely myself, I found out that they are actually Four (4) Steps, not Three (3).

1. SELECTION: The Step Number one is Selection - Because Jesus Christ Himself said; "no man can come to me except my Father draws him." That you THEME:

## THE POWER OF SANCTIFICATION PASTOR E.A ADEBOYE

BIBLE TEXT: 2 TIMOTHY 2:20-21

are here tonight, Inclusive those reading now it can only be because God has drawn you. And for that alone you should shout hallelujah -Hallelujah.

2. SALVATION: When He has drawn you to the foot of the Cross, then Salvation takes place:

**3. SANCTIFICATION:** When the Blood of Jesus Cleanses from all sins; then Sanctification is supposed to follow. That's when God says, "I will take the Stony Heart out, and give you a Heart of flesh."

**4. BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT:** After you have been Sanctified, then and only then are you supposed to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. So they call it, Steps of Faith: Selection, Salvation, Sanctification and Baptism in the Holy Spirit. In those days, you are expected to have testified to the experience of Salvation, Sanctification, Baptism in the Holy Spirit, before you can sing in the Choir.

Salvation is easy to Measure: When you are saved, it is not going to be long before People will notice. Because: 1. Your Name will Change: Your name will change; you will begin to be called - Son of God, Daughter of God. Because the Bible says in John 1:12 - But as many as received him, to them gave He Power to become the Sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name: Suddenly, you find that your friends who had been calling you by worldly names, "Baba ke, Omo jaiye jaiye (Child Full of Enjoyment)" begin to say, "Ha! Leave him alone o, he is now a Child of God." Your name will Change! 2. Your Accommodation will Change: When you are Born Again, it is not going to be long before you begin to attend Church instead of Club Houses. Your former Minister in the Bar (The Bar Tender) will discovered he has lost a Member of his Congregation because now you go to Church, instead of going to the Bar. ... I am talking of those who got Genuinely Saved. 3. Your Responsibilities will Change: Now you begin to Witness for God. You won't be able to keep quiet - I am talking of how it was when I was Younger. And I believe that is how it will be from now on - Amen. You begin to Witness; and you begin to talk about Jesus Christ; instead of Witnessing for the devil and instead of Witnessing for the Witch Doctor. Instead of saying, "last weekend, I met a herbalist who has swallowed the Oracle"; now You begin to talk about People who got Saved; People who got Healed. You can't keep it down - You can't be Born Again and keep it down. When you are Baptized in the Holy Spirit, it is easy to see: Because, if you are Baptised in the Holy Spirit you will Speak in Tongues. ... It is the evidence that you are Baptised in the Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, Sanctification is difficult to measure - because, it is a matter of the Heart. There is a Change of Heart - The Heart of Stone is replaced with a Heart of Flesh.

Somewhere along the line, I can't really pin point where it happened, People began to jump over Sanctification - They moved from Salvation to the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. You know, it is like:-Salvation is the Foundation of the House.- Holv Spirit Baptism is supposed to be the Roof. - And Sanctification is supposed to be the Walls. But you know quite well, it is Possible to have a Foundation; dodge the Walls; and get to the Roof - Like our Auditorium here. So many Christians end up not even knowing what Sanctification is all about. Then when you ask them, "are you Sanctified?" They say yes! And we don't have a way of measuring it. I mean, like one Young Man heard me speak on "Total Surrender" in Ilorin - After the Service, he came to me, "Daddy, thank you for the Sermon. I surrendered all." I said really? He said, Yes Sir. I said Good! Because he was the only other fellow in the Church at that time who had a car. So I said: Thank God that you have surrendered all; tomorrow we are going somewhere and we need your car for the Journey. He said Ha! But tomorrow is Monday. I said, I know! He said, I need the car to go to the office. And I smiled. I said, we are not going anywhere tomorrow; I just want to show you that you have not Surrendered anything. Sanctification cannot easily be measured because it is an Internal something. So many Christians end up Speaking in Tongues without going through the Process of Sanctification. Today I want to talk to you about: The Power of Sanctification. I want you to please listen carefully, because there are many of us who are not sanctified. You see, it is Sanctification that makes living Holy easy. Because your Original Heart - The Heart you are born with, according to Jeremiah 17:9 is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. The Heart just wants to be wicked - It is as if its very existence depends on Wickedness. According to Luke 6:45, it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.

