

*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.*

DISOBEDIENCE CAN COST YOU YOUR DREAMS

... avoiding pitfalls on your way to the Promised Land

By Pastor Tunde Bakare

Doing It in God's Way

Dreams are God-given, and God has a plan for their fulfilment, as He wants to bring every dream to pass. He aims to translate them from the realm of dreams into reality. However, there is one thing that can prevent you from achieving those precious dreams—your disobedience.

Moses was a great leader of the people, following God every inch and every step of the way, carrying out His commandments as instructed. But in **Numbers 20:1-12**, something happened to him. Moses obtained water from the rock, but he did not do it in the way God instructed him. As far as God is concerned, that is disobedience.

Beyond Meekness

Considering the track record of Moses in the Bible—his leadership abilities and his sensitivity to God's voice—the Bible describes him as the meekest

man on earth (**Numbers 12:3**). Moses, with a record of obedience, failed when it came to the incident at the water of Meribah. What could have driven Moses to such an act of disobedience that cost him the realisation of his dream to lead the people into the Promised Land?

The Danger of Murmuring

If you consider the context, you will see that Moses was upset with the people. Sometimes we say a church is like the pastor. But the truth is, the pulpit can only do so much—the pew can still cause trouble. The church is made up of people from different backgrounds and with varied attitudes. I have never seen a church like Moses' church. It was full of complainers and murmurers. They cried and whined all the time about everything (**Exodus 17:1-7; 15:23-25, Numbers 11:4-6, 10-23; 21:5**). When they spoke against God, saying, "Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?" God had to prove His power by sending quail to meet their needs. Yet they

complained about the quail (**Numbers 11:31-35**). They grumbled about everything until God declared that those who murmured against Him would not enter the Promised Land, and they began to die from snake bites (**Numbers 14:26-35; 21:4-6, 1 Corinthians 10:10**).

When Excuses Are Not Tenable

Those complainers and murmurers led Moses to the point where he became upset, and certain things began to manifest (**Numbers 20:10**). You cannot stand before God and claim that your congregation or someone else made you do things you should not have done. It is not tenable because God made you a free moral agent. You choose to do what you want to do because you want to do it. I am not suggesting that there will be no peer pressure, difficulties, or challenging circumstances, but even in the midst of the storms, you can maintain your peace.

The same Moses who told the children of Israel to stand still and see the salvation of the Lord was the same person who called the people of God rebels (**Exodus 14:13; 15:22-25, Numbers 20:10**). When you are upset, you begin to do the exact opposite of what God wants you to do. As a matter of fact, there will always be situations

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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



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and circumstances that will crop up in your life to upset you. Being upset is natural; it is what you do when you are upset that can cost you your dreams.

The moment Moses became upset, he spoke to the people instead of speaking to the rock as God commanded him. That was his problem. If he had just carried out what God said and ignored them, he would not have been in a mess. But rather than speaking to the rock, he ended up speaking to the people, and he struck the rock twice (**Numbers 20:11**). Whenever you are upset, you take things out of context and perspective; you do what you normally would not do. You are still conscious of your old man, who is crucified with Christ (**Romans 6:6**); and you become abusive. One way to upset the devil is to ignore him. But if you have not mastered how to ignore him, he will always upset and sidetrack you.

You Cannot Put God in a Box

One of the reasons Moses struck the rock the second time was because God had instructed him to do it that way before. When they exited Egypt and entered the wilderness, the first miracle God performed was related to water. When they reached Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah because it was bitter. God showed Moses a tree and told him to cut a stick from the tree and cast it into the waters to make it sweet. The stick represents the cross (**Exodus 15:22-27**).

Another time God provided water was when He instructed Moses to strike the rock, and water came out (**Exodus 17:6**). The Bible states that the Rock was Christ (**1 Corinthians 10:4**). God knew that Christ would only die once, and He would not need to be struck twice. However, Moses was so accustomed to how God had acted in the past that he was unaware of the new victory plan God had given him. You cannot put God in a box.

God Is Not Monotonous

Another instance where God provided water for them was when they reached a place without water and saw a dry well. God instructed them to sing around the well. As they began singing, water started to spring from it (**Numbers 21:16-18**). God is not monotonous; He is a God of variety. He can give you fresh instructions that He has never given you before (**Mark 10:46-52, John 9:1-6**). Do not put God in a box. It is a trap that can lead to disobedience in your life and cost you your dream.

Stop Drawing Attention to Yourself

God can bring that dream to pass, but you are the one getting in His way. Moses drew attention away from God to himself. When God is using you, you can reach the point of thinking you are the one doing the work. That is dangerous! That is why, in the church today, people get into things that are not so wise, where men stop being men and become great men of God. Moses was a victim of this. He was so accustomed to God's authority that he thought he could exercise it independently of God (**Numbers 20:10**).

God Is a God of Principles

In **1 Kings 3:1-4**, Solomon thought that the quickest way to have peace was to make peace with everybody at all costs. So, he married Pharaoh's daughter (**1 Kings 9:1-9; 11:1-8**). But when he became old, his wives turned his heart away from God, serving the gods of those women. In **Matthew 6:28-33**, Jesus makes a striking comment about Solomon, saying that all the glory of Solomon was not greater than the grass of the field.

The Hall of Faith

When you check the Hall of Faith, Solomon's name is missing. It matters whose name appears there. When your race ends, will you be rewarded? Your

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.

disobedience will cost you your dreams. It was Solomon who lost the kingdom and caused the children of Israel to be scattered, which led to the kingdom's division. As a result of disobedience, he broke what his father, David, had built. Every act of disobedience will cost you your dreams. The same fate befell King Saul. He ended up consulting the witch of En Dor (**1 Samuel 13:1-14; 15:1-34; 28:3-25**).

Your Response to Chastisement Matters

When God rebuked Moses for his disobedience, he responded with godly character. He did not whine or mumble. He did not even think about himself any longer. He became selfless, even in the midst of chastisement (**Numbers 27:12-20**). Because of his remorsefulness and change of attitude, God not only allowed him to see the Promised Land but also stepped into it when he stood on the Mount of Transfiguration with Jesus Christ (**Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-8, Luke 9:28-36**).

Your attitude towards chastisement could determine whether you will completely lose it or still receive it. If you obey God and humbly admit your wrongs while it is called "today," God can still restore your dreams. The names of David and Moses appear in the Hall of Faith, but you will not find the likes of King Saul and King Solomon because they preferred dignity over deliverance. You have a choice in this matter. The conclusion is that you should fear God and keep His commandments (**Ecclesiastes 12:13**).

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