

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.

# FROM DISTRESS TO DESTINY

*...understanding the hidden paths that lead to triumph*

*By Pastor "Tunde Bakare*

## Living in the "Now" Dimension

In **Matthew 23:37-39**, Jesus lamented over Jerusalem, declaring that those He longed to gather would not see Him again until they could say, *"Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord."* He was quoting **Psalm 118:25-26**, referring to a generation that would strip God's word of its futuristic dimension and bring His promises into their present reality. That generation is now.

While I was praying in preparation for this message, the Lord gave me a revelation. I saw Jesus on the cross between two thieves. It was as though I was there on the very day He was crucified. The one on the left mocked Him, saying, *"If You are who You say You are, deliver Yourself and us."* The other rebuked him and said, *"Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."* Those two thieves represent our two greatest

enemies: our past and our future.

The mocking thief symbolises the weight of our guilt and the demand for deliverance from what we deserve. The repentant one represents our future: the hope of what is to come. But Jesus' reply, *"Today, you shall be with Me in Paradise,"* transcended both. In essence, He declared, *"I am not only your past or your future; I am your now."*

So, the Lord was telling the people in **Matthew 23:37-39** that they would not see Him move in their situation until they could strip His promises of their futuristic dimension and bring them into their present reality, because *"all the promises of God in Him are Yes and Amen"* (**2 Corinthians 1:20**). Faith is now. You can step into that dimension now (**Hebrews 11:1**). God is looking for a generation that will strip His word of its futuristic dimension and bring it to the "Now" dimension.

## Turning Prophecy into Apostolic Action

In **Psalm 118:1-29**, David could rejoice and be glad in the day the Lord had made, not because everything was perfect, but because he had gone through seasons of distress, hatred, warfare, and conspiracy. But when he took a prophetic word and turned it into an apostolic activity, that became his turning point.

In **1 Samuel 21:10-15**, David found himself in a desperate situation. This is the one who was declared the king of the land and who killed Goliath. His trouble began when the women began to sing his praise (**1 Samuel 18:7**). His insecurity in the life of Saul began to manifest; Saul wanted to kill him, so he fled to Gath. But when Achish, the king of Gath, recognised him and talked about his heroic achievement, particularly regarding the killing of Goliath, the Bible says David took it to heart. So, he had to feign madness. And when they mistook him for a madman, he thanked his God and escaped to the cave of Adullam (**1 Samuel 22:1-23**).

## 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."



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### 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
- ➔ Loving God and Loving People
- ➔ Serving God and Serving People

### OUR CORE LEADERSHIP VALUES

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

# FROM DISTRESS TO DESTINY

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(Cont'd from page 1)

## Adullam: The Forge of Destiny

At Adullam, his relatives and four hundred distressed, indebted, and discontented men joined him. God permitted David's trials so that these broken men could find purpose through him. In that crucible of affliction, they were transformed into mighty men of valour. Adullam reminds us that greatness is forged in caves, not palaces (**1 Samuel 22:1-23**). How did they become mighty men?

## The Price of Covenant Loyalty

That you are anointed does not mean those who help you will not face trials. Those who stand with God's generals often pay a high price. An entire village of priests was wiped out just because their leader, Abiathar, identified with David (**1 Samuel 22:20-23; 22:19**). This is real Christianity and the real move of God. Whenever God is moving, His generals are often found in the cave.

What makes people covenant partners is not just when things are going well. It is when things are going down the steep. Covenant loyalty carries a price. True partnership is tested not in prosperity but in adversity. Abishai, one of David's warriors, risked everything and later occupied a prominent position in his kingdom. Though the cost was high, David accepted responsibility for the loss and never forgot his loyal men (**2 Samuel 23:18-19**). Real covenant relationships are sealed in sacrifice, not convenience.

## Keilah: The Crucible of Character

As David was moving from distress to destiny, he encountered Keilah—a lesson in betrayal. After he saved the city from the

Philistines, the same people were ready to deliver him to Saul (**1 Samuel 23:1-13**). Every believer will face a “Keilah moment,” when those you helped turn against you. Even after cutting Saul's robe, David's heart smote him. Every nation's crisis, including the Church's, traces back to failed leadership. Leadership without integrity ruins purpose (**1 Samuel 24:5-6; 26:9**). God is more interested in developing His nature in you than in simply prospering you.

## Different Journeys, One God

When we look at the life of Joseph, we see a man moving from prison to the palace (**Genesis 41:14-16**). But not all of us will love it when we consider the life of Peter, moving from Pentecost to prison (**Acts 12:3-17**). It does not matter how it happens; both journeys were orchestrated by the same God. He is working out something on the inside of us. The trials of Keilah—disappointments, debts, discontentment, and distress—are often divine tools shaping us for destiny. We have this treasure in earthen vessels (**2 Corinthians 4:7**).

The road may be rough and tough. The wind may blow, and the storm may rage. The boat may be sinking. But if Jesus is on board, we are not going to drown. Even if you are an underdog today, just take it easy. If your destiny is in the palace, nobody can frustrate God's plan and purpose.

## When Loyalty Is Rewarded by Legacy

David's followers grew from four hundred to six hundred after the battle of Keilah. They endured wildernesses, deserts, and caves until David finally became king (**1 Chronicles 11**). The crown upon the son of Jesse marked the fulfilment of divine purpose, yet not all his men became kings.

## 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.

Their transformation into mighty men came through loyalty and courage.

When David faced the Jebusites in Jerusalem, they mocked, saying, “*You shall not come here.*” Yet his men risked their lives to conquer the city and fetch water for their king (**2 Samuel 5:6-7, 1 Chronicles 11:17-19**). Their bravery and devotion inscribed their names in Israel's history. True greatness is born not of comfort, but of courage, sacrifice, and covenant loyalty.

## Different Paths, One Purpose

Whether your journey mirrors Joseph's rise from prison to the palace (**Genesis 41:14-16**) or Peter's trials from Pentecost to prison (**Acts 12:3-17**), know this: God is working something deep in you.

Jesus' message still resounds: your condition will change when you catch the revelation of “*Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.*” Faith is not delayed hope; it is active conviction. The “Now” dimension is where prophecy becomes purpose and revelation becomes reality.

When life drives you into Adullam, God is shaping your destiny. When betrayal meets you at Keilah, He is refining your character. When loyalty costs you, He is writing your name into His story. From distress to destiny, God is still working in the *now*.

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