

*Welcome to The Citadel Global Community Church where stars are born and great futures are created.
Welcome to the home of consummate and conscientious nation builders whose hearts are open to the plans of the Holy Spirit, and in whose lives all things godly are possible because we choose to win by righteousness.*

THE DILEMMA OF SICK NATIONS AND THE REDEPTIVE POWER OF THE CROSS

*...understanding why a generation goes into captivity
and the posterity that rebuilds the ancient landmark*

By Pastor 'Tunde Bakare

Seeing Through the Rock

The fact that we still pray for the healing of our nation, Nigeria, is an indication that God is not finished with us yet as a country. There is still hope in our future, and there is a future in that hope. So, I always like us to be on the same page when we pray because different prayer groups and ministries also pray. But from ministry to ministry, you hardly find the same prayer points.

The reason we pray differently is because we see from different perspectives. The Bible says God showed His ways to Moses, but His acts to the children of Israel (**Psalm 103:7**). If Moses did not have the privilege of God hiding him in the cleft of the rock so he could see from the perspective of that rock, he would see as the rest saw. But he saw differently, he knew differently, he trusted God differently, and he acted differently. While that generation

perished in the wilderness, not only did Caleb and Joshua make it to the Promised Land, but Moses also, although Moses' ministry ended at Jordan (**Numbers 34, Deuteronomy 34:1-12**).

Rebuilding Ancient Ruins Through the Price Paid at Calvary

Many nations on earth are not healthy. Although some nations are making tangible progress regarding infrastructure development and GDP, many people are not even concerned about the GDP. All they want is to have good roads, good electricity, good hospitals, available and affordable food, job creation, and material resources. Most people do not want more than those things in life. Once they get those things, they are content. They are uninterested in other things, including politics. Christians are the first to pray if there is a crisis in a nation, city, or state. That looks to me like a fire-brigade approach. They should have done things that

would have prevented the crisis, though they are part of the problem.

In **Psalm 22:1-2, 16-21, 27-31**, the Bible talks about the suffering of the Messiah and the posterity that would praise His works. Part of the Psalm was intended for immediate application at the time it was written, while the rest has a futuristic application. It serves as a portrait of the suffering Messiah and the praise for the posterity that would result from His suffering. So, I do not care how sick any nation is; if God can get a people who can come to Him and yield themselves to Him, He will rebuild every ancient ruin through them. It would look difficult and impossible, but if God can find a people, it does not matter how ruined a nation is; it can be rebuilt because the price was paid at Calvary.

A Posterity That Praises God's Works

God has an expected end for the suffering of Christ, beyond His dying for our sins and dying as us on the cross of Calvary. God took an irreplaceable seed and sowed it on earth, knowing full well that He would outwit His enemies and bring mankind back to Himself.

God has an expected end that all families of nations would come to

(Cont'd on page 2)

WHO WE ARE

"We are a people sent to the nations, governments and powers of the earth as the voice of reason, possibilities and hope. We are the instrumentality of catalysing change and centralising God in the governance of nations. Our mandate is to enforce the Kingdom of God over the kingdoms of this world that have become the Kingdoms of our Lord and his Christ. We are men and women, boys and girls who love God and love people and who serve God and serve people. We always seek to give hope and to be at the forefront of driving change both spiritually and governmentally. We exist, primarily, as a fully functional church and conceptually as a governmental force for change, good governance and leadership."

THE CGCC CREDO

- ➔ Love God, Love People
- ➔ Serve God, Serve People
- * By doing the above, we glorify God individually and corporately.

OUR COMMITMENTS

- ➔ Wholehearted Worship of God
- ➔ Prayer
- ➔ Ministry of the Word
- ➔ Evangelism
- ➔ Seeing People Grow Deeper (Discipleship)
- ➔ Helping People Build Vital Relationships with Other Believers

OUR CORE LEADERSHIP VALUES

- ➔ Compassion
- ➔ Intelligence
- ➔ Responsibility
- ➔ Judgement
- ➔ Influence



THE DILEMMA OF SICK NATIONS AND THE REDEMPTIVE POWER OF THE CROSS

...understanding why a generation goes into captivity and the posterity that rebuilds the ancient landmark (Cont'd from page 1)

worship before Him, whether ethnic nationalities or emerging nations from ethnic nationalities. He is the Governor among the nations (**Psalm 22:28**). The psalmist says a generation shall serve Him and they will declare His works so that the next generation will not be without the value system of the previous generation.