## SERMON

Matthew 15:19 says, it is out of the heart that all evil thoughts Proceed. Nobody commits Adultery by accident - You think about it first. One Man of God once said to me, "Daddy you are taking this thing too far. Occasionally one will commit a sin without thinking about it. I said is that so? Give me an example - He said, one may not Plan to commit Adultery but he may just fall. I said I see! When you were removing your Clothes, what did you think you were trying to do? You want to go for a swim? Don't let anybody deceive you: you sinned because you thought about it and decided about it. The Bible says in Proverbs 4:23 that you must guard jealously, diligently your heart. Why? Because out of it are the issues of Life. If it is the Old Heart, the one that is desperately wicked; out of it will come evil. That is why God says the only way to help you is take away that Stony Heart and give you a Heart of Flesh. My Prayer is that tonight, you will experience Sanctification - Amen. To make it easy for you to swallow, Sanctification has another meaning: It means, Set Apart for God's Use. In the Bible Text I read to you - 2 Timothy 2:20-21; it said in a big house there are many Vessels; some to honour, some to dishonour. It said it is the Vessel that is sanctified that is met for the Master's use - Set Apart for the Master's use. When we say "Set Apart" - Maybe one way that will make it easy for you to understand is to use the word 'Favourite'. To be sanctified is to become a Favourite of God. I will explain it in a way that I hope God will make it easy for you to understand; In the olden days ,a King was supposed to have many wives - Many times, not of their own choice. I mean, you want to befriend the King so you will go and dash him one of your daughters. In the Scriptures you find the example of Solomon in 1 Kings 11:1-3 - Solomon had Seven hundred (700) Wives, plus three hundred (300) Concubines. When a King had so many wives...By the way, that will explain to you why Palaces were big in those days and with many rooms; because each wife will have her own room. With so many Wives, the Royal Majesty will not be able to "minister" to each wife adequately. So several People helped the king - I am talking about the Olden Days.... All the Royal Fathers here are Wonderful Children of God. So the Head of the Army, the Chief Herbalist, etc helped the Kabiyesi Of all these wives, Kabiyesi (King) will have one that is his Favourite. In my Language, they call her 'Ayo' (Meaning the "Chosen Wife"). Nobody messes around with 'Ayo" - You do so, you lose your head. The Chosen favourite wife sleeps in the same room with the King.

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ARE TRULY SANCTIFIED?

1. You become Intimate with God: When you are sanctified, you become Set Apart for God. No Demon, no devil has the temerity to tamper with you because you are a favourite of God and you are a Vessel unto Honour. The Power of Sanctification is embedded in this Unique Intimacy with God. When you are Truly Sanctified, you have Intimacy with God that other "Casual Christians" don't have. In Numbers 12:5-8 God said; if there is any Prophet among you and I want to speak to him, I can talk to him in Dreams

and Visions. But Moses, I talk to him mouth to mouth. The first time I read that Passage, I thought I read it wrong. I thought God was saying mouth to the ear -No! God is saying mouth to mouth. That's tremendous Intimacy with the Almighty God! When you are sanctified - Listen to me my brothers: because one of my children said to me "Daddy we are not praying that you die soon." I said, even if you Pray, God won't answer. He said "But you are getting Older, tell us some of these Secrets." That is one of the Secrets I am telling you now

2. You hear what others cannot hear: When you are Truly Sanctified, you begin to hear what others cannot hear - Take Note of that! The favorite wife sleeps in the same room as the King; they have discussions in the bedroom that other wives will not hear. According to John 13:21-30, the Lord was sitting down with the Twelve (12) Disciples at a Meal, and He said, one of them would betray him. Everyone was saying who can that be? Who will ever do such a thing? The Lord wasn't answering. The Bible said Peter turned to John, the Disciple that Jesus loved; the favourite among all of them and told him, "Ask Him: if He won't tell anybody, He would tell you." It is there in the Bible. And so John said "Sir. who is the Fellow?" The Bible said Jesus didn't mention a name, He said back to John, "I will show you the fellow. I will take the bread, dip it in the soup and put it in the mouth of the Traitor". Jesus was sitting down with His Disciples and two (2) of them -Himself and the favourite (John) were talking in Codes. There is Information that the Almighty God will only reveal to the Sanctified.

