TIME WITH GOD AUGUST 2007

Speaker: Pastor Solomon A. Folorunsho

1st Day - Friday

Text: II. Cor. 10:3; Rom. 8:11

When you have chosen to live by what God says, the devil tries to stop you by bringing fear. Paul wrote to Timothy, Timothy hear me, all you need is to stir up the gift of God in your life. Just like the generator with fuel in it, you have to stir it up [by putting on the generator] then it gives light. Paul was a man that fought, contended for the souls of people. He even fought with the beast at Ephesus. I don't like to get close to people who are not prayerful, who don't have the flow of God, who don't speak in tongues. I'm not of those who listen to the confession of witches. All the evil spirits from the water, the different cults in the world today, Lucifer is their head and the highest of them all and they all belong to the earth here. The Bible says the earth is God's foot stool. What this means is the devil and all demons are under the feet of God. Jesus and His church sit above all of them; He made us to sit together in heavenly places far above principalities and powers.

When He rose, Jesus gave us authority and power. We are seated in heavenly places, never you begin to think that a witch is higher than you, because you have been risen with Jesus. The Bible says that when we knock it shall be opened unto us. When I am praying, I am knocking. Jesus has won the battle. The devil understands this very well and the only way he gets people is through fear. He (the devil) knows that the Jesus we believers have is greater than him. This place, II Cor.10:3, says though we are human beings and though we have flesh and blood, the battle we fight is not a physical one. We are called by God as his church. "Upon this rock, he built his church – you and I. Behold he gives unto us power to tread on serpent and scorpion, and over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt us".

We pull down the strong hold of satan by the weapons the Lord has given to us. What is a strong hold? It means to hold firmly and very tight to some thing. Some nations, tribes are held bound by some strongholds. I remembered in the 1970s, 1980s and early 1990s there were four brethren in Lagos who stood and were praying. At the same time, some witches were meeting in their coven, planning on how to make blood flow. But as these believers were praying, smoke went from where they were to the coven where those witches were meeting and suddenly they were fainting and could not continue with their meeting. One of them, who was an informant, decided to trace where the smoke came from, that was how he traced it to where the believers were praying. He came to inform the others and they went for revenge. They, (Christians) did not know that their prayers were causing havoc in the kingdom of satan. In this coven they were planning for blood to flow. As they came for attack, they met those believers praying and some of the witches died instantly, the rest of them gave their lives to Christ. What have you done to the witches in your community, village/family? God expects every one of you to be pulling down strongholds. Many of us are much in the flesh, arrange everything how it will look. It got to a time God spoke to me and said "You are much thinking on how much people think about you. Think on what God will use you to do."

The Lord Jesus did not spend hours to cast out a demon, as He came around they just screamed and begged Him to let them go. He only gave them command to leave and they obeyed. This is authority. Tell somebody "Don't ever forget your bible. Everything you want to learn, learn from this bible." Few days ago one of our sisters went to preach to a woman who opened up to receive Christ and as she was praying for her, the woman fell under the Power of God, but she ran to tell me what had happened because she was surprised. Some of you don't know what you have inside. They think it is only pastors that have this power.

Some are praying for a brother who they can lean on, for the arm of flesh will fail you. I want to tell you it is good for two people to be strong. If you put two good together, it will become best, two good to come together to become best. You better build your wife/husband to become best. It will be good for you to be two who rely on God. It is better for you to pray like this: God give me a man who two of us can rely on God. We need to change the thinking of the church. You can be strong, better than you are now in the Lord. Go build your home, don't build your children on how to shoot. Are you training

your children on how to knock down Goliath or are you stirring your children against your wife/husband? God wants to stir the hearts of people.

Rom.8:11, "But if the spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his spirit that dwelleth in you."

Without the Holy Spirit you can not engage in spiritual warfare.

Where the carcass are, that is where the eagles will gather, that means where ever you are, as far as you have the Holy Ghost in you, it will manifest in your life and draw people to you.