Unfortunately, we have no sense of history in this part of the world. The psalmist says that if the expected end of the Lord is going to be accomplished, a posterity must serve Him that will be able to carry the service and value system to those who are yet to be born (**Psalm 145:4**).

The Gateway to Captivity Is the Neglect of Value Systems

In any society where values are not passed from generation to generation, at a point in time, the subsequent generation will go into captivity. A generation has risen in Nigeria that has broken ranks with the founding fathers of our ethnic nationalities; they don't have values or believe in their values. They have substituted corruption, avarice, and greed for the values of selflessness, discipline, and visionary leadership. Therefore, at our expense, they live as larger than life. Consequently, the next generations that are disconnected, because of their present disposition, would remain in captivity.

Nigeria's founding fathers had values. The moment there is a disconnect where one generation cannot praise His works to another generation, a generation would go into captivity (**Proverbs 22:28; 23:10-11**). In Nigeria today, it is unfortunate that the value systems of our founding fathers are gone. The standards they set have been discarded, while the church is at the forefront of this campaign for easy money and all kinds of schemes.

Breaking of Ranks Leads to Captivity

Whether in the judiciary, legislature, the executive arm of government, or within the priesthood, any man who takes more than his fair share will incur the wrath of God (**Proverbs 23:10-11**). Those who have not been fathered will murder the subsequent generation. That is why the Bible warns against associating with such people, as they lack value systems (**Proverbs 30:11-16**). If the characteristics outlined in **Proverbs 30:11-16** are present in the leaders of a nation, such a nation is ruined, because they will never be satisfied or declare that it is enough.

There is a generation that will discard the value systems of the previous generation. They want a fast life, they live on the fast lane, and they want everything like yesterday. They may get it, but it will destroy them. This is the dilemma of sick nations. Values are not transmitted from generation to generation; so, they discard previous values and bring in greedy values full of avarice and all kinds of greed that are symptoms of perversion and corruption. Before long, what belongs to all will be cornered by a few, and the rest will be in captivity. Once a generation breaks ranks with the previous generation and discards its value systems, the generation in between is led into captivity.

The Bible records that there were fourteen generations from Abraham to David. But from David to going into captivity in Babylon, there were also fourteen generations. They discarded the value systems of the previous generations (**Matthew 1:1-6, 17**). Solomon was the son of David, but he built the Mount of Corruption in Israel (**2 Kings 23:13**). So, the slow pace into captivity began when the likes of Solomon became so rich that silver was considered as granite in Israel while the people were under oppression. Then, from captivity in Babylon until Christ were another fourteen

OUR 4-DIMENSIONAL OPERATIONAL DYNAMICS

- Church-in-the-House
- Church-in-the-Community
- Church-in-the-City
- Church-in-the-Cloud.

OUR 4-DIMENSIONAL GROWTH DYNAMICS

- To grow up.
- To grow big.
- To grow very rich.
- To grow together.

generations. In all, there were twenty-eight generations in captivity either in their land or in a foreign land. That is the parable of Nigeria because we have discarded value systems, there is no continuity, and we are not building on the standards that others accomplished in their days.

Be Determined to Restore Ancient Landmark

The old values of merit and social justice can be restored when people who desire such come to God (**Psalm 44:1-8**). A generation must rise that will bring back the value systems—the ancient landmark which the founding fathers set (**Proverbs 22:28; 23:10**). The Bible emphasises the importance of respecting established boundaries and not altering them. “Do not move the ancient landmark that your fathers have set.” This principle applies to both physical property lines and the moral or societal boundaries set by previous generations.

God can deliver us from the greedy generation. It is time for the people to stop groaning in the midst of plenty. It is time for Nigeria to be delivered from internal colonialism and captivity (**Psalm 144:1-8, 11**). Those who have become mountains of corruption and think nobody can remove them, God can. There is no power monster that God cannot tame. The intention of God in sending Jesus to the cross is that all families of the nations will come to Him and worship before Him. He can deliver us from generational conflicts and the territorial preservation of the wicked, provided that the people are determined to praise His works in their generation. That is the redemptive power of the cross.

The message was preached on April 4, 2012