Christ Apostolic Miracle Ministry Sunday School

Week 11: March 17th, 2024

Topic: The affliction of the righteous – Part 3

Bible Reading: Psalm 34:15-20

Affliction is the result of wickedness

We need to realize that affliction is the product of wickedness. Inasmuch as there are countless wicked people that refuse to change in the world, then suffering will continue to spread unabated. The only way for hardship to subside throughout the world is for the evil doers to repent and change. As long as the immoral people are in positions of authority across the globe distress will know no bound among mankind.

It must be noted that the sinful people are afflicting the uncompromisingly righteous people, and they are taking bribes to deprive the less privileged justice. The bad people who are in control of the States around the globe are cheating and bullying the innocent, and they are exhorting ransoms from the needy. Are you using your position to afflict the righteous? Are you hurting people who do right in any way? Are you taking bribes to do wrong? If any of the answers to these questions is yes; then you are among the wicked people who are afflicting the righteous. The Bible testified to this fact by saying, "For I know your manifold transgressions and your mighty sins: afflicting the just and taking bribes; diverting the poor from justice at the gate." **Amos 5:12.** It is time to stop the persecution of the good people throughout the world, and the right-living people should not be bullied anymore.

<u>Pains of affliction make people seek God:</u> The afflicted are always seething within, and their hearts are always in turmoil. The afflicted are always torn apart by worries and pains. Confusion and uncertainty make the hearts of the afflicted to be troubled and restless; because of their hardships. Invariably, the afflicted have no other choice than to seek God. When the suffering is severe, the mistreated people will have to pray to God for assistance.

The dissatisfied condition of the afflicted force them to cry God for deliverance, because they are hurting; God will then pay attention to the cry of the needy; according to the Book of Job which says, "So that they caused the cry of the poor to come to Him; for He hears the cry of the afflicted." **Job 34:28.** Since the cry of the needy always catches God's attention, cry to Him whenever you are hurt.

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<u>Cry to God during affliction:</u> During hard times, cry to God for assistance and comfort. Whenever you are in distress, ask God to forgive your sins that might have contributed to your predicament. Tell your Maker to consider your troubles and miseries; and forgive your sins. Plead with God to look at your suffering, and pains; in order to take away your sins, and comfort you. Implore God to take a look at your life of distress and hard labor; in order to give you succor; according to the scripture which says, "Look on my affliction and my pain, and forgive all my sins." <u>Psalm</u> <u>25:18.</u>

You need to beg God to have pity on you, and show that He cares about you by coming to your aid. Entreat God to turn to you, and be gracious to you; because you are lonely and afflicted. Pray to God to be merciful to you; because you are weak and hurting; according to the Bible passage which says, "Turn Yourself to me, and have mercy on me, for I am desolate and afflicted." **Psalm 25:16.** You need to beseech God to show you mercy; because you are helpless, overwhelmed, and in deep distress.

During your affliction, it is inevitable for you to plead with your Maker to look upon you, and rectify your situation. Tell God to remember you with good things that will turn your reproaches to glories. Pray to God to expel sorrow, misery, and humiliation from your journey and quickly transform your life. You need to beg God to answer your supplications, and you can make a vow that you know that you can easily redeem.

You can emulate Hanna who prayed to God at Shiloh, and her prayer was answered. The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, "Then she made a vow and said, 'O Lord of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a male child, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and no razor shall come upon his head." 1 Samuel 1:11. We pray that God will quit neglecting you. You will be remembered with good things that will transform your life, and make secret weeping cease in your journey.

Today, God will recompense you for whatever wrong people have done to you. Good things and blessings will replace the curses placed upon you. Your source of affliction will turn to a source of joy. God will do new things in your life that will make you forget your pains and hardships. God will erase all forms of distress from your journey, and you will have every cause to celebrate before this month passes away. Whether Satan likes or not, God will put a smile on your face this year, in Jesus' name.