If you have the Spirit of God in you, it will quicken up your mortal body. How many of you have felt your body weak and suddenly stirred up? That is the Holy Spirit stirring up your mortal body. We should take note that before anybody will be ordained as a deacon or elder, he must be filled with the Holy Ghost. Fight to be filled with the Holy Spirit! Phillip was full of the Holy Ghost. Stephen was equally full of the Holy Ghost. I want to tell some of you who are ministers here, build up the church, appoint people who are filled with the Holy Ghost, though they may not be learned, not people who when they come to night prayer they turn it to coven. Notice this, certain people know they will die, you try to stir them up but they make you get angry/annoyed.

Why did you go to that group, is it because you want to grow or you joined to impress a brother/a sister? Are you among the people who today they are standing, the next day they are falling? Backsliding means going back to were you were coming from. Where am I going back to? I have power, peace, joy, anointing now that I know Jesus, I won't go back because I don't want to lose any of these things. I didn't give my life to Jesus because of any boy/girl. If that is your reason, it will not last. That is the reason anywhere you are you should be strong. Every perfect gift comes from above. (James 1:17)

When I gave my life to Christ, the first thing I was taught in Foundation Class was not to let filthy words, guile come out of my mouth. Put away foolish talk, guile, filthy words out of your mouth. Pray that every thing that comes out of your mouth will be holy things. Why do you want to show your breast, laps, why are you showing off everything? Some girls dress to seduce men of God to commit sin with them. Tell somebody "I am not for sale. I am the Samson that will not sell myself." These things I mentioned to you are the ways the devil fights believers, the devil can not fight physically, there is an edge around you, the devil wants to control you by what you think, see, those things you see or look may be polluting your spirit and that is what your mind will begin to ponder on. Do you like seeing the opposite sex when they are having their bath, do you like looking at pornographic pictures? Those things affect your spirit. When I gave my life to Jesus, I burnt the ones I was having in my home.

What kind of music do you listen to? One sister got married to a brother who in the night will tune to a radio channel and begin to enjoy listening to those late night blues music. Songs like "I love you Baby, woman, is me..." She came to complain to me what the husband was busy doing late every night. Do you know people will be disappointed when they get to Heaven, if the motive of your giving is from the flesh, you will not have a reward. A sister was always giving a brother things until this brother got married to somebody else and the sister who was giving him things before came and asked the brother to give her back what she has given to him. When somebody gives you something, bless that thing before the person and take. Tell somebody behind you "God knows the address where your blessings are and He will order them to you".

The devil wants to trap you; he wants to get you down. When God called me I had nothing when he spoke to me that I will preach among the whites. There are many of you that God has spoken to and you are the contrary of what God has spoken to you. When I gave my life to Christ I started organizing crusades, I use to go to a village centre, beating empty cans, singing and dancing then this will attract people to gather and I will start preaching but today all that God promised about my ministry is coming to pass. Work towards your dream!

2nd Day - Saturday

MORNING SESSION: It was a time of fasting, seeking the face of God, also intercession for our nation Nigeria.

Evening Session

God told the church to go into the world and preach the gospel. This is not just a department in the church. It is a duty to the whole church.

Jesus did not come to make you a Pentecostal, Catholic or to form any denomination. He came to make you a Christian that is a flaming fire. John said in Matthew 3:11 that Jesus will baptize us with the Holy Ghost and fire. Why? We need the Holy Ghost to help us pray. We need the Holy Ghost to help us propagate the gospel. We need the Holy Ghost to teach us; instruct us and direct us in all things. We need the Holy Ghost to help us do all things. If you put the Holy Ghost aside in the church you are leading, then God is not there and will never be in that church. A church without the power of the Holy Spirit is a dead church.

When you are baptized with Holy Ghost and fire, no witch, cult member, demons or any kind of evil can stand you. You don't know what you have as a true Christian. What you have inside of you can give you the whole world. Jesus wanted to give you the Holy Ghost and fire so that witches, demons and all that belong to the kingdom of darkness will see you and keep quiet. Sinners will see you and be convicted of their sins. They will come to you, repent and give their lives to Jesus.

In Acts 2:1-4 the disciples did not step out until they were filled with the Holy Ghost. They waited at Jerusalem and when they got it, they did much exploit.