3. You know what others cannot know: When you are sanctified; because of the intimacy Sanctification brings between you and God, you begin to know what others cannot possibly know. Take Moses that I just mentioned; and just imagine, how did Moses know what happened in Genesis Chapter 1? Was Moses alive then? No! Because of his Intimacy with God, God told him, "In the beginning, before you ever came into this world, this is what I did." When you become a favorite of God, you begin to know what others cannot know. For example, we heard a Testimony Last Month at the Holy Ghost Service (July 2024) - A woman wanted to have a Procedure with the Doctors for the fruit of the womb. The Doctors said, how old are you? The lady said Fifty eight (58). Ha! Sorry, you are already three (3) years too old. She came to the Holy Ghost Service - As she was entering the Auditorium God said, that there is someone here, I have reduced your age by five years. She said, Thank You Lord! The following week she went back to the Doctor and said "Doctor, I am only fifty three (53) years old now." The Doctor laughed! "You were Fifty eight (58) last week; now you are Fifty three (53). Who are you kidding?" The Doctor went ahead with the Procedure. You were all here Last Month when she was raising the baby. How did the Man of God know that somebody was just coming in with that Peculiar Problem?

When you are sanctified, you begin to Know what others cannot know.

But what is most important in this issue of the Power

of Sanctification is that;

4. You see what others cannot see:

I. You begin to see what had happened in the Past. Like in 2 Kings 5:20-27, when Gehazi came in to Elisha, that one said, where have you been? He said, "I didn't go anywhere." Elisha said you went somewhere: I saw when you ran after the General. I saw when the General turned round to meet you. I saw everything that happened.... Things that there are no way you possibly could see. God could show you a Picture of what happened in your family years ago that is disturbing your Present. And show you how to deal with it.... You cannot only just see the Past;

II. You can see the Present, in a miraculous way. In 2 Kings 6:8-12, a King wanted to wedge war against the King of Israel; and he's holding the Meeting -Saying, this is where we are going to Camp. And God was showing everything to Elisha. And Elisha said to his King: this fellow is waiting for you there. Don't go that way - First time, second time, third time; accurately. Such that the King of the Enemy's Territory said, there must be a spy here. One of his Servants said, there's no spy here. The one who is leaking the Secret is in his Prayer Room. I can tell you several Stories - If I tell you some of them, maybe some of you would be careful before you come to my Office again.... And you can then begin to see what is yet to happen.

III. You can see into the Future. 2 Kings 7:1-end, at a time when hardship was terrible; when women were beginning to eat their children. A Man of God got up and said: Within twenty four (24) hours, there would be more than sufficient food (Amen). You can go ahead and claim it as a Prophecy - Amen! And whether you believe it or not, I also say Amen!. The God of Elisha must move, so that we will have more than sufficient food - Amen. You can see into the Future! Some of us would remember - Before the Corona virus broke, that God showed us that the world is going to be on a holiday. I told you! Nobody could believe it, until it began - The whole of London, all Streets deserted. America, all Streets deserted.

You can see into the future: But that is not even the Point.

5. You will have a Glimpse of your House in Heaven: The reason you must hunger for Sanctification is because, that must give you an opportunity to have a Glimpse of your house in Heaven. Let me tell you my Brothers and Sisters - If you can just catch a Glimpse of Heaven, you won't need any other Sermon. If you see where you are going - But it cannot be described. In 2 Corinthians 12:2-5, Apostle Paul said - I knew a Man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third Heaven. And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) How that he was caught up into Paradise, and heard Unspeakable words, which it is not Lawful for a man to utter. Of such a one will I Glory: yet of myself I will not Glory, but in mine Infirmities. ...