

## **Shalom, servant of God!**

It is another day granted to us by grace a gift of life so let us come together to reflect on the words of life, which are the very foundation of our existence here on earth.

When we read the Bible, we see how God raised up many judges in different periods after the Israelites were delivered from slavery in Egypt. Each judge came with a unique anointing and divine purpose: **to bring God's people back to the right path** to the place where they truly belonged.

God would anoint an individual with a **special oil (symbolic of the Holy Spirit)** to rise and confront Israel's enemies, who had taken them captive. Through that anointed deliverer, the people would find **temporary rescue**, though their freedom was often short lived.

**Moses** Signs, Wonders, and Judgments

God anointed **Moses** with power for signs, wonders, and plagues. Through him, Pharaoh's pride was brought low, and Egypt was humbled (Exodus 7-12). As a result, the Israelites were released and began their journey to the Promised Land to worship God.

Yet even though mighty signs and miracles were performed, the people **did not receive full and lasting deliverance** their hearts remained enslaved to sin. True spiritual freedom had not yet come.

#### Gideon The Anointing of Courage

Later, in the days of **Gideon**, when Israel was again under oppression due to their sins, God raised Gideon with the **Spirit of might and bravery** (Judges 6). He defeated the Midianites with the sword. Though this brought temporary peace, soon after, the people **returned to rebellion**.

#### Samson Physical Strength

**Samson** was anointed with supernatural **physical strength** to deliver Israel from the Philistines. Though powerful, his victories were also **short term**. The root problem the sin within the hearts of the people remained unresolved.

Throughout the book of Judges, we see **over 12 judges** come and go. Each brought temporary relief, but none could provide lasting redemption.

**Solomon and the Prophets   Wisdom and Revelation**

Later, when Israel desired a ruler, God raised up **Solomon**, a man of divine **wisdom**. Though he started well, when he turned away from God, the kingdom fell into turmoil (1 Kings 11).

Prophets like **Samuel, Elijah, Elisha, Jehu**, and even **John the Baptist** were anointed by God to call the people back to righteousness. Yet **none of them** were able to provide **permanent salvation** from sin. As Jesus said of John the Baptist:

*“He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. John 5:35 (ESV)*

They were mighty, but their ministries were only **partial and temporary**.

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**Then Came Christ   The Eternal Deliverer**

When the fullness of time came, **God sent His Son, Jesus Christ** not

with military slogans or earthly power like Samson, but with **a mission to heal the root of humanity's problem: sin.**

Jesus came to **expose and heal the hidden infection** that had plagued the people of God for generations. Sin was the disease, and **Satan was the source**. The judges of old only handed out “spiritual painkillers” temporary solutions but **Jesus came to perform full surgery**, removing sin from the root leaving not even a scar.

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#### Jesus Destroys Sin at the Root

Unlike in the Old Testament where Satan is mentioned only sparingly in the New Testament, we clearly see him **unmasked**. That's because Jesus came to **defeat him openly**, and to give true and lasting freedom.

*“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” John 8:36 (NIV)*

The freedom Jesus gives is **not partial** it is full and eternal. He doesn't just save us from our enemies **He saves us from ourselves**. He gives

us **power over sin**, which is the root of:

- Sickness
- Oppression
- Suffering
- Depression
- Addiction
- Sexual immorality
- Murder, theft, pride, and every evil under the sun

Sin is Satan's **control tower**, the master switch. Until sin is broken, the devil remains in charge of a person's life even if they appear outwardly religious.

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#### The Difference with Jesus

Unlike the judges of old, who passed away and whose influence ended with their death, **Jesus lives forever**. When He was on earth, He prayed for His followers. And even now, **He intercedes for us in heaven as our High Priest**.

*"I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours...*

*Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name...*

*My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one."*John 17:9-15 (selected, ESV)

This is what sets Jesus apart as the **Perfect and Eternal Judge**.

If you are **truly in Christ** not one foot in the world and one foot in the church, but fully committed then **no demon, no temptation, no accusation can overcome you**. The devil knows he has lost you forever because **your Judge and Defender stands before God 24/7** to guard you, fight for you, and speak on your behalf.

*"Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.*

*Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died... is also interceding for us."*Romans 8:33-34 (NIV)

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## Can a Person Truly Live Free from Sin?

Yes. People will wonder:

*How is it possible to live without fornication?*

*How can someone stay away from pornography, alcohol, or filthy language?*

*How can someone remain joyful without money?*

*How can a woman reject worldly fashion in a Sodom like generation?*

They don't understand that the strength is **not ours** it is Christ's.

Without Him, we couldn't do it. But because He lives in us, we can overcome:

*"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."* Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)

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## If You're Still Struggling, What Does It Mean?

If you're still **enslaved to sin**, despite your efforts, it may mean Christ has not yet taken full residence in you. If you're lukewarm today with God, tomorrow in the world **you will never overcome sin**.

The Bible is clear:

*"For the wages of sin is death..."*Romans 6:23 (NIV)

If sin rules your life, and you die in it, **hell awaits**. But it doesn't have to be that way. Christ offers complete healing for your soul **now**.

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## Jesus Is the True Judge

Let us turn our eyes to this **Eternal Judge**, the Healer of our souls and bodies. In Him is **peace, hope, rest, and life**.



*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*

*Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*

*For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*

Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)

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**May the Lord bless you richly as you consider these things.**

Let Christ be your Judge, Redeemer, and Defender now and forever.

Amen.

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