More missionaries are going without being baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire. That is why they don't make impact. Jesus never launched out without power. He never launched out without fire. It was when he got that power that he could go for 40 days and 40 nights fasting and prayers, for it was the Holy Ghost that drove him into the wilderness to fast and pray. If you have the Holy Ghost, he will tell you what to do and will lead you where you should go. He that has not the Holy Ghost can not submit to the leading of the Holy Ghost. All you need is to get the Holy Ghost and to develop the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will guide you in everything you do.

Another thing you have to do is to go away from people who make you to waste your time. Cleave to the Holy Spirit and you will finish the work appointed for you by God. Leave those people that are not ready to abide by your calling so that when they go away, their seat will be vacant for those who are ready, the genuine ones, whom God will bring to you later. If you worry much about them you will die fulfilling nothing. Stay in the flow of the Holy Ghost. Let the anointing start working. Through preaching, healing and miracles, people will come. What you just need is the Holy Ghost so that no matter where you are (which could be the remotest village or hamlet) people will travel long distances, tracing you to where you are when you have the anointing.

When you have the fire, when you have the power, you don't need to shout and lose your voice. All you need to do is to speak the word and miracles will happen. Jesus Christ, Peter, Paul and a host of others had the Holy Ghost and fire and they did remarkable things in the lives of people while they were on earth. They are still remembered till today.

God did not send the church out without power. If God, the owner of the church, says you should wait for the endowment of power before you step out and you do not follow that instruction, what are you then? When you have the fire, no fly will come near you. But when you have no fire, demons, witches and sickness can easily come to you. When you have no fire, you will live to commit sin and you will easily commit sin.

We need the fire for evangelism, planting church and to lead the church.

People are forming songs out of what they did for God or experienced with Him. Do you know that you can make history with God, so that others can form songs out of it? If you obey God, you will lose friends who love the world. The world hates you, says evil about you

and persecutes you when you are a true Christian who obeys God to fulfill his mandate. Persecution separates you from the world.

The world seeks to take from you what God has commissioned you to do. People who do not come to contribute to your calling come to take you away from it. Don't consider these people. Take what you have, be bold and step out for Jesus. You will see what God will do through you.

God put fire on the disciples that were waiting at the upper room in Jerusalem and they went everywhere spreading the fire (Acts.2:1-4). If we don't do anything, the devil will be celebrating. Let us take away the celebration from the devil with the fire that we have. The world is waiting for us. We need the Holy Ghost and fire to change the world.

The world is dead and they are lost. Even the church needs revival because it is dying. God wants to make Christians flaming fire, not just church members but to raise people who can make a difference, get people saved, baptised, delivered, etc. That is why Jesus commissioned the church to all the nations of the whole world. Matthew 28:19-20.

The reason why we have a weak church is because people try to figure things out from their head instead of allowing the Holy Ghost to do it.

Be concerned about what you have been called to do and ask yourself where you are in that job. Develop the gift of the Spirit. Stay with the Holy Ghost and with fire; go away from people who have no divine mandate. God did not send the church out without power, without equipping them. You need the Holy Ghost to excel in your ministry and all that you do.

3rd Day - Sunday

Morning Session: ADVANCING THE KINGDOM

When believers say the devil is defeating them, it is because they lack that power, there is something wrong in their lives. If the devil is stopping your advancement, it is because you refuse to advance with God. One man - Phillip walked down to Samaria, full of the Holy Ghost and got the whole city saved. One man took the fire from Jerusalem to Samaria. He had nothing but he had fire. He was not among the full time ministers.

Philip took the City from Simon the sorcerer and witch who bewitched and enslaved all the inhabitants of Samaria with his sorcery. Philip was not a minister neither did he go with public address system nor did he take special permission from his pastors before he left. He left as been led by the Holy Ghost, demonstrated God's power and delivered the people. Because he went to the city with fire, he converted the whole city and baptized them as well. He later went to tell his pastors at Jerusalem. They came and strengthened the work. This shows that the work is not for only ministers. It takes the whole church to do the work of God.

