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THE PRACTICALITIES OF KINGDOM ABUNDANCE (3) *How important is firstfruits to God* By Pastor 'Tunde Bakare

2026: OUR YEAR OF FRUITFUL LABOUR | 2 Chronicles 15: 7

- You have heard repeatedly about the significance of firstfruits. People have manufactured their own firstfruits, saying the first salary you earn in the new year, the first month of the year, is your firstfruit. The Bible does not teach that. That is an extra-biblical interpretation of the Word.
- What thrills me most about kingdom abundance is the connection between giving and receiving, as well as the law of harvest established by God in the days of Noah (**Genesis 8:15-22**).
- Sometimes it looks like your giving is more than your receiving, and so you begin to doubt what exactly is wrong. God's word is true. If I believe in giving and receiving, and it appears that the more I give, the less I receive, something is wrong.
- In the New Testament, Paul emphasises how giving and receiving are connected to the law of harvest (**Galatians 6:6-10**).
- Why is Noah's earth more special than the chaotic or flooded earth? It is because Noah was a just man in his generation (**Genesis 7:1**).
- If the law of harvest will ever function in your life, your giving must be rooted in grace.
- Since the fifth earth is Noah's earth and Noah found grace in the eyes of God, it is now crystal clear that if your giving will ever move God to bless you with His kingdom abundance, such giving must be anchored in grace (**Romans 15:14-16**).
- Better things that God has for you are that you eat, drink, rejoice, and do good. The moment you make up your mind that on a daily basis you will do good to somebody, you have already entered the realm of the anointed Christ and His

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anointing (**Acts 10:38**). But you need grace for your giving to activate the law of harvest.

- If you take grace out of your offering, it will be an insult to God because you are trying to give Him what He has not given you. If it is not a by-product of grace, it cannot activate the law of harvest.
- Not all offerings are acceptable to God. For instance, both Cain and Abel offered sacrifices to God. However, God respected Abel and his offering and did not respect Cain and his offering (**Genesis 4:5**).
- If you want to access kingdom abundance, you need to begin to look at the source of what you are offering to God. If it is out of embezzlement, corruption, or kickbacks, its size and magnitude cannot impress God because if it is not anchored in grace, it does not move God (**2 Corinthians 8:1-9**).

- Grace can be intentionally transmitted into a local church. If we are to function in grace, we must receive the process of grace, and from that standpoint, offer to God what will attract His kingdom abundance.
- If any offering is not a free-will offering, it is not acceptable to God. If you manipulate people, cajole them, and try to read Scripture upon Scripture to compel them to give, they will give out of necessity or compulsion.
- You cannot seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness without giving yourself to God. It means nothing to God. What can you give to God to impress Him?
- The moment grace is withdrawn, what follows grace is grass. If you do not operate in grace, you will end up in disgrace. You either receive the grace in vain or you frustrate the grace (**2 Corinthians 6, Galatians 2:20-21**).

- Based on **Genesis 8:20-22**, seedtime and harvest is a universal law applicable in every domain on the earth, wherever there is cold and heat, winter and summer, as well as day and night. So, for as long as the earth remains with those elements in place, seed time and harvest shall never cease.
 - In **Genesis 8:22**, seedtime precedes the harvest. However, between seedtime and the harvest, some important factors must take place in order for the law of harvest to be set in motion.
 - There is a time element involved. There is also effort, or the precious labour of the sower in that time frame. One of the parables of the kingdom told by Jesus encapsulates this truth (**Mark 4:26-29**).
 - The process of growth in which the earth yields crops by itself is three-dimensional. First, the blade, then the head.
- Thereafter, the full grain in the head. No wonder harvest is also three-dimensional: thirty-fold, sixty-fold, and hundred-fold.
- Note that it is when the grain ripens that the man immediately puts in the sickle because the harvest has come.
 - In the parable in Mark 4:26-29, there are four major factors involved. Number one is the God factor. Number two is the man factor. Number three is the ground factor. And number four is the time factor.
 - The God factor is all-encompassing. It is four-dimensional: Number one—He created the earth. Number two—He created man. Number three—He gave seed to the sower. And number four—our times are in His hands.
 - The man factor is to scatter the seed on the ground and harvest it when it ripens. The



What do you think is the expectation of God after the harvest has come, since He created the earth, He created man, He gave seed to the sower, and the times are in His hands? So, when the harvest comes, He expects first and foremost the firstfruits of that harvest. That is what it means to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness (**Matthew 6:33**).



ground factor is to ensure that the seed germinates and produces the blade, the head, and the grain. The time factor includes night and day when all these processes take place.

- If the God factor is four-dimensional—He created the earth, He created man, He gave seed to the sower, and our times are in His hands—why are you so frustrated, working like an elephant and eating like an ant? It is because you have taken over God's assignment, taken over the ground

assignment, and want to be a self-made man.

- If you have found grace in the sight of God and your giving is rooted in grace, leave God to work. He knows how to pay you in due season. For in due season we shall reap, if we do not faint (**Galatians 6:9**).
- But when you are stressed and full of all kinds of things to make things happen overnight, you get into trouble. The tree that grew in one night died the same night.
- What do you think is the expectation of God after the harvest has come, since He created the earth, He created man, He gave seed to the sower, and the times are in His hands? So, when the harvest comes, He expects first and foremost the firstfruits of that harvest. That is what it means to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness (**Matthew 6:33**).

- What God smelled in Noah's offering is not the seed; it is the fruit. It was God who gave all the animals to Noah. If Noah had returned those animals to God, he would be giving seed back to the One who gave him seed.
- Noah fed the animals and sustained them while in the ark (Genesis 6: 21). By the time the flood was over, Noah offered back to God what he had received from God. He had expended labour. It is that labour that constitutes his firstfruits.
- Learn to put God first in your life in everything you do. It begins with the fear of God, especially when no one is watching. When you live your life in such a way that your private life, your secret life and your public life all line up, you become a perfect man indeed.
- If you are perfect in your words and in your deeds, nothing can stop you. You become an unstoppable man.



PRAYER POINTS

1. Lord, help me to know Your grace, understand how to operate in it, and never frustrate Your grace in my life.
2. In the name of Jesus, I will not receive the grace of God in vain. Father, let Your grace work powerfully in every area of my life, producing the results You have ordained for me.
3. Father, just as Noah found grace in Your sight, let me also find favour before You. May Your grace distinguish me and cause me to walk in Your divine purpose.
4. Father, let everything I do be anchored in Your grace, so that my sacrifices, service, and giving will be acceptable to You and activate the law of harvest in my life.
5. Father, I thank You that none of us, young or old, will be frustrated. May we all partake of the grace of Christ and flourish in all that we do, in Jesus' mighty name. Amen.