

*Zechariah 12:10 KJV*

*And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.*

We read the book of Zechariah which spoke of the pouring of the Spirit of grace and Supplication and this was for a purpose as seen in *Acts 15:16-17*. The purpose of pouring of grace and supplication is for a capacity building. Jesus said *"I will build my church and the gate of hell shall not prevail"*, *Matthew 16:18*. He is building us for the time to come where He will require men of stature. Of that time, it is said that iniquity shall abound and the love of many will wax cold, *Matthew 24:12*. However, these men that God is building will be built upon the solid rock and come what may, we will stand, *Luke 6:48*. God is in a process of building areas where we would have found difficulties; whether in our prayer life, in the place of the Study of the Word or wherever, God is set to build, so that men can stand in stature. The idea is that we will be as a pillar in the house of God, being consistent, unshakeable and abounding in the work of the Lord, *2 Corinthians 9:8*. The purpose of the empowerment is that we be stable, till we come into the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. *Galatians 4:1* says an heir is under tutors and governors until the time appointed. This means there is a time appointed by the Father, *Hebrews 5:12*. We are admonished to give heed to the instructions from the Father that we may be built.

In scripture, we see that there is a theme of building. *Exodus 25:8-10* shows a building upon a mount and the instruction was to build according to that pattern. This was referring to the tabernacle in the wilderness. In the book of *Acts 15:16*, the tabernacle of David being rebuilt is after a pattern. *Hebrews 12:22* says we have not come to a mountain that cannot be touched. This means we have a different pattern, the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came from Jesus, *John 1:17*. This means Jesus is the pattern. The pattern that Moses built by was a type and a shadow of the pattern on Mount Zion. *Hebrews 12:22-24* shows a pattern upon Mount Zion, Christ. *Revelations 14:1* confirms this, showing a lamb standing on Mount Zion and the armies of Heaven following Him. In essence, the building that God is building in these times is after the pattern of Jesus Christ.

Each of the tabernacles being built have different significances. Each time a temple was mentioned whether David, Moses or Solomon, there was a specific emphasis that God was pointing to. When Moses tabernacle was mentioned, there were emphasis on structure and order, things like the shew bread, lampstand etc., *Hebrews 9:1-4*. We see a transition. When we speak of Solomon temple, there is an

emphasis of the glory. These are important things to understand as well in our salvation journey. In this meditation, the emphasis is on the tent of David. In this tent, we do not see all the furnitures, all we see is the mercy seat and the ark of the covenant. This is an emphasis on a personal relationship with God. The words that have come to us this year have had an emphasis on hiding in the chambers. David's tent is a chamber tent where the emphasis is between you and God. That is why the other furnitures are put aside, not that they are irrelevant, but the emphasis is between you and God.

Hence, when Jesus was asked by His disciples to teach them how to pray, In Matthew 6, there was an emphasis on entering into the chambers. God is set to build up individual personal lives with Him. The Spirit of Grace and Supplication was given to build up lives. This does not mean the body (congregational worship) is put away; no one man can be perfect on his own. However, God does not want us to be lost in the crowd. When God sees your work in the secret, He rewards you openly. God sees the motive of our coming to Him. It was said that Paul saw an altar with the inscription "to the unknown God", *Acts 17:23*, this means people worshiping upon their altar, a God they do not know. In the tabernacle of David, Christ becomes the emphasis. God is in the business of building you and I after the pattern oh his Son. Jesus is Called the pattern Son because all our lives will be shaped, character wise, power wise, and every wise after Christ. The pattern upon mount Zion is the Lamb. We are not to be like the men of old looking for Kings, *1 Samuel 8:6-7*. Our eyes must be single, fixed on Jesus. *Matthew 6:22* shows that if our eyes are single, our body is full of light, but if it is distracted we walk in darkness. What God is building in these times is after the pattern of Christ. God is building His Church. This is not just the corporate experience. The stature of the individuals are what determines the stature of the Church. The burden of this message is built upon this emphasis of building.

*Acts 20:32 KJV*

*And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.*

This grace is for the purpose of building. It will build up your prayer life and your love for Jesus Christ. It will help us to seek God with all of our heart. The reason why prayers are not answered is because sometimes we pray amiss, not that the prayer is wrong, but the motive is wrong.

In this meditation we focus on four things:

1. Grace that brings salvation
2. Grace that helps us to overcome sin for the purpose of Character building
3. Grace for Ministerial work- For the purpose of Authority building
4. Practicality of growing in grace

Each of these topics will be mentioned in more depth in the subsequent meditation. The emphasis for now is that we take heed to what God is doing which is to incline ourself to his work of building us which are his church , that we may grow in knowledge, experience, in capacity of the Lord Jesus Christ.

*For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, [12] Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;*

*Titus 2:11-12 KJV*