Nothing can stop a true church of God from moving. Persecution cannot stop the church but will rather make it to spread. Acts 11:19-26.

You cannot go and pastor a church (as the case of Barnabas was) with Holy Ghost and fire and the church will reduce. The church increases. You cannot be full of the Holy Ghost and while you are sent to a place, you start complaining.

If a church is growing and the leadership is not growing in the Holy Ghost and power, the church is growing only in number. In this case, the leaders are after other things and not after God's power.

The church at Antioch was established by church members and not ministers. The Apostles and elders at Jerusalem sent Barnabas to go and pastor them. Barnabas later found Paul and they both built the church to rapid spiritual growth. They were later prayed for and sent out to fulfill what God has called them to do (Acts 13:1-4). People who don't believe in you and your leadership cannot advance the kingdom of God with you. Those that believe in you and in what God has called you to do will join you to further the work of the kingdom of God even when they are not ministers or workers in the

church.

"Pastors and leaders, go and work with those who recognize you as their Pastor".

Paul said even though you have 10,000 instructors, you have only one father and I am the one. (1 Cor.4:15). No one can reject his earthly father no matter what the case may be. Those who are actually saved should join their father in the Lord to advance the kingdom. Join your spiritual father to build what God has given him and you to do.

If you run after the world, you will expire with the world. All that is in the world will pass away. Those who you are despising will be used by God and then you will later regret. When you disobey God, you come under the devil and the devil never blesses you but brings destruction across your way. Never look down on yourself. When you travel, for what reason do you travel? Is it to turn many to hell or to spread the word of salvation? The devil or persecution cannot stop a true church of God but will rather make the Word spread. Acts 11:19-26. The word "Christian" was not given to us by God but by unbelievers in Antioch and the church there was not planted by the full time ministers but by the members of the church at Jerusalem. People who refuse to do God's will are always a tool in the hand of the devil to fight those who are doing it. God wants to use us to advance his Kingdom. You can only advance the kingdom of God when you are full of the Holy Ghost. People who don't believe in your leadership and vision will not advance the Kingdom under your ministry. It is those who believe in your ministry, leadership and vision that will advance the Kingdom of God with you. Work with those that believe in what you are doing!

Afternoon Session: LORD'S SUPPER

As we are taking the Lord's Supper, this is a sign of one that partakes in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. If you are born-again, a believer, you have the right to eat of the bread. The church should always do this in remembrance of his death till he comes; always take the bread to show that it is the body that was broken. If you are a true believer, you ought not to be exempted from this. The same thing he did with the wine. It is the blood that washes us from all our sins, so if you take the wine, it shows that you are reflecting what the blood did for you and to show that you no longer have any sin in you. It is a blood that brings flushing. When we do this all the time, we are enforcing the authority of Jesus and our authority over the devil. We are showing that we are free and delivered. We are remembering what Jesus did for us on the cross.

And because of this, a lot of things always happen. People become healed, filled with the Holy Spirit, restored and revived.

In 1.Cor.11:23-34 Jesus told us that we should take the Lord's Supper in remembrance of him to show his death till he comes. But one thing you have to know when you want to participate in it, you have to examine yourself first before you can take it. If there is any sin in your life or if you have grudges, unforgiveness, bitterness etc. against anybody, you can not take the bread and the wine because verses 27 and 29 are telling us that if we take the Lord's Supper unworthily, we make ourselves guilty of the blood and the body of the Lord and we eat and drink judgement to ourselves (Vs.27: "Wherefore, whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord."; vs.29: "For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."). So if you know you are having anything against anybody, you have to meet that person and ask him or her for forgiveness. Those who really love God, those who fear the Lord and honour his blood and body will not be proud to go and do that. Those who want to enter Heaven will humble themselves and go put everything right. If the person you have to ask for forgiveness is there, just go meet him or her. If the person is not there, then settle everything with God first in your heart and make sure that immediately you get home, you meet that person to ask for forgiveness. If you do that, the forgiveness of God will also flow in your life and you will experience great joy, peace in your heart.

God bless you in Jesus Name!